

Catholic Schools Week 2016

National Catholic Schools Week is the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. It runs from January 31 to February 6. Schools typically observe National Catholic Schools Week with Masses, an open house and other activities for students, families, parishioners and community members. Through these events, schools focus on the value Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions to our



church, our communities and our nation. More information for local Catholic Schools Week events may be found at your local parish, school, and diocese websites and Holy Family Radio's Catholic Calendar.

Diocese of Grand Rapids Website - Diocese of Kalamazoo Website

Ash Wednesday / Lent - 2016

In the Middle Ages, the priest would bless the dying person with holy water, saying, "Remember that thou art dust and to dust thou shalt return." The Church adapted the use of ashes to mark the beginning of the penitential season of Lent when we remember our mortality and mourn for our sins.

"Ash Wednesday is the opening day to the season of Lent and is a day of penitential prayer and fasting."

ASH WEDNESDAY

FEBRUARY 10, 2016

In our present liturgy for Ash Wednesday, we use ashes made from the burned palm branches distributed on the Palm Sunday of the previous year. The priest blesses the ashes and imposes them on the foreheads of the faithful, making the sign of the cross and saying, "Remember, man you are dust and to dust you shall return," or "Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel."

As we begin this holy season of Lent in preparation for Easter, we must remember the significance of the ashes we have received: We mourn and do penance for our sins. We again convert our hearts to the Lord, who suffered, died, and rose for our salvation. We renew the promises made at our baptism when we died to an old life and rose to a new life with Christ.

Finally, mindful that the kingdom of this world passes away, we strive to live the kingdom of God now and look forward to its fulfillment in heaven.

<u>Link to Additional Lenten Resources</u>







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New program to start airing Sunday's at 6:30 am beginning February 7th.

Dan Burke and Melissa Elson explore topics related to the interior life and Catholic teaching, including prayer, spiritual direction, meditation, contemplation, and holiness.

SpiritualDirection.com

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