Dear Sisters and Brothers in the Lord.

Once again, the season of Lent is upon us; a time when we are called to prepare our hearts for the celebration of Easter. This special season is set aside for us to take stock of our relationship with Christ, and to hear again his invitation to "turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel" (Mk 1, 15). As we receive the Sign of the Cross on our foreheads in ashes, we recall that we were first signed with the Cross at our baptism. By prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, we strive throughout these forty days to be renewed and to be more faithful to our baptismal promises. We also pray in a special way with those preparing to receive the sacraments at the Easter Vigil.

Our whole lives—and everything we do as a parish—are rooted in the new life that Jesus Christ won for us in his Resurrection. Christ our Light leads us from the darkness of sin and death, along the Way of the Cross, to the Road to Emmaus where we recognize the Risen Lord in the breaking of the bread. Lent is a chance for us to re-commit ourselves to following the road that Jesus has marked out for us, as individuals and as a community.

We encourage you to take advantage of the opportunities for prayer, fasting and almsgiving, which this season provides. May God continue to bless you and yours, as together we prepare to celebrate the feast of the Resurrection.

God bless you -

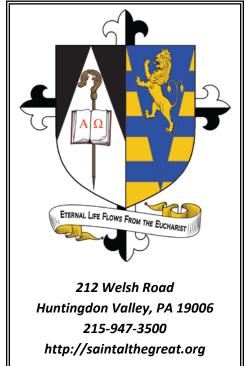
Fr. Robert McDermott & the Staff of St. Albert the Great Parish

FASTING & ABSTINENCE

All Catholics fourteen years of age and older are obliged to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and on all the Fridays of Lent.

Catholics between the ages of eighteen and fifty-nine are obliged to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. The fast means taking only one full meal and, if necessary, two light meals that together would not make a full meal. Nothing is taken to eat between meals except water.

The laws for fast and abstinence do not apply to people who are sick, or those who need to eat at certain times for health reasons (to take medicine, while expecting, etc.). Those who cannot fast are encouraged to do some other act of penance on those days.



ALMSGIVING

Almsgiving means making sacrifices of our time, our talent, and our financial resources to help those less fortunate than ourselves. It includes not only donations to charity, but also a commitment to help our neighbors both near and far through works of service. Running errands for homebound neighbors, visiting a friend in the hospital, and offering prayers for the dead can all be forms of almsgiving.



PRAYER & LITURGY

Celebration of Mass

Monday - Friday: 8:00 AM Saturday Vigil: 5 PM; Sunday: 8 AM, 10 AM, & 12 PM

Confessions

Saturdays: 4:00 to 4:45 PM (in church) Sundays: 11:00 – 11:30 AM (in church) Monday, March 18, 7:00 – 8:00 PM (in church)

Stations of the Cross

7 PM every Friday in Lent

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Every Tuesday in the rectory chapel from 8:30 AM - 8:00 PM

FORMATION

Weekly Scripture Study

Facilitated discussion of the Sunday Scriptures **Wednesday mornings 9 - 10 AM** (rectory basement).

No Greater Love:

A Biblical Walk Through Christ's Passion

No Greater Love is a biblical pilgrimage that reveals Christ's amazing love for us. Join us as we journey through Christ's Passion and experience a deeper understanding and appreciation of God's immeasurable and unconditional love for you as we examine Old Testament



prophecies, messianic expectations, biblical symbolism, and historical context in order to shed light on the mystery of Christ's suffering and death.

Join us February 20, 27, March 5, 12, 19 from 7:00 – 8:30 PM in the church chapel. The cost is \$30 which covers online access to the videos, a 213-page book by Dr. Edward Sri, and a workbook used weekly for the study. Register today at

https://forms.gle/agGLR1p4uqwMAcbQ8or use the QR code above:

Poor Man's Supper

Our Knights of Columbus as they host a "Poor Man's Supper" featuring vegetable and clam chowder soups served nice and hot with bread from 4:30 – 6:45 PM in the auditorium on Good Friday, March 29. Proceeds from your free-will donations for the meal will be used to support St. John's Hospice and Caring for Friends. Join us for an evening of fellowship in support of those in need.

ASH WEDNESDAY

February 14

Ashes will be distributed at each liturgy below:
6:30 am Mass
9:00 am Mass with school children
4:00 pm Liturgy of the Word
7:00 pm Mass

HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday - March 24

Palm will be blessed and distributed at all Masses, which follow the normal Sunday schedule.

Living Stations

Tuesday, March 26 7:00 PM

EASTER TRIDUUM

Holy Thursday - March 28

Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7:00 pm Adoration at the Repository until 10:00 pm Night Prayer: 9:45 pm

Good Friday - March 29

Adoration at the Repository 10:30 am – 3:00 pm Confessions 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Liturgy of the Lord's Passion: 3:00 pm **Stations of the Cross:** 7:00 pm

Holy Saturday - March 30

NO CONFESSIONS

Blessing of Easter Baskets: 11:00 AM Easter Vigil: 7:30 pm (No 5 PM Mass)

Easter Sunday - March 31

Masses at 8 AM, 10 AM & 12 PM

