

Lent, 2017



Dear Friends of the Franciscan Center,

We send our warmest greetings to you during this holy season of Lent. Since Pope Francis has spoken so elegantly on this subject, we would like to quote him at length:

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, 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.

Lent is a favorable 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.

Lent is the favorable season for renewing our encounter with Christ, living in his word, in the sacraments and in our neighbor. 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.

Your continued support of the Franciscan Center allows us to serve Christ in our midst and ensures that our programs continue to be a path for those in need.

God Bless You,

Sally Ley
Founder & CEO



THE FRANCISCAN CENTER

*Connecting Communities
Through Charity*

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