

Dear Friends,

Lent is a time when we can begin to incorporate more prayer into our lives. In the Gospels, we hear of Jesus going off by Himself to pray. We do not necessarily have to go off by ourselves to pray. We do, and should incorporate prayer into our daily lives, as Jesus did, during Lent and always.

Some examples of incorporating prayer into our daily lives are:

*Reading the Bible for 20 minutes each day. The Gospel of St. Mark is the shortest Gospel. You may wish to begin by reading St. Mark's Gospel.

*Pray the Stations of the Cross each Friday morning or evening here at our parish.

*List 5 things for which you are grateful each day, then thank God for these things in your life.

*Take a walk outside and rejoice in the beauty that God created. Thank Him for the beauty He gave us.

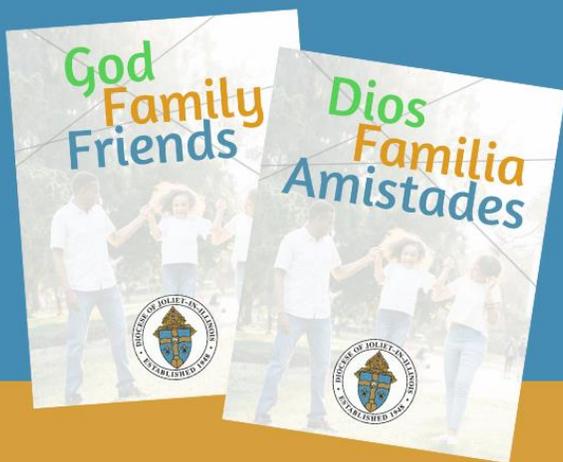
We celebrate the Third Sunday in Lent this weekend. Attached is God, Family, Friends to use with your children, grandchildren, all children in your lives in your Domestic Church throughout the week. Our weekend Mass times are Saturday at 4pm, Sunday at 8:30, 10:30am and 1pm for our Polish speaking parish 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.

We can listen to Jesus by emulating Him this Lent..and always... through our prayer, our fasting and our almsgiving-giving of ourselves to others as Jesus did. Come and join our parish family as we walk with Jesus as we pray the Stations of the Cross on Friday mornings and Friday evenings.

Lenten Blessings to you and your family.

Our Mother of Good Counsel, Pray For Us!

~Janet



Helping families focus
on what matters most

Third Sunday of Lent

Themes: God's law purifies and refreshes - Jesus cleanses the Temple

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/030721-YearB.cfm>

Sunday Gospel Video

<https://youtu.be/bymEWI8aCKc>

Sunday Lectio Divina Guides

<https://catholicdotbible.files.wordpress.com/2021/02/lent-3.pdf>

FAMILY

Coloring Page: https://sermons4kids.com/cleansing_temple_colorpg.htm?fromSermonId=489

Whether you heard the Gospel about the Jesus purifying the Temple by removing things that distract from worship or his conversation with the Woman at the Well, it is good to keep in mind that the Psalmist wrote, "The law of the LORD is perfect, **refreshing** the soul." There is a relationship between the love the Father showed when he gave his people the Ten Commandments and the love that Jesus gives in "living water."

We are bathed in living, purifying water at our Baptism. It can be said that the living water is the *Holy Spirit* who continually abides in and refreshes us as believers in Jesus Christ. When we

follow Jesus, avoid sin or repent when we commit it, and proclaim Jesus' word, we show others what it looks like to be cleansed and purified and receive the promise of eternal life.

Dinner Conversation:

Jesus loves everyone as we see in the parable of the Woman at the Well. The woman was an outsider - someone who had sinned, so she came to the well when no one from the village was there - but Jesus befriended her anyway. Because he spoke kindly with her and took time to explain what he offers, she became a witness to others for his love. As you sit down as a family this week to discuss the gospel message, think about those in most need of your friendship today and how you might approach new friends during Lent and beyond. Your outreach in friendship can show others the love of Jesus. There is a saying: "Make a friend, be a friend, bring a friend to Christ."

Discussion Questions:

1. How have you reached out to make a new friend recently? How was the person different from you?
2. How do each of you share the 'living water' of the Holy Spirit with others?
3. Do you try to love everyone like Jesus did? What helps you to do so?
4. Is it hard to love everyone? What is the hardest part for you?
5. Share a time when your family reached out to make a new friend together.

FRIENDS

How is your Lent going? Is your family remembering.....

- To pray daily, especially for others?
- To fast and abstain from meat and put aside the money saved on food to donate for those who may not have enough to eat?
- To donate to charities that serve the poor?

It's not too late to start!

Here is a way to remind children why we do this every Lent:

<https://teachingcatholickids.com/why-we-pray-fast-and-give-alms-during-lent/>

