

THE WORKER

LENT 2019

FROM THE PASTOR

Father Tom McDermott

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Transform? The word TRANSFORM and all it indicates about changing is fitting for the season of Lent. And the question mark—how does that fit in your Lent?

1. Does it offer “transformation” as one option with “staying the same” as the other? Is it an invitation to imagine yourself more peaceful, joyful and fulfilled if a transformation did occur?
2. Question marks usually signal a request for information. Is it asking you what aspect of your life needs transformation?
3. Is it there because those who know what needs transforming must determine if now is the time for it? St. Paul in the Ash Wednesday reading from the Second Corinthians insists, “Now is a very acceptable time,”—now

is the day for this partnership with Grace to move me along toward Salvation.

If you present yourself for ashes, you have put yourself in a great position to end Lent transformed and not the same! Ashes claim for me a place with those who understand their dependence upon God. So much of life draws us toward a deeper sense of independence: abilities, authority, responsibility, etc.

The fundamental transformation each of us always needs is towards living out one’s dependence upon God. Patience, respect, generosity and prioritizing time for prayer—are they not all expressions of dependence upon God? Patience expresses trust that God is working in another person’s time-line. Respect expresses that God’s value of this person always makes them more than a problem. Prayer says I’m humble enough to see that this issue needs God as part of the solution



more than it needs anything I bring. Are any

of those virtues the transformation you need? Are one of those, or another quality like them, your response to the second use of the question mark?



Transform? also invites us to make it happen now, not later. Can you hear the Question Mark saying to you, “You’ve tried to ignore, or qualify, or substitute transforming this; is it time to just do it?” The transformation tools of Lent make this the right time! The aids readily available during Lent can help support you and your prayer time. The discipline of fasting from meat on Friday can shape fasting from anger, selfishness, and the reactions that work against patience or respect the other days of the week. Works of charity can reinforce that dependence upon God to supply what I gave away to you. Truly is there any time like Lent to transform? The Church would say no, with an exclamation point!

Fr. Tom

THINGS TO FOCUS ON THIS LENT

Our Lenten theme, “Transform?” is all about change. What changes can we make in our lives to be better followers of Christ? How can I be more open to allowing the Holy Spirit to change me into the person God wants me to be? As we take this Lenten journey together, try to focus on a different aspect of this change each week. To help, we’ve summed it into the following Seven “R’s.”

- REMEMBER** Ash Wednesday
- RESIST** First Sunday of Lent
- RENEW** Second Sunday of Lent
- REPENT** Third Sunday of Lent
- RECONCILE / REJOICE** Fourth Sunday of Lent
- REFORM** Fifth Sunday of Lent

- RECONNECT / RECONSIDER** Palm Sunday
- REDEMPTION** Good Friday
- RESURRECTION** Easter

As you go through each week of Lent, reflect on these words and how you can apply them to your life. Think of what the readings are teaching you about being transformed by the Holy Spirit into a new creation in Christ.

CELEBRATING FIRST RECONCILIATION

On January 24, twenty of our second grade students and their family and friends gathered in the church for their First Reconciliation. They celebrated this sacrament after months

of preparing at home, in school and as part of our parish community. Congratulations to them! Please continue praying for them as they prepare for First Communion in May!



TIME AND TALENT

One way the Holy Spirit can transform us is in how choose to use our time and our talent. We invite you to share your gifts with the parish in one of the following ministries. Contact Dick Beaves (r.beaves@dbqarch.org; 563-588-1433) to learn more.

1. Assist with the Washing of the Feet on Holy Thursday
2. Assist with Stations of the Cross on Good Friday at 5:30pm.
3. Help prepare the Easter Environment at 8:30am Holy Saturday Morning
4. Assist with the Sprinkling Rite during the Easter Season.
5. Be a Greeter for Sunday Mass and Parish events.

EVERY DROP COUNTS



In the coming weeks, you will hear about important work being done to our facilities. We're asking for your support as we tackle work on the school roof and Martin Hall tunnel, as well as future maintenance.

The school roof had been leaking and needed to be replaced. The building serves RE students, CEW participants and attendees of other parish events.

The Martin Hall tunnel is the only wheelchair accessible entrance to

Martin Hall, which hosts numerous parish and private events throughout the year. The tunnel sustains considerable water damage each year. Work is needed to repair the tunnel and prevent future damage.

For years, the parish has had a renovation fund to help pay for facilities improvements. This fund has been used for projects like the Martin Hall remodel and the parking lot replacement. We're asking for your help to replenish this fund now, so we will be well prepared for future facility improvements.

TRANSFORM?

Picture Lent. You're probably thinking about what you should give up or which fish fries you'll try to go to. While these are good things to do, we sometimes lose sight of what Lent is really calling us to. This season calls us to something that can be both wonderful and terrifying. It can be hard to think about, but Lent calls us to be transformed. If we clear out distractions, we can be led by the Spirit to make positive changes in our lives. Join us as we each ask, "How will I allow the Holy Spirit to transform my life this Lent?"

St. Joseph the Worker presents its 2019 Lenten theme: "Transform?"



LENTEN BAGS

The Parish Life Committee has created Lenten Journey Bags. They contain numerous resources to help you become transformed this Lent! Committee members will hand them out after Mass on Ash Wednesday (Mar. 6) and the first weekend of Lent (Mar. 9-10). One bag per family please.

Some of the contents include the Little Black Book of daily reflections, a schedule of Lent and Holy Week activities, information about our sister parish in Haiti, a Lenten calendar for kids, and a summary of the Seven "R's" (see page one).



VBS 2019

Vacation Bible School 2019

ROAR! Life is Wild, God is Good!

Monday, July 8 - Friday, July 12
8:45am - Noon each day
Kids age 4 - Grade 4

Cost: \$35 first child;
\$25 each additional child

Middle and High School students are needed to serve as crew leaders.

Adults are needed to serve as station leaders.

Online registration opens April 1, 2019.

Learn more at theworker.org/vbs

Contact **Julie Hill** for more information.
(j.hill@dbqarch.org; 563-588-1433)



CELEBRATING LENT & EASTER

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, March 6
Mass Times: Noon & 6:30pm

Adoration & Reconciliation

Thursdays, March 7 - April 11
8:00-9:00pm in the church

Stations of the Cross

Fridays, March 8 - April 12
7:00pm in the church

Lenten Scripture Study

Wednesday, March 12 - April 17
12:45pm in the Parish Center

Lessons of the Spirit

Thursdays, March 14, 28 & April 11
7:00-8:00pm in Martin Hall
Sessions will include video clips from
"The Ministry of the Wild Goose."



Lenten Buffets

Fridays, March 22 & April 5
5:00-7:00pm in the school gym

Communal Reconciliation

Sunday, March 24
4:00pm at St. Columbkille

Palm Sunday

Saturday, April 13
Mass Time: 5:00pm
Sunday, April 14
Mass Times: 8:30am & 11:00am

Archdiocesan Chrism Mass

Tuesday, April 16
2:00pm at St. Raphael Cathedral

Stations of the Cross Mime Presentation

Wednesday, April 17
7:00pm in the church
Presented by Mazzuchelli Catholic
Middle School 7th Graders

Holy Thursday

Thursday, April 18
Morning Prayer: 8:00am
Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7:00pm
Adoration in Martin Hall until 10:00pm

Good Friday

Friday, April 19
Passion Service: 12:00 noon
Stations of the Cross: 5:30pm

Holy Saturday

Saturday, April 20
Morning Prayer: 8:00am
Easter Vigil Mass: 8:30pm

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 21
Mass Times: 8:30am & 11:00am

WHEN WE CELEBRATE THE TRIDUUM



The high point of the liturgical year is the Easter Triduum. This is the three days of Holy Thursday,

Good Friday and Holy Saturday. When we celebrate the Triduum, we're not simply reenacting something that happened 2000 years ago. We actually participate in the events themselves through our living faith. These events exist outside of time and are made present in the Liturgy and the Sacraments. Mass, especially the

Triduum, is an invitation to enter into Jesus' sacrifice for us all.

We attend the Last Supper and receive the gift of the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. We enter into the deep meaning of the Holy Priesthood. We pour ourselves out like the water in the basins used to wash feet. We're asked with the disciples to watch with the Lord. We're invited to enter with Him into His anguish in the Garden of Gethsemane.

On Good Friday, we stand with Mary at the foot of the Cross where heaven is rejoined to earth and earth to

heaven. We enter into the moment that forever changed - and still changes - human history, the great gift of the Son of God who did for us what we could never do by trampling on death.

We wait at the tomb during Holy Saturday. That night at the Easter Vigil, we witness the Glory of the Resurrection and the beginning of the New Creation as Jesus rises again. As with every time we come together, when we celebrate the Triduum, we walk with Jesus as He saves us.

Deacon Keith Fournier, Catholic Online

THE WORKER

LENT 2019

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theworker.org

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LENTEN BUFFETS

Lenten Buffets are a great way to get to know your fellow parishioners and to support Dubuque area charities! The two Lenten Buffets are:

Friday, Mar. 22 & Friday, Apr. 5

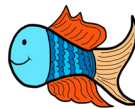
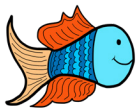
Serving from 5:00-7:00pm

Suggested Offering

Adults: \$10

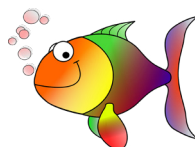
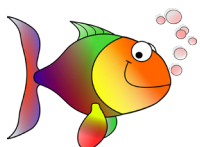
Children Ages 5-12: \$5

Children under 5: Free



The menu includes fish (breaded & baked), cheese pizza, lasagna, salads, cheesy potatoes, desserts & beverages.

Proceeds will benefit area charities.



LOOKING AHEAD

- Now - May 6:** Night Novena Mondays
- Now - May 6:** Walk in the Word Mondays
- Mar. 6:** Ash Wednesday
- Mar. 11:** Moms Group
- Mar. 13 - Apr. 17:** Scripture Study Wednesdays
- Mar. 14:** Lessons of the Spirit
- Mar. 22:** Lenten Buffet
- Mar. 24:** Communal Reconciliation at St. Columbkille
- Mar. 28:** Lessons of the Spirit
- Apr. 2:** Treasure Luncheon
- Apr. 5:** Lenten Buffet
- Apr. 8:** Moms Group
- Apr. 11:** Lessons of the Spirit
- Apr. 14 - Apr. 20:** Holy Week
- Apr. 28:** SJTW Feast Day Celebration
- May 1:** Closing RE Mass
- May 4-5:** First Communion
- May 7:** Treasure Luncheon
- May 11-12:** First Communion
- May 14:** Confirmation
- May 18-19:** Pastoral Council Elections