Some Ideas for Lent

Lent is a period of penance and prayer before the great feast of Easter. Remember though that Easter is not just a day to celebrate the Resurrection. It is the event that changed the world. Easter allows us to be freed from our sins and finally enter the glory of Heaven. Lent is a time to prepare for Heaven. What is God asking of you to prepare yourself to be the sort of person that will enjoy Heaven?

Some parishioners put together this list of acts of mercy from Fr. Michael Gaitley's book *You Did It to Me*. Can you add a few of these to your life?

'I was a Stranger and You Welcomed Me'

Very Doable Time Wise (yet still can be challenging !!)

- Warm others with your smile at home, church, work, and in public.
- Consider participating in a ministry of hospitality in your parish, such as a greeter.
- Support priests by never tearing them down with gossip, praying for them, making a sacrifice for them, or offering them a word of encouragement.
- Be friendly and warm in welcoming strangers, not allowing any feelings of prejudice to stop you.
- Examine your conscience to see if you have any feelings of prejudice that poison your heart. If you have, tell the Lord you are sorry and resolve to be welcoming to strangers.
- The next time you feel impatience welling up in your heart, think of Jesus' words, "You did it to me," and strive to be patient with Christ via the members of his Body.
- The next time you are unjustly attacked, strive to remain calm with the peace of Christ and respond with love.
- Forgive those who have hurt you like you want God to forgive you.
- Confess your lack of forgiveness.
- Make an effort to stop replaying in your mind the hurt that others have put you through and strive to let it go.

Taking More of My Time But Still Manageable

- Support your priests with good deeds, such as making a meal for them or inviting them over for dinner with the family or writing them a word of encouragement.
- Introduce yourself to a new neighbor with a possible housewarming gift, such as a meal, or cookies, etc.

- Help the homeless people you may run into on the street by giving them a food item that you keep with you for such situations or simply saying a kind word or be a listening ear by radiating the love of Christ and seeing Christ in them.
- Pray for people who are homeless.
- Call or write a friend who is grieving or in need of encouragement.
- Pray for someone who died, or is contemplating abortion or has had an abortion or has angered you or someone you are struggling with forgiving.

'I Was Naked and You Clothed Me'

Very Doable Time Wise (yet still can be challenging !!)

- Donate the clothes and shoes you don't need.
- Strive to dress modestly.

Spiritual Nakedness- Ignorance of our faith

- Give a Divine Mercy card to someone to remind them of the beautiful, unbelievable mercy of Our Savior.
- Share your faith with others.
- Listen to Catholic CDs or MP3's while cleaning, cooking, exercising or driving.
- Lend good Catholic materials on faith

Taking More of My Time But Still Manageable

- Search for good reading material on your faith.
- Read the Bible or good reading material on your faith.
- Read about the Saints.
- Learn more about the message of the Divine Mercy.

'I Was Sick and You Visited Me'

Very Doable Time Wise (yet still can be challenging !!)

- Be patient with the suffering of someone you love.
- Have someone from the parish bring a loved one Holy Communion, if they desire it.
- Encourage a loved one tactfully and compassionately to lovingly offer up suffering by joining it to the perfect and acceptable sacrifice of Christ on the Cross.

Taking More of My Time But Still Manageable

- Pray for the sick.
- Offer to go to the store to get things for the ill person.
- Visit the ill frequently as long as it doesn't annoy or disturb them.
- Volunteer to bring Holy Communion to the sick at the local hospital or their home.

- Call or visit elderly friends or family members.
- Visit the elderly in local rest homes.
- Help a shut in with shopping, cleaning or yard work.
- Research available help for a person who is suffering from addiction.

'I Was in Prison and You Came to Me'

Very Doable Time Wise (yet still can be challenging !!)

- Bear the weaknesses of others and not be too quick to correct them. Strive to attract them to Christ by reflecting his love and mercy.
- When your neighbor is in need of correction, ask for the courage and grace to do it with love and mercy, thereby reflecting the true face of God.
- Invite friends, family and others to join you in going to the Sacrament of Confession.
- Make sacrifices for the conversion of sinners or for the poor souls in Purgatory.

Taking More of My Time But Still Manageable

- Pray for an end to any and all unnecessary state executions of prisoners.
- Pray for those in prison, that they may be visited by the grace and mercy of Christ and grow in holiness.
- Pray for the victims of crime, especially those who have suffered violence or who have lost a loved one, knowing that they often live in prisons of their own making.
- Pray for the persecuted brothers and sisters in Christ.
- Pray most especially for unrepentant sinners, particularly for those dying.
- Pray for the poor souls in purgatory.

'Almsgiving'

Very Doable Timewise (yet still can be challenging !!)

• Give up any of the following to deposit money saved into a mercy fund: food or drink, eating out x amount of times, a luxury item, some form of entertainment, a subscription temporarily, money saved from using coupons.

Taking More of My Time But Still Manageable

• Have a garage sale for things you don't need and deposit the proceeds to a mercy fund for those in need.

I would like to offer a few more suggestions:

- Go to daily Mass sometime each week.
- Read the Sunday Mass readings before attending Mass.
- Prepare well and make a good confession. *We offer at least 6 hours for confession each week.*

- Read one of the Gospels to better understand the purpose and plan of Jesus Christ.
- Put more silence in your day: drive without the radio, keep the TV off at home for a while, give up watching the news...
- Read a good book or two. *Feel free to ask a priest or friend for recommendations*.
- Fast from gossiping and complaining.
- Donate things you like to Mountain Family Center thrift store.
- Go to Stations of the Cross
- Subscribe to daily reflections at formed.org/lent
- Join the men's group Friday mornings at OLS even if just for Lent. 6:30 am breakfast, 7 video.

The very minimum for Lent:

Fast and abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. On these days, you are permitted one full meal as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. This is a requirement for those between 18 and 59. Those 14 to 17 must at least abstain from meat.

Abstain from meat as a sacrifice on all Fridays of Lent.

Are You Signed up with Flocknote?

Keep in touch with us via email and text! Holiday Mass times, weather cancellations, ministry news & more. Text the word **Grand** to **84576** or sign up online at <u>grandcatholic.flocknote.com</u>

Pray for parishioners in need by joining the Prayer Line group on Flocknote to get short prayer requests.

Learn of the Beauty of our Faith at Formed.org

Diving into the beauty of the Faith has never been easier: at home, on the go, or from any internet connected device. Discover thousands of books, audio talks, movies, documentaries, and studies... there is something for everyone to help them grow this Lent.

Already have a FORMED Account?

- 1. Visit FORMED.org
- 2. Click Sign In
- 3. Enter your email
- 4. Click the link in your email
- 5. You're in! No more passwords!

Want to create a new FORMED account with your parish or group?

- 1. Visit FORMED.org
- 2. Click Sign Up
- 3. Select "I Belong to a Parish or Organization"
- 4. Find your parish by name or zip
- 5. Enter your email and you're in!

A note from the pastor

Fr. Mathias had additional trouble getting the necessary papers from U. S. Immigration and will take his vacation after Easter. -Fr. Peter

Lent Begins February 26

Ash Wednesday Masses, February 26

-StB, 8:30 a.m., Confession at 9:10 +Mary Jo Dougherty -StA, 5:00 p.m., Confession at 4:15 p.m. Chandler family -OLS, 6:45 p.m., Confession after Mass. Ledezma family -StI, 4:30 p.m., Confession at 4 p.m. Gonzales family -StP, 7:30 p.m., Confession at 7 p.m. Mahon family

Lenten Reflections on FORMED.org

Short, daily video reflections from esteemed Scripture expert Dr. Tim Gray. Sign up at **formed.org/lent** Lots of great content is available there.

Friday Fish Fry at OLS March 20

Some helpers are needed. If you can help organize or staff the event, please contact Fr. Peter. We can use help outside with fryers and a tent or two in case the weather is poor. Inside we can use help in the kitchen, setup, and preparing coleslaw and related food.

Stations of the Cross

St. Peter:

Each Friday of Lent, Stations are bilingual. Stations, 6:30 p.m.; soup/bread supper, 7:35

St. Anne:

Stations every Friday (except March 20) at 6:45. March 27 - Soup/bread supper at 5:30 p.m.

Our Lady:

Stations every Friday at 6:45.

March 6 - Soup/bread supper, 5:30 p.m.

March 20 - Fish Fry, 5:30 p.m.

St. Bernard:

March 13, April 3 - Soup/bread supper, 5:30 p.m. Stations, 6:45

Pint with a Priest

Tuesday, March 3 at The Peak restaurant in Winter Park. You have been diagnosed with the deadly disease of sin. We will talk about the most current research and the best treatment options.

Save the Date: Totus Tuus, July 18th - 24th

This fun summer program is for kids 1st thru 12th grade. We need adults to help with it too!

A Lifeline for Marriage

Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi with a long i) helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. It is designed to provide the tools to help get your marriage back on track. This program has helped thousands of couples experiencing marital difficulty at all levels including disillusionment and deep misery.

For confidential information about or to register for the program beginning with a weekend on March 27-29, 2020, call (303) 317-5111 or email: retrouvaille.co@gmail.com or visit the website at <u>www.HelpOurMarriage.com</u>

Mass Collections, February 16/17		
St. Anne	\$ 3596	
St. Bernard	9597	
Our Lady of the Snow	1661	
St. Peter	740	
St. Ignatius	_944	
Total	<u>\$16538</u>	

Vocations Prayer Calendar

Please pray for our seminarians every day.
Sat—Dcns. John Paul Almeida & Sean Conroy
Sun—Dcns. John Croghan & Tony Davis
Mon—Dcns. Peter Srsich & John Stapleton
Tue—Dcns. Christopher Considine & Juan Adrian
Hernandez
Wed—Dcns. Juan Manuel Madrid & Christopher Marburg
Thu—Phuoc Joe Bui & Dcn. Christian James Mast
Fri—Luis Guilherme da Silva Mendez & Micah Flores

Mass Intentions and Schedule for StA, StB, and OLS

KEY: StA = St. Anne; StB = St. Bernard; OLS = Our Lady of the Snow

-Sat, Feb 22, StA, 5 p.m., Phil McGinn -Sat, Feb 22, StB, 4 p.m., Beth Ann Droll -Sat, Feb 22, StB, 5:30 p.m., People in our region/visitors

-Sun, Feb 23, StB, 7 a.m., Florence Droll -Sun, Feb 23, OLS, 9:30 a.m., +Ann Marie Adams

Weekday Masses -Mon, Feb 24, StA, 8:30 a.m., Gardner Foundation -Tue, Feb 25 OLS, 7:30 a.m., Special Intention -Tue. Feb 25, OLS, 5:30 p.m., Fr. Mathias' intention -Wed, Feb 26, See schedule on left -Thu, Feb 27, OLS, 5:30 p.m. Vogel family -Fri, Feb 28, OLS, 8:30 a.m., Healing for abuse victims -Fri, Feb 28, StB, 5:30 p.m., Healing for abuse victims

Mass Intentions and Schedule for StP and StI KEY: StP = St. Peter; StI = St. Ignatius (Walden)

-Sun, Feb 23, StP, 10 a.m., David B. Kullman Family -Sun, Feb 23, StI, 1 p.m., People in our region/visitors