



40 DAYS OF PRAYER

for

PARISHES IN TRANSITION

Day 1: Monday, April 16

SCRIPTURE READING: Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Prayer: O Faithful God, We ask you to guide us in our time of transition. We need your wisdom, that we might be receptive to change, conversion and growth.

Day 2: Tuesday, April 17

SCRIPTURE READING: Ephesians 4:4-6

There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Prayer: Lord, we need your grace to redirect our hearts so we may be willing to offer ourselves in joyful service. Do not allow fear, ignorance or pride to limit the work of your Spirit. Amen.

Day 3: Wednesday, April 18

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 4:1-3

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Prayer: Dear Father, We need You. I need you. I need you to wrap your arms around me and help me understand that it's a good thing I don't understand everything. How can I possibly comprehend your plan for my life, my parish or of the entire world? Help me to trust. Amen.

Day 4: Thursday, April 19

Scripture Reading: John 15:1-4, 8

I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

Prayer: O God, you know us better than we know ourselves. Guide us throughout our time of transition. Empower each one of us to use our unique gifts to create a spirit filled parish, to share openly and honestly our time, talent and treasure, to respect the opinions of others, and to live lives of humility, patience and joy. Amen.

Day 5: Friday, April 20

Scripture Reading: John 15:9-12

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

Prayer: Lord, instill in us a vision of the life you intended for us to lead. Guided by your Holy Spirit, we will be united in love and joyfully accomplish your mission of love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Day 6: Saturday, April 21

Scripture Reading: John 15:16-17

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. These things I command you, so that you will love one another.

Prayer: God of Love, you are with us in every transition and change. As we enter into this new era with excitement and even some anxiety, help us to remember your deep compassion, presence, and abounding love. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.