



**ANNUNCIATION CATHOLIC CHURCH**

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Rev. Sebastian J. Thekkedath, CMI

Deacon Tyrone Necaise

MASSES

SATURDAY VIGIL: 4:00PM

SUNDAY: 8:00AM & 10:30AM

WEEKDAY MASS: CHAPEL

MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:00AM (ROSARY AFTER)

FIRST SATURDAY 8:00AM (NOVENA TO THE BL. VIRGIN MARY)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

SATURDAY: 3:00-3:45 PM

SUNDAY: 9:45-10:15AM

OTHER TIMES BY APPOINTMENT

ADORATION

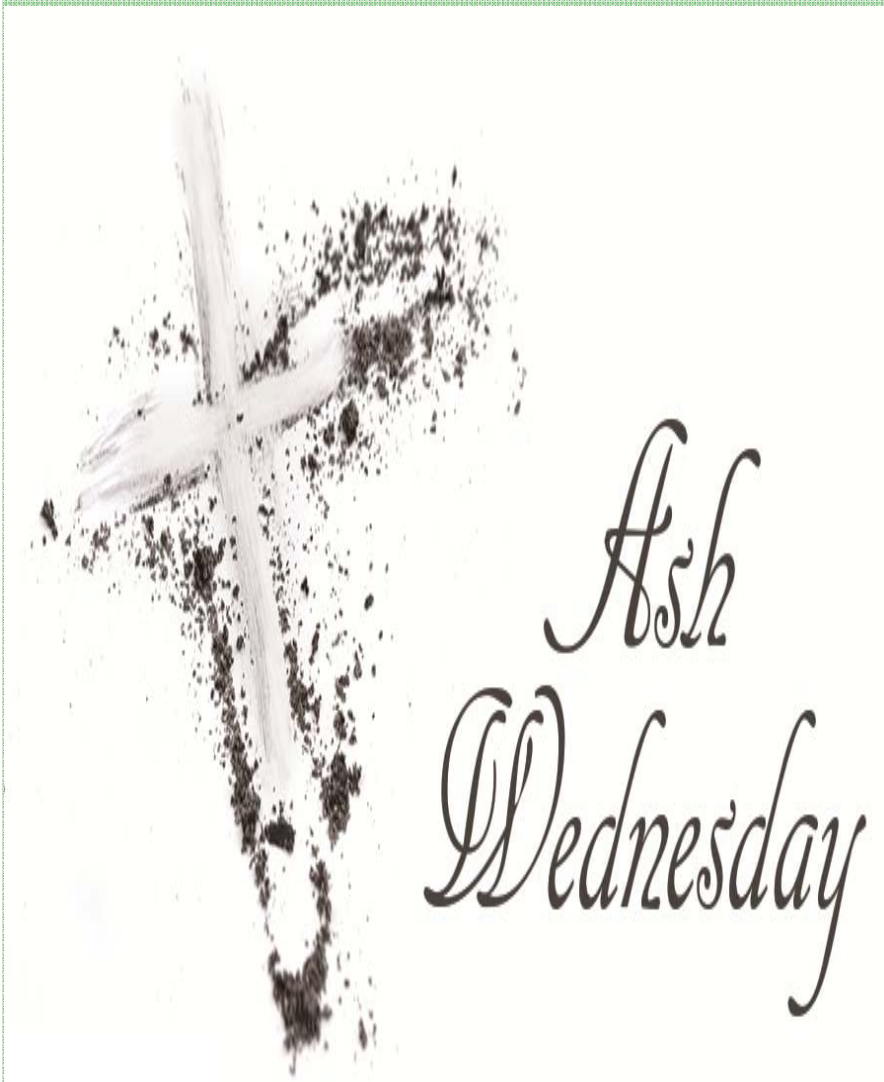
TUESDAY: 8:30AM-8:00PM

FRIDAY: 8:30AM-9:30AM (DEVOTION TO SACRED HEART)

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY-FRIDAY: 8:00 AM-4:00 PM

KARLA HENLEY, SECRETARY



Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time  
February 23, 2020



**1. What is Ash Wednesday?** Ash Wednesday is the day that Lent begins. The name comes from the fact that a particular rite is always celebrated on this Wednesday in which the faithful have ashes put on their foreheads. According to the Roman Missal: In the course of today's Mass, ashes are blessed and distributed. These are made from the olive branches or branches of other trees that were blessed the previous year [on Palm/Passion Sunday].

**2. What does the putting on of ashes symbolize?** According to the Directory on Popular Piety and the Liturgy: 125. In the Roman Rite, the beginning of the forty days of penance is marked with the austere symbol of ashes which are used in the Liturgy of Ash Wednesday. The use of ashes is a survival from an ancient rite according to which converted sinners submitted themselves to canonical penance. The act of putting on ashes symbolizes fragility and mortality, and the need to be redeemed by the mercy of God. Far from being a merely external act, the Church has retained the use of ashes to symbolize that attitude of internal penance to which all the baptized are called during Lent. The faithful who come to receive ashes should be assisted in perceiving the implicit internal significance of this act, which disposes them towards conversion and renewed Easter commitment.

**3. How does the distribution of ashes take place?** The Roman Missal states that after the homily, the priest blesses the ashes and sprinkles them with holy water. Then the priest places ashes on the head of all those present who come to him, and says to each one: **Repent, and believe the Gospel. Or: Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.** Meanwhile an antiphon or another appropriate chant is sung.

**4. How long do you leave the ashes on?** There is no rule about this. It is a matter of personal decision based on the individual's own inclinations and circumstances. The ashes can be left on until they wear off naturally or they can be washed off or wiped off when the individual chooses.

**5. Can ashes be distributed to the sick who cannot attend Mass?** Yes. The Book of Blessings states: **1657**-- This order [in the Book of Blessings] may also be used when ashes are brought to the sick. According to circumstances, the rite may be abbreviated by the minister. Nevertheless, at least one Scripture reading should be included in the service. **1658** -- If already blessed ashes are brought to the sick, the blessing is omitted, and the distribution takes place immediately after the homily. The homily should conclude by inviting the sick person to prepare himself or herself for the reception of the ashes.

**6. Is Ash Wednesday a Holyday of Obligation?** No. There is no obligation to attend Mass. However, Ash Wednesday is a penitential day and it (together with Good Friday) is one of two days of the year on which fasting, and abstinence are required. (<http://www.ncregister.com/blog/jimmy-akin/9-things-you-need-to-know-about-lent>)



Weekend of  
February 15-16, 2020

Weekly.....\$3,101.00  
Building Fund.....\$274.00

**MANY THANKS!**

**TODAY'S READINGS**

**First Reading —**

Take no revenge and cherish no grudge;  
love your neighbor as yourself (Leviticus  
19:1-2, 17-18).

**Psalm —**

The Lord is kind and merciful (Psalm 103).

**Second Reading —**

You are the temple of God, and holy  
(1 Corinthians 3:16-23).

**Gospel —**

Offer no resistance; love your enemies  
(Matthew 5:38-48).



**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Saturday, February 22**

**4:00pm** - Lenette, Lamar†, & Gidget  
Necaise†

**Sunday, February 23**

**8:00am** - Parishioners  
**10:30am** - John† & Nicole Necaise†,  
Teddy† & Shirley Morel†, Joel† &  
Peggy Cooley†, and all deceased  
members of the Necaise Family

**Friday, February 28**

**8:00am** - Karen Koenn†



Michael & Toddy Arceneaux	Verna Mae Ladner James Lovett
Ralph Baldwin	Sandra & Janet Mauffray
Nelsie & Johnny Banks	Woody Mauffray
Gene Breazeale	Carol Moragas
Claud Burk	Mary Louise & Sonny Moran
Don "Sarge" Carter	Belinda & Kenny Morgan
Eugene, James, Jerry, Gretchen, Tessa, JoAnn, Jude, Shirley Cucurullo	Patrick Murphy Janet Necaise Tyrone & Faye Necaise
Leticia J. Dedeaux	Christopher Nugent
Peggy Glynn	Joy Patin
Christine Greenwood	Carolyn Reeves
Merle Haas	Brooke Rolison
Wayne Hoda	Carla Santiago
Amanda Jones	Karrie Schultz
June Kenney	Jerry Shavers
Donald Koenn	Timothy Scott Steen
Cecile & Willard Ladner	Maura Strong
Patsy Ladner	Josie Thomas

**SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- ◆ It has been directed that the Precious Blood not be distributed at Mass and continuing until further notice. Also, we request that you avoid shaking hands during Sharing of Peace of Christ. The directive is due to the severity of the flu season.
- ◆ Baby Bottle Fundraiser ends on March 1st. Please return any bottles that you may have.
- ◆ Parish Office will be closed Tuesday, February 25 for Mardi Gras.
- ◆ We will have a special collection for Churches in Eastern Europe and Africa on Ash Wednesday.
- ◆ **Ash Wednesday Mass will be at 8:00am & 6:00pm, both held in the Church.**
- ◆ **Stations of the Cross will be held Wednesdays at 8:30am after Mass in the Chapel and Fridays at 5:00pm in the Church.**
- ◆ Fish Fry Fridays begins on February 28th in the Parish Hall from 5:00pm-7:00pm.
- ◆ Annunciation's Annual Parish \$1,500 Raffles will begin on Friday, February 28th. Tickets are \$20. Prizes are: 1st Place \$1,500; 2nd Place \$500; Most tickets sold \$200. Call Karla for tickets.

## **FASTING AND ABSTINENCE FOR LENT**

- 1. Everyone 14 years of age or older is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays in Lent including GOOD FRIDAY.**
- 2. Everyone 18 years of age and under 60 years of age is bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.**
- 3. On these two days of fast and abstinence only one full, meatless meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal one full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted on these two days, but liquids, including milk and fruit juices, are allowed. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige.**
- 4. To disregard completely the law of fast and abstinence is a serious matter.**
- 5. Going to Mass every Sunday, doing acts of charity, forgiveness, and good deeds of virtue are obligations of daily life of Catholics especially during Lent.**

**1. What is Lent?** According to the Universal Norms for the Liturgical Year and the General Roman Calendar: 27. Lent [is a liturgical season that] is ordered to preparing for the celebration of Easter, since the Lenten liturgy prepares for celebration of the Paschal Mystery both catechumens, by the various stages of Christian initiation, and the faithful, who recall their own Baptism and do penance.

**2. Where does the word “Lent” come from?** The Catholic Encyclopedia notes: The Teutonic word *Lent*, which we employ to denote the forty days' fast preceding Easter, originally meant no more than the spring season. Still it has been used from the Anglo-Saxon period to translate the more significant Latin term *quadragesima* (French *carême*, Italian *quaresima*, Spanish, *cuaresma*), meaning the “forty days”, or more literally the “fortieth day”. This in turn imitated the Greek name for Lent, *tessarakoste* (fortieth), a word formed on the analogy of Pentecost (*pentekoste*), which last was in use for the Jewish festival before New Testament times.

**3. When does Lent begin and end?** The Universal Norms state: 28. The forty days of lent run from Ash Wednesday up to but excluding the Mass of the Lord's Supper exclusive. This mean that Lent begins at 12:01 a.m. on Ash Wednesday and runs to just before the Mass of the Lord's Supper on the evening of Holy Thursday. As soon as the Mass of the Lord's Supper starts, it's a new liturgical season: Triduum.

**4. Is Lent exactly forty days long as currently celebrated?** No, it's actually a little longer than forty days. The number is approximative, for spiritual purposes. More info on the precise number of days visit: <http://jimmyakin.com/2011/03/annual-lent-fight-2011-ed.html#duration>

**5. Are the Sundays in Lent part of Lent?** Yes. See question 1 for the duration of Lent. It runs from Ash Wednesday to Holy Thursday. No exceptions are made for Sundays. Furthermore: The Sundays of this time of year are called the First, Second, Third, Fourth, and Fifth Sundays *of Lent* [emphasis added]. The Sixth Sunday, on which Holy Week begins, is called, “Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord.”

**6. Why is the number forty significant?** Pope Benedict explains: Lent recalls the forty days of our Lord's fasting in the desert, which He undertook before entering into His public ministry. We read in the Gospel: “*Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was hungry*” (Mt 4,1-2). Like Moses, who fasted before receiving the tablets of the Law (cf. Ex 34,28) and Elijah's fast before meeting the Lord on Mount Horeb (cf. 1 Kings 19,8), Jesus, too, through prayer and fasting, prepared Himself for the mission that lay before Him, marked at the start by a serious battle with the tempter [Message for Lent 2009].

**7. What are the rules for fasting in Lent?** Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast. The law of fast binds those who are from 18 to 59 years old, unless they are excused for a sufficient reason (e.g., a medical condition that requires more frequent food, etc.). According to the Church's official rules (as opposed to someone's personal summary of them): The law of fasting allows only one full meal a day, but does not prohibit taking some food in the morning and evening, observing—as far as quantity and quality are concerned—approved local custom [Apostolic Constitution *Paenitemini*, Norms, III:2]. The system of mitigated fasting that is required by law thus allows for “one full meal” and “some food” in the morning and evening. The Church's official document governing the practice of fasting does not encourage scrupulous calculations about how much the two instances of “some food” add up to, though obviously each *individually* is less than a full meal, since only one of those is allowed.

**8. What are the rules for abstinence in Lent?** Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence (as well as Good Friday). An exception is if a solemnity falls on a Friday, but no solemnities fall on Fridays in 2020, so all Fridays are days of abstinence. The law of abstinence binds those who are 14 years old or older. According to the Church's official rules: The law of abstinence forbids the use of meat, but **not** of eggs, the products of milk or condiments made of animal fat [*Paenitemini*, Norms III:1].

**9. Do you have to give up something for Lent? If you do, can you have it on Sundays?** The traditional custom of giving up something for Lent is voluntary. Consequently, if you give something up, you set the parameters. If you choose to allow yourself to have it on Sundays as to promote joy on this holy day, that is up to you.