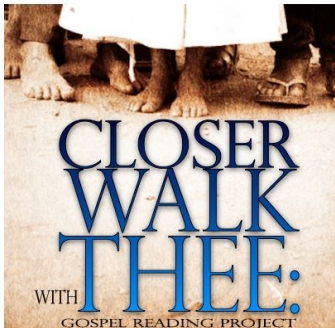


## Section Three: The Life of Christ, II

*March 6—April 20*



### Reader's Notes:

As we enter Lent, we expose ourselves to the kind of life demands and find ourselves falling short of following. Even at points hyperbolic, and glancingly impossible, the life of Christ really does boil down to two things: his love of God and his love of neighbor.

Remember, don't get frustrated when you find the readings jumping around.

THE LIFE OF CHRIST moves in dynamic partnership with history. Woven through the lives of citizens, governors, kings, oppressed is the life and ministry of Jesus. And it is moving toward confrontation, contemplation and crucifixion. As we journey with Christ through Lent and the Passion, what will the steps of Jesus tell us about our own?

March 6 Ash Wednesday	Psalm 51	
March 7	Luke 9:10-17 & Matthew 14:13-36	Jesus feeds the 5000
March 8	Mark 6:30-56 & John 6:1-25	Jesus feeds the 5000
March 9	Luke 9:18-27; Matthew 16:13-28; Mark 8:27-9:1 (John 12:25)	Following Christ
<b>March 10 Lent 1</b>	Luke 9:37-43a; Matthew 17:14-21; Mark 9:14-29	Jesus heals a boy
March 11	Luke 9:43b-45; Matthew 17:22-27; Mark 9:30-32	Jesus warns about his arrest
March 12	Luke 9:46-50; Matthew 18:1-5; Mark 9:33-41 (John 13:20)	Jesus corrects the disciples
March 13	Luke 9:51-56	Jesus sets out for Jerusalem; Following Jesus
March 14	Luke 10:1-24 (Matthew 9:37-38, 10:7-16, 10:40, 11:20-27, 13:16-17)	Seventy-two sent out; Judgement against cities that reject Jesus; The seventy-two return



**Reader's Notes:**

Context matters a lot. What (if any) additional information would you need to know or understand a passage completely?

March 15	Luke 10:25-37 (Matthew 22:34-40; Mark 12:28-34)	Loving your neighbor
March 16	Luke 10:38-42	Jesus visits Martha and Mary
<b>March 17 Lent 2</b>	Luke 13:22-35 (Matthew 7:13-14, 7:22-23, 8:11-12, 19:30, 23:37-39; Mark 10:31)	Who will be saved?
March 18	Luke 11:1-26 (Matthew 6:9-13, 7:7-11, 12:22-30, 12:43-45; Mark 3:22-27)	Teaching the Disciples to Pray; Controversy over Beelzebul
March 19	Luke 11:27-54 (Matthew 5:15, 6:22-23, 12:38-42; Mark 8:11-12, 4:21)	On seeking signs; Jesus condemns Pharisees and legal experts
March 20	Luke 12:1-12 (Matthew 10:19-20, 10:26-33, 12:31-32, 16:5-6; Mark 3:28-30, 8:14-15, 13:11)	Warnings to Jesus' friends; Acknowledging the Human One
March 21	Luke 12:13-34 (Matthew 5:35-26, 16:2-3, 6:19-21, 6:25-34, 10:34-36, 24:42-51)	Warning against greed; warning against worry
March 22	Luke 12:35-59	Warning about being prepared; conflicts brought by Jesus; learning and practicing good judgment
March 23	Luke 14:1-35 (Matthew 5:13, 10:37-38, 18:12-14, 22:1-14; Mark 9:49-50)	Healing on the Sabbath; Lessons on humility and generosity; discipleship's demands





**Reader's Notes:**

For the reading on March 30th, as you read the text, who is short: Zacchaeus or Jesus? Verse 3 is not as clear as you may think.

This raises an important aspect of Biblical interpretation. How can we account fully for what we bring to the text v. what the text presents to us?



March 24 Lent 3	Luke 13:1-17 (Luke 6:1-11, 14:1-6; Matthew 21:18-19; Mark 11:12-14 )	Parable of the fig tree, healing on the Sabbath
March 25	Luke 16:1-18 (Matthew 5:18, 6:24, 11:12-13, 19:9; Mark 10:11-12)	Faithfulness with money; Jesus responds to Pharisees
March 26	Luke 16:19-31, 17:1-19; Matthew 18:6-9; Mark 9:42-50 (Matthew 17:19-21, 18:15; Mark 9:28-29)	Faithful service; Jesus heals a Samaritan
March 27	Luke 17:20-37, 18:1-14 (Matthew 10:39, 24:17-18, 24:23, 24:26-28, 24:37-41; Mark 13:14-16, 19-23; John 12:25)	The kingdom is coming; Justice for the faithful; the Pharisee and the tax collector
March 28	Luke 18:15-30; Matthew 19:13-30; Mark 10:13-31	Jesus blesses children; a rich man's question
March 29	Luke 18:31-34; Matthew 20:17-28; Mark 10:32-45	Jesus predicts his death and resurrection; a blind man is healed
March 30	Luke 19:1-28 (Matthew 25:14-30; Mark 13:34)	A rich tax collector; faithful service
March 31 Lent 4	Luke 15:1-32 (Matthew 18:12-14)	Occasions of celebration
April 1	John 11:1-46	Lazarus is ill; Jesus with Mary & Martha



April 2	John 11:47-57	Caiphas Prophecies & The Passover draws near
April 3	Matthew 18:10-20 (Luke 15:3-7, 17:3)	The Parable of the Lost Sheep & Sinning Brother or Sister
April 4	Matthew 18:21-35 (Luke 17:4)	Parable of the Unforgiving Servant
April 5	Matthew 19:1-12; Mark 10:1-12 (Luke 16:18)	Teaching about divorce
April 6	Matthew 20:1-16	Workers in the vineyard
<b>April 7 Lent 5</b>	John 12:1-11; Luke 7:36-50; Luke 8:1-3	Mary Anoints Jesus' Feet
April 8	John 10:22-42	Jesus at the Festival of Dedication & Jesus at the Jordan
April 9	Matthew 21:18-27; Mark 11:12-33; Luke 19:47-20:8	Cursing the fig tree; Jesus' authority questioned
April 10	Matthew 21:28-46; Mark 12:1-12; Luke 20:9-19	Parable of the two sons; Parable of the tenant farmers
April 11	Matthew 22:1-14	Parable of the wedding party
April 12	Matthew 22:15-22; Mark 12:13-17; Luke 20:20-26	Question about taxes
April 13	Matthew 22:23-46; Mark 12:18-37; Luke 20:27-44	Question about resurrection; Great commandment; Question about David's son
<b>April 14 Palm/Passion</b>	Matthew 21:1-17; Mark 11:1-11, 15-17; Luke 19:28-46; John 12:12-19	Entry into Jerusalem; Cleansing the temple



April 15	Matthew 26-27	Matthew's Passion Account
April 16	Mark 14-15	Mark's Passion Account
April 17	Luke 22-23	Luke's Passion Account
April 18 Maundy Thursday	John 13, 18-19	John's Passion Account
April 19 Good Friday	No readings	
April 20	John 3:22-36	Within Jesus and Nicodemus

## What are you doing for Lent?

10 IDEAS FOR A MORE MEANINGFUL LENTEN SEASON

### 1. Give up sin

Show your love for God by keeping his commandments. Turn away from sins.

### 2. Fast

An empty stomach can lead to more attentive prayer. Give the money you saved on food to others in alms.



### 3. Pray

Be in constant prayer. Pray for your family and friends, for those who suffer, and for the Church and the world.

### 4. Do good works

Help those in need. Pray for them and be ready to serve them in their time of need.



### 5. Give alms

Help the poor and support the good works of the Church. Give cheerfully to God who has given us everything we have.



### 6. Abstain

Give up meat or other desirable foods during Lent, especially on Friday, the day of Christ's saving death on the cross.



### 7. Do meditative reading

Nourish your faith by spending time in quiet reading and reflection. Prayerful reading of God's word each day will open your heart to the Spirit, and let God's thoughts and ways influence yours.

### 8. Control desire for possessions

Build up treasures in heaven rather than on earth. Cut down on material possessions, eliminate frills, lessen wants, share yourself – your time and your talents – with others.

### 9. Control desire for entertainment

Too much entertainment and other distractions can lead to less or no time for the works of the Lord.

### 10. Carry out duties in life

Serve God by living out your vocation in love each day. God is calling each of us to be a living sacrifice. Offer your daily life through Christ!

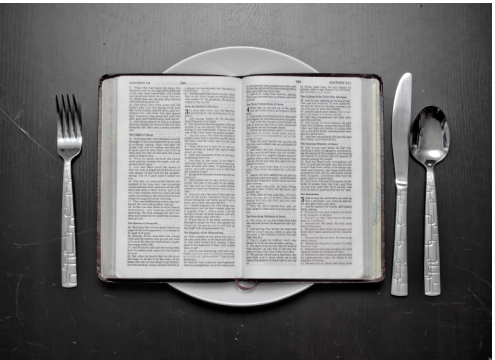
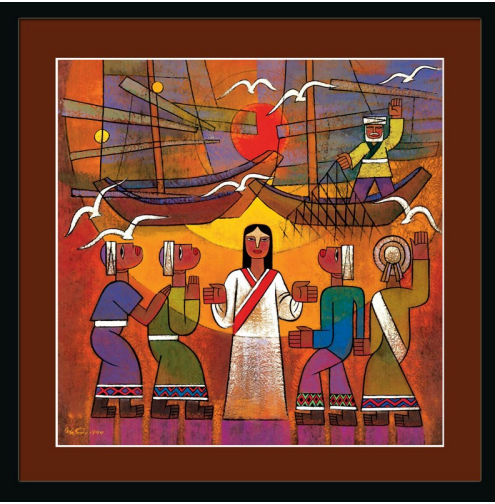


Archdiocese  
of Toronto

[www.archtoronto.org](http://www.archtoronto.org)  
 archtoronto

# Spiritual Practices

ASH WEDNESDAY (March 10, 2019) is the first day of Lent, a season of reflection and repentance for Christians worldwide. During this six week season, many people “give up” or fast from something as a spiritual practice (or discipline). Coffee, chocolate, sugar, soda are all common examples of things from which one might fast. Others add something to their normal routine: 15 minutes of daily prayer, calling a friend each day, writing a thank you note each day. All of these spiritual practices are meant to help us focus our hearts and actions on *God* and to open our minds to *God’s purpose* for our lives. As you consider how you will practice your faith this Lenten season, you’re encouraged to check the *Closer Walk with Thee* Facebook™ page for other ideas to try during Lent.



## Sampling of Things to Give Up for Lent

- Chocolate
- Caffeine
- Gossip
- Late night TV
- Soda
- Fast food
- Listening to Music in the car
- Complaining
- Going out to eat
- Greed (only purchase things that are essentials during Lent)
- Road rage
- Meat
- Social media
- Electronics/screen time
- Swearing
- Make-up

## Sampling of What to Take Up for Lent

- Take a picture of God’s work each day a photo challenge (<https://bustedhalo.com/ministry-resources>)
- Going to worship every Sunday
- Spending time with your family every day (Faith 5)
- Giving away stuff you don’t need or use
- Being encouraging to others (write note, post encouragements on social media, call friend each day)
- Listen to sacred music
- Reading the Bible daily
- Visit with someone, call, or write to someone on our prayer list.
- 15 minutes of daily prayer
- Making a meal for someone else
- Writing down your blessings every-day
- Practice forgiveness
- Read the d365.org devotion each day



## Movies & Music for Lenten Devotion

There are tons of movies about the life of Christ as well as movies that point us toward lessons in repentance, sacrifice and redemption. Watching and reflecting on these movie can be an act of devotion. Likewise, music can serve to point us toward a deeper connection with God and with our fellow travelers on the path. Over time, people have turned scripture into lyrics to express their emotions and devotion to their faith. Others have simply let the notes tell their story. Listed is a sampling of movies and music that you might explore this Lenten season as you look and listen for God's word for you.



### Movies

- The Mission (1986)
- The Way (2010)
- Wild (2017)
- The Courageous Heart of Irena Sendler
- The Zookeeper's Wife
- Changing Lanes
- The Apostle
- Godspell
- Jesus Christ Superstar
- King of Kings
- Mary, Mother of Jesus
- Shadowlands
- The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe
- The Last Temptation of Christ
- The Shack
- Ben Hur
- The Ten Commandments
- Keeping the Faith
- The Passion of the Christ

### Music

- Handel's Messiah —Try some of the versions: "A Soulful Celebration"; Mormon Tabernacle Choir; Robert Shaw, Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and Chorus.
- Hymns we will be using during Lent include: "Come Now, You Blessed, Eat at My Table", "Blest Be The Tie That Binds" and "All Glory, Laud, and Honor" from the *Glory to God* hymnal
- Bach's *St. Matthew Passion*
- Haydn's *The Seven Last Words of Our Savior on the Cross*
- Listen for what is playing on *KLove*, *The Fish*, or other Christian radio stations
- Share some of your favorite songs on the *Closer Walk with Thee* Facebook™ group

# Reflections from Reading Group

USE THIS SPACE to reflect on what you've read. Add pages to your binder if needed.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thick red border, occupying most of the page. It is intended for the user to write their reflections on the text they have read.