



SAINT JOHN FISHER PARISH

FEBRUARY 15, 2018

Dear parishioners:

Lent has begun earlier than last year. Ash Wednesday was yesterday, Valentine's Day. If you haven't decided on your penitential practice for the Lenten season, I do have some suggestions.

To facilitate those would like to attend daily Mass, we once again are offering a 6:30 am Mass in addition to the ones at 8:00 am and 5:15 pm. 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 Lenten Series. Thirteen parishes are participating. It is in its sixth season. The talks will take place from March 5-22nd. We will be hosting speakers at our parish over three evenings. On Tuesday, March 6, Sister Edith Prendergast, RSC, former Director of the Office of Religious Education, will speak in Barrett Hall on "God's Presence in the 'Busyness' of Our Lives." On Monday, March 12, Dan Sheen will speak in the parish auditorium on "Awaken My Heart." On Tuesday, March 13, Father Robert Spitzer, SJ, former President of Gonzaga University, will speak in Barrett Hall on "The Significance and Reality of Jesus." I recommend that you get a season pass to enable you to see a variety of talks in different parishes. These are available for \$25 at the Parish Office. Flyers and brochures describing the workshops and parish venues are available. There are some excellent talks in our neighboring parishes, so venture forth.

This year's Festival of Faith will take place in Barrett Hall from March 18th-20th. The evenings begin with dinner in Barrett Hall at 6:00 followed by the speaker presentation at 7:00. This year's speaker is Vincentian priest, Father Ron Hoye, C.M. His theme, "Ignite Your Faith," will be a mixture of storytelling, scripture, and sacrament, all of which affirm and ignite the foundations of our Catholic character. You will hear him first at the weekend Masses of March 17-18 to lure you to the Festival of Faith.

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