



## MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR LENT 2019

“For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God” (Rm 8: 19).

Dear Brothers and Sisters, each year, through Mother Church, God “gives us this joyful season when we prepare to celebrate the paschal mystery with mind and heart renewed... as we recall the great events that gave us new life in Christ” (Preface of Lent I).

**1. The redemption of creation:** The celebration of the Paschal *Triduum* of Christ’s passion, death and resurrection, the culmination of the liturgical year, calls us yearly to undertake a journey of preparation, in the knowledge that our being conformed to Christ (cf. Rom 8:29) is a priceless gift of God’s mercy. ... Through prayer, contemplation and art, they also include other creatures in that praise, as we see admirably expressed in the “Canticle of the Creatures” by Saint Francis of Assisi (cf. [Laudato Si’](#), 87).

**2. The destructive power of sin:** ... The root of all evil, as we know, is sin, which from its first appearance has disrupted our communion with God, with others and with creation itself, to which we are linked in a particular way by our body. This rupture of communion with God likewise undermines our harmonious relationship with the environment in which we are called to live, so that the garden has become a wilderness (cf. Gen 3:17-18). Sin leads man to consider himself the god of creation, to see himself as its absolute master and to use it, not for the purpose willed by the Creator but for his own interests, to the detriment of other creatures.

Once God’s law, the law of love, is forsaken, then the law of the strong over the weak takes over. The sin that lurks in the human heart (cf. Mk 7:20-23) takes the shape of greed and unbridled pursuit of comfort, lack of concern for the good of others and even of oneself. It leads to the exploitation of creation, both persons and the environment, due to that insatiable covetousness which sees every desire as a right and sooner or later destroys all those in its grip.

**3. The healing power of repentance and forgiveness:** Creation urgently needs the revelation of the children of God, who have been made “a new creation”. ... The path to Easter demands that we renew our faces and hearts as Christians through repentance, conversion and forgiveness, so as to live fully the abundant grace of the paschal mystery. ... Lent is a sacramental sign of this conversion. It invites Christians to embody the paschal mystery more deeply and concretely in their personal, family and social lives, above all by fasting, prayer and almsgiving. ...

May our Lent this year be a journey along that same path, bringing the hope of Christ also to creation, so that it may be “set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the glorious liberty of the children of God” (Rom 8:21). Let us not allow this season of grace to pass in vain! Let us ask God to help us set out on a path of true conversion. ... In this way, by concretely welcoming Christ’s victory over sin and death into our lives, we will also radiate its transforming power to all of creation.

[From the Vatican, 4 October 2018 on the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi]

May all have a gracefilled Lent

Fr. Gigi Philip



# SUNDAY

## Parish Pastoral Council

Next pastoral council meeting will be on March 13, Wednesday 2019 at 7.45 p.m. in the pastoral room.



**ASH  
WEDNESDAY**

**MERCOLEDI delle  
CENERI**

**06 March/ Marzo 2019**

### Mass and Ash distribution

St. Norbert Church: 8:00 A.M. - Italian  
 7:00 P.M. - English

St. Norbert School: 9.30 A.M.

St. Robert School: 12.30 P.M.

Madonna School: 11.00 A.M.



### Via Crucis

La Via Crucis sarà celebrata ogni mercoledì e Venerdì dopo la Messa durante la Quaresima.

Please join us in the church every Wednesday and Friday the Lenten devotion of the Stations of the Cross.

Wednesday/mercoledì 7:00 p.m. (english)

Friday/Venerdì - 8:30 a.m. (Italiano)

### Bundle up Collection for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul



Spring Cleaning - Year Round!

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be collecting gently used clothing, shoes, and household linens the

**weekend of March 23/24.**

**Items not accepted:** appliances, baby or regular furniture, books, mattresses, dishes, construction material or video tapes.

"The truck will be open all weekend."



Thanks for Your Support!

Feb 24, 2019

Weekly Offering - \$ 1888.00  
 Maintenance - \$ 705.00

## Are you a Registered Parishioner?

Are you a member of our parish? Whether you live within our parish boundaries or simply desire to be part of our faith community, we strongly encourage you to register! A formal registration allows us to recognize you, especially when you require a letter of reference or prepare yourself for sacraments like baptism or wedding. You may find the registration form online.



### Mass Intentions

#### SAT/sabato - Mar/marzo 02

5:00 P.M. - +Tino Gregorio & Family

#### SUN/domenica - Mar/marzo 03

9:00 A.M. - +Anna Pezza

+Onorio Carlesimo

+Santo & Antonina Guerrera

+Francesco Scaramozzino

+Antonio & Gino Di Berardino

+Pietro Groe

10:30 A.M. - +Domenic & Esterina Bruni

12:00 P.M. -

#### TUE/martedì - Mar/marzo 05

7:00 P.M. - +Ida Sollecito

#### WED/mercoledì - Mar/marzo 06 (Ash Wed)

8:00 A.M. - Italian

7:00 P.M. - English

#### THU/giovedì - Mar/marzo 07

8:30 A.M. -

#### FRI/venerdì - Mar/marzo 08

8:30 A.M. -