

The Parish of St. Agnes Cathedral Rockville Centre, New York

Lent 2012

The word *Lent* means springtime. This word comes from the same root as lengthen. Daytime lengthens during Lent. The northern hemisphere turns toward the sun, the source of life, and winter turns into spring. In Hebrew, the word for repentance is the same as the word that means to turn, like the turning of the earth to the sun, like the turning of the soil before planting.

At the beginning of Lent the bishop calls out the names of the catechumens who seek to be baptized at Easter. Their names are written in the Book of the Elect, the chosen. Lent for the elect is preparation for Baptism. For each of us Lent is a time to prepare to renew our Baptismal promises at Easter. During the forty days, both the elect and the faithful journey together to the holy font.

Our 2012 Lenten Journey

The Call to Penance



Lent provides a special opportunity to look within and reflect on God's overwhelming mercy. In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we experience, through the ministry of the Church, God's own forgiveness and healing.

Saturdays and eve of First Friday: 4:00—4:45 p.m.

Monday evenings following 7:30 p.m. Mass

Wednesday following 7:45 a.m. & 12:10 p.m. Masses

Wednesday, March 21st at 7:30 p.m. Parish Lenten Penance Service

Monday, April 2nd Diocesan Reconciliation Day: 3:00—9:00 p.m.

The Call to Prayer

Taize Prayer Night: March 14, 2012

Please join us for a night of Song, Scripture and the Veneration of the Cross at 7:30 p.m. in the Cathedral. This is a very prayerful, reflective service.

Stations of the Cross:

In our tradition, Friday has been a day devoted to remembering the passion and death of Jesus. We are invited during the Fridays of Lent to unite with Christ's passion and death by praying the Stations of the Cross. Traditional Stations of the Cross, Fridays during Lent at 7:30 p.m.

Coffee with Jesus

Join Msgr. Andrzej Zglejszewski in this time of Lenten reflection and prayer in preparation for Easter over a cup of coffee, on Friday, March 16th and March 30, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in the Parish Center.

The Call to Mission

Come participate in the Parish Retreat on March 5th, 6th, 7th after the 9:00 a.m. Mass and 7:30 p.m. in the Cathedral. The Theme is "**Belonging More Deeply: To God, To Yourself and To One Another**". Presenter will be Msgr. Andrzej Zglejszewski. Further information will follow in the bulletin.

The Call to Service

The Parish of St. Agnes Cathedral began special **Lenten Projects** ten years ago. One of the expressed goals was to expand our borders and reach beyond our shores to make our sacrificial offerings connect us with our sisters and brothers in special need throughout the world.

The recipient for our Lenten Project 2012 is "**Uplift Help International**". Our "hands on" contact is Sister Dolores Castellano, CIJ, who is on **Uplift's** Board of Directors. Sister Dolores is a former President of the Congregation of the Infant Jesus, more familiarly known to us as the Nursing Sisters of the Sick Poor and the Founders of Mercy Medical Center here in Rockville Centre. Sister Dolores established Mercy Hospice in 1990 and was instrumental in its transition to Mercy's Cancer Care Program from which many of our parishioners have benefited.

"**Uplift Help International**" is presently building a primary health care facility in the **Town of Ishiagu, Nigeria**. Simple health care is not available to the people of Ishiagu. There is no place or program for routine health care in general nor is there any maternal and child health care. The social change that we believe this project will lead to is the empowerment of people to care for their own health care needs and that of their children. Social Change is a long process and we see this project as helping to plant the seeds.

A special envelope and flyer highlighting the desperate need for a proper clinic in **Ishiagu** will be available in the Cathedral beginning the first Sunday of Lent. Read the **Parish Sunday Bulletin** for updates throughout the coming weeks.

The Call to Support

Please pray for the elect, Toshebia Bledsoebell, Rachel Connelly, Wendy Kistela, Monica Roman, Vincent Ma Sciortino who are preparing to receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist at the Easter Vigil. Lent is a special time of prayer and preparation for them. Meredith Donovan will be welcomed into Full Communion during the Easter Season. The support and prayer of our parish community unite us in our journey toward the Easter Triduum.

Prayer,
for the good of your soul;

Fasting,
for the good of your
body;

Almsgiving,
for the good of your
neighbors.