

A TIME OF PRAYER, FASTING AND GIVING

Join the
CCC
Lent
Experience

MARCH 1 - APRIL 16

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Jesus says, "Then you see how every student well-trained in God's kingdom is like the owner of a general store who can put his hands on anything you need, old or new, exactly when you need it."

Matthew 13:52,

Grace and peace CCC!

We want to personally invite you to a new experience for us as a spiritual family.

For the past several years we have practiced a week of consecration from Palm Sunday to Good Friday. We did this in remembrance of the suffering, death, and burial of our Lord Jesus Christ and to celebrate his victory on Resurrection Sunday. This was always a special week of spiritual renewal, encouraging one another, sharing the gospel and glorifying God.

But, can you sense that it's time for more?

This year is the time, to go to a whole new level of applying our faith as individuals and as a community of believers. Our society is in an identity crisis with some of our very own neighbors feeling entitled yet depressed; arrogant yet searching for meaning. There is a great sense of ruthlessness, anxiety, and anger. The demands on our own lives seem overwhelming with calendars full of activities driven more by market forces, school and work rather than the rhythms of faith, hope and love. Now more than ever is the time to keep in step with the Spirit. It's time to throw off every hindrance to the abundant life Christ promised.

We are excited about practicing our faith, experiencing spiritual growth and building community in a brand new way. Get ready for a time of spiritual renewal as we go to the next level in the application of our faith.

We hope you will join us.

Pastors A.R. & Karen Bernard

*Welcome Message
from Pastor Bernard*

He said, "Then you see how every student well-trained in God's kingdom is like the owner of a general store who can put his hands on anything you need, old or new, exactly when you need it." Matthew 13:52 The Message (MSG)

CCC LENT EXPERIENCE

THE MEANING OF LENT



What is Lent?

Lent is a Christian tradition amongst both Protestants and Catholics. It is a 40-day personal time of prayer, fasting and giving to experience a deepening of our relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ and discern where God is working in our lives. It begins on Ash Wednesday and over the course of 40 days leading up to Resurrection Sunday.

What is the purpose of Lent?

Lent, as a season of preparation, is traditionally focused on repentance. Speaking biblically, to repent means to make a change in our attitudes, words, and lifestyles.

Beginning when we first commit our lives to Christ, and continuing throughout our lives, we are more and more turning away from sin and selfcenteredness and more and more turning to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The church has traditionally done this at the Lenten season (and, to a lesser extent, in the pre-Christmas season of Advent).

CCC LENT EXPERIENCE

THE MEANING OF LENT



When does Lent begin?

Lent begins on Wednesday, March 1st, 2017 (Ash Wednesday) and ends on Sunday, April 16th, 2017 (Easter Sunday). The last week of Lent is called Holy Week.

What is Ash Wednesday?

Ash Wednesday is the beginning of the Season of Lent. Most Christians observe this day and Good Friday as two of the most important days for fasting. Many churches hold special services to mark the beginning of Lent on this day.

Will Christian Cultural Center be hosting an Ash Wednesday service?

We will not host a special Ash Wednesday service this year in 2017, but you are invited to attend our Tuesday Night Evening Service on February 28th, at 7PM at the CCC Brooklyn Campus.

Is Lent Biblical?

Although Lent is not explicitly mandated in the Scriptures it is a biblically inspired Holy Season.

Register

HOW DO I REGISTER?

Please register online to participate in:

- *Daily scripture reading and prayer
- *Special Facebook Live Events
- *Special local missionary experiences by volunteering your time and talent to make a difference in someone's life.

You can register several ways:

- * Click on this link [CCC Lent](#) and it will take you to our registration page.
- * Visit our website at www.cccinfo.org/lent
- * Visit the Information Table on Sunday, February 26, in the lobby and a Service Representative will assist you.
- * Visit our Service Center on Tuesdays & Sundays

We ask that everyone register. Registering will enable you to receive the daily scripture and prayer to your inbox and keep you up to date with all of the CCC Lent experiences.



Activities

HOW CAN YOU JOIN US?

CCC will kick off the Lent season with a special night of prayer on Tuesday, February 28th starting at 7:00pm at our Brooklyn Campus and culminate with our very own special Holy Week services on Good Friday & Resurrection Sunday.

Worship Experiences - Brooklyn & LI Campuses

- * Good Friday Sunrise Service - Friday, April 14th
- * Good Friday Evening Service - Friday, April 14th
- * Resurrection Sunday Service - Sunday, April 16th

Facebook LIVE:

Join us weekly on Facebook LIVE led by Ministry Leaders discussing various Lent & Fasting topics.

- * Preparedness - February 28th Minister Onorio Chaparro
- * Missions - March 2nd Minister Dario Lariosa
- * Prayer - March 9th Minister Lisa Purville

Missionary Experiences (Giving)

- * Salvation Army - March 25th
- * Thrive Collective School Murals - April 8th
- * The Father's Heart - April 15
- * CCCLI Events - COMING SOON!

There is a **MANDATORY** Mission Orientation, Sunday, March 13th, C3 Hall Immediately following 3rd Service.



SHINE BRIGHTLY FOR CHRIST

Dear friends, you always followed my instructions when I was with you. And now that I am away, it is even more important. Work hard to show the results of your salvation, obeying God with deep reverence and fear. For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him.

Philippians 2:12-13 NLT

Daily
Scriptures
&

Prayers

WEEK 1

MARCH 1 - 4

MORNING SCRIPTURE & PRAYER

MARCH 1 ASH WEDNESDAY



OLD TESTAMENT:

Isaiah 58:1-12

Psalm: 103:8-14

NEW TESTAMENT :

2 Corinthians: 5:20b-6:10

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

PRAYER:

Oh, Holy and Majestic Father, you who have offered us salvation through the death of your son, and forgiveness through a lifestyle of reflective repentance: Soften our hearts to receive correction, that we, hearing your voice and responding in obedience, might walk in your love for us and the world; We pray in the name God, our Father, Christ our redeemer, and the Spirit, our Counselor, now and forever.

Amen.

MORNING SCRIPTURE & PRAYER

MARCH 2 THURSDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY



OLD TESTAMENT:

Deuteronomy 30:15–20

Psalm: Psalm 1

NEW TESTAMENT :

Luke 9:18-25

PRAYER:

O Awesome God, indescribable in Glory, who favors and instructs us, speaking to our hearts so easily led astray; Illuminate our path today. Reveal our hindrances. Help us to release our burdens. Correct us continually, that we might avoid wicked counsel, instead delighting in your law and prospering in all we do; We pray in the name of God our Father, Jesus, the Messiah, and the Holy Spirit, our Counselor, One God, forever. **Amen.**

MORNING SCRIPTURE & PRAYER

MARCH 3 FRIDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY



OLD TESTAMENT:

Isaiah 58:1–9a

Psalm 51:1-10

NEW TESTAMENT :

Matthew 9:10-17

PRAYER:

O Lord, our God, who cleanses us from sin, and sustains us in our seeking, lead us in a move of your spirit. Hear our prayers, and use us, Lord, that you might bring forth acts of justice and generosity, and grant us healing and deliverance: We ask this, Father, with the Help of the Holy Spirit, in Jesus's name. Amen.

MORNING SCRIPTURE & PRAYER

MARCH 4 SATURDAY AFTER ASH



OLD TESTAMENT:

Isaiah 58:9b-14:

Psalm 86:1-11

NEW TESTAMENT :

Luke 5:27-32

PRAYER:

O God of Wonders, who invites us to follow and learn of you despite our stubborn pursuit of our own interests over the principle of Sabbath rest; teach us truth today that we might walk in it. Enlarge our hearts with gratitude that we might grow in grace, remaining humble before you and merciful to others: This we ask in the name of the Father, the Son, and The Holy Spirit, one God, co-equal and co-eternal. Amen.



FAQ'S

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Who can participate?

The time of observance is open to all ages.

Do you have to register in order to participate?

Yes, we ask that everyone register. Registering will enable you to receive the daily scripture and prayer to your inbox and keep up to date with all of the Lent experiences. Register here [CCC Lent](#)

When Does Lent Begin?

Lent begins on Wednesday, March 1st, 2017 (Ash Wednesday) and ends on Sunday, April 16th, 2017 (Easter Sunday).

What if I missed the first day of Lent?

We live with very hectic life schedules. Join us as soon as you can or when you can!

Where can I find a copy of the daily scriptures and prayers?

Scriptures for the entire duration of Lent will be sent via email daily and will be posted on the CCC Website, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

Do I have to observe Lent?

No one should feel compelled to observe Lent. We invite you to join us if you are able into this time of prayer, fasting and giving. We don't have to earn God's love but we are called to surrender to his leading daily. Lent is one of the ways that we, as a community, "Work hard to show the results of" our salvation, "obeying God with deep reverence and fear" (Philippians 2:12 NLT). We believe that through Lent, God is working in us, giving us the desire and the power to do what pleases

FAQ'S

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Are we fasting for the entire 40 Days of Lent?

CCC is not observing our traditional week of corporate fasting with one meal a day. The 40 Days of Lent is a time to turn down outside noises and distractions that keep you from spending time in the Word.

How can I (& my family) keep a Holy Lent?

*Be Honest. This is a time for self-examination with a focus on grace. Through prayer and in the company of encouraging believers, take the time to be honest with yourself. However, don't let self-examination lead you into condemnation! Remember the promises of Scripture that you belong to Christ and nothing can separate you from his great love! (See 1 John 4:19 NLT) (John 10:28-30 NLT) (Ephesians 3: 18-19 NLT) (Ephesians 1:4 NLT)

*Be Compassionate. When is the last time you served someone and didn't expect anything in return? Service is a spiritual discipline and Lent is a great time to activate your ambassadorship! Join us on some local missionary experiences to serve others and watch it enrich your own experience of grace!

*Spread Love. Make this a season to reach out to your family, friends and neighbors in special and creative ways.

*Fast to Feast: The central spiritual practice of Lent is fasting from food. We do this in order to feast on God's presence, power and provision. Fasting helps us to remember the gift of love, liberty and eternal life given to us through Christ our Lord.

RESOURCES

RECOMMENDED READINGS FOR LENT



Practicing the Presence of God by Brother Lawrence

Experiencing God Through Prayer by Jeanne Guyon

Meditations of the Heart by Howard Thurman

Disciplines of the Spirit by Howard Thurman

Unapologetic Christianity by Pastor Jamaal Bernard

Take Words With You by Tim Kerr

The Steps to Freedom in Christ by Neil T. Anderson

Celebration of Discipline by Richard Foster

Moments & Days by Michelle Van Loon



**As Lent begins this year, our
prayer for you is that
this would be a truly blessed
season, a time of
genuine and significant
spiritual growth for you and
for your family. May God grant
you a truly holy Lent.**



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