

IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION
CATHOLIC CHURCH
MELBOURNE BEACH, FL

PILGRIMS OF THE PASSION



LENTEN JOURNEY 2020

A LENTEN MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR, FR. BEN

Dear Friends in Christ,

While we often think of Lent as the most sober and dark time of the Church calendar—penances, doing without, dark purple colors, sadness and sorrow, focusing on sins—in reality, it is a festive time meant for renewal—a time to get excited and enthused about what God is doing in our lives. Too often, our attention in Lent is upon the value and vigor of our own efforts, but throughout this sacred season, we are continually reminded that it is God working with us, through us that brings about the changes we seek, the transformations we need.

Yes, we must do our part—and our “part” involves prayer, fasting, and the sharing of our blessed resources through what we traditionally call “alms.”

Once again this Season of Lent, our parish community will have many opportunities to help make ourselves available to God, who desires justice, mercy, forgiveness and new life. This Season, I invite you to become a **PILGRIM OF THE PASSION** on the journey that leads to Easter. To be a “pilgrim” on this journey is not the same as being a “tourist” on the way to Easter.

Tourists are not rooted in the places they visit; they are just “passing through.” And while tourists often love to look and take photos—they rarely desire to immerse themselves in the places and people they encounter on their journey. Tourists never stay or linger for too long; they are always on the move—looking for greater entertainment, more excitement, and more stimulation.

Pilgrims are all about soaking in as much as they can along the journey. Linger, remembering, celebrating—but most importantly, a pilgrim desires to be *changed* by who and what they encounter. Pilgrims don’t skim along the surface, but rather delve deeply into their experiences so that, when their particular journey reaches its conclusion—they know that somehow they have been changed—their vision, their sensitivity, their understanding of God and the world, their relationships with others, their inner soul.

Another element for pilgrims and pilgrimages that is essential—is the creation of community. While we may engage in a variety of “personal” practices this Lent, these are meant to bring us closer to others, to help us form a deeper and richer community of faith—not merely “better individuals.”

I pray that together, through the variety of prayer, formation, and service experiences that are presented in this year’s Lenten brochure, each of us may sign on as a **Pilgrim of the Passion**, engage the journey from Ash Wednesday to Easter with vigor and commitment, and arrive at Easter Sunday with a renewed heart, mind, and soul.

Fr. Ben Berinti, C.P.P.S., Pastor

LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES FOR HEALING & SOLIDARITY

A Time to Heal

Are there some special people in your life that you would like to have return to the practice of their faith at Easter this year? Perhaps it's a spouse or a child. Perhaps it's a grandchild or a friend. You've always wanted to have them with you at church, but you weren't sure how to go about it without saying the wrong thing.

Now you can. You will have the opportunity to write their first names on our "Time to Heal" forms. As you do, make the commitment to pray for these special people every day during Lent, asking God to bring them back.

We'll do the same. If you leave these names with us, every time we come together to pray, our community will ask God to bless your special friends and relatives, and to bring you together during Lent at the Lord's Table. We will place their names before the altar to be remembered.



COMMUNAL ANOINTING OF THE SICK



EUCCHARIST

9am MASS

SATURDAY MARCH 21



Attentive to the experience of the cross in our lives during these Lenten days, we will celebrate God's healing & forgiveness of sin through a communal Anointing of the Sick, hosted by our parish Ministry to the Sick.



OUR INTERNATIONAL LENTEN ALMS EFFORT! OPERATION RICE BOWL!

Through Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Rice Bowl, we share the journey with members of our human family around the world, our neighbors, and commit our Lenten prayers, fasting and alms-giving to deepening our faith and serving those in need.

Join nearly **14,000 faith communities in 180 dioceses around the U.S.**, as together we will serve our brothers and sisters most in need around the world.

Rice Bowls are available throughout the Lenten Season...it's never too early or late to start filling the bowl!

**BOWLS RETURNED TO
CHURCH PASSION-
PALM SUNDAY
APRIL 5 All Masses**



**DIVINE MERCY CATHOLIC RADIO PRESENTS
BILL GENT & FR. BEN BERINTI, C.P.P.S in a
WEEKLY LENTEN SERIES:
“PASSIONATE LENTEN PILGRIMS”**

Join Bill & Fr. Ben Tuesdays of Lent from 11am-12 Noon beginning February 25 through April 7 for a radio-based Lenten Pilgrimage. After an opening pilgrim's orientation, each week finds us making a new stop along Jesus' way of passion from palms to the entrance of the tomb.

PODCASTS are available on the station website following each week's program for additional listening and sharing.



***FRIDAYS of LENT
STATIONS of the
CROSS &
BENEDICTION OF
THE BLESSED
SACRAMENT***

***5:00pm
March 6, 13, 20 & 27
April 3***

**SACRAMENT of PENANCE &
RECONCILIATION
EVERY SATURDAY**

**4:00pm
Prior to the Vigil Mass at
4:30pm**

This ancient devotional exercise commemorating the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ is also called the “Way of the Cross” (Via Crucis) and the “Way of Sorrow” (Via Dolorosa).

Each of us has a *Way of the Cross* to walk: life being full of challenges, stumbling, burdens, tears, fears, sickness, calamity and letting go. Along this way we are invited to discover God's presence and what it is that God wants us to hear, to know.

SUNDAY MORNINGS IN LENT

FR. BEN PRESENTS...

**SELECT SUNDAYS OF
LENT FOLLOWING
THE 9am MASS**



**THE LENTEN
SPIRITUAL TOOLBOX**

ICC Pastor's Adult Formation Series

“BECOMING PASSIONATE LENTEN PILGRIMS”

On these Lenten Sundays, Fr. Ben will share the “equipment” and “itinerary” needed for becoming a passionate Lenten pilgrim in and out of the Season.

March 1: “Packing & Prepping for Passionate Pilgrims”

March 15: “The Highs and Lows of Pilgrimage”

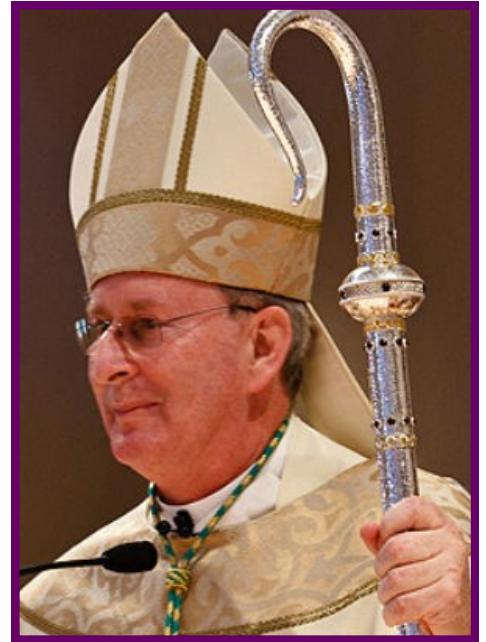
March 29: “Hurry Up and Wait”



A VISIT FROM OUR BISHOP!

**Sunday, March 22
11:00 am Mass**

We will joyfully welcome Bishop John Noonan to our parish during this Lenten Season. While we are not celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation with him this year, we invite parishioners to pray with our Bishop during his pastoral visit to Immaculate Conception Church.



**MAKE A PILGRIMAGE TO
OUR DIOCESE OF ORLANDO
SAN PEDRO CENTER
WINTER PARK
THURSDAY APRIL 2**

9:30am-3:00pm

Fr. Ben leads this pre-Holy Week Day of Reflection

“ARE YOU ABLE TO DRINK?”

Cups of the Covenant from Passover to Eucharist”

New in 2020 Reflection w/“Seder Meal”

Demonstration & Closing Eucharist

Register On-Line or by Phone Directly with San Pedro Center

****Note this program limits registration & fills quickly!**

Pretzels: A Lenten Treat

Pretzels originated in Europe during the Middle Ages. A monk was making unleavened bread for Lent with flour and water because eggs, milk and lard were not consumed as part of the Lenten fast. He twisted some of the dough into the shape of people praying with both arms folded across their chests. He called the treats *pretiola*, the Latin word for "little reward."



LENTEN COMMUNITY OUTREACH & ALMS PROJECTS



The Florida Catholic is sponsoring their **15th Annual Lenten Long-Sleeve Shirt Relief Drive**, which helps the farmworkers organization provide for our brothers and sisters who toil in the fields to provide food for our tables. The drive consists of a collection of long-sleeve shirts for the protection of farmworkers against harmful pesticides.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION WILL COLLECT **NEW ONLY** LONG-SLEEVE SHIRTS (**SMALL/MED/LRG ONLY**) AT SATURDAY EVENING & SUNDAY MASSES **MARCH 28 & 29 ONLY**

SUNDAY SUNDRIES

**SUNDAY MARCH 1
TO BENEFIT LOVE, INC**

Bring toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo, deodorant, tissue...



**PASSIONATE PILGRIM
FOOD PANTRY DAYS!**

PANTRY WEEKEND MARCH 14-15

HOLY THURSDAY FOOD OFFERING

Mass of the Lord's Supper
7:00 pm April 9

**LOCAL COMMUNITY LENTEN
ALMS PROJECT with
LOVE, INC**
[Love in the Name of Christ]
DENTAL CARE FUND DRIVE



APRIL 4 & 5

Raising funds for dental care...making a difference "one smile at a time"!
More details in the bulletin throughout the Lenten Season...

COMMUNITY FORMATION & PRAYER



New for 2020-Lenten Soup 'N Study

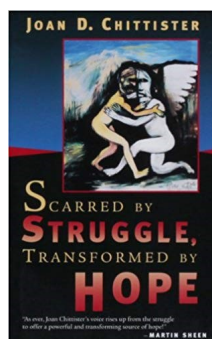
Monday Evenings

6:00-7:00 pm

Parish Center

March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 & April 6

**Join Fr. Ben for a simple meal of soup & bread
along with a 6 week Bible study of the 4 Gospel
Passion Narratives through the eyes of one of the
greatest Catholic Biblical scholars,
Fr. Raymond Brown**



LENTEN BROWN BAG BOOK CAFÉ

MONDAY March 23 11:30am-12:30pm

Parish Center

***Scarred by Struggle, Transformed by Hope,
Sr. Joan Chittister, OSB***

**“THE GARDEN OF
HOLLOWS”
Evening Prayer with
Art, Reflections &
New Contemporary
Music
WEDNESDAY
MARCH 18
6:30-7:30pm**

**Once again, we
present the art of
Rev. Jan Richardson
as a tool for our
Lenten prayer.
Seven exquisitely
simple charcoal
drawings depicting
events around
Jesus' crucifixion
will serve as
windows for our
meditation.**

