

GARGOYLE GAZETTE

March 2020



Lent - Our Journey to Conversion

Once a year, the Church celebrates the Season of Lent. Celebrates?

This is usually not the word I associate with Lent. We have special prayers and scripture readings to remind us of this holy season. Lent is a season of six weeks, certainly more than was attributed to the season of Advent. Lent is a penitential season, a time for renewal and returning to the Lord.

The season of Lent helps us to center on the saving events of Jesus, His cross and resurrection. Because of these events, Lent calls us to conversion. Conversion helps us to reconfigure our lives more closely with the teachings of Jesus. Surely, this is a cause for celebration!

Conversion is about a change. It may involve a change in our sinful habits or it may involve a growing in our awareness of how to live the Gospel values of our love of God and of neighbor. It may involve a growing in our practice of daily prayer and meditation or Mass or adoration.

During the season of Lent, we could reach out to others in our lives. It may be to those close to us who are hurting. It may be to those who are in need of some help we can offer. We could reach out to family, friends and strangers. It is easier to reach out to family and friends. It is more difficult to reach out to those who are strangers. Who are the strangers in our lives? They may be those we just meet who ask for our help. It may be those who we have put out of our lives because we don't like them or can't get along with them. Our right relationship with these people is cause for celebration!

On the Fridays of Lent, beginning February 28, we will have the Stations of the Cross at 7 p.m. You are invited to stay after the Stations for a DVD presentation of Bishop Barron's *Pivotal Players*. Each Friday, we will feature a film on a different person or saint who contributed to the building up of the Church.

We also ask your prayers for our Catechumens and Candidates in the RCIA as they get closer to their reception into the Church at the Easter Vigil on Saturday, April 11.

Sr. Barbara Woeste, O.S.B.

