



St. Patrick's Catholic Church

AN OLD BORDER TOWN PARISH IN ILLINOIS

119 NORTH MARKET STREET ~ MOMENCE, IL 60954-1415

(815) 472-2864 - FAX (815) 472-3043 - WWW.STPATRICKMOMENCE.ORG

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 KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

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RUBEN & CARMEN ANDRADE
 MINISTRO DE LOS HISPANOS

PLEASE CONSIDER SUPPORTING
ST. PATRICK'S IN YOUR WILL
OR ESTATE PLANNING!!!



OFFICE HOURS

Monday- Thursday
 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
 12:30 - 3:00 p.m.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE MOST HOLY EUCHARIST

Monday - Friday
 9:15 a.m. *in English*
 7:00 p.m. *in Spanish*
 Saturday Vigil Mass
 4:00 p.m. *in English*
 Sunday Masses
 10:30 a.m. *in English*
 12:00 p.m. *in Spanish*

HOLY DAY MASSES

Dates and times vary

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays at 3:30 p.m. *or by appointment; seasonal services*

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (KINDERGARDEN - 8TH GRADE)

Sunday Classes= 9:15 - 10:15 a.m.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS (RCIA)

Sunday Classes 8:30 - 10:00 a.m.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM / EL SACRAMENTO DE BAUTISMO

Please call the Parish Office for more information. English baptisms normally are held on the 2nd Saturday of the month at noon, Spanish Baptisms on the 3rd Saturday of the month at noon. / Por favor llame a la Parroquia para mas información. Normalmente, los bautismos están celebrando los tercer Sabado cada mes al mediodía.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY MATRIMONY (MARRIAGE) / EL SACRAMENTO DEL MATRIMONIO

Please call the office before setting a date for your wedding. The diocese requires a six month preparation prior to the wedding. / Las parejas pueden llamar a la oficina antes de poner una fecha para su boda o de hacer otros compromisos. La Diócesis de requiera un tiempo de preparación de un mínimo de seis meses entre la boda.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE SICK / (UNCIÓN) DE LOS ENFERMOS

Call the Office if you know of someone in need of the Sacrament. / Contacte la Parroquia si alguien en su familia necesita el Sacramento.

FUNERALS / FUNERALES

Contact the Parish Office before placing any obituary notices.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP / ASOCIACIÓN DE PARROQUIA

Registration Forms are located in the Parish Office or in Church. / Las formas de inscripción pueden ser encontrado en la oficina.

March 7-8, 2026: The 3rd Sunday of Lent

THE 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 7-8, 2026



Readings from this week's Mass can be found in #886 of the Journey songs Book

Monday (St. Frances of Rome) March 9

9:15 A.M. Communion Service

Tuesday March 10

9:15 A.M. Communion Service

Wednesday March 11

9:15 A.M. † Deceased Former Priests
& Religious who Served St. Patrick's Church

Thursday March 12

9:15 A.M. † Rev. Kenneth Zigmond, OSB

Friday March 13

9:15 A.M. † Rev. James Holup

4:00 P.M. Stations of the Cross (English)

6:00 El Vía Crucis (Español)

7:00 P.M. † Annette Cooper

Saturday (IRISH MASS & DINNER) March 14

CONFIRMATION RETREAT AT ST. PATRICK'S

4:00 P.M. The Parishioners of St. Patrick's

Sunday (4TH SUNDAY OF LENT) March 15

10:30 A.M. † Ruth Rehmer

12:00 P.M. † Elizabeth Jankowsk

† Mark Josiah Rivas

FR. PETE STILL OFFERS ONLINE MASSES AT

www.stpatrickmomence.org!!!

CHECK OUT OUR "BORDER TOWN PARISHES"

YOUTUBE CHANNEL – OVER 550 SUBSCRIBERS!

PLEASE KEEP ST. PATRICK'S IN MIND FOR YOUR WILL & ESTATE PLANNING. A \$3,000,000 FOUNDATION WILL GO A LONG WAY TO KEEP OUR PARISH OPEN!

SUNDAY COLLECTION:

February 15, 2026 \$3,419.00

COLLECTION COUNTERS:

March 8, 2026 J. & L. Meyer

March 15, 2026 B. Kovas & S. Ekhoﬀ

PLEASE CONSIDER NAMING ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH IN YOUR WILL OR ESTATE PLANNING!!!



ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER If you know of someone who is sick and in need of the sacraments or wishes a visit at a care facility, please contact the parish office at ☎ (815) 685-1359.



ST. PATRICK'S PRAYER LINE:

Please call Janice Gelino at
☎ (815) 263-6342

SANCTUARY CANDLE:

To Dedicate a Candle for a Loved One, please call the office at ☎ (815) 472-2864.



PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK: P. Anderson, N. Atkinson, R. Bailey, D. Barth, Beedle Family, J. Betourney D. Brown, M. Cárdenas, P. Caro, B & E. Coffman, S. Conner, M & D Cousin, M. Cronk, M. Cruz, A. Delaney, M. Dionne, J. Dobbins, E. Duke, D. Dunlap, G. Field, C. Fritz, A. Fuhrmann, R. Gall, Tony & Adrianne Gallinaro, J. Grill, R. Harper, K. Hensa, J. Hibbs, D. Hiller, C. Jones, L. Kane, R. Kazee, A. Kijewski, J. Kraus, L. Lee, L. Leranthe, E. Lopez, B. Love, J. Marcotte, W. Marten, J. McCracken, L. McNulty, L. Mercado, R & V Morse, C. Piec, J. Prather, C. Provost, E. Provost, P. Reising, D. Roberts, M. Saldaña, A. Schaff, J. Schopf, A. Schmid, D. Schmied, K. Simpson, B. Siwicki, B. Spagnola, M. Tolbert, M. Tolmer, H. Tousignant, S. Trubach M. Velazquez, C. Vickery, M. Williams, Gary Witherell, M. Witherspoon, S. Young, J. L. Zagal, A. Zimmerman, M. & L. Zink and G. Zokal.



THE 2026 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES ANNUAL APPEAL HAS BEGUN!

The Diocese of Joliet invites all parishioners to support the 2026 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA). Together, we can make a profound difference. Our parish goal is **\$22,600**. We receive 70% of any amount raised over goal to use within our parish.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

St. Patrick's, Momence
Every Friday During Lent
4:00 p.m. (English) Parishioners
6:00 p.m. (Spanish) Parishioners

PEW DEDICATION PROGRAM

We invite those who wish to remember a loved one by dedicating a church pew (\$2,500), a classroom (\$5,000) or even have a building named in honor of your loved one for



\$1,000,000! For more info, contact St. Patrick's at ☎ (815) 472-2864, St. Anne's at ☎ (815) 427-8265 or email us at pjankowski@yahoo.com.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Saturday, March 14 (Fr. Pete) 4:00 p.m.

Eucharistic Minister: M. J. Boicken

Lector: G. Hess

Ushers: K. Bukowski, R. Hess
S. Pansa, D. Rademacher

Altar Servers: A. Fuhrmann

Sunday, March 15 (Fr. Jhobany) 10:30 a.m.

Eucharistic Minister: B. Volek

Lector: J. Rehmer

Ushers: M. Dionne, J. Riemenschneider

Altar Servers: Y. Aalia,
J. & B. Miller, P. & C. Bickel

Sunday, March 15 (Fr. Jhobany) 12:00 p.m.

Eucharistic Minister: C. Andrade, E. Zagal

Lector: F. Franco, L. Ojeda

Ushers: B. Aguirre, M. Arellano
C. Dueñas, R. Dueñas, F. Nelson

Altar Servers: A. Flores, K. Flores, L. Flores



Every Friday in Lent
5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

FISH FRY

St. Patrick's Church
119 N. Market St.
Mokenca, IL 60954
☎ (815) 472-2864



NEWS & NOTES

FROM FR. PETE JANKOWSKI

Join Fr. Pete's mailing list at
pjankowski@yahoo.com.

At our daily Masses over at St. Patrick's, one particular individual makes a point to pray always for an increase of vocations to the priesthood and religious life. On July 1, the Benedictine and Marian Communities will be returning two parishes to the diocese that these religious orders faithfully served for decades (St. Patrick's Church in Yorkville and St. Joan of Arc Church in Lisle). Even though we ordain five new priests this May, this will not cover the number of open parishes that need priests (and we are not ordaining five priests each year!). The need to pray for priests and religious is of great value to our parishes; without them, parishes will continue consolidating or closing altogether (there is one priest south of us that over-exerts himself in taking care of four parishes... and he will be retiring very soon).

I would be remiss if I did not mention Fr. Kenneth Zignmond, OSB. Fr. Ken was a mentor in my formative days of the priesthood. A Catholic School teacher, then assisted at two parishes in our diocese for close to forty years, Fr. Ken over-exerted himself in parish ministry. Fr. Ken's work ethic was infectious – he inspired me to do more because he did more, even in his senior years.



At a time when numerous priests lived in church rectories and were able to dine together, Fr. Ken often shared his ministry experiences with me, encouraging me to see the world, to learn about the faith life of other cultures and then to share those experiences with whatever group of people I served at the time... which is all of you!

In my Online Mass for the Second Sunday of Lent, I shared the last piece of mail Fr. Ken sent to me, about a month before he died. His funeral took place on February 27 in the presence of his Benedictine friends at St. Procopius Abbey in Lisle, IL.

For the sake of the faith and the health of our parishes, please pray for an increase of vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Please encourage your children and grandchildren to consider this noble and holy ministry. God Bless.



Are You Listening?

FR. THOMAS M. SANTA, CSSR

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.” (See Psalm 95.) Our psalm prayer invites us to respond to the Word of God. A positive response should be assumed as ordinary: very few among us would deliberately ignore God’s voice. The challenge is not in responding “yes” to the invitation of the Lord but rather in “hearing” his voice.

There are so many voices that daily compete for attention. We seem to be bombarded every waking moment with some kind of noise that demands attention and action. At one time, Neil Diamond might have been able to celebrate the “Beautiful Noise” of the city, but it is far more difficult for us today. Frankly, the noise around us is deafening, and most people long for true silence, a break in the pattern, a vacation from the frantic anxiety that seems to be present.

A wonderful Lenten practice—indeed, a spiritual practice that goes well beyond Lent—is to freely choose to disconnect from distraction. Resist the temptation to plug in the earbuds. Refrain from the distraction of social media content. Leave your cell phone in the living room, go sit in the backyard, and pay attention to nothing. “Be still and know that I am God” (Psalm 46:11), the psalmist reminds us. Listen for God’s voice, hear his call, and respond to the invitation. ●



LEARN ABOUT
THE AUTHORS
OF OUR PARISH
COMMUNITY

The love of God has been
poured out into our hearts
through the Holy Spirit that has
been given to us.

ROMANS 5:5

Reflect

*Do I need more silence?
Do I find silence difficult?*

Dear Padre,

When I was young, my parish covered all the statues during part of Lent. What did it mean exactly? Do any churches still do this?

In 2001, the US Conference of Catholic Bishops approved the practice of veiling statues and crosses during the last two weeks of the season of Lent, beginning on the fifth Sunday of Lent. This practice is optional, at the discretion of the local pastor. According to the Roman Missal, “Crosses remain covered until the end of the celebration of the Lord’s Passion on Good Friday, but images remain covered until the beginning of the Easter Vigil.”

Covering crosses and statues in violet cloth in the final weeks of Lent indicates a shift in the Church’s focus from Jesus in the desert (gospel for the first Sunday of Lent) to Christ during his Passion. Similar to other Lenten disciplines of penance and fasting that align us in solidarity with Christ, the veiling custom is meant to deepen our appreciation for Christ’s ultimate sacrifice. It represents our “fasting” from sacred depictions of the cross on which hung our salvation and from images of the saints, who glorify Christ and in whom he is glorified. This concealment creates an absence to make our hearts grow fonder for the Lord, who “bore our sins in his body upon the cross, so that, free from sin, we might live for righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed” (1 Peter 2:24). ●



CATHOPIC

Fr. Byron J. Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
MARCH 9	MARCH 10	MARCH 11	MARCH 12	MARCH 13	MARCH 14	MARCH 15
Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Fourth Sunday of Lent
2 Kgs 5:1–15ab Lk 4:24–30	Dn 3:25, 34–43 Mt 18:21–35	Dt 4:1, 5–9 Mt 5:17–19	Jer 7:23–28 Lk 11:14–23	Hos 14:2–10 Mk 12:28–34	Hos 6:1–6 Lk 18:9–14	1 Sm 16:1b, 6–7, 10–13a Eph 5:8–14 Jn 9:1–41 or 9:1, 6–9, 13–17, 34–38

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.



MARCO IACOBUCCI EPP / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

We feel a deep and burning thirst that no drink in this world can satisfy. Knowing this, let us not deceive our hearts by trying to satisfy them with cheap imitations!... Let us turn this thirst into a step stool, like children who stand on tiptoe, in order to peer through the window of encounter with God.

HOMILY, ROME, AUGUST 3, 2025





Easter Flower Order Form

St. Patrick's Catholic Church

119 North Market Street - Momence, IL 60954

 (815) 472-2864

Flowers will be ordered for Easter and placed in the sanctuary of our church. If you would like to order a flower, please fill out the information requested below, including a check (payable to St. Patrick's). You can place this form with your check in an envelope and place it either in the collection basket or you can bring it to the parish office.

All orders must be submitted by Wednesday - March 11, 2026

Name _____
Phone _____
Email _____

Lilies _____ (qty) x \$13 _____
Azaleas _____ (qty) x \$25 _____
Ivy _____ (qty) x \$25 _____

Grand Total \$ _____

In Honor of... In Memory of... In Celebration of...



Formulario de Pedido de Flores de Pascua

La Parroquia de San Patricio

119 North Market Street - Momence, IL 60954

 (815) 472-2864

Se ordenarán flores para Pascua y se colocarán en el presbiterio de nuestra iglesia. Si desea pedir un flor, complete la información solicitada a continuación, incluido un cheque (a nombre de St. Patrick's). Puede colocar este formulario con su cheque en un sobre y colocarlo en la canasta de recolección o puede llevarlo a la oficina parroquial.

Todos los pedidos deben enviarse antes del 11 Marzo 2026

Nombre _____
Teléfono _____
E-mail _____

Lirios _____ (cant) x \$13 _____
Azaleas _____ (cant) x \$25 _____
Hiedras _____ (cant) x \$25 _____

Gran Total \$ _____

En Honor de... En Memoria de... En Celebración de...



 **YouTube**

**Border
Town
Parishes**

YouTube Channel

PLEASE KEEP US IN MIND!!!

WILLS & ESTATES

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH
(MOMENCE, IL)

ST. ANNE'S CHURCH
(ST. ANNE, IL)



Please Help Us Upgrade Our Parish Campuses!

St. Patrick's Church

119 N. Market St.
Momence, IL 60954
☎ (815) 472-2864

St. Anne's Church

230 N. 6th Avenue
St. Anne, IL 60964
☎ (815) 472-2864

Upcoming Church Projects

St. Anne Foundation - \$2,000,000

St. Patrick's Foundation - \$3,000,000

St. Anne's Building Generators - \$50,000

Paving of St. Pat's Church Parking Lot - \$100,000

St. Pat's Academy Gym Parking Lot - \$275,000

ST. PATRICK'S PEW & CHURCH DEDICATION PROGRAM



If you are interested in learning more about the pew dedication program (\$2,500 a pew), contact the parish office at St. Patrick's Church at ☎ (815) 472-2864 or email us at the address pjankowski@yahoo.com.



ST. ANNE'S PEW & CHURCH DEDICATION PROGRAM



The concept for our dedication program is simple - we are offering the opportunity to remember a loved one in a memorial dedicated for one of our church or chapel pews (\$2,500).

If you are interested in learning more about the dedication program, contact the parish office at phone ☎ (815) 427-8265 or email us at the address pjankowski@yahoo.com.

Other Winter Activities at the Border Town Parishes...



HARBOR HOUSE

As we show gratitude for the mothers and motherly figures in our lives, please consider supporting those who may be struggling with the new or unexpected calling to motherhood by supporting the Baby Bottle Campaign. All proceeds benefit Waterleaf Women's Center, which provides assistance for those facing unplanned pregnancy.

We will be collecting new slippers, slipper socks and stockings for women and children in January for those served by Harbor House. All sizes are needed. A warm pair of slippers or socks would be greatly appreciated during the cold winter months. Out of desperation, some arrive at Harbor House with just the clothes on their backs. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



Please remember... the budgets that our Finance Committees established last June only work if St. Anne's collects \$2,000 a week in her collection and \$3,000 a week at St. Patrick's. We have been blessed that a couple major donors have assisted us in keeping the ships afloat but, if you can, please remember that the "Online Giving" Portal is always open Online and we continue to encourage you to remember St. Anne's & St. Pat's in your Will and Estate Planning. With a new bishop coming into the area later this year, a new bishop brings new and different ideas – let's not let the bishop think about St. Patrick's or St. Anne's for a long time!

St. Patrick's Irish Mass & Dinner - On March 14, we will offer our Annual Bagpipe 4:00 p.m. Mass & Dinner, with Entertainment after Mass courtesy of the Galway Girls. Prices TBA. Come join us in supporting St. Patrick's Church and celebrating with good faith, friends... and Food! Corned Beef & Cabbage, Irish Stew and other surprises to come!!!



At St. Anne on
February 20,
March 6 & March 20
At St. Patrick's Every
Friday from February 20
through March 27



MANTENO VETERANS' HOME

Members' Personal Needs List

IVHM cannot accept homemade or independently prepared refreshments for distribution to our Veterans. Food items brought in for a party will have to be purchased through a commercial vendor due to Public Health guidelines.

All Donated Clothing Items Must Be New

Personal Care

- Men's T-Shirts (Sizes M - 4XL)**
- Men's Sweatshirts (Sizes L - 4XL)**
- Men's Pajamas (Sizes L - 4XL)**
- Sweatpants (Sizes M - 4XL)**
- Diabetic Socks**
- Pre-Electric Lotion**
- Electric Razors (New)**
- Aftershave**
- Body Wash (Men & Women)**
- Cologne for Men (AXE Spray)**
- Kleenex**
- Hair Cream**

Foods

- Small Candy Bars (No Nuts)**
- Individually Packaged Chips**
- Soft Breakfast Bars**
- Coffee (Regular & Decaf)**
- Soda (Diet & Regular)**
- Individually Packaged Cookies**
- Puffed Popcorn Regular / Cheese**
- Sugar-Free Gum / Freedent**
- Candy (Sugar Free / Chocolate Bars)**
- Snack Cakes (Little Debbie's / Hostess)**
- Packaged Crackers (Cheese / Peanut Butter)**
- Cookies (Regular & Sugar-Free - No Nuts)**

Misc

- Reachers / Grabbers**
- Paper Towels / Rolls**
- Batteries AA / AAA**
- Pocket Talkers**
- Forever Stamps**
- Napkins**
- Headphones**
- Seasonal Plates**
- Solo Cups (Small)**

Do not donate directly to a Unit or Department. Please bring all items to the Volunteer Office located in Building S-2. Prescheduled appointments are preferred. The Volunteer Services Office is open Monday - Friday from 8:00 am - 4:30pm. If you have any questions, please call 815-907-3345 or 815-907-3346.

DONATIONS MAY ALSO BE SHIPPED TO

**Manteno Veterans' Home
Attn: Volunteer Services
1 Veterans Dr.
Manteno, IL 60950**





WHY VOLUNTEER?

Have you ever wonder what the Bible says about volunteering at church? Is it one of God's commandments? Is it just a good thing to do? Will it help us get into heaven?

Here's the deal, volunteering at church will not get you into heaven and it isn't one of the Ten Commandments, but God does have a lot to say about serving Him, the church, and others. Check it out.

So in book of James in the New Testament it talks a lot about Faith and Works. We don't have to do good works (volunteer our time, help those in need, etc.) to earn our way into heaven; we do good works because we love God! We can show our faith by our actions ([James 2:18](#)). James also goes on to say that faith without work is DEAD. So if we claim to be part of "one, holy and Catholic Church," we need to show it through our actions. One way to do that is by volunteering our time at church.

James is pretty straight forward that we are called to do work, but here are three others reasons we should volunteer at church:

USE YOUR GIFTS! In his letter to early Christians, Peter writes, "God has given you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to SERVE others." ([1 Peter 4:10](#)) God has given each of us who follow him specific and unique gifts. Some of us have the gift of hospitality. We enjoy making people feel loved and welcomed. A great way to use this gift in the church is by being on the Hospitality Team. You can greet guests as they come to church, make them feel at home. Some of us have the gift of teaching. Use this gift to lead a bible study or a kids class. Use the gifts God has given YOU to volunteer at church.

IT IS GREATER TO SERVE THAN TO BE SERVED! Jesus himself said in [Matthew 20:28](#), "For the even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as ransom for many." Jesus was the ultimate example of serving others. He was fully God yet He came to serve man. In John 13, Jesus serves his closest followers, the disciples, by washing their feet. He is setting the example for not only the disciples but also for us that serving others is greater than being served. There is so much more than coming to church to hear a good sermon and sing songs. We are called to serve others. By volunteering at church we can serve others.

What is **FASTING**?

The **limitation** of food and drink – typically to one main meal and two smaller meals, with no solid foods in between

But remember to drink enough fluids!

When do we fast?

Ash Wednesday & Good Friday*

*Paschal Fast: Good Friday and Holy Saturday are days of prayer and quiet reflection. We honour the suffering and death of Jesus and prepare to share in the joy of his resurrection at Easter.

What is **ABSTINENCE**?

Avoiding certain kinds of food or drink, typically meat or other desirable foods

When do we abstain?

Catholics are obliged to abstain from **meat every Friday** throughout the year (except solemn feast days)

TIP: Instead of abstaining, you may substitute special acts of charity or piety on Fridays

ALL ABOUT

Fasting & Abstinence

Why fast?

It helps us to **pray better**: an empty stomach can lead to more attentive prayer

Who has to fast?

Catholics aged 18 to 59
Those with impaired health should not fast in any way.

Why abstain on Fridays?

It's **the day of Christ's saving death** on the cross; we abstain to share in His work of saving the world

Who has to abstain?

Catholics aged 14 and older

During Lent, the money we save on food while fasting and abstaining should be given to others in alms

SOURCE: "Keeping Friday" and "Living Lent" from the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops www.cccb.ca

LENTEN REGULATIONS

Abstinence from meats is to be observed by all Catholics 14 years old and older on Ash Wednesday and on all the Fridays of Lent.

Fasting is to be observed on Ash Wednesday by all Catholics who are 18 years of age but not yet 59. Those who are bound by this may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted. The special Paschal fast and abstinence are prescribed for Good Friday and encouraged for Holy Saturday.

"The season of Lent is a preparation for the celebration of Easter. The liturgy prepares the catechumens for the celebration of the paschal mystery by the several stages of Christian initiation: it also prepares the faithful, who recall their baptism and do penance in preparation for Easter." (General Norms for the Liturgical Year, #27)

By the threefold discipline of fasting, almsgiving and prayer the church keeps Lent from Ash Wednesday until the evening of Holy Thursday. All of the faithful and the catechumens should undertake serious practice of these three traditions. Failure to observe penitential days totally or a substantial number of such days must be considered serious.

"(On) weekdays of Lent, we strongly recommend participation in daily Mass and self-imposed observances of fasting. In light of grave human needs which weigh on the Christian conscience in all seasons, we urge particularly during Lent, generosity to local, national and world programs of sharing of all things needed to translate our duty to penance into a means of implementing the right of the poor to their part of our abundance." (U.S. Bishops statement on penitential observances, 1966.)

REGLAMENTO DE CUARESMA

La abstinencia de las carnes debe ser observada por todos los católicos mayores de 14 años el Miércoles de Ceniza y todos los viernes de Cuaresma.

El ayuno debe ser observado el Miércoles de Ceniza por todos los católicos que tienen 18 años de edad pero aún no 59. Aquellos que están obligados por esto pueden tomar sólo una comida completa. Se permiten dos comidas más pequeñas si es necesario para mantener la fuerza de acuerdo con las necesidades de uno, pero no se permite comer alimentos sólidos entre las comidas. El ayuno especial pascual y la abstinencia se prescriben para el Viernes Santo y se animan para el Sábado Santo.

"La época de la Cuaresma es una preparación para la celebración de la Pascua. La liturgia prepara a los catecúmenos para la celebración del misterio pascual por las diversas etapas de la iniciación cristiana: también prepara a los fieles, que recuerdan su bautismo y hacen penitencia en preparación para la Pascua." (Normas generales para el Año Litúrgico, #27)

Por la triple disciplina del ayuno, la limosna y la oración, la iglesia conserva la Cuaresma del Miércoles de Ceniza hasta la noche del Jueves Santo. Todos los fieles y los catecúmenos deben emprender una práctica seria de estas tres tradiciones. El incumplimiento de los días penitenciales totalmente o de un número sustancial de dichos días debe considerarse grave.



THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS - PRAYERS TO JESUS CHRIST CRUCIFIED

Make the sign of the cross.

After announcing each station, begin with the following:

V/. We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

R/. Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

FIRST STATION: JESUS IS CONDEMNED TO DEATH

From Saint Matthew: (27: 22-23; 26) Pilate said to them, "Then what shall I do with Jesus called Messiah?" They all said, "Let him be crucified!" But he said, "Why? What evil has he done?" They only shouted louder, "Let him be crucified!" Then he released Barabbas to them, but after he had Jesus scourged, he handed him over to be crucified. V/. God did not spare his own Son. R/. But handed him over for the sake of us all. (see Rm 8: 32)

SECOND STATION: JESUS CARRIES HIS CROSS

From Saint John: (19: 16-17, 19) Then he handed him over to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus, and carrying the cross himself he went out to what is called the Place of the Skull, in Hebrew, Golgotha. Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, "Jesus the Nazorean, the King of the Jews." V/. "Whoever wishes to come after me." R/. "Must take up his cross, and follow me." (Mt 16: 24)

THIRD STATION: JESUS FALLS THE FIRST TIME

From the prophet Isaiah: (53: 4-5) Yet it was our infirmities that he bore, our sufferings that he endured, While we thought of him as stricken, as one smitten by God and afflicted. But he was pierced for our offenses, crushed for our sins; Upon him was the chastisement that makes us whole, by his stripes we were healed. V/. Happy those whose way is blameless, who walk by the teaching of the LORD. R/. May my ways be firm in the observance of your laws! (Ps 119 [118]: 1, 5)

FOURTH STATION: JESUS MEETS HIS MOTHER

From the Lamentations: (1: 10, 16, 12) The foe stretched out his hand to all her treasures. At this I weep, my eyes run with tears. "Come, and you who pass by the way, look and see whether there is any suffering like my suffering. V/. "Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety." R/. "Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" (Luke 2: 48, 49)

FIFTH STATION: JESUS IS HELPED BY SIMON

From Saint Mark: (15: 21) They pressed into service a passer-by, Simon, a Cyrenian, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry his cross. V/. "Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine," R/. "You did for me." (Mt 25: 40)

SIXTH STATION: JESUS' FACE IS WIPED BY VERONICA

From the prophet Isaiah: (52: 14; 53: 2-3) Even as many were amazed at him – so marred was his look beyond that of man, and his appearance beyond that of mortals. There was in him no stately bearing to make us look at him, nor appearance that would attract us to him. He was spurned and avoided by men, a man of suffering, accustomed to infirmity, One of those from whom men hide their faces, spurned, and we held him in no esteem. V/. Rely on the mighty LORD. R/. Constantly seek his face. (Ps 105 [104]: 4)

SEVENTH STATION: JESUS FALLS THE SECOND TIME

From the prophet Isaiah: (53: 6-7, 8) We had all gone astray like sheep, each following his own way; But the LORD laid upon him the guilt of us all. Though he was harshly treated, he submitted and opened not his mouth; Like a lamb led to the slaughter or a sheep before the shearers, he was silent and opened not his mouth. Smitten for the sin of his people. V/. Steady my feet in accord with your promise. R/. Do not let iniquity lead me. (Ps 119 [118]: 133)



EIGHTH STATION: JESUS MEETS THE WOMEN OF JERUSALEM

From Saint Luke: (23: 27-28, 31) A large crowd of people followed Jesus, including many women who mourned and lamented him. Jesus turned to them and said: "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep instead for yourselves and for your children. If these things are done when the wood is green what will happen when it is dry?" V/. The Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve. R/. **And to give his life as a ransom for many. (Mt 20: 28)**

NINTH STATION: JESUS FALLS THE THIRD TIME

From the prophet Isaiah: (63: 1-3, 5) Who is this that comes from Edom, in crimsoned garments, from Bozrah? Why is your apparel red, and your garments like those of the wine presser? "The wine press I have trodden alone, and of my people there was no one with me. I looked about, but there was no one to help, I was appalled that there was no one to lend support; So my own arm brought about the victory." V/. How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings glad tidings. R/. **Announcing peace, bearing good news, announcing salvation. (Is 52: 7)**

TENTH STATION: JESUS IS STRIPPED OF HIS GARMENTS

From Saint John: (19: 23-24) When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four shares, a share for each soldier. They also took his tunic, but this tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top down. So they said to one another, "Let's not tear it, but cast lots for it to see whose it will be," in order that the passage of scripture might be fulfilled [that says]: "They divided my garments among them, and for my vesture they cast lots." V/. All you who were baptized into Christ. R/. **Have clothed yourselves with Christ. (Gal 3: 27)**

ELEVENTH STATION: JESUS IS NAILED TO THE CROSS

From Saint Luke: (23: 33-34) When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him and the criminals there, one on his right, the other on his left. [Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, they know not what they do."] V/. "Once I am lifted up from earth, I will draw all [men] to myself." R/. **This statement indicated the sort of death he had to die. (John 12: 32)**

TWELFTH STATION: JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS

From Saint John: (19: 29-30) There was a vessel filled with common wine. So they put a sponge soaked in wine on a sprig of hyssop and put it up to his mouth. When Jesus had taken the wine, he said, "It is finished." And bowing his head, he handed over the spirit. V/. "Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat." R/. **"But if it dies, it produces much fruit." (John 12: 24)**

THIRTEENTH STATION: JESUS IS TAKEN DOWN FROM THE CROSS

From the prophet Zechariah: (12: 10, 11; 13: 1) They shall look on him whom they have thrust through, and they shall mourn for him as one mourns for an only son, and they shall grieve over him as one grieves over a first-born. On that day the mourning in Jerusalem shall be great. On that day there shall be open a fountain to purify from sin and uncleanness. V/. My lover has come down to his garden, to the beds of spice. R/. **I have come to my garden...; I gather my myrrh and my spices. (Cant 6: 2; 5: 1)**

FOURTEENTH STATION: JESUS IS LAID IN THE TOMB

From Saint John: (19: 38-42) After this, Joseph of Arimathea, secretly a disciple of Jesus for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate if he could remove the body of Jesus. And Pilate permitted it. So he came and took his body. Nicodemus, the one who had first come to him at night, also came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes weighing about one hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and bound it with burial cloths along with the spices, according to the Jewish burial custom. Now in the place where he had been crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb, in which no one had yet been buried. So they laid Jesus there because of the Jewish preparation day; for the tomb was close by. V/. We who were baptized into Christ Jesus. R/. **Were baptized into his death.**



ESTACIONES - EL VIA CRUCIS

Hace el Senal de la Cruz.

Después de anunciar cada estación, comenzar con lo siguiente:

V/. Te adoramos, oh Cristo, y te bendecimos.

R/. Porque por tu santa cruz redimiste al mundo.

PRIMERA ESTACIÓN: JESÚS CONDENADO A MUERTE

De San Mateo: (27: 22-23, 26) Pilato les preguntó: “¿qué hago con Jesús, a quien llaman Mesías?” Contestaron todos: “¡Que lo crucifiquen!” Pilato repuso: “¿Por qué? ¿qué ha hecho de malo?” Ellos gritaban más y más: “¡Que lo crucifiquen!” Entonces le soltó a Barrabás; y a Jesús, después de mandarlo azotar, lo entregó para que lo crucificaran. V/. Dios no se reservó a su propio Hijo. R/. **Sino que lo entregó por todos nosotros. (Rm 8: 32)**

SEGUNDA ESTACIÓN: JESÚS CARGA CON SU CRUZ

De San Juan: (19: 16-17, 19) Entonces, al fin, se lo entregó para que lo crucificaran. Y con eso se hicieron cargo de Jesús. El, nevando a cuestras su cruz, salió para un lugar que llamaba la Calavera (en arameo, Gólgota). Pilato mandó también escribir un letrero y ponerlo en la cruz; decía: Jesús Nazareno, el Rey de los Judíos. V/. “El que quiera venirse conmigo” R/. **“Que reniegue de sí mismo, que cargue con su cruz y entonces me siga.” (Mt 16: 24)**

TERCERA ESTACIÓN: JESÚS CAE POR PRIMERA VEZ

Del Profeta Isaías: (53: 4-5) A él, que soportó nuestros sufrimientos y cargó con nuestros dolores, lo tuvimos por un contagiado, herido de Dios y afligido. El, en cambio, fue traspasado por nuestras rebeliones, triturado por nuestros crímenes. Sobre él descargó el castigo que nos sana y con sus cicatrices nos hemos curado. V/. Dichoso el que, con vida intachable, camina según la voluntad del Señor. R/. **Ojala esté firme mi camino para cumplir tus consignas. (Sal 119 [118]: 1, 5)**

CUARTA ESTACIÓN: JESÚS ENCUENTRA A SU MADRE

De las Lamentaciones: (1: 10, 16, 12) El enemigo ha echado mano a todos sus tesoros. Por eso estoy llorando, mis ojos se deshacen en agua. “Ustedes, los que pasan por el camino, miren, fíjense, ¿Hay dolor como mi dolor?” V/. “Hijo, imira con que angustia te buscaba!” R/. **“¿No sabías que yo tenía que estar en los asuntos de mi Padre?” (Lc 2: 48, 49)**

QUINTA ESTACIÓN: JESÚS ES AYUDADO POR SIMÓN

De San Marcos: (15: 21) Pasaba por allí de vuelta del campo un tal Simón de Cirene, el padre de Alejandro y de Rufo, y lo forzaron a llevar la cruz. V/. “Cada vez que lo hicieron con uno de estos hermanos míos.” R/. **“Lo hicieron conmigo.” (Mt 25: 40)**

SEXTA ESTACIÓN: JESÚS ENCUENTRA A LA VERÓNICA

Del Profeta Isaías: (52: 14; 53: 2-3) Como muchos se espantaron de él, porque desfigurado no parecía hombre ni tenía aspecto humano. No tenía presencia ni belleza que atrajera nuestras miradas ni aspecto que nos cautivara. Despreciado y evitado de la gente, un hombre hecho a sufrir, curtido en el dolor; al vedo se tapaban la cara; despreciado, lo tuvimos por nada. V/. Recurran al Señor y a su poder. R/. **Busquen continuamente su rostro. (Sal 105 [104]: 4)**

SÉPTIMA ESTACIÓN: JESÚS CAE POR SEGUNDA VEZ

Del Profeta Isaías: (53: 6-7, 8) Todos errábamos como ovejas, cada uno por su lado, y el Señor cargó sobre él todos nuestros crímenes. Maltratado aguantaba, no abría la boca, como cordero llevado al matadero, como oveja muda ante el esquilador, no abría la boca. Por los pecados de mi pueblo lo hirieron. V/. Asegura mis pasos con tu promesa. R/. Que ninguna maldad me domine. (Sal 119 [118]: 133)

OCTAVA ESTACIÓN: JESÚS HABLA A LAS MUJERES

De San Lucas: (23: 27-28, 31) Lo seguía gran gentío del pueblo y muchas mujeres que se golpeaban el pecho y gritaban lamentando se por él. Jesús se volvió hacia ellas y les dijo: “Mujeres de Jerusalén, no lloren por mí; lloren mejor por ustedes y por sus hijos. Porque si con el leño verde hacen esto, con el seco, ¿qué irá a pasar?” V/. “El Hijo del Hombre no ha venido a que le sirvan, sino a servir.” R/. “y a dar su vida en rescate por todos.” (Mt 20: 28)

NOVENA ESTACIÓN: JESÚS CAE POR TERCERA VEZ

Del Profeta Isaías: (63: 1-3, 5) ¿Quién es ese que viene de Edom, de Bosra, con las ropas enrojecidas? ¿Quién es ese vestido de gala que avanza lleno de fuerza? ¿Por qué están rojos tus vestidos, y la túnica como el que pisa el lagar? “Yo solo he pisado el lagar y de otros pueblos nadie me ayudaba. Miraba sin encontrar un ayudante, espantado al no haber quién me apoyara; pero mi brazo me dio la victoria.” V/. ¡Qué hermoso son sobre los montes los pies del heraldo que anuncia la paz! R/. ¡Qué trae la buena nueva, que pregona la victoria! (Is 52: 7)

DÉCIMA ESTACIÓN: JESÚS ES DESPOJADO DE SUS VESTIDOS

De San Juan: (19: 23-24) Cuando crucificaron a Jesús, los soldados repartieron su ropa en cuatro lotes, uno para cada uno, dejando aparte la túnica. Era una túnica sin costura, tejida de una pieza de arriba abajo. Los soldados se dijeron: “Mejor que dividida en pedazos la echaremos a suerte, a ver a quién toca.” Así se cumplió la escritura: “Se repartieron mi ropa y echaron a suerte mi túnica.” V/. Todos, al ser bautizados en Cristo. R/. Se revistieron de Cristo. (Gal 3: 27)

UNDÉCIMA ESTACIÓN: JESÚS ES CLAVADO EN LA CRUZ

De San Lucas: (23: 33-34) Cuando llegaron al lugar llamado “La Calavera,” los crucificaron allí, a él y a los malhechores, uno a su derecha y el otro a su izquierda. Jesús decía: “Padre, perdónalos, que no saben lo que hacen.” V/. “Cuando me levanten de la tierra, atraeré a todos hacia mí.” R/. Decía esto dando a entender cómo iba a morir. (Jn 12: 32)

DUODÉCIMA ESTACIÓN: JESÚS MUERE EN LA CRUZ

De San Juan: (19: 29-30) Había allí un jarro con vinagre. Sujetando a una caña de hisopo una esponja empapada en el vinagre, se la acercaron a la boca; cuando tomó el vinagre dijo Jesús: “¡Queda terminado.” Y, reclinando la cabeza, entregó el espíritu. V/. “Si el grano de trigo cae en tierra y no muere, queda infecundo.” R/. “En cambio, si muere, da fruto abundante.” (Jn 12: 24-25)

DECIMOTERCERA ESTACIÓN: JESÚS ES BAJADO DE LA CRUZ

Del Profeta Zacarías: (12: 10, 11; 13: 1) Al mirarme traspasado por ellos mismos, harán duelo como por un hijo único, y llorarán como se llora a un primogénito. Aquel día el luto de Jerusalén será grande. Aquel día se alumbrará un manantial contra los pecados e impurezas. V/. Ha bajado mi amado a su jardín. R/. “Ya vengo a mi jardín, a recoger el bálsamo y la mirra.” (Cant 6: 2; 5: 1)

DECIMOCUARTA ESTACIÓN: JESÚS ES PUESTO EN EL SEPULCRO

De San Juan: (19: 38-42) José de Arimatea, discípulo de Jesús, pero clandestino por miedo a las autoridades judías, le pidió a Pilato que le dejara quitar el cuerpo. Pilato lo autorizó. Él fue y quitó el cuerpo de Jesús. Fue también Nicodemo, aquel que la primera vez había ido a vedo de noche, llevando unas cien libras de una mezcla de mirra y áloe. Tomaron el cuerpo de Jesús y lo vendaron de arriba abajo echándole aromas, como acostumbraban a enterrar los judíos. En el sitio donde lo crucificaron había un huerto, y en el huerto un sepulcro nuevo donde todavía no habían enterrado a nadie. Como para los judíos era día de preparativos y el sepulcro estaba cerca, pusieron ahí a Jesús. V/. A todos nosotros, al bautizamos vinculándonos a Cristo Jesús. R/. Nos bautizaron vinculándonos a su muerte.

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TRADICIONES DE NUESTRA FE

Las cenizas que se nos pusieron en la frente el miércoles pasado ya están borradas, pero las palabras que nos dijeron deben sonar aún en nuestras almas. Tradicionalmente se dice: "Recuerda que del polvo venimos y al polvo retornaremos." Y aunque hoy en muchos lugares se dice: "Conviértete y cree en el Evangelio" el mensaje para nosotros latinos es el mismo. Es un mensaje que nos saca de nuestro egoísmo recordándonos lo que los antiguos Toltecas ya sabían: esta vida es un sueño y el que muere despierta a la vida verdadera. Viviendo el Evangelio en esta vida nos prepara para la vida eterna. Las cenizas y esas frases dan un mensaje que lleva la imagen de la tierra que se somete para cultivarse. A veces la tierra se quema para que de sus cenizas venga vida nueva. Las cenizas que se nos pusieron no son para despreciar nuestra vida sino para amarla. De esa manera seremos cultivados por el ayuno, la oración y la caridad que hagamos durante la Cuaresma, sometiendo el polvo de nuestro cuerpo para dar fruto eterno. - Fray Gilberto Cavazos-Gluz, OFM, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

JESÚS Y EL DEMONIO

Como nos recuerda el Evangelio de hoy, el demonio tentó a Jesús con citas de la Sagrada Escritura: haz un milagro que te convenga. Véndete. Deslumbra a tus oyentes; el pueblo es ingenuo y novelero. Camina por estas sendas fáciles. El tentador trata de llevar a Jesús por la senda fácil pero resba-

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losa, ofreciéndole las soluciones fáciles pero falsas que siempre están a la mano. El demonio sabe lo que es bueno, pero no tiene la capacidad de hacer lo que es bueno, y menos aún de ser bueno. El demonio es la personificación del Mal, e intuye en Jesús la presencia más fuerte, y más genuinamente atractiva, de la santidad. El Evangelio de este domingo nos muestra al Mal expuesto y desenmascarado. Satanás sabe que se le ha acabado el juego. Hoy Jesús comienza a deshacer su tejido de mentiras, ya sanar a las almas, y al mundo entero. Y en este tiempo de Cuaresma, la Iglesia nos invita a participar en esta labor de renovación, de nueva creación, ya dejar que Cristo nos sane. © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

"Por eso ofrezco ahora las primicias de los frutos del suelo, que tú, Señor, me diste" (Deuteronomio 26:10) Esta línea del Antiguo Testamento nos ofrece dos retos. Primero, ¿Le das a Dios tus "primeros frutos", lo mejor que puedes ofrecer, o simplemente le das las sobras? Segundo, ¿recuerdas que todo lo que tienes te ha sido dado por Dios? Pídele a Dios cada día, un corazón agra-

LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera Lectura - Agua salió de la roca para apagar la sed del pueblo (Éxodo 17: 3-7).

Salmo - Si hoy oyen su voz, no endurezcan su corazón (Salmo 95 [94]).

Segunda Lectura - El amor de Dios se ha derramado en nuestro corazón por el don del Espíritu Santo (Romanos 5: 1-2, 5-8).

Evangelio - El agua que yo les daré se convierte en el manantial de vida eterna (Juan 4: 5-42 [5-15, 19b-26, 39, 40-42]).

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Lunes: 2 Re 5: 1-15ab; Sal 42: 2, 3; 43: 3-4; Lc 4: 24-30

Martes: Dn 3: 25, 34-43; Sal 25; Mt 18: 21-35

Miércoles: Dt 4: 1, 5-9; Sal 147; Mt 5: 17-19

Jueves: Jer 7: 23-28; Sal 95; Lc 11: 14-23

Viernes: Hos 14: 2-10; Sal 81; Mc 12: 28-34

Sábado: Hos 6: 1-6; Sal 51; Lc 18: 9-14

Domingo: 1 Sm 16: 1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Sal 23 (22): 1-6; Ef 5: 8-14; Jn 9: 1-41[1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38]



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