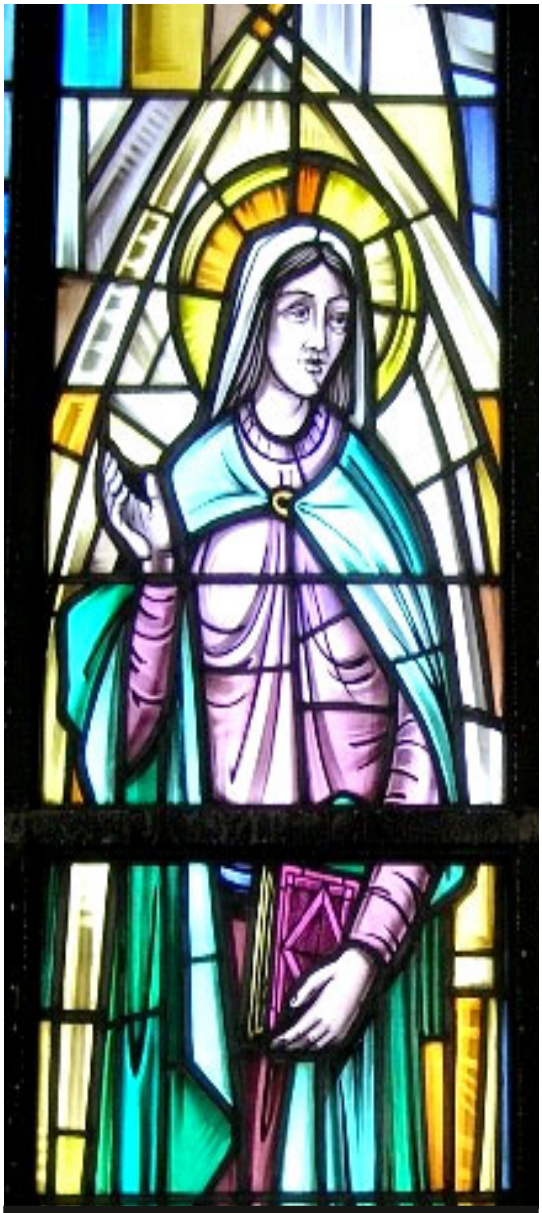


Issue 10
March 5, 2017

WEEKEND EUCHARIST
Saturday: 7:30 am Mass
4:00 pm Vigil Mass
Sunday Masses:
8:00, 9:30,11:00 am and 5:00 pm

WEEKDAY EUCHARIST
Monday - Friday: 6:30 am & 8:45 am
Tuesday: 7:00 pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Tuesday: 9:30 am to 6:00 pm
ending with Benediction
First Friday: 9:30 - 10:30 am

RECONCILIATION
Tuesday: 6:00 to 6:45 pm
Saturday: 3:00 to 3:45 pm
5:00 to 5:30 pm

ST. ANN CHURCH AND NATIONAL SHRINE

4940 Meadowdale St., Metairie, LA 70006
504-455-7071 - Fax 504-455-7076
Website: stannchurchandshrine.org - Email: stannmet@bellsouth.net
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/stannchurchandshrine
Twitter: https://twitter.com/stannmetairie
Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/stannchurch

CHURCH HOURS
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 6:00 am - 5:00 pm
Tuesday 6:00 am to 8:15 pm

Pastor
Rev. Billy O'Riordan
455-7071, ext. 223

Parochial Vicar
Rev. Colin Braud, ext. 224

Deacons
Mr. Philip Doolen, ext. 231
Mr. Raymond Bertin,
Facilities Manager, ext. 226
Mr. Tom Fox, ext. 257

Director of Religious Education and Youth Ministry
Mr. David Wilson, ext. 225
e-mail: stannreled@bellsouth.net

Director of Liturgical Music
Trish Foti , 559-8637
e-mail: tfoti@stannchurchandshrine.org

Office Manager
Mrs. Debbie Sommers, ext. 221

Church Secretaries
Mrs. Linda Ehrhardt, ext. 222
Mrs. Beverly Musso, ext. 222

St. Ann School - 455-8383
Mrs. Susan Kropog, Principal
www.stannschool.org

WEBSITE POLICY
The parish bulletin is published on the parish website on the internet. Any person who does not want his or her name or picture in the bulletin or on the internet, please notify the Parish Office immediately in writing.

A CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD
This is for students in grades kindergarten, one, two and three and is held during the Sunday 9:30 am Mass.

BAPTISM
Baptisms are celebrated on the first Sunday of each month at 12:30 pm. Please call the Church Office at least three months before the anticipated date of birth. To schedule an interview and date for Pre-Baptism Seminar, call Deacon Ray Bertin at 455-7071, ext. 226. The celebration of infant Baptism will be arranged during the interview process.

MATRIMONY
The prospective bride or groom must contact one of the parish priests or deacons at least 6 months in advance.

FUNERALS
Families should contact the Church Office before making any arrangements with the funeral home.

VISITATION OF THE SICK
Please notify the Church Office when someone is in the hospital or sick at home and unable to attend Mass.

ROSARY GROUPS
1st Saturday of each month following the 7:30 am Mass in Church.
Every Saturday 3:20 pm-3:40 pm, before the 4:00 pm Mass in Church.
Rosary & Divine Mercy, every Wednesday 9:30 am to 10:30 am in the St. Ann Room.

NOVENA TO ST. ANN
Every Tuesday after the 8:45 am and 7:00 pm Masses. Twice a year a solemn nine day novena is held at 10:00 am and 7:00 pm, consisting of Mass, homily and novena prayers. July 18th through 26th (Feast of St. Ann) and the Thursday after Ash Wednesday through Friday of the first week of Lent.

"LITTLE CHURCH"
"Little Church" is a babysitting service which is available every Sunday during the 9:30 am Mass for children ages 1 to 5 years old. Please bring your children to the Parish Ministry Center, behind the church.

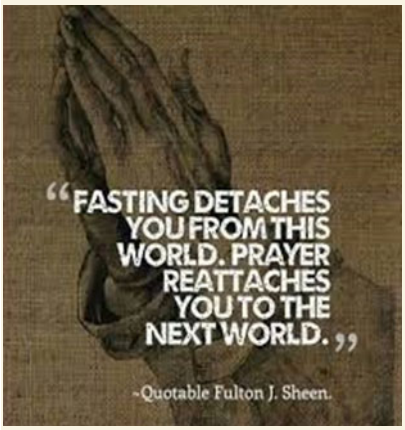
MISSION STATEMENT

St. Ann, a Roman Catholic Parish of the Archdiocese of New Orleans, is a faith family serving the needs of the parishioners and the wider community.

Home to the National Shrine of St. Ann, we are committed to providing opportunities to all for worship and service, evangelization and education, stewardship and ministry.

St. Ann Parish welcomes and invites all people to join us in proclaiming and living the Gospel values of Jesus Christ.

1st Sunday of Lent Year A



We begin our Lenten journey this weekend, when for the next 40 Days we will concentrate both on our sinfulness, and on ways that we can repair the harm that we have done to Jesus by our sin. This is part of the reason why we abstain from meat on Fridays during Lent, and why we also do things on our own as well, such as giving up chocolate or cheeseburgers.

We focus much of our efforts on fasting during Lent, but fasting makes up only part of the remedy. The Church has always recommended prayer, fasting, and almsgiving when trying to make reparation to God and to better ourselves spiritually. This is really what Lent is all about, bettering ourselves both internally and externally. Lent offers us a tremendous opportunity to strengthen our whole self, body and soul.

So let us really take advantage of this time that the Church gives us. Let us not give up the things that we normally give up. Let us examine ourselves and see in what area we really need to improve spiritually. Ask yourself, "What sins do I habitually bring to Confession?" That is the starting point. And if its been awhile, go to Confession soon, or at least do an examination of conscience.

Once we've identified the one particular part of our life we want to improve, then we have to formulate a game plan using this 3-part remedy the Church gives us. First, pray for the particular virtue you are trying to acquire. If you normally give up chocolate for Lent, this could be an indication that temperance is needed. Pray for temperance everyday during Lent. Then secondly, think of what to give up that will test you a little bit, and may even cause a struggle. It is ok to push ourselves a little bit because we'll soon see that we cannot do it on our own, which necessitates praying to God. Then lastly we can give alms, which is traditionally a financial donation. More broadly, though, we can view almsgiving as acts of charity. Any act of charity, that is doing something good for another person without compensation, is a form of almsgiving as well.

Using this formula that the Church provides for us each Lent of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving we have a fool proof plan of advancing in the spiritual life. It is very simple too. All we need to do is just do it.

Reflection by Fr. Braud

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mt 25:31-46
Tuesday: Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7, 16-19; Mt 6:7-15
Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Lk 11:29-32
Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8; Mt 7:7-12
Friday: Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-8; Mt 5:20-26
Saturday: Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48
Sunday: Gn 12:1-4a; Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22; 2 Tm 1:8b-10; Mt 17:1-9

MASS INTENTIONS

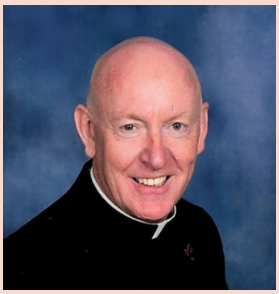
Sunday	**March 5**
4:00 pm Vigil	Pat O'Riordan, McCleland & Gardner Families, Iris Fitzpatrick, Jennie Spitale, Carmel Patterson, Becky McMath (Health), Vivian Wesner, Ethel Gibbs, Elaine Wingerter, Anna P. Quinlan, Patricia Virgadamo, Brian Kelt
8:00 am	Parishioners
9:30 am	Jorge Migenes
11:00 am	James Miller, Gerald Breaux, Paul Brue (Health), Audrey Breaux, Collette B. Miller, Warren Funel, Jr., Kenneth Plauche, Linda Couvillion
5:00 pm	Vivian Wesner
Monday	**March 6**
6:30 am	Jennie Spitale
10:00 am	Tony Smith
7:00 pm	Dick Block
Tuesday	**March 7**
6:30 am	Mr. & Mrs. H. C. Alexander
10:00 am	Catherine Perilloux
7:00 pm	Elta Hymel
Wednesday	**March 8**
6:30 am	Fr. Charles E. Duke
10:00 am	Mr. & Mrs. Edward H. Watermeier
7:00 pm	Jennie DeGenova
Thursday	**March 9**
6:30 am	Mr. & Mrs. Bernard J. Puccio
10:00 am	Rose Deckelman (S.I.)
7:00 pm	Jose L. Silva
Friday	**March 10**
6:30 am	Chris Alessi
10:00 am	Jose L. Silva
7:00 pm	Jennie DeGenova
Saturday	**March 11**
7:30 am	Mary Quaid

March 5 - 11, 2017
"Sanctuary Candle" In Memory of Tony Smith

Stations of the Cross
at St. Ann Church will be on Fridays,
March 17, 24, 31 and April 7 & 14 at 7:00 pm

WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US FOR
A RECEPTION TO CONGRATULATE

Father Billy O'Riordan



RECIPIENT OF THE
ST. JOHN VIANNEY AWARD
WHICH WAS PRESENTED AT THE
CHANCELLOR'S DINNER AT
NOTRE DAME SEMINARY ON
TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2017

The Reception will be on
Saturday, March 11th following
the 4:00 PM Mass in the St. Ann Cafeteria

St. Benilde Rosary and Altar Society's annual "Morning of Reflection"

On Saturday, March 11, 2017, men and women are invited to join the St. Benilde Rosary and Altar Society's annual "Morning of Reflection" with the Rev. Joseph M. Krafft, Fr. Joe is currently working on a Doctorate in Ministry Degree with a concentration in Pastoral Ministry at Notre Dame Seminary.

The program will start with the recitation of the Rosary at 8:15 a.m., followed by Mass. Then a coffee and donut breakfast will be provided by the Rosary and Altar Society in the Teen Center.

Fr. Krafft will start his presentations at 10:00 a.m. The morning will end at approximately 12:00 Noon.

Please contact Anita at 874-1210 or Kay at 834-7908 to let us know if you plan to attend or if you need any additional information.

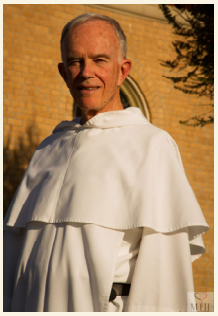
School News: The students have many Lenten activities. Our theme for Lent is **"We are thankful" and students will work on paying God's blessing forward in thanksgiving.**

The Men's Club has a Lenten Seafood Dinner on Friday, March 17. We are happy to have the support of the Men's Club! Please check with the school office at 455-8383 if you missed Registration but wish to check for any grade level openings.

Parish Calendar

3/6	6:30 PM ST. ANTHONY MTG./ST. RAY
3/7	9:15 ADORATION
	6:20 PM PSR CLASS/CAFETERIA
3/8	9:30 AM PRAYER GROUP/ST. RAYMOND
	12:30 PM SCHOOL CONFESSIONS
	1 PM SEWING SEAMS OF FAITH CLASS/ST. RAYMOND
	7 PM ADULT CHOIR/ST. CECILIA
	7 PM YOUTH CHOIR REH./CHURCH
3/9	9:30 AM ADULT CATECHISM/ST. RAYMOND
3/11	5 PM RECEPTION FOR FR. BILLY IN CAFETERIA
3/12	ARCH. CATHOLIC CHARITIES COLLECTION
	9 AM MENS CLUB DONUT BREAKFAST AFTER MASSES IN CAF.

St. Ann Lenten Novena continues until Friday, March 10, 2017



Presenter:
Fr. Robert U. Perry, O.P.

Theme:
Christian Life:
The Kingdom and the Cross

Novena Schedule

Weekdays: 10:00 am and 7:00 pm Masses with Homily, followed by Novena to St. Ann. Sacrament of Reconciliation with private confession before and after the Masses.

Tuesday, March 7, 2017
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
11:00 am - 6:00 pm.

God's Special Childrens Mass

This month, the Respect Life Committee is reaching out to people with disabilities. St. Francis Xavier is hosting a mass for God's Special Children at 2pm on March 5th. Please consider attending. All are welcome.

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR LENT 2017
"The Word is a gift. Other persons are a gift"

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Lent is a new beginning, a path leading to the certain goal of Easter, Christ's victory over death. This season urgently calls us to conversion. Christians are asked to return to God "with all their hearts" (*Joel* 2:12), to refuse to settle for mediocrity and to grow in friendship with the Lord. Jesus is the faithful friend who never abandons us. Even when we sin, he patiently awaits our return; by that patient expectation, he shows us his readiness to forgive (cf. *Homily,* 8 January 2016).

Lent is a favourable season for deepening our spiritual life through the means of sanctification offered us by the Church: fasting, prayer and almsgiving. At the basis of everything is the word of God, which during this season we are invited to hear and ponder more deeply. I would now like to consider the parable of the rich man and Lazarus (cf. *Lk* 16:19-31). Let us find inspiration in this meaningful story, for it provides a key to understanding what we need to do in order to attain true happiness and eternal life. It exhorts us to sincere conversion.

1. The other person is a gift

The parable begins by presenting its two main characters. The poor man is described in greater detail: he is wretched and lacks the strength even to stand. Lying before the door of the rich man, he fed on the crumbs falling from his table. His body is full of sores and dogs come to lick his wounds (cf. vv. 20-21). The picture is one of great misery; it portrays a man disgraced and pitiful.

The scene is even more dramatic if we consider that the poor man is called *Lazarus*: a name full of promise, which literally means *God helps*. This character is not anonymous. His features are clearly delineated and he appears as an individual with his own story. While practically invisible to the rich man, we see and know him as someone familiar. He becomes a face, and as such, a gift, a priceless treasure, a human being whom God loves and cares for, despite his concrete condition as an outcast (cf. *Homily,* 8 January 2016).

Lazarus teaches us that *other persons are a gift.* A right relationship with people consists in gratefully recognizing their value. Even the poor person at the door of the rich is not a nuisance, but a summons to conversion and to change. The parable first invites us to open the doors of our heart to others because each person is a gift, whether it be our neighbour or an anonymous pauper. Lent is a favourable season for opening the doors to all those in need and recognizing in them the face of Christ. Each of us meets people like this every day. Each life that we encounter is a gift deserving acceptance, respect and love. The word of God helps us to open our eyes to welcome and love life, especially when it is weak and vulnerable. But in order to do this, we have to take seriously what the Gospel tells us about the rich man.

2. Sin blinds us

The parable is unsparing in its description of the contradictions associated with the rich man (cf. v. 19). Unlike poor Lazarus, he does not have a name; he is simply called "a rich man". His opulence was seen in his extravagant and expensive robes. Purple cloth was even more precious than silver and gold, and was thus reserved to divinities (cf. *Jer* 10:9) and kings (cf. *Jg* 8:26), while fine linen gave one an almost sacred character. The man was clearly ostentatious about his wealth, and in the habit of displaying it daily: "He feasted sumptuously every day" (v. 19). In him we can catch a dramatic glimpse of the corruption of sin, which progresses in three successive stages: love of money, vanity and pride (cf. *Homily*, 20 September 2013).

The Apostle Paul tells us that "the love of money is the root of all evils" (*1 Tim* 6:10). It is the main cause of corruption and a source of envy, strife and suspicion. Money can come to dominate us, even to the point of becoming a tyrannical idol (cf. *Evangelii Gaudium*, 55). Instead of being an instrument at our service for doing good and showing solidarity towards others, money can chain us and the entire world to a selfish logic that leaves no room for love and hinders peace.

The parable then shows that the rich man's greed makes him vain. His personality finds expression in appearances, in showing others what he can do. But his appearance masks an interior emptiness. His life is a prisoner to outward appearances, to the most superficial and fleeting aspects of existence (cf. *ibid.*, 62).

The lowest rung of this moral degradation is pride. The rich man dresses like a king and acts like a god, forgetting that he is merely mortal. For those corrupted by love of riches, nothing exists beyond their own ego. Those around them do not come into their line of sight. The result of attachment to money is a sort of blindness. The rich man does not see the poor man who is starving, hurting, lying at his door.

Looking at this character, we can understand why the Gospel so bluntly condemns the love of money: "No one can be the slave of two masters: he will either hate the first and love the second, or be attached to the first and despise the second. You cannot be the slave both of God and of money" (*Mt* 6:24).

Message of His Holiness Pope Francis continues on the next page

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR LENT 2017
"The Word is a gift. Other persons are a gift"

3. The Word is a gift

The Gospel of the rich man and Lazarus helps us to make a good preparation for the approach of Easter. The liturgy of Ash Wednesday invites us to an experience quite similar to that of the rich man. When the priest imposes the ashes on our heads, he repeats the words: “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return”. As it turned out, the rich man and the poor man both died, and the greater part of the parable takes place in the afterlife. The two characters suddenly discover that “we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it” (*1 Tim* 6:7).

We too see what happens in the afterlife. There the rich man speaks at length with Abraham, whom he calls “father” (*Lk* 16:24.27), as a sign that he belongs to God’s people. This detail makes his life appear all the more contradictory, for until this moment there had been no mention of his relation to God. In fact, there was no place for God in his life. His only god was himself.

The rich man recognizes Lazarus only amid the torments of the afterlife. He wants the poor man to alleviate his suffering with a drop of water. What he asks of Lazarus is similar to what he could have done but never did. Abraham tells him: “During your life you had your fill of good things, just as Lazarus had his fill of bad. Now he is being comforted here while you are in agony” (v. 25). In the afterlife, a kind of fairness is restored and life’s evils are balanced by good. The parable goes on to offer a message for all Christians. The rich man asks Abraham to send Lazarus to warn his brothers, who are still alive. But Abraham answers: “They have Moses and the prophets, let them listen to them” (v. 29). Countering the rich man’s objections, he adds: “If they will not listen either to Moses or to the prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone should rise from the dead” (v. 31).

The rich man’s real problem thus comes to the fore. At the root of all his ills was *the failure to heed God’s word*. As a result, he no longer loved God and grew to despise his neighbour. The word of God is alive and powerful, capable of converting hearts and leading them back to God. When we close our heart to the gift of God’s word, we end up closing our heart to the gift of our brothers and sisters.

Dear friends, Lent is the favourable season for renewing our encounter with Christ, living in his word, in the sacraments and in our neighbour. The Lord, who overcame the deceptions of the Tempter during the forty days in the desert, shows us the path we must take. May the Holy Spirit lead us on a true journey of conversion, so that we can rediscover the gift of God’s word, be purified of the sin that blinds us, and serve Christ present in our brothers and sisters in need. I encourage all the faithful to express this spiritual renewal also by sharing in the Lenten Campaigns promoted by many Church organizations in different parts of the world, and thus to favour the culture of encounter in our one human family. Let us pray for one another so that, by sharing in the victory of Christ, we may open our doors to the weak and poor. Then we will be able to experience and share to the full the joy of Easter.

From the Vatican, 18 October 2016
Feast of St. Luke the Evangelist

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DO NOT sign up as an individual - our parish access code provides more content than the individual subscription.

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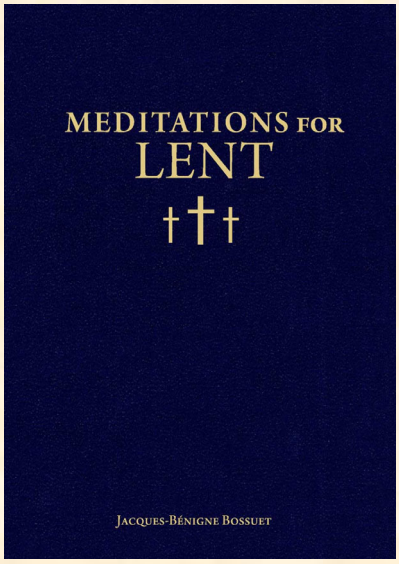
Some of the Liturgical Content on FORMED.org.



Meditations for Lent ebook on FORMED.ORG

Jacques-Bénigne Bossuet, Edited and translated by Christopher O. Blum

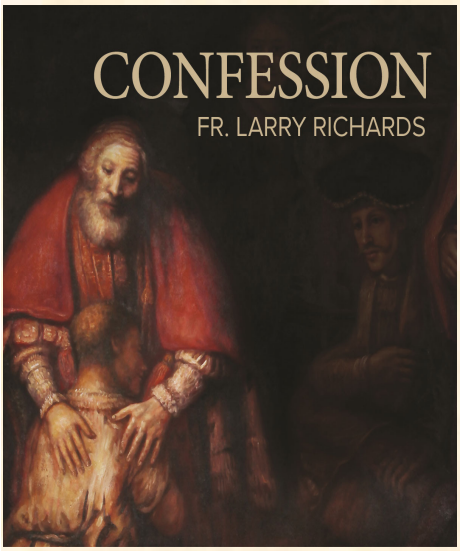
Even three hundred years ago, believers found it difficult to sustain for forty days the proper Lenten spirit. That's why even then, countless Christians turned to the writings of Bishop Jacques-Bénigne Bossuet (1627-1704), whose great piety and simple eloquence won him renown as one of the greatest preachers of his time. From Bishop Bossuet's sermons and spiritual writings, believers drew ever greater Lenten wisdom and strength.

Now translator Christopher Blum has selected from Bishop Bossuet's voluminous works fifty brief but remarkably powerful meditations that complement the daily readings at Mass during the Lenten season, thus offering to us the perfect companion for a thoughtful and fruitful Lent.

If you read and meditate briefly on just one of them each day in Lent, I guarantee that this good French bishop's eloquence will soon have you not merely remembering the events of Christ's journey to His Crucifixion; it will have you spiritually walking with Him on that journey . . . which is precisely what we are called to do in Lent!

With Bossuet, this Lent you will find yourself saying, "O Jesus! I present myself to you to make my journey in your company. O my Savior, receive your traveler! Here I am ready, holding on to nothing. Let me go with You to the Father."

That's the fire that should burn in the heart of all Christians. This Lent, let Bishop Bossuet enkindle it in yours.



Confession Audio on FORMED.org

Fr. Larry Richards

Based upon his proven and powerful parish mission presentation, Fr. Larry Richards' talk on Confession has become the #1 talk in North America dealing with the Sacrament of Reconciliation. He is riveting, honest, humorous, very human, and often touchingly gentle. Fr. Larry provides listeners with hope for a closer, healing relationship with Jesus Christ.

Information Page

St. Ann Church and Shrine

024225

Date: March 5, 2017

Contact: Linda Ehrhardt (504)455-7071 ext. 222

Publisher 2010, Acrobat 10 standard

Special Instructions: