

LEGION OF MARY

SENATUS OF NEW ZEALAND NEWSLETTER

· FEBRUARY ·

· 2023 ·



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Give



Prepare

Pray

“Fasting gives birth to prophets and strengthens the powerful; fasting makes lawgivers wise. Fasting is a good safeguard for the soul, a steadfast companion for the body, a weapon for the valiant, and a gymnasium for athletes. Fasting repels temptations, anoints unto piety; it is the comrade of watchfulness and the artificer of chastity. In war it fights bravely, in peace it teaches stillness.”

– St. Basil the Great



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ALLOCUTIO - FINDING THE LOST SHEEP

FR. ANDREW MATTHEW

In the season of the epiphany we can find the pathway for talking to the lost sheep. An epiphany is a sudden realisation, or a new experience, that changes you. A unexpected enlightenment. We can provide that for others.

How can the epiphany of Jesus help us search for the lost sheep?

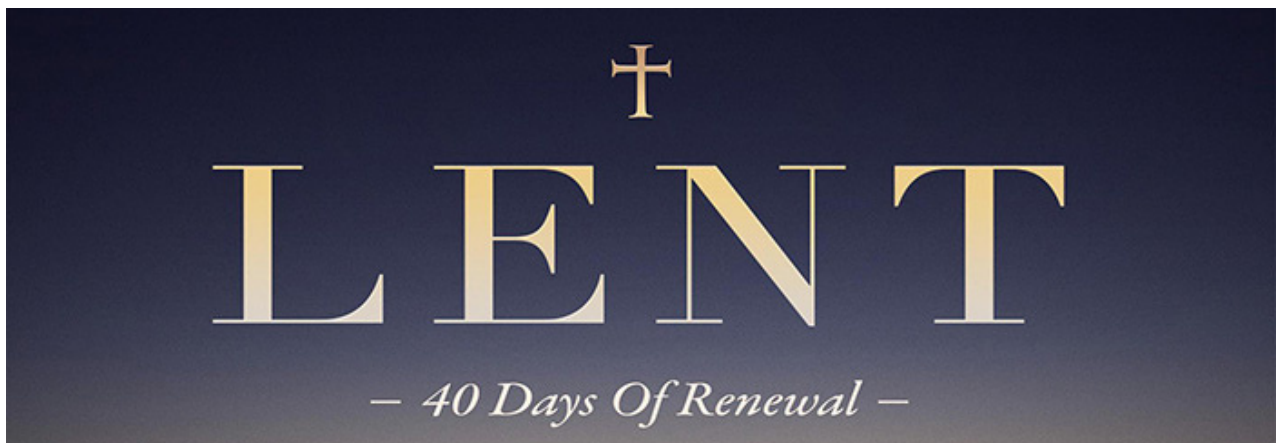
The epiphany has three images of the love of God for His people. The epiphanies of Christmas, of the Baptism of Jesus, and the Wedding feast of Cana. Searching for the lost sheep means going to those who may need an epiphany of God's love when they are confused and lost.

There are three epiphany's of God's love towards all people. The epiphany of Jesus and the holy family. Where God comes to us as an infant, vulnerable and asking for our love. Or again, Jesus's baptism is an epiphany. He was sent as our loving Saviour by taking on our sins and washing them away through baptism. The image of the miracle of the water changed into wine, is an image of the Church gathering for the love feast, we call the Mass.

Maybe people need an epiphany to realise that their salvation lies with in the Catholic Church, and the grace her sacraments offered through the sacrifice of the Lord's Supper.

These three epiphanies are also the pathway to an act of faith. They are the substance of what theologians call the preamble's to a personal saving act of faith in Jesus Christ. The preamble's are; I have come to understand God loves me personally; Jesus is my personal saviour; and finally, eternal life is found, through, with, and in, the sacraments of the Catholic Faith.

We can discuss all these revelations of God's love with those we visit in searching for the lost sheep.



PREPARING FOR LENT: WHY 40?

BR. JOHN TAGIILIMA

The time period of the Lenten season is 40 days. There are few examples of the significance of the number 40 in the old testament and new testament.

The number forty is found frequently in scripture to signify either a time of penitential preparation, or a time of punishment and affliction sent from God. The Old Testament is replete with examples of the use of forty: God punished mankind by sending a flood over the earth that lasted forty days and forty nights (Gen 7:12); the people of Ninevah repented with forty days of fasting when Jonah preached the destruction of Ninevah (Jonah 3:4); Moses and the Hebrew people wandered in the desert for forty years (Num 14:34); the Prophet Ezekiel had to lie on his right side for forty days as a figure of the siege that was to bring Jerusalem to destruction (Ez 4:6); the Prophet Elijah fasted and prayed on Mount Horeb for forty days (1 Kings 19:8); and finally, Moses fasted forty days and forty nights while on Mt. Sinai (Ex 34:28).

In the New Testament we find Our Lord fasting and praying for forty days and forty nights in the desert in preparation for the public ministry that would end in his redeeming death (Luke 5:35). He is the new Adam who overcomes the temptations of the devil and remains faithful to God; the new Israel, who reveals himself as God's Servant by his total obedience to the divine will, in contrast to those who provoked God in the desert. The Church sets aside the forty days of Lent in order that we might imitate Our Lord by our fasting, prayer, self-denial and good works, and thereby prepare our hearts for an Easter renewal. "By the solemn forty days of Lent the Church unites herself each year to the mystery of Jesus in the desert." (Catholic Catechism, #540).



What does this mean for us Legionaries. It's a time for humbling ourselves, and most importantly deep reflection on the work of redemption. It is here Jesus gave the ultimate sacrifice on the cross to redeem the world. It is also here where Mary our Mother became our mother at the foot of the cross. And She since became the mediatrix, and co redemptrix for all of us. Just like Mary our Mother we as her Legion are all called to be co redemptrix and co mediators to our families, friends, and all the people we come in contact with because we are all participating in Christ work of redemption of the world. sacrifices so we can all participate fully as soldiers and legionaries of Christ.

SENATUS MEETING DATES FOR 2023

12	FEBRUARY
12	MARCH
15	APRIL
21	MAY
11	JUNE
09	JULY
13	AUGUST
10	SEPTEMBER
08	OCTOBER
12	NOVEMBER
10	DECEMBER

Let us make this Lent more meaningful and give up all the nice things that we like to do and make sacrifices so we can all participate fully as soldiers and legionaries of Christ.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR FEBRUARY 2023

22 FEBRUARY
ASH WEDNESDAY



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