

Dear Brothers and Sisters



This Wednesday March 6th is Ash Wednesday! Ashes will be placed on our foreheads, accompanied by 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.'

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 of sin. 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- giving Spirit, we profess the same Faith as the Apostles.

Unlike them, we need Lent! We need conversion of heart. Why? Because we are sinners! We have not yet been conformed to the likeness of the new Adam, Christ Jesus.

There is one condition for this to happen: To cut with sin.

How can we do that? By giving our sins to Christ. He will nail them to the Cross. He will bury them in the tomb. He will give us the absolute certainty that He is Risen.

He will do this at the parish Celebration of Penance on Thursday, March 7th, at 8:00pm in the church. Come and experience the love and mercy of God.

Please bring some food or drink to share. The Prodigal son celebrated his forgiveness with a fatted calf, if you don't have one of those, bring whatever you have.

Fr. Sean