

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR



Dear Parishioners,

We have now entered the Sacred Season of Lent. During the next 40 days it is the hope of the Church that we will embark on this extended retreat as we prepare through prayer, fasting, works of charity and almsgiving (helping those in special need) for the renewal of our Baptismal Promises on Easter Sunday.

THE EASTER VIGIL: Even as we make this annual journey of faith we are joined by others, who have been receiving instruction and have prayerfully discerned that the Lord is calling them to enter the Church. Therefore, at the Easter Vigil they will be baptized, celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit through the Sacrament of Confirmation and receive the Resurrected Lord in the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist.

THE RITE OF ELECTION: I am delighted to introduce to you: Federico Matta, Riccardo Matta, Angel Ramos and Alfredo Sedano. Some of you will have met them at the Rite of Election, which is being celebrated at the 10:00 AM Mass this Sunday. The Rite of Election, which is usually celebrated at the Cathedral or at an appointed church by one of our Bishops, is taking place at each individual parish due to on-going concerns about safety due to the Coronavirus.

THE SCRUTINIES: In the weeks ahead they will celebrate the “Scrutinies,” which are special prayers of strengthening, as they prepare for the celebration of the Easter Sacraments. Together with us, they will engage in the penitential practices observed by us throughout the forty days of Lent.

LENTEN REGULATIONS: It might be helpful to remind everyone that Fridays during Lent are days of abstinence from eating meat. This obligation begins for everyone who has reached their 14th birthday and older. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are also days of fasting, which means that anyone from 14 years of age until one has reached their 59th birthday, are also required to fast as well. Fasting means that one eats only one large meal and two smaller meals that day. No snacking!

I hope that everyone will enter into Lent as fully as possible. What will best help you to prepare for the renewal of your baptismal promises on Easter? What we do is in the best interest of our spiritual growth and development! *“For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work among you will complete it by the day of Christ Jesus.” Phil1:6.*

F. John