

Analogies for Lent (time to get ready)



An analogy is a comparison of how one thing is like another. See if you can supply the missing word in each of the following analogies. For practice, figure out the word that completes this analogy:

Cat is to feline as dog is to _____. (*canine*)

Supply the missing word in each of the following analogies.

1. Advent is to Christmas as _____ is to Easter.
2. Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade is to New York City as _____ is to New Orleans.
3. Green is to Ordinary Time as violet is to _____.
4. Repentance is to Lent as _____ is to Easter.
5. The First Sunday of Advent is to Advent as _____ is to Lent.
6. The Israelites' time in the desert is to forty years as Jesus' time in the desert is to _____.
7. Saint Anne is to Mary as Mary is to _____.
8. Jesus is to the Great Commandment as Moses is to the _____.
9. Green is to growth as _____ is to penance.
10. _____ is to fasting as Easter is to feasting.

Word Bank

forty days
Mardi Gras
Ten Commandments
Advent
Joy
Lent
Violet
Ash Wednesday
Jesus

GROWING CATHOLICS

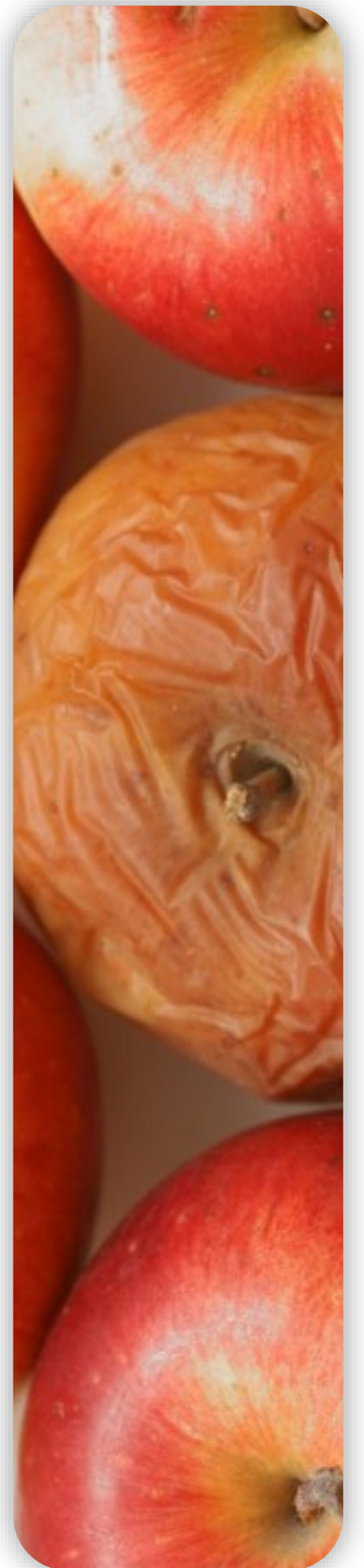
Leaflet

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday Gospel • February 13, 2022 Luke 6:39-45

Can a blind person guide a blind person?
Will not both fall into a pit?
No disciple is superior to the teacher;
but when fully trained,
every disciple will be like his teacher.
Why do you notice the splinter in your brother's eye,
but do not perceive the wooden beam in your own?
How can you say to your brother,
'Brother, let me remove that splinter in your eye,'
when you do not even notice the wooden beam in your
own eye? You hypocrite! Remove the wooden beam from
your eye first; then you will see clearly to remove the
splinter in your brother's eye.

"A good tree does not bear rotten fruit,
nor does a rotten tree bear good fruit.
For every tree is known by its own fruit.
For people do not pick figs from thorn bushes,
nor do they gather grapes from brambles.
A good person out of the store of goodness in his heart
produces good, but an evil person out of a store of evil
produces evil; for from the fullness of the heart the mouth
speaks."



EVERYONE SHOULD KNOW

The Fruits of the Spirit

(Galatians 4:22-23) are:

Love
Joy
Peace
Patience
Kindness
Goodness
Gentleness
Faithfulness
Self-control



FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT

What are the good fruits that you have to bring forth to count as a good tree? The Bible lists nine fruits (above) but traditionally the Church has listed twelve (those above, plus generosity, chastity and modesty) ...

- Five fruits have to do with your relation to the Lord.
- Four fruits have to do with your attitude towards your neighbor.
- Three fruits have to do with your attitudes about yourself.

If you have all these good fruits of the Spirit, it will be easy to recognize you as the good tree that you are!



SEEDS FOR CONVERSATION

Are you aware of your own blind spots? What might they be?

What might you be afraid to see in your own life?

Imagine your circle of friends. What would they say is the "beam in your eye"? (The thing you refuse to see about yourself.) Would they be accurate?

Would you trust your family members to be honest with you about the beam in your eye?

Do the things you say about others build up the Kingdom of God or tear it down?

When someone begins a sentence with, "I don't want to criticize, but..." what are they going to do? (are you ever guilty of this?)

What are some concrete ways you can act on your faith this week? How will this help your family?



LENT begins Wednesday, and the day before is traditionally a day of pre-fast jollity and fun. *Fat Tuesday* is the English for *Mardi Gras*. In other countries the day is known as *Shrove Tuesday*

(England) or *Maslenitsa* (Russia), or *Sprengidagur* in Iceland (which, delightfully, means "Bursting Day"). At any rate, it is time for fun and in many countries, for pancakes. It's the perfect fun meal because it is easy, too. Adding the "as much bacon as you can eat" rule makes it quite popular at my house. Set the table festively, grab some dollar-store bright necklaces, perhaps a few balloons (to burst, perhaps)...it is quite easy to make this a memorable preliminary to a focused Lent.

YOUR CRATE IS COMING

Lenten Crates will be available this Sunday(!) and they include many ideas to help you make this a meaningful Lent, based on the three traditional Lenten disciplines:



At the center of the crate activities is a "**Jesus Tree**" activity that will lead you through the entire Gospel of Matthew. Experiencing the entire story of Jesus' life and teaching, concluding with His death and Resurrection at Easter time will be both educational and spiritually worthwhile.

We're including some crafts and a hands-on way for you to count your prayer, fasting and giving during Lent (in a way that will transform delightfully at Easter time.)

We're also including the traditional **Rice Bowl** materials for use during Lent and an **Easter Candle** to decorate.

I hope you can still use your "Lent in a Bag" from last year (the bowl, sand and symbols, as well as your Holy Week eggs!

You can also check out the Children's Corner in the Gathering Space for a few ideas, but pick *what will work for you* - not everything! Trying to do too much is a way to end up doing nothing at all. (Experience speaking.)

LENT facts

Lent is the 40 days from Ash Wednesday to Easter...but...

Since Sundays aren't included, the *season* of Lent technically lasts 46 days.

The number 40 is a significant number because Jesus spent 40 days in the desert.

The tradition of Lent began around the year 325.

Lent comes from the Middle English word "*lente*," which means springtime.

Traditionally, Catholics did not eat meat from any warm-blooded animal during Lent.

This rule has been relaxed to abstaining from meat on Fridays. (but you can always do more)

Lent doesn't actually end on Easter; it ends on Holy Thursday. Thursday, Friday and Saturday of Holy Week are called the *Sacred Triduum*.

All Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 should fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. That means limiting oneself to one regular-sized meal and two much smaller meals, none of which include meat.