

LITURGY BYTES

Ashes & Lent



As you may have realized, this coming Wednesday, February 14th, is Ash Wednesday and the start of another Lenten season. As always, the Church will be busy Wednesday distributing ashes, offering services of prayer as together we embark on this penitential season.

You will notice at Mass, the Gloria will not be prayed, nor will we sing the Alleluia verse before the Gospel reading. Purple will adorn the environment of the worship space and a somber approach of music will also be used. It is common to see a liturgical “desert” feeling in Church, eliminating flowers too.

Since Lent is a time of return, repentance, renewal, and preparation, we stand in need of prayer guiding us through our challenges, strengths and hopes. Happily we support, guide, and instruct those preparing to become Catholic or those in need of a Sacrament or two that they might have missed in their youth. We are blessed, here at Holy Cross, to have people coming into the Church this Easter. We keep them in prayer on their journey and welcome them to the family of Faith!

You might ask - What will I do this Lent? Give up something, possibly do more of _____. It is a special time to work on our relationship with our God even when we are faced with many battles in life. May we all come to realize that we are always surrounded by His love!

Have a hopeful, blessed and peaceful week ahead! ~ *Michele Hall*