

*From the Parochial Vicar's Desk*



*So here we are. It's the Second Sunday of Lent and we have embarked upon our sacred journey to Easter. It is wonderful seeing so many make the special effort to celebrate morning Masses (8:30-SFA/9:30SIJ-Wed.) & the 7 pm Friday Stations. If we take this Lenten Season seriously, then, in a very real sense, we truly are on a sacred journey...inward and closer to the Lord. Even though we attempt to read the scriptures daily (see the readings posted with the daily mass schedule) and strive for Lenten renewal, we will still encounter all sorts of spiritual storms through which we will have to navigate on our journey. There will be times when we will be tempted to be lazy, selfish, or self indulgent. From time to time, our pride will raise its ugly head. Yet, if we keep focused on the goal, paying close attention to our 'Captain' on these 40 days of Lent, we will arrive at the shores of Easter Sunday safely, enjoying an ever-closer relationship with Our Risen Savior. This wonderful, 'renewal,' Lenten Season mirrors the seasons of life itself. For example, during Lent, we travel from Ash Wednesday to Good Friday and then, on to the incredible truth of Easter Sunday. So too with daily life itself. In life, we travel from the womb to the tomb, then on to the incredible truth of our Final Destination.*

*There will be many tests and trials with which to deal before we reach that distant shore, beyond the horizon, invisible to the physical eye. There will be signs and beacons of light along the way. As a faith community, our parish-family is a lighthouse, a light in the darkness, to help show us the way.*

*At this time of 'holy journey' & 'renewal,' one might ask oneself:*

***"Can I get there from here? Do I support and participate in my parish life as best I can? Have I learned to truly forgive and to truly apologize? Am I a beacon of light in the darkness for those around me ...or am I just another stumbling block along the rocky shores of life?"***

*Sincerely and in Him ...offered-on-Friday,  
--fr.t.*