

Dear Friends,

We celebrate the First Sunday in Lent this weekend. Attached is God, Family, Friends to use with your children, grandchildren, or neighbors in your Domestic Church throughout the week. Our weekend Mass times are Saturday at 4pm, Sunday at 8:30, 10:30am and 1pm for our Polish speaking parish family members. Go to our parish website and click on "Reserve A Seat" to register you and your family. Join us!! We would love to see you at Mass.

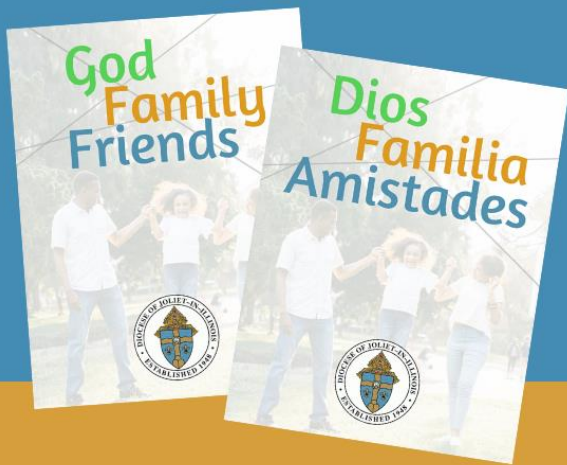
As you know, we began the Season of Lent this past Wednesday, Ash Wednesday. Lent is a time when we pray, we fast, and we give alms. Alms does not only pertain to giving money, but also to share our time and our talent. In addition to the weekly God, Family, Friends, I have attached the 2021 Lenten Prayer/Reflection opportunities. We will come together to pray as a parish family on Fridays to walk with Jesus in praying The Stations of the Cross. There are some personal prayer resources listed as well. In listening to Matthew Kelly in the Dynamic Catholic reflection yesterday, he talked about Lent as "It's Not What You Give Up, It's Who You Become."

Pope Francis suggests we fast this Lent.....fast from worries and TRUST in God, fast from pressures and be prayerful.....more of our Holy Father's fasting suggestions are on our parish website and parish Facebook page.

Let us become more prayerful people this Lent. We are still very much dealing with this pandemic, we are in the midst of a snowy and dreary winter, we all need prayer to help us, during this Lenten season and always!!

Our Mother of Good Counsel, Pray For Us!

~Janet



Helping families focus on what matters most

First Sunday of Lent

Themes: Jesus as fulfillment of God's Covenant promises. Lent has begun.

GOD

Mass

Our weekend Mass is now livestreamed. Check our parish website for the link: www.omgccc.org. Click on "Livestream Available" or you can go directly to our Vimeo link, <https://vimeo.com/omgc>, where you can view our weekend Mass.

Sunday Readings

<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/022121.cfm>

Sunday Gospel Videos

<https://youtu.be/44kz9fR0zqo>

Sunday Lectio Divina Guide

<https://catholicdotbible.files.wordpress.com/2021/01/lent-1.pdf>

FAMILY

Coloring Page

<http://www.supercoloring.com/coloring-pages/40-days-of-lent>

Lent Activities for Families:

<https://littleshootsdeeproots.com/kids-ideas-blog/40-lent-ideas-kids/>

<https://www.stnicholascenter.org/how-to-celebrate/resources/church-year/lent>

<https://www.catholicicing.com/simple-lenten-traditions-for-families-with-little-to-no-prep-work/>

"Lent is a time for believing, for welcoming God into our lives and allowing him to 'make his dwelling' among us (cf. Jn 14:23)". (Pope Francis, 2021)

Perhaps we are struggling this Lenten season with worry, sadness or even anger in our hearts. Lent gives a chance to renew our hearts in God—to seek him and draw closer to him. It is a special time to reflect on our path toward Christ. What do we want to do for Christ today, and every day of our lives?

Dinner Conversation:

Lent is a time to practice gratitude and forgiveness. A time to pray for those who are no longer with us but hold a special place in our hearts.

1. What are you most grateful for this Lent?
2. Who has hurt you and is in need of forgiveness?
3. What have your parents taught you about gratitude and forgiveness?
4. Who would you like to say a prayer for this Lent? How can you continue to pray for them and keep them close even when the Lenten season ends?

FRIENDS

During Lent, we pray, fast and give. As you do that, try to remember others. Striving for holiness is not just about YOU!

PRAY for the homeless, the sick, and those who are sad or have no hope.

FAST remembering the hungry. Put the money you save aside for your local food pantry or food bank.)

GIVE to those who do not have as much as you do. Donate clothing, money or other needed goods to a local charity. (Did you talk in your family last week about whom you will help during Lent?)

CRS Rice Bowl

<https://www.crsricebowl.org/>

Catholic Charities Diocese of Joliet

<https://catholiccharitiesjoliet.org/ways-to-give/>

