

ST. VALENTINE'S PARISH, PHILADALPHIA, PA

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 11th QUINQUAGESIMA SUNDAY, (ROSE)

9:30AM Mass for the soul of the departed Sophie Szarana; From All Soul's List

MONDAY FEBRUARY 12th PRE-LENTEN WEEKDAY, (ROSE)

8AM Mass for the intentions of our Parish Family.

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 13th PRE-LENTEN WEEKDAY, (ROSE)

8AM Mass for Peace.

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 14th ASH WEDNESDAY, (PURPLE)/ GREAT LENT BEGINS

BLESSING AND DISTRIBUTUION OF ASHES/DAY OF FAST & ABSTINANCE

7PM Mass for the soul of the departed Richard Taylor; from All souls list.

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 15th LENTEN WEEKDAY, (PURPLE)

8AM Mass for an increase of Vocations.

FRIDAY FEBUARY 16th REQUIEM MASS (BLACK)

8AM Mass for the soul of the departed Prime Bishop Francis J. Hodur; 71st anni of death.

7PM Bitter Lamentations, Benediction.

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 18th 1st SUNDAY OF LENT, (PURPLE)

LESSON: Genesis 9:8-15 **LESSON:** 1st Peter 3:18-22 **GOSPEL:** St. Mark 1:12-15

9:30AM Mass for the soul of the departed Elizabeth Boyd 60th Anni of death:Requested by Leon Boyd

MARK YOUR CALENDERS: FEBRUARY 14th Ash Wednesday, Great Lent begins;

FEBRUARY 19th Presidents Day

LENTEN REGULATIONS: On Ash Wednesday we begin Great Lent. During this time we are to follow the rules of Fasting & Abstinence. On Ash Wednesday we are to eat **one** full meal and **two** partial meals. We are to abstain from meat. **ABSAINTING** means we do not eat meat. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting and abstaining. **FASTING** the giving up of those things that give us pleasure. The rules of Lent apply to persons age **7** to **70**. Those who are ill and those who care for them are exempt from the rules of Lent. Also woman who are pregnant. Those who are past the age of fasting ought to find another way to take part. All Fridays of Lent we are to abstain from meat. There is also the option to abstain from meat on Wednesdays. The Lent regulations end on Easter Sunday.

ST. VALENTINE'S DAY: Unfortunately our parish Feast Day is the same as Ash Wednesday. But, you can still remember your sweethearts on this day.

SACRED VOCATIONS: Please pray for an increase of vocations to the Priesthood and Diaconate.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS: On the graves at the cemetery **must** be off all graves by **FEBRUARY 14th**. Any that are left will be thrown away.

WHEN TO FAST: There is a question today about how a person goes about their spiritual life. The Pharisees question Jesus about why His disciples do not fast? Jesus puts it in words they can understand. He uses the example of a wedding feast. He says the guests do not fast while the groom is there. Jesus tells them when the groom is gone they will fast. The bride-groom He is referring to is Himself. The Church teaches that we have been we to Jesus, He is the groom. Jesus also uses the example of new wine. He says you do not put new wine in old skins. If you do the skins will burst and everything will be lost. That makes sense why would you do that. New wine goes in new skins. Jesus also uses the example of repairing clothing, anyone who sews knows this. you do not do impractical things but only the right thing. We are about to enter the season of fasting Lent. Lent means Spring the time of rebirth for nature. Hopefully we have sued Pre-Lent to prepare to observe Lent. We have set how we will fast. What we have

chosen to do is our private matter, no one is to make fun of what we have chosen. It is a matter between God and ourselves. We come each Sunday to the Wedding Feast of the Lamb. The

Lamb being Jesus, He gave us the Holy Sacrifice of Mass to partake of His Body and blood. If you remember in the old days we had to fast from the night before. but, now we fast one hour before receiving Holy Communion. Jesus the Bride-Groom has joined Himself to His Bride the Church. As members of the Church we are joined to Jesus. A bond that cannot be broken unless we choose to. Let us use this Lenten Season to become closer to Jesus, to strengthen the bond between us. Also to one another as we are all members of Christ's body.

IN NEED OF PRAYER: Joan Pianka.