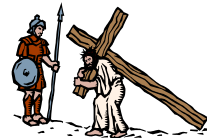


SJN 2010 LENTEN SCHEDULE

Ash Wednesday Service	Wednesday Feb 17	6:30 AM Service 11:30 AM Mass 5:00 PM Mass (bilingual) 7:00 PM Service (bilingual)
Stations of the Cross and Benediction	Every Friday Feb 19-April 2	6:30 PM (*)
Fish Fry	Friday March 5, 12, & 19	4:30-7:00 PM
Vatican II Talks	Thursday March 11, 18, & 25	6:30 PM
Soup Supper	Friday February 19, 26, & March 26	5:30 – 7:00 PM
Parish Mission	Sun-Wed February 20 thru February 24	Mission begins at each weekend Mass and ends with Fellowship reception in parish hall after Mass on the 24 th . Start time Sun – Wed is 7:00 PM
Penance Service (bilingual)	Tuesday February 23	7:00 PM

(*) No Benediction on the first Wednesday of March. Benediction only on Fridays.



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday	March 27/28	Weekend Mass
Holy Thursday (bilingual)	April 1	7:00 PM
Good Friday (Stations of the Cross)	April 2	3:00 PM 7:00 PM (bilingual)
Easter Vigil	April 3	At Sundown (TBA)
Easter Sunday	April 4	7:30 AM 9:00 AM 10:30 AM Noon

Dear friends in Christ:

On the first Sunday of Lent we read from the Scriptures: *“The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart...” (Rom 10:8)*

This word of salvation from our Lord Jesus Christ is within our reach and it is ours to keep and celebrate here at SJN.

Lent has always been a rich and fruitful spiritual season of prayer, penance and almsgiving. Many conversions to the Lord take place during this time because the Lord is found where souls search for him.

The Son of God did not take our flesh only that we might see him after we die, in heaven. He did not sweat blood in a garden only that we might know about him, like a smart theologian. He did not bleed on wood merely that we might picture him in our imagination, hang a crucifix on a wall, or say prayers to him. He lived and died that we might know him, love him, have direct experience of him, be aware of his presence, feel it, thrill to it...**NOW!**

Hopefully all our Lenten activities listed on the back of this letter will help us have a very personal experience of our Savior so we can grow in his love and share it with all around us. I pray to God that you will find those 28 minutes a day we have been talking about lately to hear the Bible for 40 days, from Ash Wednesday to Palm Sunday. Another good way to boost our spiritual lives is by attending our Lenten Parish Mission. Please mark it on your calendars.

I am especially grateful to the Men’s Club and the ACTS ministry for hosting the Fish Fry and the Soup Suppers this Lent. Hopefully the Vatican II talks that I will facilitate in March will help us all grow in a better understanding and appreciation of the role of the ordained and the laity in the Church. We will explore the different ways in which the Church has made an impact in today’s world thanks to the Second Vatican Council.

By welcoming the word of God deeply in our hearts, we will realize that the Son of God lived and died so that he can be as real to us now as God was to Moses on Sinai, to his people as he crossed the Red Sea dry and to the blessed Virgin Mary as she felt her infant stir inside her.

Have a blessed Lent!

Fr. Octavio

Lenten Regulations

The 40-day season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17. To assist the faithful in their observance of the following is a list of Lenten regulations:

- 1) By the law of God and the custom of the church, all Christians are required to do penance.
- 2) The season of Lent retains its penitential character. The days of penance to be observed under the obligation are Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent.
- 3) Abstinence from meat is to be observed on all Fridays of Lent. The law of abstinence and fast is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
- 4) The law of abstinence forbids the consumption of meat. The law of fasting permits only one meal a day. Fasting means having only one full meal to maintain one’s strength. Two smaller meatless meals and penitential meals are permitted according to one’s needs, but they should not equal the one full meal. Eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.
- 5) The law of abstinence binds those who have celebrated their 14th birthday. The law of fasting binds those who have celebrated their 18th birthday, and continues until they have celebrated their 59th birthday.
- 6) The Fridays of the year outside Lent remain days of penance, but each individual may substitute traditional abstinence from meat with some other practice of voluntary self-denial or personal penance; this may be physical mortification, act of religion, charity or Christian witness. These works should be considered a minimal response to the call to penance and conversion of life.