

LENTEN ALMSGIVING

Almsgiving is our response to God that comes out of our prayer and fasting. It is an expression of our gratitude for all we've been given and an understanding that works of charity and the promotion of justice is all of our responsibility. In our almsgiving, we are called to keep in mind local, global and parish needs. We encourage you to consider the three-legged stool when you discern your almsgiving this Lenten season.

Almsgiving

Global

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Local

Habitat for Humanity: Supports affordable housing in Central Arizona. Habitat brings people to build homes, communities, and hope. They believe in a world where everyone has a place to call home. Follow along in the Habitat Lenten calendar and fill up your Lenten banks to help support this organization.

Parish Catholic Charities

Community Services:

Supports counseling services for parishioners in need. Catholic Charities offers quality behavioral health services, which can be a life affirming and often life changing gift. Consider supporting these services by designating part of your Almsgiving by placing it in the Catholic Charities envelope.

Global CRS Rice Bowl:

Supports Catholic Relief Services (CRS), the official humanitarian organization of the Catholic community in the US. CRS assists poor and suffering people in 91 countries on the basis of need, without regard to race, religion or nationality. You can download the app at **crsricebowl.org** and rice bowls will be available for pick up at the resource table in the Narthex of the church or at the Parish Office.

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Almsgiving helps us to experience giving freely, which leads to freedom from the obsession of possessing, from the fear of losing what we have, from the sadness of one who does not wish to share his wealth with others. - Pope Francis

SPECIAL EVENTS

YOUR WALK WITH JESUS STOP, PRAY, GO.

Fr. Eric Tellez and Kevin McGloin are offering three sessions on prayer. Mondays, March 10, 17 & 24 from 6:30 - 8:00 pm in the Parish Office Pope Rooms

ANOINTING OF THE SICK THE FIRST WEEKEND OF LENT

The Crosiers Religious Order will celebrate the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick after all weekend Masses March 8 & 9.

BISHOP'S VISIT HONORING OUR FEAST DAY

Bishop John Dolan will be joining our community for the 8:30 am & 10:30 am Masses on Sunday, March 16. Please join us for the celebration and an opportunity to meet our Bishop.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY WITH KEVIN SAUNDERS

Join us for a three-session seminar that offers an in-depth exploration of the last week of Jesus' earthly ministry. Come to one, or all of the sessions; Saturdays, March 8 (Fenlon Hospitality Center), 15 & 29 (Daily Mass Chapel) from 9:00 - 11:00 am

HOLY LAND PICTURE TOUR GUIDED BY KEVIN SAUNDERS

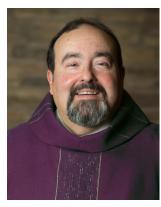
See the places we read about on Wednesday, April 9 from 6:30 - 8:00 pm in Fenlon Hospitality Center.

UNDIES SUNDAYS

Every Sunday during Lent we will be collecting NEW underwear (any color or style) for men and women at all Masses. Please drop your donations off in the baskets in the church. The underwear collected will be distributed to the homeless community through our partner agencies: André House, Catholic Charities, St. Vincent de Paul, Paz de Cristo, Homeless MATters and Central Arizona Shelter Services.



FIRST DOWN & 40 BY FR. ERIC TELLEZ, PASTOR



Dear Friends,

Our Lent and Easter journey begins with Ash Wednesday on March 5. Whether one is Christian or not, many people know something about Lent. They might know people "give up" things

for 40 days. They may know that eating fish on Fridays is common for Catholics during Lent. It is amazing that acts of penance, sacrifice, and improving our behavior are all things one can see during these 40 days.

For our parish community, we had a very successful fall theme; I WILL LOOK TWICE UNTIL I SEE CHRIST IN YOU. The theme focused on how we need to search for the presence of Christ in others.

This Lent we want to go inside our lives and ask the question **WILL THEY SEE CHRIST IN ME**? In the next 40 days, we can reflect on how we treat others. Do the actions I show others speak to them of being authentic followers of Christ?

The scriptures constantly remind us that our behavior will determine if we are seen as followers of Christ. Our faith is shown not just by what we believe, it needs to be shown also in the ways we show love, mercy, and compassion towards everyone. Throughout the season we will offer ways to help us reflect on this important question. May this Lent and Easter season see our behavior inspire others to see Christ in each one of us.

Blessings this season.

Peace in Christ

- FR. ERIC

LENT IS ABOUT TRANSFORMATION

BY RICHARD ROHR (ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED FEB. 22, 2012)



Did you ever notice that Jesus does not tend to give what we would call "inspiring" or "motivational" talks? He is not a football coach, nor does he try to engage your will power as such. Your common Christian sense would deny this until you actually study his recorded Gospel messages, and see that it is factually

true! Jesus is much more concerned about shaking your foundations, giving you an utterly alternative self image, world image, and God image, and thus reframing your entire reality. Mere inspiration can never do this.

If you depend on being emotionally inspired or newly motivated, you will need a new fix almost every day. If it is a true Gospel message, it will be more about regrounding, reshaping and redirecting you from your core. Thus the quintessential Lenten reading is Jesus' first public proclamation that we know of. In some ways,

it summarizes everything he says: "Now is the time, God's reign is present, change your life, and believe some very good news" (Mark 1:15, my translation).

Yes, we do need an emotional charge to make most decisions, adopt specific behaviors, "give up candy for Lent," or make some changes in our life. But Jesus is not talking about changes. He is

talking about change! Many changes might well be good and even needed, and surely some changes will result from any shaking of the foundations, but they are not what we mean by Biblical conversion or transformation ("changing the form itself"). These things do not change the seer as such, but only his or her acceptable self image — and usually for a short while. It is the old and perennial problem of putting the cart before the horse, or thinking that lots of carts ("changes") will eventually create the horsepower. It never finally works.

Any appeal to will power, or even the presentation of some good new ideas, merely engages YOU, but at your present level of maturity and consciousness. Now YOU (in your old form!) try harder, think more or better, and do something different, but your YOU has not been changed in any substantial way. It is still "You" who try harder, think more or better, or do something different. Maybe this will get you into the right ball park for eventual and actual conversion, but in my experience, most people stay right where they are, and wait for the next motivational spiritual message. This is why so much organized religion is so ineffectual in actually changing people. As the AA people say, religion usually depends far too much on "promotion instead of attraction." The old self needs constant promotional material to keep it going. The new self "hidden with Christ in God" (Colossians 3:3) is both attracted and attractive just by being itself. A transformed self engenders life from within, pulls life from without, and channels life in outer directions - without "trying." The essential religious question is always this: "You must get your WHO right!" Who is the subject here? Who is doing the acting, the loving, the motivating, the repenting? Is "little ol' me" doing this or not doing this? All mature religion is somehow talking about finding your God self, your Christ self, your Buddha self, your Sufi dance. And when it happens, you know it was not a "change" after all, but a wondrous discovery and constant rediscovery of what was always true anyway.

After transformation one realizes that one is a participant! And always has been! It is being done unto me, through

"NOW IS THE TIME, GOD'S REIGN IS PRESENT, CHANGE YOUR LIFE, AND BELIEVE SOME VERY GOOD NEWS." me, with me, and for me? Until we realize and act from this larger I AM, there has been no essential transformation, but only an accessorizing of the old outfit. For many of us, this change of form is summed up rather perfectly in Paul's oft quoted line "I live no longer my own life, but the life of Christ who lives in me" (Galatians 2:20). Choosing this or that religious form is often nothing more than

a delay tactic avoiding our participation in a ride that is already happening beneath, before, and beyond all of the forms, and this ride is much larger than ME. Paul again says shortly thereafter, "It does not matter whether one is circumcised or not, what matters is that you become an altogether new creation" (Galatians 6:15).

The big rub is that to surrender my "singularity" (John 12:24) and fall into this "altogether new creation" will always feel like dying. How could it not? It is a dying of the self that we thought we were, but it is the only self that we knew until then. It will indeed be a "revolution of the mind" (Ephesians 4:23). Heart and body will soon follow.

This is the real "try harder" that applies to Lent, and its ultimate irony is that it is not a trying at all, but an ultimate surrendering, dying, and foundational letting go. You will not do it yourself, but it will be done unto you (Luke 1:38) by the events of your life. Such deep allowing is the most humiliating, sacrificial, and daily kind of trying! Pep talks seldom get you there, but the suffering of life and love itself will always get you there. Lent is just magnified and intensified life.

LEANING CLOSER INTO LENT AS A CATHOLIC FAMILY

Lent is a sacred time of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving - an opportunity for families to grow closer to Christ and to each other. Here are some practical ways to embrace Lent together as a Catholic family:

DEEPEN YOUR FAMILY PRAYER LIFE

- Begin Each Day with Prayer Start mornings with a simple Lenten prayer, offering the day to God.
- Pray the Stations of the Cross Do this weekly as a family, either at home or in your parish.
- Daily Scripture Reading Read a passage from the Gospel and reflect on it together. Consider using the Hallow app to meditate as a family.
- **Pray the Rosary** Meditate on the Sorrowful Mysteries, especially on Fridays.
- Bedtime Examen Before bed, reflect on how each family member grew closer to God that day.

FAST TOGETHER IN MEANINGFUL WAYS

- Give Up Something as a Family Whether it's sweets, screen time, or unnecessary spending, choose a sacrifice that fosters discipline and detachment.
- Fast from Negativity Encourage a family "fast" from complaining, gossiping, or arguing. Replace it with gratitude and kindness.
- Simplify Meals Eat simpler meals on Fridays and use the money saved to help the poor.

MAKE ALMSGIVING A FAMILY MISSION

- Support a Charity Choose a cause to support together, such as donating to Habitat for Humanity or sponsoring a child through a Catholic organization.
- **Do Acts of Service** Volunteer as a family at the parish fish fry, visit the elderly, or help a neighbor in need.
- Create a Lenten Sacrifice Jar Place money inside every time someone gives up something or does an act of kindness, then donate it at Easter.

ENGAGE IN LENTEN TRADITIONS

- Set Up a Lenten Prayer Space Display a crucifix, purple cloth, a Bible, and a bowl for prayer intentions.
- Make a Family Lenten Calendar Write daily reflections, sacrifices, or acts of kindness to follow throughout Lent.
- Practice the "40 Bags for 40 Days" Challenge – De-clutter and donate items to those in need.
- Attend Mass More Often Go to daily Mass when possible and participate in parish Lenten events.

REFLECT ON CHRIST'S SACRIFICE

- Watch a Religious Movie Together Films like The Passion of the Christ, The Chosen, or The Prince of Egypt can bring the Lenten message to life.
- Encourage Lenten Commitments Help each child choose a personal Lenten sacrifice or spiritual goal.
- Write Letters to Jesus Have each family member write a letter to Jesus about their Lenten journey and read them on Good Friday.

PREPARE FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

- Palm Sunday Attend Mass and make palm crosses together.
- Holy Thursday Have a special meal as a family, recalling the Last Supper before attending Mass at 6:30 pm in the Church.
- Good Friday Observe silence from noon to 3 PM, venerate the cross, and attend family Stations of the Cross at noon.
- Holy Saturday Reflect on Christ's time in the tomb and prepare for Easter joy.

Lent is a time of transformation. By leaning into prayer, fasting, and almsgiving as a family, you not only grow spiritually but also deepen your love for one another and for Christ.

May this Lent bring you and your family closer to God's heart as we work to "Be Christ" to every person we encounter during this season and threw out our lives!

JOIN US FOR A FISH FRY DINNER!!

Proceeds to support Habitat for Humanity.



Lenten Fish

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

\$13

Fridays in Lent March 7, 14, 21, 28 April 4

Fenion Hospitality Center 4:30 - 7:00 pm

There is no need to RSVP!

Dinner includes: 2 Pieces of Fried or Baked Fish, French Fries and Coleslaw OR Tomato Soup, Grilled Cheese and Side Salad

KIDS MEAL includes: 1 Piece of Fried or Baked Fish, French Fries and Coleslaw OR Grilled Cheese and Applesauce



\$6

FAMILY MEAL, 2 Adults and 2 or more kids meals **EVERYONE IS INVITED**

COME ENCOUNTER THE LOVE OF CHRIST THROUGH THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS REIMAGINED FOR 2025

FRIDAYS IN LENT IN THE CHURCH 6:00 PM

For those who desire to Pray the Stations of the Cross with our outdoor stations, materials will be provided n the vestibule from 8:00 am - 5:00pm on Fridays In Lent

THE SEASON OF LENT

Sundays, March 9, 16, 23, 30 & April 6 *Regular Mass Schedule* "Undies Sundays" Collection at all Weekend Masses during Lent

Please pray for the candidates and catechumens as they discern their commitment to the Easter Sacraments.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Online Penance Prayer Service will be available to view for the entire season of Lent

CONFESSION TIMES: Ash Wednesday, March 5 One Priest from 1:00 - 3:30 pm Wednesdays, March 12, 19, 26 & April 2 Two Priests from 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm Saturdays March 8, 15, 22, 29, April 5 & 12 Two Priests from 3:00 - 4:00 pm Wednesday, April 9 Five Priests from 6:00 - 7:30 pm Wednesday, April 16

Ten Priests from 6:00 - 8:00 pm (This is the last opportunity for confession before Easter. Confession will not take place on Saturday April 19)

Stations of the Cross Fridays, March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4 & 11 at 6:00 pm in the Church Materials will be available to for those who would like to pray the outdoor stations of the Cross on Fridays from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Lenten Fish Fry Proceeds benefit Habitat for Humanity Fridays, March 7, 14, 21, 28 and April 4 from 4:30 pm - 7:00 pm in Fenlon Hospitality Center

Anointing of the Sick with the Crosiers Priests After all Weekend Masses on March 8 & 9 Lenten Bible Study with Kevin Saunders Saturdays, March 8, 15 & 29 from 9:00 - 11:00 am

Your Walk with Jesus: Stop, Pray, Go. with Fr. Eric Tellez & Kevin McGloin Mondays, March 10, 17 & 24 from 6:30 - 8:00 pm in the Parish Office Pope Rooms

> Bishop's Visit Bishop John Dolan visits St. Patrick Sunday, March 16 at the 8:30 am & 10:30 am Masses

Lifeteen High-School Retreat Fun. Community. Prayer. March 21-23 on Campus

visit stpatcc.org/lifeteen for more information

Holy Land Picture Tour guided by Kevin Saunders Wednesday, April 9 from 6:30 - 8:00 pm in Fenlon Hospitality Center

HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion | April 13 Regular Mass Schedule | Please Wear Red Please return all Lenten almsgiving banks & envelopes

Holy Thursday | April 17 6:30 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper | Church

Good Friday of the Lord's Passion | April 18 12:00 pm Family Stations of the Cross | Church Featuring Singing Angels & Youth 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm | Quiet Prayer and Meditation 6:30 pm Good Friday Liturgy | Church Sung Passion, Veneration of the Cross & Eucharist

Holy Saturday | April 19 Easter Basket Blessing at 11:00 am | Outside the Church The Easter Vigil at 6:30 pm | Church

THE EASTER SEASON

Sundays, April 20, 27, May 4, 11, 18, 25, June 1 & 8

Easter Sunday Masses | April 20

8:15 am in the Church & Fenlon Hospitality Center 10:45 am in the Church & Fenlon Hospitality Center 12:30 pm in the Church

The Ascension of the Lord | June 1 Regular Mass Schedule

Pentecost Sunday | June 8 Regular Mass Schedule - Please Wear Red





10815 N. 84TH ST. SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85260 PHONE: 480-998-3843 **FAX:** 480-998-5218

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday: 8:30 am - 8:00 pm Friday: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Summer: Monday & Friday: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm Tuesday - Thursday: 8:30 am - 8:00 pm

WHEN WE WORSHIP

WEEKEND

Saturday: 4:30 pm Sunday: 8:30 am, 10:30 am & 5:00 pm (Youth Liturgy)

WEEKDAY

Monday - Friday: 8:00 am Tuesdays & Thursdays: 5:30 pm

OUR WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA

A vibrant home for resources, information on the sacraments, articles, podcasts, videos and more.

WWW.STPATCC.ORG



