



Month: March: Lent continues

Lent means springtime or coming to life after the death of winter. Lent is a time to reflect on the meaning of the life, death, and Resurrection of Jesus. It is a time to give ourselves to others as Jesus gave himself to us, a time to experience the new life we have because of Jesus.

Theme: Catholic Social Teaching

Catholic Social Teaching is the body of doctrine developed by the Catholic Church on matters of social justice, involving issues of poverty and wealth. "To receive in truth the Body and Blood of Christ given up for us, we must recognize Christ in the poorest, his brethren" (CCC #1397). The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops tells us, that, "Our commitment to the Catholic social mission must be rooted in and strengthened by our spiritual lives. In our relationship with God we experience the conversion of heart that is necessary to truly love one another as God has loved us." The seven themes of Catholic Social Teaching helps build a just society and helps us live a more holy life while faced with the challenges of modern society:

- Life and Dignity of the Human Person-every person is precious, people are more important than things
- Call to Family, Community, and Participation-duty to participate in society for the common good of all
- Rights and Responsibilities-responsibilities to one another, to our families, and to the larger society
- Option for the Poor and Vulnerable-putting the needs of the poor and vulnerable first
- The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers-basic rights of workers must be respected (fair wage, etc.)
- Solidarity-we are our brothers and sisters keepers; the Gospel calls us to be peacemakers in our world
- Care for God's Creation-called to protect people and the planet and to show respect for God's creation.

Sacrament: Anointing of the Sick

The Church believes and confesses that among the seven sacraments there is one especially intended to strengthen those who are being tried by illness, the Anointing of the Sick (CCC #1511).

Family Activity: Service to others

As a family activity this Lenten season, participate in doing service for others. Some examples are, write letters to parish shut-ins, do an errand for an elderly neighbor, or do yard clean up for someone who can't do it. Everyone can participate in these activities, from the youngest child in the family to parents-get involved!

Saint Information: St. of the Month: St. Katharine Drexel Feast Day- March 3