

## **Looking Ahead: Please Mark Your Calendars!**

My dear friends in Christ,

In less than three weeks from today, we will enter the Season of Lent beginning Ash Wednesday, March 6. Lent is one of the most beautiful seasons in the Church because it celebrates the Passion of Christ. We do not just celebrate what our Savior Jesus Christ has done for us, but Lent is also a forty-day period that predisposes us to receive more of the graces Christ has earned through his Passion, and we are invited to immerse ourselves in this season by journeying with Jesus on his way to the cross. To journey with Christ is why you are a disciple.

As individual disciples, or more so, as a parish community, how can we prepare ourselves and intentionally make this upcoming Lenten season very fruitful and one of the best? I encourage you to do something more than the ordinary. This year in our parish during Lent, we will focus on spiritual activities that I am convinced will enhance and enrich our spiritual life. These spiritual activities include: A Lenten retreat, Lenten faith-sharing groups, and a Wednesday evening talk on What Happens at Mass.

### **Lenten Retreat**

What are the last words of our Savior Jesus Christ as he hung upon the cross? Who were they spoken to? What do each of these words mean for us? Was Jesus speaking to you? I invite you to our parish Lenten Retreat at Holy Trinity. Many will be attending from outside of our parish as well.

Topic: **The Seven Last Words of Jesus on the Cross**

Date: Saturday, March 16, 2019

Time: 9:00 a.m. Mass in the church

9:45 a.m. – 12:00 pm Retreat Talk in the Parish Hall

### **Lenten Talk**

As Catholics, our life and faith are rooted in and draw strength from the Eucharist, for the Eucharist is the source and summit of our Christian life. During the Lenten season, we will have a talk to explore and deepen our understanding of becoming a Eucharistic community.

Topic: **What Happens at Mass**

Date: Wednesday, April 3, 2019

Time: 5:00 p.m. Mass in the church

6:15 p.m. – 7:15 p.m. Retreat Talk in the Parish Hall

### **Lenten Faith-Sharing Groups**

How did the early church become so vibrant, such that faith in Christ spread throughout the whole world? What was the life of the early Christians like? Despite persecutions, the early Christians were vibrant in faith because they supported one another and shared their faith within the context of small groups.

I am happy to announce that during the upcoming Lenten season, our parish will adopt the early church small faith-sharing group model. The purpose of the small groups is for each of us to share with one

another how the gospel impacts our daily lives. Remember that you are a disciple and the story of your faith can make a difference in another person's life. There are sign-up sheets at the vestibule of the church. Please join a group and bring a friend with you.

### **Appreciation**

I thank the Stadelman family for donating and installing a brand-new heat pump in our church. The new heat pump will save our parish quite a lot of money. We truly appreciate their generosity.

May the peace of Christ always dwell with us.

*--Fr. Anthony Ahamefule*