

April 10, 2022
From Fr. Jim. . .

Welcome to Holy Week! This is the greatest week of prayer for the Church. Our liturgy throughout the year moves us to this week and climaxes in the three days of the Triduum and the celebration of Easter. "If we die with the Lord then we will truly rise with Him." There is no greater love than this than to lay down one's life for one's friends." This is what we believe, pray and live in this holiest of weeks.

As the church gathers all over the world to celebrate the liturgies of Holy Week as they have been given to us throughout the ages to be prayed, we grow together as the church, the Body of Christ, brothers and sisters in the Lord Jesus Christ. This holiest of weeks and the way that the Church of God is invited to pray sees itself as one with God, through Jesus and in their Spirit and one with each other in Christ.

As we enter into the prayer of Holy Week, can we do so with open hearts and with a genuine desire to let this greatest week of prayer in the church really change us? If the prayer of this week is about the continual formation of the whole church in the love and image of Christ then it, too, provides great formation for us, to be formed into the Body of Christ, especially with our many and wonderful diversities. It is important for all of us to come together and pray this week of prayer. Please join us, won't you?

For your reflection and prayer: William Arthur Ward, American author, teacher and pastor, 1921-1994, wrote: Fast from judging others; Feast on Christ dwelling in them. Fast from emphasis on differences; Feast on the unity of life. Fast from apparent darkness; Feast on the reality of light. Fast from thoughts of illness; Feast on the healing power of God. Fast from words that pollute; Feast on phrases that purify. Fast from discontent; Feast on patience. Fast from anger; Feast on patience. Fast from pessimism; Feast on optimism. Fast from worry; Feast on Divine order. Fast from complaining; Feast on appreciation. Fast from negatives; Feast on affirmatives. Fast from unrelenting pressures; Feast on unceasing prayer. Fast from hostility; Feast on non-resistance. Fast from bitterness; Feast on forgiveness. Fast from self-concern; Feast on compassion for others. Fast from personal anxiety; Feast on eternal truth. Fast from discouragements; Feast on hope. Fast from facts that depress; Feast on verities that uplift. Fast from lethargy; Feast on enthusiasm. Fast from thoughts that weaken; Feast on promises that inspire. Fast from shadows of sorrow; Feast on the sunlight of serenity. Fast from idle gossip; Feast on purposeful silence. Fast from problems that overwhelm; Feast on prayer that strengthens. May our fasting lead us to the great love of Holy Week and the incredible glory of Easter!

"The Lord wants that we, his disciples, forgiven by Him, become tireless witnesses of reconciliation, of a God who always forgives and gives us the chance to live a new and different life under the banner of mercy." ~ Pope Francis

GARDEN RENOVATION STILL NEEDS HELP – We are welcoming native plants if anyone has some to divide or donate, as well as shrubs for along the back fence. We are looking for volunteers to help prep the garden, weed, plant flowers, clean, re-structure as

well as maintain the area. If this is something that interest you please send an email to akleemanstleo@aol.com



Sharing God's Love- As we enter Holy Week, we remember how our Lord suffered and died so that each and every one of us might be saved from sin and have eternal life. Reflect on God's infinite love for you. How have you responded to that love this Lent, and how can you share it with others? Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more. Please remember to take your rice bowl home and collect change.

You can **read the Sunday bulletin** at: www.saint-leo.org/Publications/StLeoSundayBulletin
You can **read Fr. Jim's letter** at: www.saint-leo.org/Publications/FromtheDeskofFrJim

There is still to help with Lenten Almsgiving is to Donate!! Our youth is looking for plastic Easter eggs , candy to fill them, and any small trinkets! You can see our latest request on our Amazon Wish List Link:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1Y6S276N39W08?ref_=wl_share. **We also have a request for an electric stove. Please call the office at 513-921-1044 if you have questions or would like to donate these items.**

LOOKING FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR COLLEGE? Any high school senior looking for a scholarship? The Archbishop Alter Scholarship Fund was established to promote African American Catholic leadership. This is a four-year renewable grant. For more information or to apply go to: <https://resources.catholicaoc.org/offices/african-american-pastoral-ministries> the deadline is April 22, 2022.

Solemn VesPers At Mount St. Mary's Seminary and School of Theology- MTSM has an event left in its Music and Liturgy Series for the 2022 season. This event is free and open to the public. The next event is Sunday April 24th at 7:00 p.m. Eastertide Choral Mass for Divine Mercy Sunday- in person and Live streamed www.athenaeum.edu/live