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~ Hebrews 13:16

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February 26, 2023
First Sunday of Lent



PRIESTS OF THE CATHEDRAL

Rev. Fr. Modeste Digwou
Rev. Fr. Andrew Lesko
Rev. Fr. Julio Faes

DEACONS

Rev. Mr. Wilfredo Acosta (Retired)
Rev. Mr. Dan Daniel
Rev. Mr. Frank Kearney
Rev. Mr. José Vázquez

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday
8:00AM - 4:00PM

Saturday
11:00 AM - 6:00 p.m.

Sunday
8:00AM - 2:00 p.m.
TELEPHONE: 340-774-0201



Scan this QR Code to visit the Diocesan Website and/or to donate to the Bishop's Appeal.

WEEKENDS

Saturday: 7:00AM, 4:30PM (Vigil Mass)
Sunday: 6:30AM, 8:30AM, 10:30AM, and 12:15PM (Spanish)

WEEKDAYS

Monday to Friday: 6:45AM
Wednesday: 12:15PM

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Wednesday from 7:30AM - 12:00PM
Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Wednesday before Masses

MISSION STATEMENT

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CONFESSIONS

Wednesday: 11:45AM - 12:10PM
Saturday: 3:45PM - 4:25PM
or by Request

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First Sunday of Lent

First Reading: Genesis 2: 7-19; 3:1-7
Responsorial Psalm:Psalm 51: 3-6, 12-13, 17
Second Reading: Romans 5:12-19
Gospel: Matthew 4: 1-11

MEDITATION

Lent 2023: Pope Francis has a message for you

To “let yourself be led” by Christ, “apart and high”, is the call Pope Francis made in his Lenten message 2023 released this Friday, February 17. As the faithful prepare to enter Lent in a few days, he urges them to enter a process of “personal transfiguration.”

“Both the ascetical journey of Lent, as well as the synodal journey, have as their goal a personal and ecclesial transfiguration,” Pope Francis teaches in his Lenten message 2023 released this February 17. Francis emphasizes the need for Christians to participate in the Mass or to read the Bible, even with the help of the Internet. He also invites them not to take refuge in “a religiosity made up of extraordinary events”.

Last Wednesday, February 22, began Lent, a time of 40 days proposed by the Church to prepare the faithful for the feast of Easter which celebrates the death and resurrection of Christ. As he does every year, Pope Francis sends a message to Catholics before Ash Wednesday to offer them a reading of this time of conversion and penance. While the Catholic Church has entered into a vast reflection on its future since 2021 through the Synod on Synodality, Pope Francis has chosen to title his message this year: “Lenten Ascesis, Synodal Journey”.

It is a journey that requires effort, sacrifice and concentration, like a mountain hike. For the 86-year-old pontiff, it is “good to reflect on this relationship between the asceticism of Lent and the synodal experience,” he writes in this two-page text. Using the image of a hike, the Pope sees the Lenten season and the synod as “a path that climbs, that requires effort, sacrifice, concentration, like a mountain hike. In both cases, it is a matter of “allowing oneself to be led” by Christ, “away and upwards”, as Jesus did with Peter, James and John in the gospel story of the Transfiguration. In this episode, Christ takes these three disciples up Mount Tabor in Galilee for a kind of spiritual retreat. After the effort of the walk, once they reach the top, the three disciples discover Jesus “transfigured”. Quoting the Gospel of Matthew, the Pope explains: “His face became as bright as the sun, and his clothes as white as light.

For Pope Francis, this manifestation is “the goal of the journey”, namely, to contemplate Christ “in his glory”. And he assures us that “the divine beauty of this vision was incomparably superior to all the fatigue that the disciples had accumulated to climb Mount Tabor.

MEDITATION
(continued)

The Bishop of Rome draws a lesson for Lent and the Synod: “On the way up, one must keep one’s eyes fixed on the path; but the panorama that unfolds at the end surprises and rewards with its wonder. If he recognizes that the synodal process is “often arduous” and that it can discourage some, he assures us that what awaits the Church at the end “is undoubtedly something marvelous and surprising, which will help us to better understand the will of God and our mission in the service of his Kingdom.

Listening to Christ
To reach this “summit”, the Pope proposes two indications. First, “listen to Jesus” through reading the Gospel and participating in the liturgy. “If we cannot always attend Mass, let us read the Bible day by day, even with the help of the Internet,” the Pope recommends. He also emphasizes that listening to Christ is also done through listening to “brothers and sisters in the Church.

Finally, he asks us “not to take refuge in a religiosity made up of extraordinary events, of suggestive experiences, for fear of facing reality with our daily efforts. Just as the disciples came down from the mountain, Pope Francis urges Catholics to return to the plain “and may the grace we have experienced sustain us in being artisans of synodality in the ordinary life of our communities. We will give you part of the Pope’s message in full in our next bulletin.

Father Modeste DIGWOU
Administrator of the Cathedral



DAILY READINGS
FIRST WEEK OF LENT

Monday, February 27, 2023

Saint Gregory of Narek, Abbot, Doctor of the Church

First Reading: Leviticus 19: 1-2, 11-18

Gospel: Matthew 25: 31-46

Tuesday, February 28, 2023

First Reading: Isaiah 55: 10-11

Gospel: Matthew 6: 7-15

Wednesday, March 1, 2023

First Reading: Jonah 3: 1-10

Gospel: Luke 11: 29-32

Thursday, March 2, 2023

First Reading: Esther C:12, 14-16, 23-25

Gospel: Matthew 7: 7-12

Friday, March 3, 2023

Saint Katharine Drexel, Virgin

First: Ezekiel 18: 21-28

Gospel: Matthew 5: 20-26

Saturday, March 4, 2023

First Reading: Deuteronomy 26: 16-19

Gospel: Matthew 5: 43-48

Rev. Fr. Julio Cesar Faes

Vice-Chancellor
Director of Diocesan Office of
Family Life
Diocesan Coordinator
for the Hispanic Ministry

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Pray
without
ceasing

1 Thessalonians 5:17

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present
in all things and desire You in my soul. Since
I cannot now receive You in the Sacrament,
come spiritually into my heart. I embrace
You and unite myself wholly to You; do not
permit me ever to be separated from You.

Amen.

(St. Alphonsus de Liguori)



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Rev. Fr. Julio Cesar Faes

Vice-Chancellor
Director of Diocesan Office of
Family Life
Diocesan Coordinator
for the Hispanic Ministry

PRAYER FOR LENT

Lord my God, give my heart to desire you; in desiring you, to seek you; in seeking you, to find you; in finding you, to love you; and in loving you, to redeem my faults; and once redeemed, to commit them no more.

Lord my God, give my heart penance, my mind repentance, my eyes the source of tears, and my hands the largesse of alms.

You who are my King, extinguish in me the desires of the flesh, and kindle the fire of your love. You who are my Redeemer, drive out of me the spirit of pride, and grant me the spirit of your humility. You who are my Savior, remove from me the fury of anger, and may your kindness grant me the shield of patience.

You who are my Creator, uproot from my soul resentment, and pour into it the sweetness of spirit Give me, Most Good Father, a solid faith, a sure hope and an unfailing charity.

You who lead me, remove from me the vanity of the soul, the fickleness of the mind, the error of the heart, the flattery of the mouth, the pride of the eyes.

O God of mercy, I ask you through your beloved Son, give me to live mercy, application to piety, compassion with the afflicted, and sharing with the poor. Amen

PASTORAL SERVICES FOR THE COMMUNITY

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

Baptisms are generally held on the last Sunday of the month. Requests for a different date and time will be honored to the extent possible. Parents and sponsors who have not yet received the required baptismal instruction are expected to do so by attending our baptismal preparation program. Call the parish office well in advance so that class arrangements can be made.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

Anyone wishing to have his or her wedding celebrated at Saints Peter and Paul Cathedral must contact the parish office 9-12 months prior to the celebration and talk to a priest for pre-wedding counseling. Please visit our website www.cathedralvi.org or call us at 340-774-0201. The Sacrament of Marriage is generally celebrated on a Saturday between the hours of 11:00AM and 2:00PM. Please contact the parish priest if you would like a different time for your wedding. (Note that Saturday mornings are reserved for cleaning and decorating the cathedral.)

VISITING AND ANNOINTING THE SICK:

If anyone in your family is sick or shut-in, please inform the parish office so that we can pray for them and arrange to visit them. Please note that the hospital does not notify us when Catholics are in the hospital. Please call the parish office to inform us of a Catholic in the hospital who needs to have a priest visit. Thank you!

FUNERAL MASSES:

Funeral Masses at Saints Peter and Paul Cathedral are held on the designated day at 9:30AM. Please make arrangements with the Church office before the funeral home to assure availability of the date requested. The Funeral Program should read “**Christian Burial**” on the cover. If you would like a different time, please contact the parish priest. Viewings will not take place inside the cathedral. Funerals generally are not held on weekends (Saturday or Sunday). Thank you for your cooperation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Funeral Mass:

The funeral mass for Mr. Donald Francois will be on March 2, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. here at the Cathedral. Please keep his family and friends in prayer and pray for the repose of his soul. May his soul rest in eternal peace.

Tax Letter Request:

Email your request for tax letters to cathedralvi@gmail.com Please, include your NAME, ADDRESS, and ENVELOPE NUMBER. Everyone who has requested letters, can pick them up at the church office. Thank you for your continued support.

The Way of the Cross:

During the Lenten Season, we will have the Stations of the Cross on Mondays to Thursday at 6:00 a.m. followed by morning mass. On Fridays during Lent, there will be no 6:45 a.m. morning mass, but the Stations of the Cross will be at 4:30 p.m. in English followed by mass, and in Spanish at 5:30 p.m. followed by mass. There will be a meditation during each mass on the seven last words of Jesus as part of our Lenten mission. We invite everyone to attend.

The designated leaders for the Stations of the Cross are:

Mondays: 6:00 a.m. Yvonne Woods-Mills

Tuesdays: 6:00 a.m. Marie Pascale

Wednesdays: 6:00 a.m. Ilma Gumbs and Verna

Thursdays: 6:00 a.m. Verona Hodge and Pia Brunt

Fridays: 4:30 p.m. Deacon Dan Daniel, and Kate Edmee
6:00 p.m. (Spanish) José Cardona and Noveri

Saturdays: 6:00 a.m. Yvonne Woods-Mills

Lenten Mission:

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish is hosting a Lenten Mission from March 6-8, 2023. The guest speaker is Father John Paul Mary from EWTN. Everyone is invited.

250th Jubilee T-shirts:

The 250th Jubilee Committee is announcing that they are taking orders for 250th Jubilee T-Shirts the weekends of February 25/26 and March 4/5. Jubilee Committee members will be available to take orders after the masses. Please contact Lita Daniel at 340-244-2448 for additional information.

Church Office:

The church office is now open on Saturdays, from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and on Sundays from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Please feel free to visit our office and purchase your religious articles. Thank you for your support and may God bless you.

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2023

7:00 AM - Humphrey, Hendricks, & Larsen families-
Rb. Pearla Larsen and family
4:30 PM - Special Intention - Rb. Serge LaPlace

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2023

6:30AM-†Bernadette Bistouri and all deceased members
of the family - Rb. Marie Pascale
8:30 AM - Casimir, Jenelle, and Jeselle Jules -
Rb. Francesca Jules

10:30 AM- Yola Simmonds-Birthday Blessings-
Rb. her husband, children, and the Tyson family

12:15 PM - Special Intention - Rb. Denise LaPlace

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2023

6:45 AM - Kevin Stridiron, Birthday Blessings -
Rb. his mother, JC Lynch

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2023

6:45 AM – Kevin Stridiron, God’s Protection & Blessings
Rb. his mother, JC Lynch

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 2023

6:45 AM – Annathar, Jerrick, and Brian Hanley, God’s
help, guidance, and protection- Rb. Nathalie Alexander

12:15 PM- † Florecia Stephens, Heavenly Birthday -
Rb. the Lynch family

THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 2023

6:45 AM - † Viola & Thomas R. Blake - Rb. a friend

FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 2023

4:30 AM - People of the Parish

SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 2023

7:00 AM - † Francis Laville - Rb. his wife, Shirley Laville

4:30 PM- Holy Souls in Purgatory - Rb. Serge LaPlace

JUBILEE YEAR PRAYER

In preparation for the 250th Anniversary of presence in this territory

Eternal Father, In this, the Jubilee Year of Saints Peter and Paul Cathedral, we praise you for all blessings we have received over the past 250 years of our existence. We bless you for the lives of all those who, throughout the centuries, have helped build this vibrant community of love and service. May they rest eternally in Your divine and merciful presence. We give you thanks for all the people who gather in this Cathedral to worship you, striving to turn away from sin and follow the teachings of the faithful disciples of your Son Jesus- Christ. May Your Holy Spirit continue to lead us on the path of faith, hope, and charity, so that in every aspect of our lives, and inspired by the example of our patron saints Peter and Paul, we may always be joyous witnesses of Jesus Christ in the world. Amen

Primer Domingo de Cuaresma

Primera lectura: Génesis 2:7-19; 3:1-7
Salmo responsorial: Salmo 51: 3-6, 12-13, 17
Segunda lectura: Romanos 5:12-19
Evangelio: Mateo 4:1-11

MEDITACIÓN

Cuaresma 2023: El Papa Francisco tiene un mensaje para ti

“Dejarse guiar” por Cristo, “aparte y alto”, es el llamado que hizo el Papa Francisco en su mensaje de Cuaresma 2023 publicado este viernes 17 de febrero. Mientras los fieles se preparan para entrar en la Cuaresma en pocos días, él los insta a entrar en un proceso de “transfiguración personal”. Tanto el camino ascético de la Cuaresma, como el camino sinodal, tienen como objetivo una transfiguración personal y eclesial”, enseña el Papa Francisco en su mensaje de Cuaresma 2023 publicado este 17 de febrero. Francisco enfatiza la necesidad de que los cristianos participen en la Misa o lean la Biblia, incluso con la ayuda de Internet. También les invita a no refugiarse en “una religiosidad hecha de acontecimientos extraordinarios”. El pasado miércoles 22 de febrero comenzó la Cuaresma, un tiempo de 40 días propuesto por la Iglesia para preparar a los fieles para la fiesta de Pascua que celebra la muerte y resurrección de Cristo. Como cada año, el Papa Francisco envía un mensaje a los católicos antes del Miércoles de Ceniza para ofrecerles una lectura de este tiempo de conversión y penitencia. Mientras que la Iglesia Católica ha entrado en una vasta reflexión sobre su futuro desde 2021 a través del Sínodo sobre la Sinodalidad, el Papa Francisco ha elegido titular su mensaje este año: “Ascesis cuaresmal, camino sinodal”. Es un viaje que requiere esfuerzo, sacrificio y concentración, como una caminata de montaña. Para el pontífice de 86 años, es “bueno reflexionar sobre esta relación entre el ascetismo de la Cuaresma y la experiencia sinodal”, escribe en este texto de dos páginas. Usando la imagen de una caminata, el Papa ve el tiempo de Cuaresma y el sínodo como “un camino que sube, que requiere esfuerzo, sacrificio, concentración, como una caminata de montaña. En ambos casos, se trata de “dejarse guiar” por Cristo, “lejos y hacia arriba”, como hizo Jesús con Pedro, Santiago y Juan en la historia evangélica de la Transfiguración. En este episodio, Cristo lleva a estos tres discípulos al Monte Tabor en Galilea para una especie de retiro espiritual. Después del esfuerzo de la caminata, una vez que llegan a la cima, los tres discípulos descubren a Jesús “transfigurado”. Citando el Evangelio de Mateo, el Papa explica: “Su rostro se volvió tan brillante como el sol, y su ropa tan blanca como la luz. Para el Papa Francisco, esta manifestación es “la meta del camino”, es decir, contemplar a Cristo “en su gloria”. Y nos asegura que “la belleza divina de esta visión era incomparablemente superior a toda la fatiga que los discípulos habían acumulado para escalar el monte Tabor. El Obispo de Roma saca una lección para la Cuaresma y el Sínodo: “En el camino hacia arriba, uno debe mantener los ojos fijos en el camino; Pero el panorama que se despliega al final sorprende y recompensa con su maravilla. Si reconoce que el proceso sinodal es “a menudo arduo” y que puede desanimar a algunos, asegura que lo que espera a la Iglesia al final “es sin duda algo maravilloso y sorprendente, que nos ayudará a comprender mejor la voluntad de Dios y nuestra misión al servicio de su Reino”.

NUESTRA IGLESIA Y NUESTRA ESCUELA SON AMBIENTES SEGUROS:

Todos estamos comprometidos con la protección de los niños en nuestras instituciones.

Si nota algún comportamiento nocivo hacia nuestros hijos, no dude en ponerse en contacto con nosotros lo antes posible. Gracias.

MEDITACIÓN
(continuado)

el Papa propone dos indicaciones. Primero, “escucha a Jesús” leyendo el Evangelio y participando en la liturgia. “Si no siempre podemos asistir a Misa, leamos la Biblia día a día, incluso con la ayuda de Internet”, recomienda el Papa. También subraya que la escucha de Cristo se hace también a través de la escucha de “hermanos y hermanas en la Iglesia.Finalmente, nos pide “no refugiarnos en una religiosidad hecha de acontecimientos extraordinarios, de experiencias sugerentes, por miedo a afrontar la realidad con nuestro esfuerzo diario. Así como los discípulos bajaron de la montaña, el Papa Francisco insta a los católicos a volver a la llanura “y que la gracia que hemos experimentado nos sostenga en ser artesanos de la sinodalidad en la vida ordinaria de nuestras comunidades.

Resumen por
Padre Modeste Digwou
Administrador de la Catedral

ANUNCIOS

Taller Bíblico:
Continuamos con el taller de Biblia los martes a las 5:30pm. Todos están invitados. Los lectores es parte fundamental de su formación, por tanto todos deben asistir.

Coro:
Se está formando el coro, por favor únete al grupo el martes a las 7:00pm. Si alguien toca la guitarra, por favor venga al ensayo.

Grupo de oración:
El grupo de oración se reúne los jueves a las 7:00pm. No olviden participar. La oración nos lleva al compromiso de ser más fieles a Dios.

Intenciones masivas:
Le animamos a registrar misas para sus difuntos, para usted y para los miembros de su familia, especialmente durante este tiempo de Cuaresma.

Temporada de Cuaresma:
La temporada de Cuaresma comienza el Miércoles de Ceniza. Los miércoles y viernes son días de ayuno y penitencia.

El Via Crucis
Durante la Cuaresma, tendremos las Estaciones de la Cruz todos los días a las 5:30 a.m. antes de la Misa, y los miércoles a las 5:30 a.m. y 11:00 a.m. Los viernes a las 4:00 p.m. en inglés seguido de misa y 5:00 p.m. en español seguido de misa. Se designarán líderes para cada día.

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Thank you.

**SECOND COLLECTION
WILL BE TAKEN AS FOLLOWS:**

February 26, 2023 - **Priests’ Retirement Fund**
March 5, 2023 - **Music Ministry**

OFFERTORY / OFERTORIO

Last week's offertory amounted to:

La ofrenda de la semana pasada sumó a:

February 19, 2023

4:30PM	\$ 946.00	\$ 240.00
6:30AM	\$ 684.00	\$ 240.00
8:30AM	\$ 968.00	\$ 385.00
10:30AM	\$ 1,498.00	\$ 271.00
12:15PM	\$ <u>250.00</u>	\$ <u>171.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 4,346.00	\$ 1,307.00

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MILDRED HODGE
KEITH JAMES
EDITH LEBLANC
GRACIELA MILLIN
HUGO MOULON
JOSEPH MORRELL
ARACELY NICHOLSON
JAMIE PEREZ
LEIDA PIZARRO
SONIA PIZARRO
WALTON RAVARIERE
PHYLLIS RODNEY
CYRUS SAMPSON
RAFAELA SANES
PETRONA STANISLAUS
CECILIA HILL-THOMAS
LESTEL TURBE
ALFREDO VENZEN
JOHN H. VENZEN
ULRICA VIALET
RUTH WALCOTT

ROY SCHNEIDER HOSPITAL

The hospital does not notify us when Catholics are in the hospital. Please call the parish office to inform us of a Catholic in the hospital who needs to have a priest visit. Thank you!



OFF-ISLAND

BISHOP HERBERT A. BEVARD
FR. SIMON PETER OPIRA
FR. JOHN SOLOMON
JANET BENSON
RENEL BREDY
JOYCE CORREA
CELESTINE DAVIS
PRISCA DAVIS
ALBERTA FOY
LAVERNE FRANCIS
DELTA GEORGE
MAURITZER Y. GUMBS
JOSEPH HODGE
WINIFRED HODGE
RITA KING
DOREEN PIERRE LOUIS
STEPHANY LOUZAN
GWYNNETH MOOLEAAR
JOSEPHINE NOCH
FELIX O'NEAL
RAMÓN ORTIZ
MIRIAM GARCIA RIJO
ROSE ROBERTS
VENIA SAKHRANI
CARLOS SÁNCHEZ
CÉSAR JULIO TIRADO
LIAN VÁZQUEZ



CATECHESIS

Another Lent?

Yes, to try, once again, to keep watch so as not to enter into temptation, as Jesus advised his apostles to do in Gethsemane. To watch, because we do not know the day or the hour when Christ will call us to him, or will come back in glory to judge all things.

To be converted a little more
These forty days which are still before us this year are an opportunity to convert a little more, while the passing of time often causes us to stray little by little, almost imperceptibly, from the path which leads us to God. As in a channel: if the port is heaven, we have an unfortunate tendency to veer to port or starboard, risking the pitfalls. Penance, fasting, and sharing are like buoys on our road to ensure that we are going in the right direction: holiness.

What is Lent?
The duration of Lent - forty days, not counting Sundays - refers in particular to the forty years spent in the desert by the people of Israel between their exit from Egypt and their entry into the promised land; it also refers to the forty days spent by Christ in the desert between his baptism and the beginning of his public life. The number forty symbolizes the time of preparation for new beginnings.

Reverend Father Modeste Digwou

E-GIVING:
Please fill out the E-Giving Enrollment Form at the parish office, if you prefer to send your offertory donations using automatic payments from:
* your Checking/Saving account. * your PayPal account.
* your Credit or Debit card. * a Bank-to-Bank transfer.

RECOMMENDED PRACTICES FOR THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Please be aware that during the COVID-19 pandemic, we recommend the following practices:

1. Wear a face covering in the cathedral.
2. Sanitize your hands.
3. Attempt to maintain a social distance of six feet.
4. Consider receiving Holy Communion in the hand.