

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Making Easter Possible with my Neighbors!



Hi, my name is Isaiah Whitesell. Sunday, March 18th, I helped fill Easter baskets with the rest of the youth ministry and wow what a thought that a good majority of the world doesn't have life easy like we do. I get Easter without having to do anything I'm extremely blessed! It is just amazing how blessed we truly are. This year a total of 26 families and 70 children and/or youth received Easter baskets this year! The baskets were distributed on Saturday March



31st. Lastly, I would just like to say Thank you so much to all the parish community, faith families, volunteers and youth for the time talent and treasure. Also for how dedicated everyone was in supporting everyone in need of Easter! It really means a lot.

Thank You,
Sincerely,
Isaiah.W



UPDATES

The Easter Season is here! We had a successful Easter Basket and look forward to doing it again Next Year. Confirmation is quickly approaching. We have 11 stu-

dents going through the process. Please continue to pray for the candidates. It is less then a month till they will be confirmed. It was great to have a break for Easter. We are ex-

cited to start youth group up again and for upcoming Events, like the Awesome Adventure put on by PCCYMA.

Questions? Contact Sonia Martinez

Inside this issue:

Lenten Experiences	2
Therese Pacio	2
Lorraine Ignao	2
Youth Q&A	3
Lent Every Year?	3
Mass So Long?	3
Resources	4

Lenten Experiences

Since Lent has concluded and we are now rejoicing in this Easter Season it is important to reflect on our Lenten Experiences. Did we succeed in giving something up or taking something on? This year some of our students did more than just the simple "I am giving up chocolate." They looked deeper and these were their experiences. We challenge you to look back at your Lenten observances and see how you have grown and can continue to grow. Just because Lent is over doesn't mean you should go back to how things were before.

Therese Pacio

"So what are you all giving up for Lent?" Cassie Denning, the St. John Bosco youth group leader, asked, trying to make conversation.

"I'm giving up ramen", one youth declaimed, grinning widely.

"And you, Therese? What are you giving up for Lent?" Cassie inquires, and suddenly the eyes of each member of the Confirmation class shoots to me.

I jolt, hearing my name. Lenten sacrifice? I hadn't even remembered it was Lent. Think. Just make something up.

Lorraine Igano

Chocolate. Soda. Netflix. Etc. the list goes on of things I, and many others, have given up in the past. This year, however, was different. I was determined to do something that had a little bit more meaning behind it. This Lent, rather than giving something somewhat trivial up, I was determined to fast from something I knew would have a greater impact. As I looked back and reflected on myself and what aligned with my goals in

"Um... I guess I'll go to youth group every Sunday."

Unbeknownst to me, I had created a covenant to God, a promise to dedicate two hours to him every Sunday night. To be quite frank, I had no intention of keeping that promise. For the past four years, I'd always classified myself as a September Member, meaning that I attended Youth Group in the first weeks of September, and gradually stopped.

I don't know what changed that first Sunday night, but somehow, I found myself opening the doors of St. John

Bosco. Marching straight into the Youth Room and seeing all my childhood friends, a deep sense of being home washed over me.

Oftentimes, we view Lent as a time to sacrifice something that we enjoy. Rather than losing, I gained a stronger relationship with both my parish and God. I cannot delve into what has went on these past Sunday nights of Lent, for what happens in Youth Group, stays in Youth Group, but I will say that meetings have been filled with good food, good friends, and lots of laughter.

one of the Ten Commandments. By talking about someone, we kill them; not just their reputation but simply who they are as people. We are all guilty of talking about people, whether it be something as simple as, "Did you see what she was wearing?" This Lent I vowed to stop this in myself, or at least as much as I possibly could, and I challenge everyone else to do the same, even outside of the Lenten season.

"The world offers you comfort, but you were not made for comfort. You were made for greatness."

-Pope Benedict XVI

Why do we have Lent Every Year?

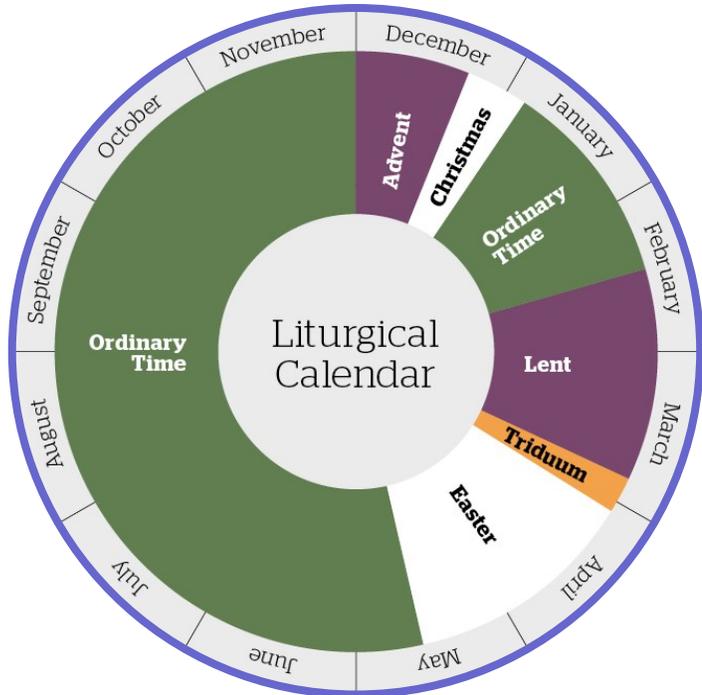
We follow the liturgical calendar to honor the Saints and to recall the life of Jesus Christ. Through imitating his mysteries and works, we get to know Jesus better.

In Lent, we remind ourselves of Jesus's sacrifice with our fasting and abstinence. We repent for our sins through reconciliation, service, and prayer. We attend services and reflect upon Jesus' word. We do all of this to renew our faith so we can celebrate the resurrection with Jesus on Easter.

Singling out a specific time of the year where we can practice discipline and reflect on our failings while remembering our Lord's sacrifice keeps us honest with ourselves and God. It helps us to not forget the almighty awesomeness of the Lord and our place in this universe.

<http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgical-year/index.cfm>

<http://catholicstraightanswers.com/what-is-the-liturgical-year/>



Why is Mass so Long?

“It would be easier for the world to survive without the sun than to do without Holy Mass.”
– St. Padre Pio

The Catholic Church is rooted not only in faith, but in history. We recreate and live our church history through the mass. Mass is made up of things that God has told us to do and events that happened in Jesus' life.

At the Last Supper, Jesus said “Do this in remembrance of me.” (Luke 22:19) So, we do. We break bread together as we share in the sacrifice of the Lord by taking in his body. When Jesus gave us “the Lord's Prayer, he said,

“This, then, is how you should pray” (Matthew 6:5-15). So, we pray that too. We profess our faith like an oath to remind us of who we are. We learn from Hebrew Scriptures and the New Testament because these are the word of God. We sing to unify in one voice so we can be reminded that we are “The Church.” It just so happens that when you put this all together in a cohesive manner that is in line with centuries of tradi-

tion, it takes about 45 mins to an hour. Could it be shorter? Yes, take out some reflective songs, leave out a prayer or switch it with another, leave out the flair of the procession and it is shorter. But, then we are left with the meat, a little of potato, and no healthy veggies. Could it be longer? Yes, though the Roman Missal dictates the order of the mass, it is up to the Bishops and priests to decide on the details.

<https://www.catholic.com/tract/the-institution-of-the-mass>

CALENDAR

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FOLLOW US!



@stjboscoym



St John Bosco YM

April 1 EASTER

April 11 Confirmation Class 5:00-8:30

April 14 Youth Service 6:00-9:00

April 15 Youth Group JR1 1:15-12:30 SR 6:00-8:00

April 18 Confirmation Class 5:00-8:30

April 22 Youth Leadership Committee 5:00-6:00

April 22 Youth Group JR1 1:15-12:30 SR 6:00-8:00

April 25 Confirmation Class 5:00-8:30

April 28 PCCYMA Awesome Adventure

April 29 Youth Group JR1 1:15-12:30 SR 6:00-8:00

May 3 Confirmation 7:00

Learn More!

So many great resources to learn more about your faith. Lots of them free.

Have questions? Catholic answers can help. Check out:

- Catholic.com

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has the website usscb.org, where you can find the Bible, the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC), and lots more.

Bishop Robert Baron (Catholicism Series, Pivotal Players) has many resources on wordonfire.org.

Seattle Archdiocese has great resources to check out.

- seattlearchdiocese.org
- seattlevocations.com

FORMED®

Formed has great resources for all for free through the Parish's subscription. Head to formed.org and enter the parish code to create your own account to access movies, audio and E-books, and lots more.

Other sites to check out are:

- NewAdvent.org
- EWTN.org
- Loyolapress.org

Looking for some great videos YouTube has a lot. We have a couple playlists on our page:



www.youtube.com/channel/UClrwWi5_BggTbs1DDBv5cMQ

Always on your phone?

Lots of great apps out there too.

- Laudate
- 3 Minute Retreat

Looking for more check out the Parish Website: www.stjbosco.org