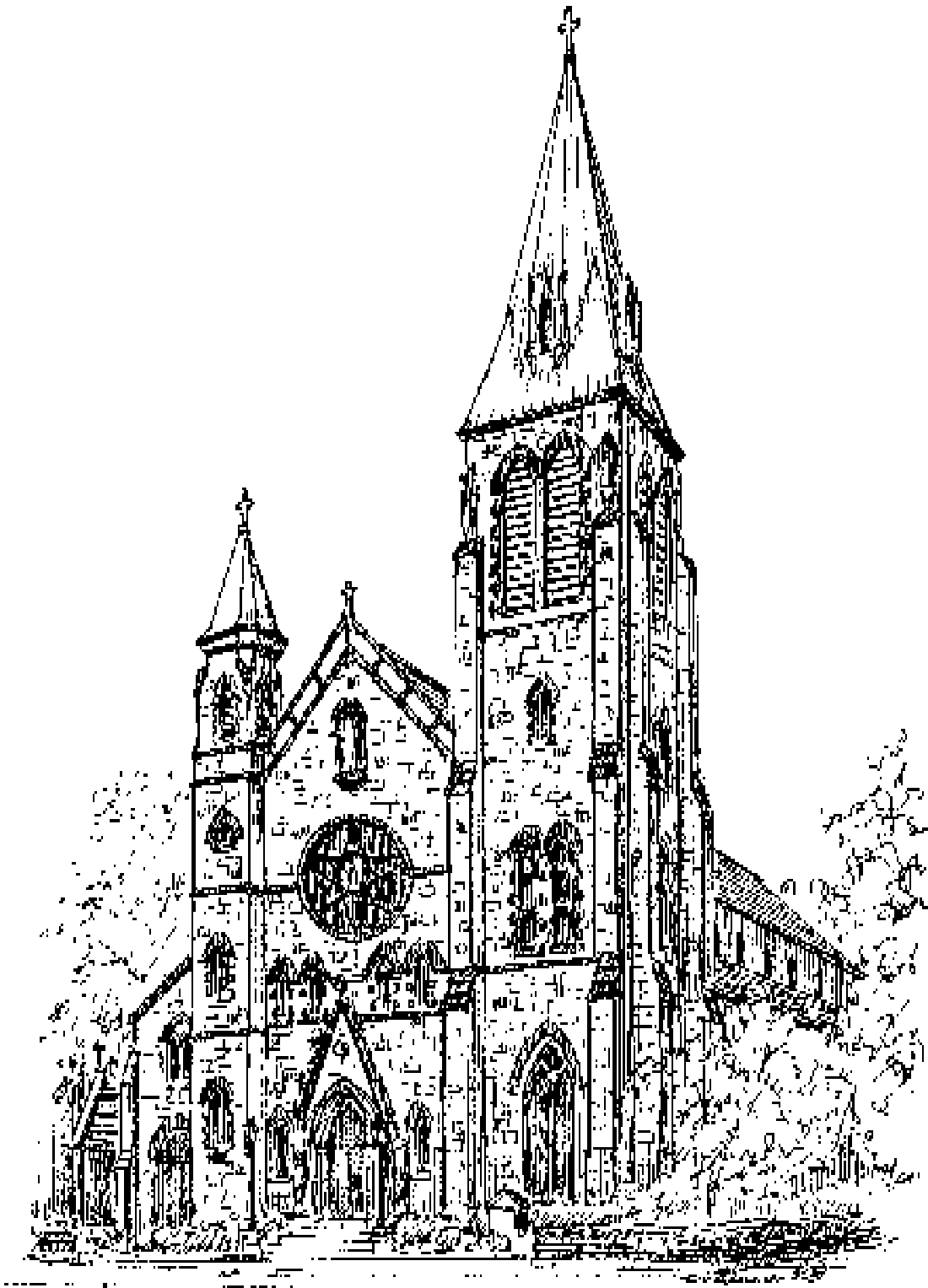


Lent/Easter 2008



Saint Dominic Parish
Washington, D.C.

LENT **February 6-March 20**

This year the Season of Lent begins on February 6, Ash Wednesday, and ends on March 20, Holy Thursday, with the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper. Jesus, filled with the Holy Spirit, was led by the Spirit through the wilderness being tempted by the devil for forty days. (Lk: 4: 1) During these forty days of Lent, we focus on our life as believers.

The Season of Lent is a time of spiritual preparation for those who will enter the Church at Easter. This preparation is celebrated with various rites on the Sundays of Lent. These liturgies are an opportunity for the St. Dominic Parish Community to support and pray for our RCIA candidates:

Sunday, February 10 - 3:00 PM at the National Shrine

Rite of Election

Saturday, February 22 - 5:15 PM Mass

1st Scrutiny

Sunday, March 2 - 8:00 AM Mass

2nd Scrutiny + Presentation of the Creed

Sunday, March 9 - 5:15 PM Mass

3rd Scrutiny + Presentation of the Lord's Prayer

These rites continue conversion and deepen resolve to follow Christ with greater fidelity. The Creed and the Lord's Prayer express the heart of the church's faith and prayer. These presentations invite the Elect to be enlightened by the light of faith and to come to a deeper understanding of the new spirit of adoption by which they and we call God our Father.

For the baptized, Lent is a time to renew and to deepen the baptismal consecration to live the new life Christ imparts through His death and resurrection. Prayer, fasting, and almsgiving are the traditional activities of Lent. This season provides an opportunity to intensify in our life these actions that join us to the work of Christ: **Prayer** is our personal conversation with Christ. **Fasting** is a sign of the internal and spiritual fast from sin motivated by the pursuit of holiness. **Almsgiving** or helping the poor is a work of mercy in which we show to others the mercy Christ extends to us. It also allows us to reflect on our responsibility to those less fortunate and our obligations as stewards over material goods. Jesus speaks about these actions in the Ash Wednesday Gospel.

LENTEN PRACTICES AND SYMBOLS AT ST. DOMINIC CHURCH

Days of Fast and Abstinence - During Lent all Catholics over the age of 15 years are obliged to observe the practice of abstaining from meat on Ash Wednesday and on all Fridays during Lent and Good Friday. All Catholics between the ages of 18 and 60 years are obliged to fast as well, on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday and are encouraged to fast, insofar as we can, during the season of Lent.

Liturgy of Evening Prayer - As we do at our Conventual Mass, we will be incorporating the Liturgy of the Hours into our appropriate Masses. The Saturday 5:15 PM and Sunday 5:15 PM Masses will incorporate Evening Prayer. The Liturgy of Evening Prayer, consisting of Psalms and Mary's Hymn, the *Magnificat*, will take the place of the Penitential Rite of Mass except for Palm Sunday. On that Sunday, the blessing and distribution of Palms takes the place of the Penitential Rite at all Masses.

Cross - The Cross is the main symbol for the season of Lent and will be in the Center of the Sanctuary behind the altar, overshadowing everything else. At its base is a basket for Lenten petitions. You are invited to place petitions in the basket during the season and that will be remembered at all the Masses in the church during Lent along with those in our Books of Intentions.

Empty Holy water fonts - We are reminded that like the Israelites, we are journeying through a desert, a desert in which our hope for water can only be realized with the waters that flow from the cross and resurrection of Christ at Easter. In its place, crosses will be available for you to take so that you can carry it with you throughout the season to remind you of the practices you have chosen to take on yourself. Please only take one per person.

Soup Supper - This year, we will be incorporating our soup supper with our Friday evening Holy Hour. The Holy Hour will begin at 6:30 PM, and incorporate Dominican practice of Liturgy of the Office of Readings, the common recitation of the rosary and Benediction along with periods of silent meditation. Following the Holy Hour we will share a simple soup supper in the Parish Meeting Room.

Teaching on the Sacraments - During this time in the RCIA process, the instruction focuses on the Sacraments of the Church. You are encouraged to join the RCIA Elect at these classes on Tuesday evenings at 7 PM.

The Tuesdays and topics are:

February 5	Sacraments in General Initiation Sacraments <i>Baptism/Confirmation</i>
February 12	Initiation Sacraments <i>Confirmation/Eucharist</i>
February 19	Healing Sacraments <i>Reconciliation/Anointing of the Sick</i>
February 26	Ministry Sacraments <i>Marriage</i>
March 4	Ministry Sacraments <i>Holy Orders</i>
March 11	Liturgical Year <i>Holy Week & Rites explained</i>

Gospel Symbols- We have two Elect in the RCIA process. Because we are in the Lectionary cycle A, all the Masses will have the same readings. This should help us to remember and pray for our Elect at those Masses where the rites are not celebrated. The symbols that reflect these gospels are in front of our altar:

1st Sunday -- Temptations

The stone garden where they take place

2nd Sunday -- Transfiguration

Open Bible Jesus speaks with Moses and Elijah

3rd Sunday -- Samaritan Woman

Water jar symbolizing the woman's jar

4th Sunday -- Blind Man's Healing

Cane and beggar's bowl of the blind man

5th Sunday -- Raising of Lazarus

The binding strips of the dead man

Please remember our Elect in your prayers and Lenten practices:

Melinda Hunter and Richard Santiago

Covered Statues - Many of us might remember from our younger days that on what was then called Passion Sunday, the Sunday before Palm Sunday, the statues in the church were covered. This custom was to help us to focus more on the mysteries of Holy Week that we were about to enter and to keep us from being distracted. This practice is once more encouraged and here at St. Dominic's we will be covering the statues in our church on Passion (Palm) Sunday in order to keep us focused on the cross, that which signifies for us the Love of God. At the ringing of the bells and singing of the alleluias at the Great Vigil of Easter, the statues will be uncovered as the light of Christ once more enlightens our church and our hearts.

LITURGY DURING LENT

In order to allow for full participation at the Masses on Ash Wednesday and in anticipation of the large numbers of people present, there will be no confessions in the Church on Ash Wednesday. On Monday and Tuesday, February 4 and February 5, there will be confessors available at the usual times (11:55 AM) in the Church if you wish to avail yourself of the Sacrament of Reconciliation in preparation for Lent.

Ash Wednesday, February 6, 2008

Masses in the Church

7:45 AM

11:30 AM

12:20 PM

5:15 PM

Ashes will only be distributed at the Masses.

The Little Sisters of the Poor will be here for their annual collection at all the Masses on Ash Wednesday. Please be generous to help them in their ministry here in Washington at the Jeanne Jugan Residence, St. Joseph Home.

During Lent the regular Mass and reconciliation schedule will be followed. Masses will be celebrated in the Church Monday -- Friday at 8:00 AM and at 12:10 PM and Saturdays at 12:10 PM.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

In addition to our regular schedule of the Sacrament of Reconciliation

Monday – Saturday 11:55 AM

Saturday 4:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Archbishop Wuerl has requested that all the churches of the Archdioceses be available on the Wednesday evenings of Lent for any who wish to be reconciled during this Holy Season.

St. Dominic's will be open for individual confessions to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation on the following Wednesdays between 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM:

February 13
February 20
February 27
March 5
March 12

Please note that the *Holy Triduum* - Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday - are unique in the Church year. Because of the importance and the unique quality of these days, they have specific liturgical norms which we are following and which will afford us the opportunity to set these days apart from the rest of the year. Holy Communion is only given out at the Solemn Liturgies of the Days except for *Viaticum*, *i.e.*, to one in danger of death. Note please that after Wednesday, March 19, the Sacrament of Reconciliation will next be available on Monday, March 24 at the usual times.

HOLY WEEK

SUNDAY, March 16 - PASSION (PALM) SUNDAY
Commemoration of the Lord's Entrance into Jerusalem
Blessing and distribution of palms at each Mass

Saturday	5:15 PM	Mass with Simple Entrance
Sunday	8:00 AM	Mass with Simple Entrance
	10:45 AM	Mass with Solemn Entrance
	12:15 PM	Spanish Simple Entrance
	5:15 PM	Mass with Simple Entrance

The entrances today with the blessing of palms take the place of the Penitential Rite.

MONDAY, March 17 - Mass

8:00 AM

12:10 PM

7:30 PM Mass with Anointing of the sick

Through his passion, Christ gives meaning to human suffering. In the Sacrament of the anointing of the sick, the Lord Jesus brings this meaning to human illness and to age as He touches the human condition with his healing and saving power. During this week, as the Church commemorates the passion, death and resurrection of

Christ, it is appropriate to celebrate this Sacrament with those who are experiencing the mystery of suffering in human illness and age. All those who suffer from physical, mental or spiritual illnesses (including children who are able to understand the benefit from the Sacrament) or the difficulties that arise from advanced age, are invited to receive this Sacrament.

TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY, March 18 & 19 - Mass

8:00 AM
12:10 PM

HOLY TRIDUUM

THURSDAY, March 20 - Holy Thursday

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

Mandatum - Washing of the Feet
Procession to the Altar of Reposition
Adoration until 11 PM

FRIDAY, March 21 - Good Friday

12:15 PM Stations of the Cross

3:00 PM Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Liturgy of the Word with Sung Passion
Solemn Intercessions
Veneration of the Cross
Service of Holy Communion

SATURDAY, March 22 - Holy Saturday

9:00 AM *Tenebrae*: Office of Readings and Morning Prayer

Tenebrae is Latin for darkness. It refers to the Office of Readings and Morning Prayer of the last three days of Holy Week. The term is used because candles are gradually extinguished after each psalm of the Office.

THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER

SATURDAY, March 22

7:30 PM The Solemn Mass of the Easter Vigil

Service of Light

Blessing of New Fire

Procession into the Church and *Exultet*

Liturgy of the Word

Blessing of Easter Water

Celebration of Initiation rites for the Elect

Renewal of Baptismal promises and

Confirmations

Solemn Eucharist of Easter

All of our parishioners are encouraged to attend the Great Vigil of Easter on Holy Saturday to welcome into our faith community those who will enter the Church and who will complete the Sacraments of Initiation -- Confirmation and Eucharist. It is the most important celebration of the liturgical year. On this night, as the *Exultet* proclaims, *alone of all nights, to have known the hour and the time when Christ rose from the dead*, the Church keeps vigil by listening to nine Scripture readings recounting the story of our salvation. It is in the risen Christ that what was promised by God through the same Scriptures is fulfilled.

SUNDAY, March 23 Easter Sunday

8:00 AM

Mass at Dawn

10:45 AM

Festive Mass of Easter

12:15 PM

Mass in Spanish



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