

# St. Charles Borromeo Church

*Celebrating 170 Years as the Catholic Community in the Heart of Pikesville*

## LENT AND EASTER



The holy season of Lent begins with **Ash Wednesday, MARCH 6, 2019**. The reading from the Book of the Prophet Joel proclaimed on Ash Wednesday invites us to “rend [our] hearts” with “fasting, weeping, and mourning” (2:12-13). These are actions that indicate a change in one’s life. Ash Wednesday is named for the ashes with which we are signed—taken from the burning of the palms used on Palm Sunday the year before. Catholics are obliged to fast and abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, markers of the beginning and end of this holy season. These practices help us to review our normal daily routines in order to prepare us more readily for Christ’s resurrection on Easter Sunday.

During Lent, the Church asks us to surrender ourselves to prayer and to the reading of Scriptures, to fasting and to giving alms. The fasting that all do together on Fridays is but a sign of the daily Lenten discipline of individuals and households: fasting for certain periods of time, fasting from certain foods, but also fasting from other things and activities. Likewise, the giving of alms is some effort to share this world equally—not only through the distribution of money, but through the sharing of our time and talents.

In Lent, the baptized are called to renew their baptismal commitment as others prepare to be baptized through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, a period of learning and discernment for individuals who have declared their desire to become Catholics.

The key to fruitful observance of these practices is to recognize their link to baptismal renewal. We are called not just to abstain from sin during Lent, but to true conversion of our hearts and minds as followers of Christ. We recall those waters in which we were baptized into Christ’s death, died to sin and evil, and began new life in Christ.

In this 2019 Lenten season, we are reminded that the Sacrament of Reconciliation can be a significant part of our spiritual lives during Lent in this year of healing and spiritual renewal. Pope Francis called for the Body of Christ to recognize a simple but dynamic relationship we have with God: We are able to give mercy to others if we are able to receive mercy from God. This is actually the time of the year to live out in our lives “the mercy which the Father constantly extends to all of us... especially at a moment full of great hopes and signs of contradiction, introduce everyone to the great mystery of God’s mercy by contemplating the face of Christ... and be a credible witness to mercy...”

Lent continues until the **Sacred Triduum**, which is one liturgical observance spread over three days.

**HOLY THURSDAY** (APRIL 18) celebrates that day when Christ instituted the Eucharist, anticipating the events of Good Friday, but only after he had washed the feet of his disciples, demonstrating that a life of service, not domination, is the hallmark of those called to “feed [his] sheep” (John 21:17).

**GOOD FRIDAY** (APRIL 19) is when Jesus is crucified. It is called “good,” because Christ offers his body and blood on the cross to make things right again between humanity and God in light of our sinfulness. He dies to redeem us all. He is the perfect sacrifice which brings salvation to the whole world. He is placed in a tomb, which is sealed with a heavy stone, demonstrating that he had indeed died, so that God’s power could be clearly recognized by those who believe.

**HOLY SATURDAY / EASTER VIGIL** (APRIL 20) begins with the service of light, beginning with the lighting of the fire, symbolizing the light that Christ brings to us all. The solemnly sung *Exsultet* or Easter Proclamation, asserts: “O happy fault” (*O felix culpa*), meaning Adam’s defeat in death is turned into Christ’s victory in life. This is the abundant grace that we all share in by our common baptism. We then feast on the Word of God as God’s saving acts among the Jewish people are recounted from Abraham through Moses and beyond, which lead ultimately to the empty tomb. Those seeking full communion or entrance into the Catholic Church receive initiation through Baptism, Confirmation, and reception of the Eucharist, which they share with the Saint Charles Parish Community for the first time.

## LENT AT ST. CHARLES BORROMEIO

All of the liturgical assemblies at St. Charles will be simplified during Lent, so that our longing for the glory of Easter will be more profound. Following the entrance procession, the presider and ministers will take their places, and the cantor will intone: "Lord, have mercy" (Kyrie, eleison). We will kneel as we sing the Kyrie and offer incense to symbolize our prayers rising to the Lord, seeking his mercy. Our kneeling posture further signifies our wish to repent of our sins and open ourselves to receiving the abundant mercy of God.



During Lent, neither the Gloria nor the Alleluia is proclaimed, and there is minimal use of instrumental music. Longer periods of silence call us to reflection and stillness. The season of Lent helps us to prepare for the great celebration of our redemption in the Paschal Triduum, the high point of the Liturgical Year.

This year we will again have Family Friendly Friday Lenten meals. We will share a simple meal of (meatless) pizza and salad from 6:30pm to 7:30pm in the Rectory Basement Meeting Room. Stations of the Cross will follow in the Church at 7:30pm led each week by a different group/member of our faith community. Parishioners of all ages are invited to attend these Family Friendly Friday celebrations.

We invite you to take the opportunity this Lent to celebrate God's mercy in the Sacrament of Reconciliation during one of the many opportunities that it is offered. Engage in almsgiving through our Sacrificial Collection or the use of a CRS rice bowl. Attend the Eucharist more frequently. Give more time to prayer, Scripture and spiritual reading. As a family, adopt a Lenten discipline to observe together. Make time during Holy Week to walk in the footsteps of Jesus by participating in the Holy Triduum.

Let us make this Lent a time of spiritual renewal for our lives and our parish.



**ASH WEDNESDAY**  
**March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

Blessing and Distribution of Ashes at all Masses  
**7:30AM ✕ 12:10PM ✕ 7:30PM**



***Weekend Masses***

**Saturday: 4:00PM**

**Sunday: 8:30AM & 11:00AM**

***Daily Masses***

**Monday – Friday**

**7:30 AM**

### ***Sacrament of Reconciliation***

- **Saturday Afternoons:** 3:15PM – 3:45PM
- **Wednesday Evenings:** **March 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>** and **April 3<sup>rd</sup>** from 7:00PM to 8:00PM
- **Pastorate Reconciliation Service at Sacred Heart Church:** **Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00PM — a number of priests will be available to hear individual confessions.
- **Good Friday:** **April 19<sup>th</sup>** from 4:30PM to 5:30PM

### ***Eucharistic Adoration***

- Eucharistic Adoration is celebrated each Tuesday morning from 8:00AM to 9:00AM
- Eucharistic Adoration is also part of the Holy Thursday Liturgy in the Parish Center, closing with Compline (Night Prayer) on Thursday evening, April 18<sup>th</sup> at 10:30PM

### ***Stations of the Cross***

Stations of the Cross will be celebrated on the Fridays of Lent: March 8, 15, 22, 29, and April 5 and 12 at 7:30PM. There will also be a solemn celebration of the Stations on Good Friday at 7:30PM.

### ***Family Friendly Fridays***

Simple Lenten Meals of (meatless) pizza and salad are available from 6:30PM to 7:30PM on the Fridays of Lent in the Rectory Basement Meeting Room.

### ***Tenebrae Service***

A Tenebrae Prayer Service will be celebrated on **Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>** at 7:30PM in the church, led by our B.A.S.I.C. youth

### ***Morning Prayer***

Join Deacon Steve Roscher in the church each Lenten Saturday — March 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, and April 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> at 8:30AM for the communal praying of a modified version of the Liturgy of the Hours, featuring Psalms, songs, Scripture, and traditional prayers.

During the Sacred Triduum — Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday — Morning Prayer will be prayed at 8:00AM.

### ***Special Easter Appeal through Lenten Sacrifice***

In this holy season, we are asking each household to decide on their Easter gift to St. Charles Borromeo Parish. Each day set some part of that gift aside and place your offering in the special envelope provided for March 24 and April 14, thereby sustaining the spirit of self-denial and the discipline of almsgiving throughout Lent.

### ***Easter Flowers and Memorials***

Flowers and decorations are an important part of our Easter celebration. You may wish to participate by making a donation in honor/memory of a loved one. The names of those so honored will be published in the bulletin. An envelope has been enclosed for your convenience.

### ***Lenten Retreat***

On **Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup>** at St. Mary's Spiritual Center in Baltimore, we will gather with Deacon Vito Piazza to reflect on "Luke's Gospel of Suffering and Salvation" beginning at 9:00AM.

### ***Adult Faith Formation***

***"GETTING MORE OUT OF LENT"***

**Sundays: March 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> 31<sup>st</sup> and April 7<sup>th</sup>**  
@ 9:45AM - 10:45AM in the Rectory

### ***Lenten Disciplines: Fast and Abstinence***

*Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of Fast and Abstinence; meals are limited to a single full meal and two lighter meals. All Fridays in Lent are days of abstinence from meat. All persons 14 years and older are bound by the law of abstinence. The law of fast binds all adults until the age of 60. Fasting and prayer purifies and clarifies; it disposes us to enter more fully into the saving mysteries of Christ's Passion, Death and Resurrection. Food and drink come first, but also consider fasting in relationship to television, speech, and other forms of recreation in your life. Let our fasting help us to recognize the sublime importance of this holy season meant to prepare us for Easter.*



## *Holy Week Services*

**PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION ✘ APRIL 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2019**

Blessing and distribution of palms at all weekend Masses

**Saturday: 4:00PM**

**Sunday: 8:30AM & 11:00AM**

### *✧THE PASCHAL TRIDUUM✧*

**HOLY THURSDAY ✘ APRIL 18<sup>TH</sup>, 2019**

Morning Prayer - 8:00AM

Mass of the Lord's Supper - 7:30PM

This is the beginning of the Triduum where we remember the institution of the Eucharist, the priesthood, and the universal call to holiness. This service includes the *Mandatum*, the washing of the feet; and the procession with the Blessed Sacrament to the repository. As the Lord Jesus asked his disciples to watch and pray with him in the Garden of Olives, we keep watch with him throughout this night in the parish center.

Night Prayer / Compline - 10:30PM

A simple celebration of Compline lead by Deacon Steve will close the period of Eucharistic adoration. The Blessed Sacrament is removed from the repository and the chapel and church are closed.

**GOOD FRIDAY ✘ APRIL 19<sup>TH</sup>, 2019**

Morning Prayer - 8:00AM

Friday of the Passion of the Lord - 3:00PM

This is a Service of the Liturgy of the Word, including the solemn Chanting of the Passion; the Veneration of the Cross; and the Reception of Holy Communion. The Sacramental Hosts used at this service were consecrated during the Holy Thursday Liturgy. No Masses may be celebrated on Good Friday.

Confessions: 4:30PM - 5:30PM

Solemn Celebration of the Roman Stations of the Cross - 7:30 PM

**HOLY SATURDAY ✘ APRIL 20<sup>TH</sup>, 2019**

Morning Prayer - 9:00AM

The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night - 8:00PM

The Great Easter Vigil includes the Service of Light; Liturgy of the Word; Blessing of the Easter Water; Baptism of the Elect and Reception of Candidates into Full Communion; Renewal of Baptismal Promises; and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. This is the holiest night of the Church's liturgical year.

**EASTER SUNDAY ✘ APRIL 21<sup>ST</sup>, 2019**

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord - 8:30AM & 11:00AM