

Monday 2 March

Today, our prayers ask us to consider our calling from God. In particular, we will pray for those of us who are called to respond through the priesthood or religious life.

Lord, my God and my loving Father,
You have made me to know You, to love You, to serve You,
and thereby to find and to fulfil myself.
I know that You are in all things,
and that every path can lead me to You.
But of them all, there is one especially
by which You want me to come to You.
Since I will do what You want of me,
I pray You send your Holy Spirit to me: into my mind,
to show me what You want of me; into my heart,
to give me the determination to do it,
and to do it with all my love, with all my mind,
and with all my strength right to the end.

Amen.

Tuesday 3 March

We are now well into Lent and it is good to take time to think about our response to Lent. Lent is a time to consider the needs of others and take time to carry out acts of kindness such as almsgiving and our fund raising for SCIAF. In doing this we should take time to appreciate the things we have and be grateful for them.

It is important to realise that, as humans, we are not perfect and sometime may allow ourselves to participate in things we shouldn't. We teach ourselves discipline and self-control by challenging ourselves to give up something we enjoy for the forty days of Lent. This helps us resist temptation to sin and stay closer to God. Through our prayer we keep close to God and allow him to help us in life.

We say an 'Our Father' and ask God you help us follow his ways.

Our Father.....

Wednesday 4 March

Today we will think about God's forgiveness and what that means for us.

When Peter asked Jesus how many times he should forgive someone who hurts him, Peter said 'Seven times?' thinking this would be correct but Jesus said 'No. Not seven times but seventy times seven.'

This doesn't mean that on the 490th time someone hurts us you do not forgive. It means that our forgiveness and love of others should be unlimited just as God's love and forgiveness is unlimited.

It is important that we forgive our neighbour because if not it will cause us and others more pain and damage relationships. Also, if we do not forgive others our relationship with God is damaged. God is with us and always forgives us. We hope that we will love and forgive as God forgives us.

Our Father.....

Thursday 5 March

During Lent and around Easter, the Church encourages us to go to Confession, The Sacrament of Reconciliation. Through the Sacrament of Reconciliation our soul is cleared of sin and we know that after a good confession we can find relief. We can feel this when the priests gives us absolution and the guarantee that, as we are truly sorry, our sins are forgiven. It is as if a weight has been lifted from us. With sin gone we are closer to God and able to build better relationships with others.

Today, make a Lenten Promise to go to The Sacrament of Reconciliation in your local parish.

We ask Mary, our Mother, to pray with us for the strength to ask for forgiveness.

Hail Mary....

Friday 6 March

Lent is a time to think about how we can become better people. In particular, we should think about the needs of others and take time to be considerate to others especially those to whom we are not always kind. It is time to appreciate the things we have in life and to be grateful for them. We can teach ourselves discipline by challenging ourselves to give something up or do something extra during the forty days of Lent. This self-discipline will help us resist temptation.

We pray that our Lenten efforts of prayer, almsgiving and fasting will make us better people, make us love others more and strengthen our relationship with God.

Hail Mary.....