

## FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Brothers and Sisters



Even though the Christmas snow is only just melted, we will, believe it or not, begin Lent this week. Wednesday March 1st is Ash Wednesday. Ashes will be placed on our foreheads, accompanied one of two formulas of spoken words, either 'Repent, and believe in the Gospel' or 'Remember that you are dust, and unto dust you shall return.'

# Lent

The Early Church did not celebrate Lent. After Christ's death and Resurrection, and the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Virgin Mary and the Apostles at Pentecost, the Church celebrated the event of Easter.

The Apostles experienced the forgiveness of sin, they had been brought from slavery to freedom, from darkness to light, from death to life. The baptized lived in the glory of the Resurrection, they were witnesses to Christ's victory over death. This event was so strong that it meant a complete conversion, a radical cut from their previous life, they had received a new nature. This new life would lead them to evangelize, and to give their lives for the Faith.

We too have been baptized, we too have received the same life which the Apostles experience, we profess the same Faith they believed.

However I doubt that many of us could say there is no darkness in our life, there are no slaveries, there is no death, there is no sin. That is why the church comes to help us with the Joyful Season of Lent.

An excellent way to live the journey of Lent thru Easter will be the parish wide Catechesis which begins this week. This Catechesis is for everyone; for those who come to church regularly, and those who come seldom; for those whose faith life is good, and for those who are struggling; for those who are young and those who are not so young.

I invite everyone to come to come on Mondays and Thursdays at 8:00pm in the McCarthy Center. Come and listen, there is a Good News for you. Let us take advantage of this opportunity, as we prepare to celebrate the great joy of Christ's Resurrection.

Fr. Sean