

*Lent is our season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, ancient practices dating back to the Israelites. Mentioned in a number of places in the Old Testament-particularly the Books of Job, Jeremiah, and Daniel-the sprinkling of ashes, wearing sackcloth, and practices of fasting were the central gestures of sorrow and repentance for the chosen people. The use of ashes for all the faithful at the start of Lent began in the tenth century. In many ways it is ironic that on the day we hear Jesus speak of praying, fasting, and almsgiving being done in secret, we participate in what may be the year's most public physical statement of our belief in Him! As we are signed on the forehead with the Cross (a gesture that, with holy oil, is also part of Baptism, Confirmation, and Anointing) we are told to "Repent and believe in the Gospel." Alternatively, the formula "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return" is used, which also points to the urgency of recognizing and reconciling our sinfulness. We are reminded that with our Baptism has come the responsibility to live our lives for the Lord.*

*While it is fine to wash the ashes off after the Mass or service we attend, many people keep them on their forehead throughout the day. Often, they are a discussion starter for people outside the Christian family or for those who have not been taught their meaning. Ash Wednesday provides an opening for us to share our faith and to highlight that our lives as followers of Jesus should be those of humble service to others.*

### **A Lenten Prayer**

**Grant, O Lord, that we may begin with holy fasting this campaign of Christian service, so that, as we take up battle against spiritual evils, we may be armed with weapons of self-restraint. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.**

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Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence.

For members of the Latin Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards.

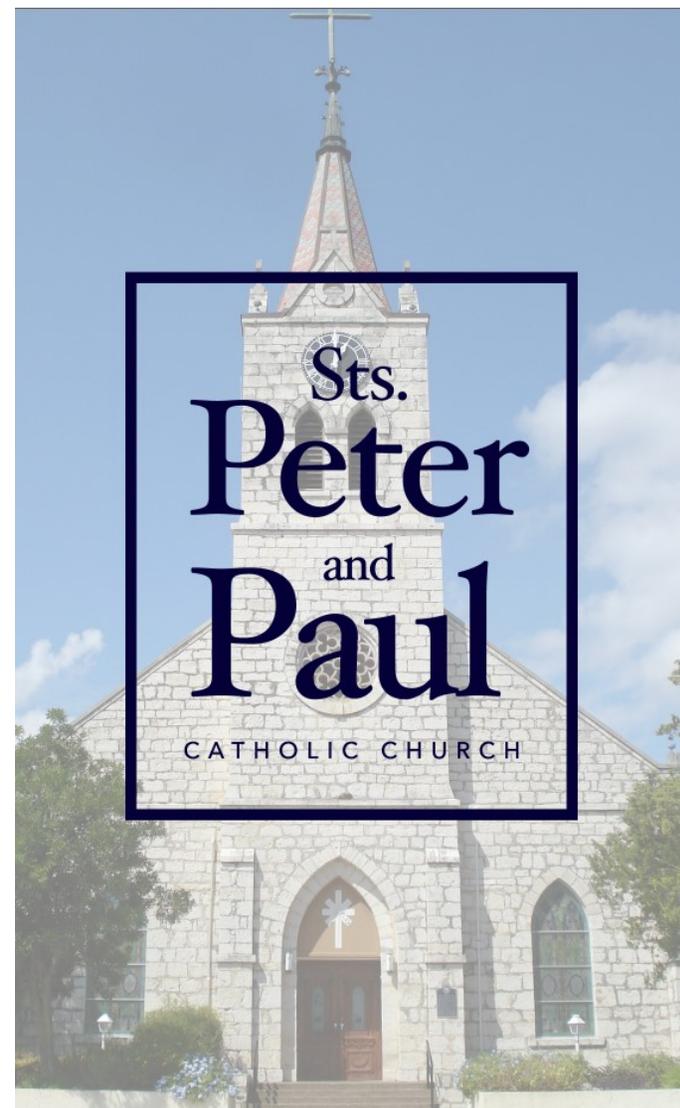
Our Parish Ministry Awareness Weekend is on February 17/18 2018. Instead of reducing or completely doing away with something this Lent we can instead engage ourselves in many of our parish organizations or committees.  
All are Welcome!

Please visit the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops website for daily Lenten reflections.

<http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgical-year/lent/index.cfm>

or Please visit our parish website for continued information and announcements.

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*Lenten Season  
2018*



# *Lenten Services*

## **Mondays**

7am Liturgy of the Hours

8am / 12:10pm Mass

4:30-5:30 Confessions

## **Tuesdays**

8am / 12:10pm Mass

6pm Chaplet of Divine Mercy

7pm Stations of the Cross (St. Joseph's Chapel)

## **Wednesdays**

8am Mass

10:10am School Mass

12:10pm Mass

3pm Stations of the Cross

4:30-5:30 Confessions

## **Thursdays**

8am Mass

12:10pm Mass

9pm Circle of Mary Rosary

## **Fridays**

8am Mass

12:10pm Mass

7pm Stations of the Cross

## **Saturdays**

4-5pm Confessions

5pm Mass

## **Sundays**

8am Mass

9:30am Mass

11:15am Mass

5:30 pm Mass

# *Ash Wednesday*

## ***Distribution of Ashes Each Hour***

7am-7pm

## ***Mass & Distribution of Ashes***

8am

## ***School Mass & Distribution of Ashes***

10:10am

## ***Mass & Distribution of Ashes***

7pm

## ***Lenten Reconciliation Service***

***Tuesday March 6th***

10:00 am. & 7:00 pm

# *Easter Triduum*

## **Holy Thursday - March 29th**

**7:00pm**

## **Good Friday - March 30**

12pm Stations of the Cross

1pm Stations of the Cross

2pm Stations of the Cross

3pm Service of the Cross - Passion and Holy Communion

7 pm Living Stations of the Cross

## **Holy Saturday**

8pm Easter Vigil Service

## **Easter Sunday**

8am Mass (in the church)

8am Mass (in St Mary's)

9:30am Mass (in the church)

9:30am Mass (in St. Mary's Hall)

11:15am Mass (in the church)

11:15am Mass (in St. Mary's Hall)

1:15pm Spanish Mass (in the Church)

5:30pm No Mass on Easter Sunday

*In the beginning of this season of Lent we take time to reflect, to pray more devoutly, to make sacrifices for our sins and perform acts of charity. What are your plans for your spiritual growth during these Lenten days?*

Thank  
You

for visiting

Sts.

**Peter**

and

**Paul**

CATHOLIC CHURCH





