



SAINT JOHN'S
CATHEDRAL
EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF FLORIDA

LOVE *at the* CORE.

Ash Wednesday Imposition of Ashes

March 5, 2025 | 7 a.m., 12 p.m. & 7 p.m.



∞ ASH WEDNESDAY ∞ THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Introit (7 p.m.)

Hide Not Thou Thy Face, Richard Farrant

Hide not Thou Thy face from us, O Lord, and cast not off Thy servants in Thy displeasure; for we confess our sins unto Thee, and hide not our unrighteousness. For Thy mercy's sake deliver us from all our sins.

∞ THE WORD OF GOD ∞

The People stand as the Ministers of the service enter.

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People **God's mercy endures for ever.**

Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing you have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Hymn 143 (12 & 7 p.m.)

“The glory of these forty days”
Erhalt uns, Herr

All sit.

The Lesson

Joel 2:1-2,12-17

Reader A Reading from the Book of Joel.

Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the LORD is coming, it is near—a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness! Like blackness spread upon the mountains a great and powerful army comes; their like has never been from of old, nor will be again after them in ages to come. Yet even now, says the LORD,

return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the LORD, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing. Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the LORD, your God? Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; gather the people. Sanctify the congregation; assemble the aged; gather the children, even infants at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her canopy. Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep. Let them say, "Spare your people, O LORD, and do not make your heritage a mockery, a byword among the nations. Why should it be said among the peoples, 'Where is their God?'"

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

A period of silence for reflection follows the reading.

The psalm is said in unison.

Psalm 103:8-14

**The LORD is full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and of great kindness
He will not always accuse us, nor will he keep his anger for ever.
He has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor rewarded us according to our
wickedness.
For as the heavens are high above the earth, so is his mercy great upon those
who fear him.
As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our sins from us.
As a father cares for his children, so does the LORD care for those who fear him.
For he himself knows whereof we are made; he remembers that we are but dust.**

A period of silence for reflection follows the reading.

Anthem (7 p.m.)

Turn thy face from my sins, Thomas Attwood

Turn thy face from my sins, and put out all my misdeeds.
Make me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from thy presence, and take not thy Holy Spirit from me.

Jonathan Spencer, tenor

The Gospel

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

Jesus said, "Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

People The Gospel of the Lord.
 Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Meditation

The Very Rev. Kate Moorehead Carroll

A period of silence for reflection follows the meditation.

All stand.

Invitation to a Holy Lent

Celebrant Dear People of God: The first Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church to prepare for them by a season of penitence and fasting. This season of Lent provided a time in which converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time

when those who, because of notorious sins, had been separated from the body of the faithful were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to the fellowship of the Church. Thereby, the whole congregation was put in mind of the message of pardon and absolution set forth in the Gospel of our Savior, and of the need which all Christians continually have to renew their repentance and faith. I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word. And, to make a right beginning of repentance, and as a mark of our mortal nature, let us now kneel before the Lord, our maker and redeemer.

Silence is kept for a time, all kneeling as able.

The Prayer Over the Ashes

Celebrant Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth: Grant that these ashes may be to us a sign of our mortality and penitence, that we may remember that it is only by your gracious gift that we are given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

Imposition of Ashes

All are invited forward to receive the imposition of ashes. The ashes are imposed with the following words: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

The Choir sings Psalm 51 during the Imposition of Ashes. (7 p.m.)

The Litany of Penitence

The Celebrant and People say together, all kneeling

Almighty God, we confess to you and to one another, and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed; by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

Celebrant We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.

People **Have mercy on us, Lord.**

Celebrant	We have been deaf to your call to serve, as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.
People	Have mercy on us, Lord.
Celebrant	We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives,
People	We confess to you, Lord.
Celebrant	Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people,
People	We confess to you, Lord.
Celebrant	Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,
People	We confess to you, Lord.
Celebrant	Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,
People	We confess to you, Lord.
Celebrant	Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,
People	We confess to you, Lord.
Celebrant	Accept our repentance, Lord, for the wrongs we have done: for our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,
People	Accept our repentance, Lord.
Celebrant	For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,
People	Accept our repentance, Lord.
Celebrant	For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us,
People	Accept our repentance, Lord.
Celebrant	Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us;
People	Favorably hear us, for your mercy is great.
Celebrant	Accomplish in us the work of your salvation,
People	That we may show forth your glory in the world.

Celebrant By the cross and passion of your Son our Lord,
People **Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.**

The Celebrant stands and says

Almighty God, who desires not the death of sinners, but rather that they may turn and live, has given power and commandment to your disciples to declare and pronounce to the people, being penitent, the absolution and forgiveness of their sins. God pardons and absolves all those who truly repent, and with sincere hearts believe the holy Gospel. Therefore we beseech you to grant us true repentance and your Holy Spirit, that those things may please you which we do on this day, and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy, so that at the last we may come to your eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

The Celebrant says the blessing.

Hymn 149 (12 & 7 p.m.)

“Eternal Lord of love, behold your church”
Old 124th

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People **Thanks be to God.**

The People remain standing as the Ministers of the Service depart.

† † †

Worship with us Sunday mornings at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m., or join us for a midday healing service with Holy Eucharist, Wednesdays at 12:10 p.m.

Walk Through Lent

WITH INTENTION AND PRACTICE

As we prepare our hearts and minds for the season of Lent, we invite you to embark on a journey of reflection, discipline, and spiritual growth. Lent offers us an opportunity to step back from the busyness of life and draw closer to God through intentional practices and meaningful fasting. This year, we offer suggestions to guide your Lenten journey — a blend of communal worship, personal devotion, and acts of love and care.

Suggested Practices:

ATTEND SUNDAY WORSHIP EVERY WEEK IN PERSON – Make weekly worship a cornerstone of your Lenten practice, gathering with the community to receive grace and reflect on the journey of Christ.

WATCH DEAN KATE'S MORNING DEVOTION EACH DAY – Begin your day with prayer and reflection, drawing inspiration from Dean Kate's daily messages.

ATTEND THE DEAN'S FORUM ON PRAYER PRACTICES (SUNDAYS AT 9 A.M.) – Explore different prayer disciplines and deepen your spiritual life through this engaging series.

JOIN THE WORKSHOP WITH REV. CHRISTOPHER MARTIN ON DISCERNING GOD'S WILL IN DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS – Learn how to listen for God's call and support others in their faith journeys.

ATTEND THE WEDNESDAY HEALING SERVICE AT 12:10 P.M. – Come for a time of prayer and anointing, seeking God's healing presence.

PARTICIPATE IN THE HOLY LIVING CLASS ON WEDNESDAYS AT 11:30 A.M. OR 6:00 P.M. – Reflect on how to cultivate a life rooted in faith and spiritual practice.

READ THE BIBLE DAILY – Commit to spending time with Scripture each day, letting God's word shape and guide you.

SIT IN SILENCE EVERY DAY FOR A DEFINED PERIOD OF TIME – Create space for stillness and listening, allowing the Spirit to speak in the quiet.

WALK OUTSIDE DAILY – Connect with God's creation through a daily walk, cultivating mindfulness and gratitude.

CALL SOMEONE YOU LOVE EVERY DAY – Reach out in love and connection, strengthening the bonds of relationship.

WRITE A LOVE LETTER EVERY DAY – Express love and encouragement through the written word.

BUY GROCERIES FOR ST. MARY'S WHEN YOU SHOP FOR YOURSELF – Practice generosity by sharing food with our neighbors in need.

PLANT A GARDEN OR TEND THE CATHEDRAL GARDENS – Nurture life and beauty, engaging in creation care.

CREATE YOUR OWN LENTEN FAST

Lent is also a time to simplify and focus by letting go of distractions and excess. Consider adopting a fast that brings greater awareness and intention to your daily life:

PLASTIC FAST: Refrain from purchasing single-use plastic bottles, straws, and bags, caring for God's creation.

PURCHASING FAST: Avoid shopping from large corporations like Walmart, Target, and Amazon — choose local and ethical alternatives.

CELLULAR FAST: Step back from social media or limit screen time, creating more space for presence and reflection.

FOOD FAST: Eat only locally sourced produce, supporting local farmers and mindful consumption.

As you shape your Lenten practices and fast, consider how each choice draws you closer to God and opens your heart to transformation. May this season be one of deepened faith, restored hope, and renewed love.

Come, walk through Lent with intention – and find the grace that awaits on the journey.