



Our Lady of Good Hope Catholic Church

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1st Sunday of Lent February 26, 2023



"Away with you, Satan! for it is written, Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him." Yes we are tested. And we give into temptations, We feel defeated guilty, ashamed and even angry with ourselves. Paul reminds us "Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all people. The good news, as we enter this Lenten journey is that Jesus is the one who died for our sins, for the times we succumb to temptation.



Stewardship Reflection

"It is written: 'The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve.'" Matthew 4:10

Tempted between the riches and power of this world and service to God, Jesus chose service to His Father. If we wish to truly follow Jesus, we, too, must decide to turn away from worldly power and riches and put God at the center of our lives. Lent is our time to prune ourselves of earthly things, and develop and nurture heavenly things. Lent is time to repent and let go of the other "gods" we have put before God.

TALK TO US

Pastor: **Fr. Dennis O. Flores**
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MASS TIMES

Sunday Mass:

Saturday Mass of Anticipation - 5:30 pm

Sunday Mass - 8:30 am

Weekday Mass:

Tuesday - 8:30 am

Wednesday - 9:00 am

You are invited to join St. Anthony of Padua Parish - Agassiz for daily livestreamed Masses on their Facebook Page

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday: February 25th - 5:30 pm

Jasmin Pinto Family

+Irena Klimczak

Sunday: February 26th - 8:30 am

Letty Samson (thanksgiving)

Tuesday: February 28th - 8:30 am

Grace Koo intentions

Wednesday: March 1st - 9:00 am

Cezario Tongel (healing)

Saturday: March 4th - 5:30 pm

Evelyn L. Coronel (thanksgiving)

Lancien Family (thanksgiving)



Among the most beautiful, meaningful and solemn ceremonies of the Catholic Church is the gathering of the faithful on Ash Wednesday, which this year falls on February 22nd. This special day begins our Lenten journey. It is the start of 40 days of prayer, fasting and almsgiving as we prepare ourselves to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ on Easter. Please remember to bring your old palms from previous years for burning on Tuesday, before Ash Wednesday.

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, which this year falls on February 22nd. Lent is a time for us to change our lives and grow in holiness. Through the three pillars of Lent - fasting, almsgiving, and prayer, we endeavor to develop a closer relationship to God.

The practice of fasting is a form of penance that predates Christianity. In the Old Testament, fasting is associated with prayer. In the Book of Tobit, it states, "Prayer is good when accompanied by fasting, almsgiving, and righteousness" (Tob 12:8). The Psalms say, "When I humbled my soul with fasting, it became my reproach." (Ps 69:10)

Almsgiving is the act of donating money or goods to the poor or performing other acts of charity. The Catholic Church considers almsgiving "a witness to fraternal charity" and "a work of justice pleasing to God." Giving alms is essential to fostering a deep spiritual life because it allows us to step outside of ourselves and focus on the needs of others. To give alms is to unite ourselves to Christ in His poverty.

Prayer is our communication with God—the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. It is a relationship of both listening and speaking. Ideally, our prayer life would be rooted in the Sacraments. Going to Confession and Mass to receive the Eucharist gives us the grace to grow closer to God and fall deeper in love with Him.

We are not called to do only one, but all three pillars to prepare our hearts for Christ on Easter. Lent is the time in the liturgical calendar to remind the faithful of humility and sin. This is a special time to reflect on God's grace and change ourselves to become as God calls us. Only through God's grace and mercy will we make it to our ultimate goal of Heaven.



Although the Stations of the Cross is a popular devotion, and while you may pray it with your parish every Lent, it's helpful to understand how praying the Stations of the Cross can affect not just your own faith, but your daily life. Here are five reasons to pray the Stations of the Cross:

They offer strength in times of suffering.

Praying the Stations of the Cross reminds us that we are not alone in our suffering: Jesus suffers with us. He chose to embrace every aspect of human life, including suffering and death.

They instill in us a compassion for those who suffer

We see in the Stations of the Cross how some people mocked Jesus, revealing the worst reactions to the suffering of others. Yet we also have the example of Mary, who stayed close to her Son throughout. In the Stations of the Cross, we are gifted with the ability to see Jesus in those who suffer and therefore to treat the suffering with compassion.

They remind us of the vast love of God

Seeing the horror of Jesus' suffering reminds us of something wonderful: how much He loves us. Jesus endured His Passion because of the love He had for each individual person that would ever live, and so the Stations of the Cross remind us of how much we are loved.

They give us a sign of great hope

We know why Jesus suffered and we know what happened afterwards. His suffering and death was not the end of the story. He came back in glory. This is a powerful reminder that for us too, suffering and death are not where it ends. There is so much more.

They enable us to feel Jesus' suffering

For our faith to grow, we need to be able to empathize with Jesus suffering on the cross and feel His pain as though it were happening to ourselves or someone we care deeply about. The Stations of the Cross help us do this by giving us fourteen focal points to meditate on.

COFFEE

We are so happy to have coffee time again. Please sign up to make the coffee Sunday.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Join us in praying the Stations of the Cross each Friday at 6:30 pm during the Lenten season.

ST. JOSEPH'S SOCIETY

This weekend's St. Joseph's Society second collection supports priests in their retirement years. Please help support this annual appeal.
<https://rcav.org/joseph>

CATECHISM CLASSES

Catechism classes every Wednesday at 3:20 pm

CHURCH CLEANING

Thanks to those who helped clean the church on Saturday. Haven't been able to help yet? Just come on Saturday between 9 and 11. A little help makes a big difference for everyone.

ADMIN ASSISTANT NEEDED

Our Parish is looking for a part time secretary/admin assistant. Please contact Fr Dennis for details.

OFFERING COLLECTIONS

Sunday, February 19th, 2023
\$1002.95

