

March 2024

“Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.” (Eph1:2)

I greet you with the words of St. Paul as we journey through the Lenten season. Last Sunday we were invited to journey with Jesus to the desert to **reflect, repent and renew** our lives to be more in conformity with the Lord. This Sunday we are invited to go up the mountain with him to pray and be transformed as we reflect on his passion, suffering and death and glorious transfiguration, prefiguring the resurrection.

The words of St. Augustine can help us make use of this spring time of our spiritual life to be renewed and transformed. “If you want your prayers to fly to God, equip them with the two wings of fasting and almsgiving.” Prayer, fasting and almsgiving can help us turn away from sin and self-centeredness and toward God and his love. They can also help us examine our conscience and prepare for the celebration of the sacrament of reconciliation. I encourage you to use this season to approach the confessional for his divine mercy and grace.

Our parish is preparing for the **Lenten Mission led by Dr. Dan Scholz**, a renowned scholar of scripture from our own neighborhood on March 18, 19, 20 in the evenings. We are also excited to have the **Eucharistic Miracles of the World Exhibition** in conjunction with the Lenten Mission. Please participate in this great opportunity for our spiritual growth and renewal. Our Lenten outreach mission will continue to be the Congo Helping Hands. It truly reflects our concern for the poor and the missionary outreach of the parish.

Our Sisters are already here, as many of you have seen them and welcomed them into our community. They are still adjusting to our cold weather, but are so appreciative of our warm welcome. They will bring a new vitality to our parish as in the olden days when nuns were an integral part of our parishes. Sisters **Vita Lobo** (414-595-7052) and **Lincy Augustine** (414-204-2623) will work full time for our parish in the faith formation of young children and families and reaching out to the sick and elderly through their pastoral ministry. Their charism of “communion” with the Lord in prayer and the community of believers, will be a great spiritual strength to our parish. Please feel free to reach out to them for any prayers and support you need.

I am also excited to share that we have a few catechumens this year to receive our Catholic faith and become part of our parish. Please keep them in your prayers.

You are assured of my prayers as we journey through this great season of spiritual renewal. May God bless you and your loved ones and strengthen you to be close to Him.

With Blessings,

Fr. Matthew Perumpil, MI  
Pastor