



## SAINT JOHN FISHER PARISH

February 15, 2017

Dear parishioners:

Lent is beginning rather late this year. Ash Wednesday is March 1. If you haven't decided on your penitential practice for the Lenten season, you have much time.

Like last year, I encourage you to take advantage of the sacrament of Penance during the penitential season of Lent. If you look at our parish bulletin, you will see that confessions are available every day except Sunday. On Wednesday of Holy Week we will have a penance service where you will have the opportunity to choose from 16 confessors available around the church. Second, I ask that you urge people you know who have been away from this sacrament for a long time to return to this sacrament and experience the mercy of God. Be a minister of reconciliation.

Once again your parish will be part of a multi-parish program of adult formation called Dive-In University Series South. Thirteen parishes are participating. The talks will take place from March 6-23rd. This year's theme is "Grace through Faith." I will be giving my presentation at Maria Regina Parish, Gardena on "Liturgy: Full, Conscious, Active Participation." We will be hosting two speakers in the auditorium under the Parish Activity Center. On Wednesday, March 15, David R. Fields will speak on "Serving Christ in the Poor." On Wednesday, March 22, Cardinal Mahony will speak on "For I Was a Stranger, and You Welcomed me." This presentation will give an overview of the Church's teachings on migrants, immigrants, and refugees while discussing where we are in March of 2017 in trying to pass needed immigration reform legislation. I recommend that you get a season pass to enable you to see a variety of talks in different parishes.

Your parish will be hosting the Dawn Unity Interfaith Panel on Tuesday, March 7. I will be part of that panel. The topic is: "How Has My Religion Changed?" Since the questions are posed to the panel by the moderator, I have no idea what direction that will go.

The annual parish mission will take place from March 26-28. The speaker will be Mike Patin. Mike Patin lives in Lafayette LA. He is a husband, and a dad (one daughter). He spent 6 years as a high school teacher and coach, and worked in youth ministry. You will hear him first at the weekend Masses of March 25-26 to lure you to the mission.

Whatever you do during this Lenten season, may it be an opportunity for growth in your faith.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Msgr. David A. Sork  
Pastor