

FROM THE RECTOR...

*WITHOUT LENT...THERE CAN BE NO EASTER!*



Lent is the forty-day period of fasting from Ash Wednesday until Easter Even...not including Sundays. The word "Lent" comes from the Old English verb "lengten"...from which we get our words "lengthen" and "lengthening"...referring to Springtime and the days getting longer and warmer. "Spring is in the air"...goes the saying...and we see it in leaves reappearing on trees and flowers starting to bloom.

Sometimes we approach Lent as a period of time the Church says we have to go through to get to Easter. Do we ever find ourselves wishing we could just bypass Lent altogether and fast track from the Epiphany to the Resurrection...no fasting...no extra Masses...no Good Friday? But let's consider this...without Good Friday...the Resurrection would never have happened!

We often think of Lent strictly as a time of self-denial...fasting and abstinence...a time for giving up the before-dinner cocktail or that decadent chocolate cake for dessert. Fasting and abstinence during Lent do remind us of what Jesus went through in the desert...but Lent is more than giving up something.

Lent is also a time for self-examination...taking a good hard look at the disposition of our hearts toward God and others...with the intent of making positive changes in our lives that will lead us to personal spiritual growth!

We might want to consider TAKING ON a Lenten discipline:

- Make attending Sunday Mass a first priority
- Come to mid-week Lenten Mass and Study
- Read Morning or Evening Prayer
- Read one or more of the Psalms
- Spend time in quiet, reflective, meditation

Whether our Lenten discipline includes giving something up or taking something on...it should be something we are reasonably certain we can keep. Lent should be for us a productive and life-changing experience...to help us better understand everything Jesus did was for us...and to remind us... *WITHOUT LENT...THERE CAN BE NO EASTER!*

Father Craig Looney+



Shrove Tuesday is the day before Ash Wednesday and this year falls on 13 February. The word *shrove* comes from the Old English verb *to shrive*...meaning (for the priest) to hear a confession, assign a penance and pronounce absolution. The person making the confession was said to be *shriven*...*forgiven*.

Shrove Tuesday is also known as Fat Tuesday (Mardi Gras in New Orleans)...traditionally all of the butter, eggs, oils and lard were used up on Shrove Tuesday and not consumed during Lent.

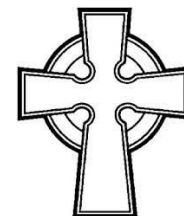
Please join us for Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper beginning with Evening Prayer at 6:00 PM. Men of the Parish...we need you to step up to the plate and cook and serve the pancakes, sausage and scrambled eggs. Sign up sheet will be posted in the Narthex.



Ash Wednesday is 14 February and the beginning of the forty-day Season of Lent. Lent is a penitential season culminating with the Crucifixion on Good Friday.

Low Masses on Ash Wednesday with Imposition of Ashes will be at 12:15 PM and 6:00 PM (with Hymns).

*...REMEMBER, O MAN, THAT DUST THOU ART, AND UNTO DUST SHALT THOU RETURN... (GENESIS 3:19)*



## THE COLLECT FOR ASH WEDNESDAY...



ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who hatest nothing that thou hast made, and dost forgive the sins of all those who are penitent; Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Collect for Ash Wednesday (*Book of Common Prayer, Page 124*) is one of two Seasonal collects...the other being the Collect for the First Sunday in Advent (*Book of Common Prayer, Page 90*). The rubric printed after the Collect for Ash Wednesday, directs us to say the Collect every day in Lent, after the Collect appointed for the day, until Palm Sunday.



This year's Mid-week Lenten Study will be a six-week program beginning on Wednesday 21 February and continuing each Wednesday through 28 March.

The schedule for Lenten Wednesdays will be the same as last year...12:15 PM Low Mass and Healing...followed by brown bag lunch. Study will begin at 1:30 PM and last approximately one hour.

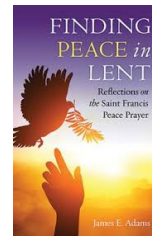
We will be reading *The Psalms: Gateway to Prayer* by Jeanne Kun. Ms Kun is a staff writer for The Word Among Us...a Roman Catholic publishing house that takes its name from the Prologue to the Gospel According to Saint John.

Last year we read Ms Kun's book *Treasures Uncovered: The Parables of Jesus*. The response to the study was excellent. Her book on the Psalms follows the same question and answer format...we will be delving into the questions and answers in more detail this year.

Please sign up for Lenten Study on the sheet provided after Sunday Mass, even if you think you might not be able to attend every session. Each session is a stand-alone...you're appreciation for the Psalms will increase even if you are able to attend just one session.

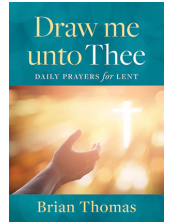
The cost of the book is \$10.00.

## LENTEN DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS...



*Finding Peace in Lent...Reflections on the Saint Francis Peace Prayer...* by former Living Faith creative editor James E. Adams and first published in 2001...helps us focus on the Peace of Christ which passes all understand...and helps us put our prayers into action every day of Lent.

*Draw me unto Thee...* by the Reverend Brian Thomas...is based on a passage from the Letter from James..."Come near to God, and he will come near to you. This booklet is a meditation on the themes of forgiveness and prayer...and how Holy Scripture and the Sacraments enable us to share in Jesus' suffering, death and resurrection.



...Lenten devotional booklets will be available on the table in the back of the church beginning on Quinquagesima. If you would like a copy of one of the above titles mailed to you...please call the Parish Office and leave a message...Father Looney will return your call as quickly as possible and you may give him your mailing address at that time. The booklets are available at no charge...while supplies last.



The Fifth Sunday in Lent commences the two-week period preceding Easter called "Passiontide". The terms "Passion Week" and "Passiontide" originated in Anglicanism and became current only in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. The 1928 *Book of Common Prayer* first introduced these designations.

(*Oxford American Prayer Book Commentary, Page 132*)

We are struck upon entering the church on Passion Sunday by the crosses, icons and statues covered in violet veils. The practice of covering crosses and images is associated with the Passion Sunday Gospel (John 8.46-59)"...but, Jesus hid himself, and went out of the temple." The veiling remains in place until after the Liturgy for Good Friday.

The Collect for Passion Sunday (*Book of Common Prayer, Page 132*) is ancient...dating to the 10<sup>th</sup> Century.

## MARCH...THE MONTH OF SAINT JOSEPH...



19 March is the Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and our Patronal Festival. Because of the Solemnity...the entire month of March is dedicated to Joseph.

Everything we know about Joseph comes from Holy Scripture, primarily from Matthew and Luke and one short passage in John. He is not mentioned at all in Mark. Holy Scripture describes him as a compassionate and just man and a man of action.

Saint Joseph is called a *tehton* in the original Greek New Testament. *Tekton* is usually translated as *carpenter*...but is more accurately translated as *artisan*. He may have been skilled in stone, wood, metal and clay. *Tekton* is the root word from which we get our word *technology*.

Apocryphal (non-Canonical) sources place Joseph's birth in Bethlehem and his death in Nazareth...the exact dates cannot be determined with any degree of certainty. The last time Joseph appears in person in Holy Scripture is during the Passover visit Jesus makes to the Temple when he was 12 years old as recorded in Luke's Gospel.

Joseph is not present during Jesus' adult ministry. At his Crucifixion...Jesus entrusts Mary to the care of John...and Joseph of Arimathea takes charge of his body. If Joseph had been alive at the Crucifixion he would have according to Jewish custom performed both tasks.

Joseph is the patron saint of workers and the preeminent example for fathers. He is often shown in art holding baby Jesus and a lily...the lily denotes purity...his and his guardianship of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The Solemnity of Saint Joseph always occurs during Lent. We will commemorate his feast day and our Patronal with an additional collect on Passion Sunday (18 March).

At the Annual Parish Corporation Meeting on 28 January the Parish By-laws were amended reducing the size of the Vestry from 6 to 5 persons. Rebekah Shapiro was elected to serve a three-year term. Father Looney appointed Jerry McDonnell to serve as Senior Warden. The Vestry elected Rebekah Shapiro to serve as Junior Warden, Al Schick to serve as Treasurer and Barbara Wullschleger to serve as Clerk. Marie Adams is Member-at-Large. The Parish expressed its thanks to Marcia Rayher and George Youngling who retired from Vestry service at the Annual Meeting.

## Vestry Elections



25 MARCH 2018

PALM SUNDAY

9:00 AM BLESSING OF PALMS  
PROCESSION, SUNG MASS & SERMON  
COFFEE HOUR, NO DISCUSSION GROUP

28 MARCH 2018

WEDNESDAY BEFORE EASTER  
12:15 PM LOW MASS & HEALING  
FOLLOWED BY LENTEN STUDY

29 MARCH 2018

MAUNDY THURSDAY  
6:00 PM SUNG MASS & SERMON  
7:30 PM – 9:30 PM  
WATCH AT ALTAR OF REPOSE

30 MARCH 2018

GOOD FRIDAY  
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM  
WATCH AT ALTAR OF REPOSE  
12:00 PM LITURGY FOR GOOD FRIDAY

1 APRIL 2018

EASTER DAY  
7:30 AM – VIGIL, LOW MASS & SERMON  
9:00 AM – SUNG MASS & SERMON  
COFFEE HOUR, NO DISCUSSION GROUP



### A PRAYER FOR PARISH GROWTH

*O GOD, WHO KNOWEST THE NEED OF ALL THY CREATURES, AND DOST BESTOW THE FAVOUR OF THY GRACE ALIKE UPON THE HUMBLE AND THE GREAT; BE WITH US IN ALL OUR ENDEAVORS DEVOTED TO THY SERVICE, AND GRANT US, WE BESEECH THEE, SUCH INCREASE OF NUMBERS AND OF MEANS AS WILL SECURE THIS HOUSE OF PRAYER TO THE WORSHIP AND GLORY OF THY SON, OUR SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST, WHO LIVETH AND REIGNETH WITH THEE AND THE HOLY GHOST, ONE GOD, WORLD WITHOUT END.*

AMEN.

SCHEDULE

SUNDAYS – 9:00 AM SUNG MASS & SERMON  
COFFEE HOUR & DISCUSSION GROUP

WEEKDAYS AS ANNOUNCED

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE BY APPOINTMENT

THE REVEREND FATHER CRAIG LOONEY, RECTOR

*THE CONTINUATION OF ANGLICANISM We affirm that the Church of our fathers, sustained by the most Holy Trinity, lives yet...are determined to continue in the Catholic Faith, Apostolic Order, Orthodox Worship and Evangelical Witness of the traditional Anglican Church.*



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