



## Acknowledgements

A total of \$460.90 was raised for the Shepherds of Good Hope at the Ash Wednesday Mass. Thank you for your generosity towards the needy.

We thank the Knights of Columbus, Luke Hart Council 5558, for their delicious Pancake Brunch last weekend. All who attended had a good time.

## Gentle Reminder

During Lent, there will be no 9:00 am Mass on Fridays. The Mass will be at 6:30 pm and will be immediately followed by the Stations of the Cross.

## Sacrament of Penance

This weekend and next weekend, the children will be making their First Reconciliation. They have been preparing since last fall.

In the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation, we meet the Lord, who wants to grant forgiveness and the grace to live a renewed life in him. In this sacrament, he prepares us to receive him free from serious sin, with a lively faith, earnest hope, and sacrificial love in the Eucharist.

The Church encourages frequent confession in order to grow closer to Christ Jesus and his Body, the Church. By the grace of the Holy Spirit, we seek forgiveness and repentance, let go of patterns of sin, grow in the life of virtue, and witness to a joyful conversion.

The Season of Lent is the perfect time to ask God for forgiveness of our sins through this Sacrament.

Following are some directives of how to prepare for a good confession. If you have not been for some time since your last confession, the priest will help guide you.

Following are some simple steps to help you go to confession.

### Take some time to prepare

Begin with prayer, and reflect on your life since your last confession. How have you—in your thoughts, words, and actions—neglected to live Christ's commands to "love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind," and to "love your neighbor as yourself"? As a help with this "examination of conscience," you might review the Ten Commandments or the Beatitudes.

## Steps for Confession

Make the Sign of the Cross. You may then begin your confession with these or similar words: "Bless me, Father, for I have sinned. It has been [give days, months, or years] since my last confession."

### Confession

Confess all your sins to the priest. If you are unsure what to say, ask the priest for help. When you are finished, conclude with these or similar words: "I am sorry for these and all my sins."

### Penance

The priest will propose an act of penance. The penance might be prayer, a work of mercy, or an act of charity. He might also counsel you on how to better live a Christian life.

### Act of Contrition

After the priest has conferred your penance, pray an Act of Contrition, expressing sorrow for your sins and resolving to sin no more.

### Absolution

The priest will pronounce the words of absolution. You respond, "Amen."

### Dismissal

The priest will conclude the sacrament.

## Liturgical Calendar at a Glance

March 24 --- 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent  
March 31 --- 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent  
April 7 ----- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

### **Mass & Penitential Service:**

Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup>  
Mass at 6:30 pm  
Reconciliation Service at 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Friday Mass at 6:30 pm & Stations of the Cross in the church: March 22, 29 & April 12

April 14 --- PALM SUNDAY  
April 16 --- CHRISM MASS at Cathedral at 7:00 pm  
April 18 --- HOLY THURSDAY MASS at 7:00 pm  
April 19 --- GOOD FRIDAY service at 3:00 pm

April 20 --- EASTER VIGIL MASS at 8:00 pm  
April 21 --- EASTER SUNDAY MASS at 11:00 am only