

March 2022 – Lenten Letter

We are eagerly waiting for Spring to arrive and see the trees and plants come back to new life again. Similarly, we are entering into the springtime of our spiritual life as we begin the Lenten season. The Church invites each one of us to Renew, Refresh and Rejuvenate our relationship with the Lord and one another through the observance of Lent. This renewal is not only for our individual lives, but also for our parish community to be renewed and strengthened into a more vibrant and witnessing faith community.

Along with all our Lenten practices to nurture our spiritual growth, I would like to invite you all to enter deeply into the celebration of the Mass to nourish our lives. Many of us may have forgotten the various parts of the Mass and its meaning. Therefore, we are going to start a series of teaching moments during our Sunday Masses in Lent, to help us understand the Mass more fully and enjoy the fruits of this great celebration. We will also publish in the bulletin, for our continued learning and reflection, the five parts of the Mass and their meanings. During this Lent, let us meditate more deeply on the gift of the Eucharist and celebrate it with joy to nourish our spiritual lives.

We are also starting a Lenten project in our parish to help our seniors in collaboration with St. Camillus Life Plan Community. We will offer a series of talks on aging and well-being to help us live our senior years healthier and more joyfully. Please join us at 3 pm every Saturday during the first five weekends of Lent, before our 4 pm Mass at the West Site.

I also want to bring to your attention an urgent need of re-fixing the stained-glass windows in the copula adorning the roof of the East Site Church. As many of you may have noticed, they are leaking, and it is becoming a safety issue. On the recommendation of the buildings and grounds committee and our parish leadership, we are planning to start the work which will cost us approximately \$150,000. We will use our reserves to start this work at the earliest, but we may not be able to accomplish it without your support. Therefore, I humbly request that you who are able to support this project be generous.

We are also planning our Parish Mission on March 28, 29, and 30 in the evenings to help us enter into the celebration of the Holy Week and Easter. Let us come together as a community to renew our faith and celebrate this year's Easter more meaningfully.

Placing each one of you and your families into the care and protection of our Mother of Perpetual Help and wishing you a spirit-filled Lenten season.

Yours Lovingly,

Fr. Matthew Perumpil, MI