



February, 2024

Special Dates:

The Presentation of the Lord / World Day for Consecrated Life (February 2)

National Catholic Health Care Week (February 4-10)

World Day of the Sick /

Compassionate Healers Mass at St. Mark Parish, P.A. (February 11)

Ash Wednesday (February 14)

First Sunday of Lent / Rite of Election (February 18)

Family Day, Sk. (February 19)

Feast of the Chair of St. Peter, Apostle (February 22)

Featured Special Event:

“By offering ourselves with Christ, we share in the universal sacrifice, that is, the entire community of the redeemed offered to God by their High Priest, and we pray for a greater outpouring of the Holy Spirit, so that the whole human race may be brought into the unity of God’s family.” (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, general Introduction, p. xi)

According to the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults it states: “The people of God, as represented by the local Church, should understand and show by their concern that the initiation of adults is the responsibility of all the baptized. Therefore the community must always be fully prepared in the pursuit of its apostolic vocation to give help to those who are searching for Christ...Hence, the entire community must help the candidates and the catechumens throughout the process of initiation.” (p. 5)



February 18, 2024 at 4:00pm, the Rite of Election will be celebrated at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Prince Albert, by Bishop Stephen Hero.



Food for Thought!

“Only in the light of the great triduum can the Lenten period, which leads up to it and the Easter season which flows from it, best be lived and understood.

Although the church has always observed Lent in a conscious and deliberate way, many people still experience it as a time of personal spiritual effort to grow in discipline and will power...

The conciliar text highlights two dominant emphases: baptism and conversion. We will need to stress these themes repeatedly as the church renews its understanding of the season. Lent is the time of immediate preparation for the sacraments of initiation (including confirmation and first eucharist for the young people of the parish and their families), and a time of baptismal recommitment for the rest of the parish. In this light it is easy to see how the sacrament of reconciliation will be a major feature in the Lenten observance of many who take seriously the call to deeper and renewed conversion.

Christians relate the forty days of Lent to the biblical number 40, a reference to times of intense preparation and prayer. Israel’s forty years in the desert; Christ’s forty-day fast. Most people have learned to calculate these forty days beginning with Ash Wednesday and counting up to Holy Saturday. This makes forty-six days, minus six Sundays, for a total of forty fast days. An older, more traditional calculation counts from the First Sunday of Lent to the beginning of the triduum.”

**taken from ‘Preparing For Liturgy Series: Preparing the Liturgical Year 2:
Lent-Easter and Advent-Christmas’ by Corbin Eddy