

Fr. Martin's Reflection – February 13, 2022

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As we head into the third week of February, we are just weeks away from the glorious month of March and celebrating St. Patrick's Day. I have chosen Sunday, March 13 at the 11:30 pm Mass for our St. Patrick's Day celebration, so let your family and friends know and don't forget to wear green. We will also have refreshments in the school gym after Mass. I know many of us would not consider ourselves good singers, but I'm putting a call out for you to join our special St. Patrick's Day Choir. There will be two, maybe three rehearsals and then the main event on Sunday, March 13. Alfonso will publish the dates soon, so please keep an eye on the bulletin and pre-Mass announcements.

Lenten programs: *Arise* and *Walking with Purpose*

Lent begins March 2; now is the time to consider our Lenten journey. You will hear about our '*Arise*' program. It was very successful when we held it during the Advent season. This could be a wonderful opportunity to come closer to God and allow God to come closer to you, please consider the Lenten Arise program.

We are also launching our second instalment of '*Walking with Purpose*.' This is a women's-only program and it too was very much appreciated by those who took part in the first season. I encourage you to give some quality time to yourself this Lent.

Preparing for Easter

I know, I know, it's not even Lent yet and here I am talking about Easter. I wanted to give you plenty of time to prepare for Easter and how it is you would like to be involved. I know committing to a choir is a big commitment and many of us simply don't have the time but would love to have the opportunity to be a part of a choir once or twice a year. So, I'm suggesting the high points of our liturgical year; Easter, Christmas, Parish Feast Day, etc. Wouldn't it be a beautiful occasion to have a full choir on Holy Saturday night as the whole parish joins as one to celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord? And what a statement it would make to our newest members who will be coming into our Church that evening? Please consider joining the Easter Choir as part of your Lenten journey.

Good Friday we will have our traditional 3pm services at St. Mary Church and Holy Assumption Church, but we will also have an evening service at St. Mary Church. We would normally have the Living Stations, but this year we are having the full service, the difference being we are going to dramatize the gospel. So, I am asking for budding actors to play the part of Jesus, Pilate, the Jewish Officials, the Roman Soldiers, the Apostles, and the crowd. **Our first get together will be Friday, March 11 @ 7pm in St. Mary Church – this is a shout out to all age groups, families, and parishioners.**

I think that might be enough to get us started – there will be more to come.

Our thought for the week:

"You are God's chosen race, God's saints; God loves you, and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same." Colossians 3:12-13

Fr. Martin