

TURN AWAY from sin and be FAITHFUL to the GOSPEL



Immaculate Conception Catholic Church
Denham Springs, LA

Lent 2019

the Christian season of
preparation before Easter

Ash Wednesday marks the first day of Lent which lasts 40 days –technically 46 days because Sundays are not included. The significance of 40 days is based on the Bible: the 40 days Moses spent on the mountain with God, the 40 years that the Israelites wandered in the wilderness, and Jesus’ 40 days fasting in the wilderness. The exact date of Ash Wednesday changes each year because Easter is a movable feast.

The practice of repentance and mourning in ashes is found in 2 Samuel 13:19, Esther 4:1, Job 2:8, Daniel 9:3, and Matthew 11:21.



Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.
Genesis 3:19

“By the solemn forty days of Lent the Church unites herself each year to the mystery of Jesus in the desert.”

CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH, 540

Christ’s suffering and death is symbolized in the deep purple color of Lent. Since purple is also the color of royalty, it foreshadows His Kingship and Resurrection.

The **purpose** of Lent is to set aside time for reflection on **Jesus**—His love, His suffering, His sacrifice, His life, death, burial, and resurrection. During the six weeks of Lent Christians are called to self-examination and spiritual discipline with the goal of developing a closer relationship with God.



**This year Ash Wednesday
is observed March 6**

Many Christians will attend mass or a special service where they will receive a cross of ashes on their foreheads. This is a symbol of penance and contrition. The ashes are made from the blessed palms used at Palm Sunday the prior year. Ash Wednesday is not a Holy Day of Obligation.

REFLECTION

- How will I deepen my relationship with Jesus this Lent?
- What helps me overcome temptation?
- What will I do to observe the three parts of Lent—prayer, fasting, and almsgiving?

Palm Sunday marks the beginning of HOLY WEEK

Grow in faith this Lent!

FORMED[®]

THE CATHOLIC FAITH.
ON DEMAND.

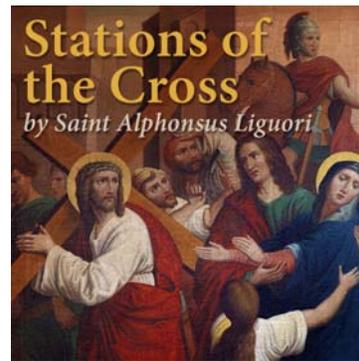


Relive the Most Important Week in History

This Lent join us for the first ever FORMED-wide book club! Readers will work their way through Pope Emeritus Benedict's masterpiece, *Jesus of Nazareth: Holy Week*. Led by Father Joseph Fessio, founder of Ignatius Press and former student of Pope Benedict, this book club will delve into the week of Christ's Passion in a discussion group right on FORMED. Father Fessio will kick off the book club on **Monday, March 4** on FORMED Live! Tune in as he shares personal stories about Pope Benedict's influence on his own life and the worldwide impact of this important book.

Live Event: Monday, March 4 at 2:00pm ET
Book Club: March 4 - April 15

HOW TO REGISTER WITH FORMED: Go to <http://icc-msh.formed.org>, create a personal account with your user name/email and password, and start enjoying the best **FREE** Catholic content all in one place!



The Augustine Institute presents a beautiful meditation on the Stations of the Cross by Saint Alphonsus Liguori, narrated by Dr. Christopher Blum. This prayerful reflection is accompanied by the Schola Cantorum of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Littleton, CO, chanting the traditional Catholic hymn *Stabat Mater*, in Latin,

which depicts the loving presence of Our Sorrowful Mother, sharing in the suffering of Christ at the foot of the cross. Take advantage of this audio on your commute, at home, or anywhere you find the time, to enrich your prayer during Lent or throughout the year, and better unite yourself to the Passion of Christ.

LENTEN REFLECTIONS

EXPERIENCE THE CATHOLIC FAITH IN A WHOLE NEW WAY

Sign up for daily reflections!

Journey through Lent with Dr. Tim Gray (Disponible en Español)!

Set yourself up for a transformative 40 days with FORMED Lenten Reflections. Get daily videos from esteemed Scripture expert Dr. Tim Gray delivered right to your inbox. Don't miss a day of growing closer to our Lord.

BEST LENT EVER[®]

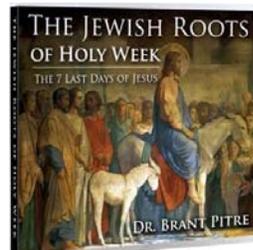
DON'T GIVE UP *Chocolate* FOR LENT

Instead, discover simple ways to transform your life in forty days. Join our parish for BEST LENT EVER, a free email program from Dynamic Catholic that is designed to help you have a life-changing Lent. Each day, you'll receive a short inspirational video that will help you . . .

- Find areas for growth
- Build better habits
- Spark lasting change

SIGN UP AT
DynamicCatholic.com/BestLent

 **Dynamic Catholic**



The Jewish Roots of Holy Week

Dr. Brant Pitre

Monday-Tuesday, April 15-16

6:30 p.m. | Small Hall

If you knew you only had one week left to live, how would you spend it? What would you do?

In these riveting presentations, Dr. Brant Pitre takes his knowledge of the Jewish roots of Christianity and uses it to unveil the mysteries of the most sacred and solemn week of the entire year: "Holy Week." In these two presentations, you will discover:

- *Palm Sunday*: Why did Jesus ride into Jerusalem on a donkey?
- *Holy Monday-Tuesday*: Why did Jesus curse the fig tree on Holy Monday?
- *Spy Wednesday*: What is the hidden meaning to Judas' betrayal of Jesus? And why is this day called "Spy Wednesday"?
- *Holy Thursday*: How exactly did the disciples prepare the Passover for Jesus?
- *Good Friday*: What is the meaning of the blood and water that flowed from Jesus' side?
- *Saturday*: Why did Jesus rest in the tomb? Where did Jesus' soul go on Holy Saturday?
- *Sunday*: Why did Jesus rise on the "first day of the week"?

If you're looking to get more out of the season of Lent this year and to truly enter into the mystery of Holy Week with Jesus, then this Bible study is for you.