

Lent 2015 at Our Lady of Mercy Church

Lenten Schedule

Ash Wednesday, February 18, 2015

Imposition of Ashes at All Masses

Masses at 7:30AM, 12:05PM & 7:00PM

Daily Masses During Lent

7:30AM & 12:05PM (Monday—Friday)

Confessions During Lent

Saturdays at 3:00PM—3:45PM

Mondays at 6:00PM—6:45PM (with additional guest priest available)

Monday—Friday before 12:05PM Mass from 11:45AM until 12Noon

The Stations of the Cross

Fridays of Lent at 7:00PM

OLM Parish Lenten Mission

March 21—25, 2015

Fr. Michael Najim

Lenten Preacher

Works of Mercy and Charity For Lent

Operation Rice Bowl Collection

Ash Wednesday thru Palm Sunday, March 29, 2015

Supports the good works of Catholic Relief Services across the globe

Catholic Charity Appeal

Kickoff at all Masses March 1, 2015

Supports the good works of Catholic Charities in Rhode Island

OLM Outreach Blanket Drive

At all Masses March 8, 2015

Collecting New Blankets for the Homeless

Monthly Outreach Collection

Dedicated to Keep the Heat On Fund during the Month of March

"As Lent is the time for greater love, listen to Jesus' thirst... 'Repent and believe' Jesus tells us. What are we to repent? Our indifference, our hardness of heart. What are we to believe? Jesus thirsts even now, in your heart and in the poor -- He knows your weakness. He wants only your love, wants only the chance to love you." — Blessed Teresa of Calcutta

Every year Catholics try to answer the age old question: What should I do for Lent? Well, who better to pick for as your Lenten spiritual director than Pope Francis? He has some great ideas for you! Here we selected 10 of his best tips:

1. Get rid of the lazy addiction to evil

“[Lent] is a ‘powerful’ season, a turning point that can foster change and conversion in each of us. We all need to improve, to change for the better. **Lent helps us and thus we leave behind old habits and the lazy addiction to the evil that deceives and ensnares us.**” – General Audience, March 5, 2014

2. Do something that hurts

“Lent is a fitting time for self-denial; we would do well to ask ourselves what we can give up in order to help and enrich others by our own poverty. Let us not forget that real poverty hurts: no self-denial is real without this dimension of penance. **I distrust a charity that costs nothing and does not hurt.**” – Lenten Message, 2014

3. Don’t remain indifferent

“Indifference to our neighbor and to God also represents a real temptation for us Christians. Each year during Lent we need to hear once more the voice of the prophets who cry out and trouble our conscience. **God is not indifferent to our world;** he so loves it that he gave his Son for our salvation.” –Lenten Message, 2015

4. Pray: Make our hearts like yours!

“During this Lent, then, brothers and sisters, let us all ask the Lord: *‘Fac cor nostrum secundum cor tuum’*: **Make our hearts like yours** (Litany of the Sacred Heart of Jesus). In this way we will receive a heart which is firm and merciful, attentive and generous, a heart which is not closed, indifferent or prey to the globalization of indifference.” – Lenten Message, 2015

5. Take part in the sacraments

“Lent is a favorable time for letting Christ serve us so that we in turn may become more like him. This happens whenever we hear the word of God and receive the sacraments, especially the Eucharist. **There we become what we receive: the Body of Christ.**” – Lenten Message, 2015

6. Prayer

“In the face of so many wounds that hurt us and could harden our hearts, we are called to dive into the sea of prayer, which is the sea of God’s boundless love, to taste his tenderness. **Lent is a time of prayer, of more intense prayer;** more prolonged, more assiduous, more able to take on the needs of the brethren; intercessory prayer, to intercede before God for the many situations of poverty and suffering.” – Homily, March 5, 2014

7. Fasting

“**We must be careful not to practice a formal fast, or one which in truth ‘satisfies’ us because it makes us feel good about ourselves.** Fasting makes sense if it questions our security, and if it also leads to some benefit for others, if it helps us to cultivate the style of the Good Samaritan, who bends down to his brother in need and takes care of him.” – Homily, March 5, 2014

8. Almsgiving

“Today gratuitousness is often not part of daily life where everything is bought and sold. Everything is calculated and measured. **Almsgiving helps us to experience giving freely,** which leads to freedom from the obsession of possessing, from the fear of losing what we have, from the sadness of one who does not wish to share his wealth with others.” – Homily, March 5, 2014

9. Help the Poor

“In the poor and outcast we see Christ’s face; by loving and helping the poor, we love and serve Christ. Our efforts are also directed to ending violations of human dignity, discrimination and abuse in the world, for these are so often the cause of destitution. When power, luxury and money become idols, they take priority over the need for a fair distribution of wealth. **Our consciences thus need to be converted to justice, equality, simplicity and sharing.**” – Lenten Message, 2014

10. Evangelize

“**The Lord asks us to be joyous heralds of this message of mercy and hope!** It is thrilling to experience the joy of spreading this good news, sharing the treasure entrusted to us, consoling broken hearts and offering hope to our brothers and sisters experiencing darkness.” – Lenten Message, 2014