

ASH WEDNESDAY COLLECTION

The collection to aid the Church in Central and Eastern Europe will take place on **Ash Wednesday, February 17, 2010**. This special collection supports seminaries, social service programs, youth ministry, pastoral centers, schools, church construction and renovation, and the spreading of the Gospel message through Catholic mass media.

LENTEN REMINDERS – FAST AND ABSTINENCE

Ash Wednesday, **February 17, 2010**, and **Good Friday, April 2, 2010**, are days of abstinence from meat and also days of fast, that is, limited to a single full meal. With regard to Good Friday, the teaching of the Second Vatican Council should be recalled. Let the paschal fast be kept sacred. Let it be celebrated everywhere on Good Friday and, where possible, prolonged throughout Holy Saturday, so that the joys of the Sunday of the Resurrection may be attained with uplifted and clear mind (*Constitution on the Liturgy, No 110*). The other Fridays of the season of Lent are days of abstinence from meat. The law of abstinence binds all Catholics 14 years and older. The law of fasting binds all Catholics from their 18th birthday until their 59th birthday (canons 97 and 1252).

With regard to the obligatory days listed above, however, there are frequent questions about the degree of seriousness of the matter. The teaching of Pope John Paul II may be simply paraphrased: the obligation to do penance is a serious one; the obligation to observe, as a whole or “substantially,” the penitential days specified by the Church is also serious. No one should be scrupulous in this regard; failure to observe an individual day of penance is not considered serious. People should seek to do more rather than less. Fast and abstinence on the days prescribed should be considered a minimum response to the Lord’s call to penance and conversion.

SOUP AND BREAD Dinners will be held again during Lent at St. Ann’s. Friday, February 19th it will be held in the Parish offices. After that, they will be held in the School cafeteria, except for the Fish Fry on March 12. The Soup and Bread dinner will held before the Stations of the Cross at 7 p.m. If you would like to volunteer to bring some soup & bread to share, please call Connie Jacquemin at 860-2653.

P.A.C. ANNUAL FISH FRY – SAVE THE DATE!

Friday, March 12th in the School cafeteria. Come for good food, games and great company. *Everyone is welcome!*

