

## **LENT 2023**

### **“Enlarging the Space of Your Tent”**

This Lent, as we had done in previous years (before the pandemic) we have decided to have a theme to help us in our Lenten season. Hopefully, you have noticed the ‘Large Tent’ in each worship site, to help us to focus on our “journey together”. This quote from Isaiah 54:2 which is the translation of the word “SYNOD”. Based on the document from the Vatican, “**Enlarging the Space of Your Tent,**” informing us on the survey that the whole world was invited to take. This report is providing valuable feedback to the People of God (Church) regarding the survey. It was decided that this would not only be a great theme for our Lent, but also keep us connected to the Synodal process that will end in 2024. Below are some things that you are invited to keep in mind and to put in your calendar for the beautiful season of Lent.

- Each week, emphasis will be placed on one of 5 themes that has come from the Synod Document: Week 1, **Listening**; Week 2, **Mission**; Week 3, **Dignity**; Week 4, **Communion**; and Week 5, **Liturgy**. All designed to expand our understanding of what it means to be “Church”. While at the same time, bringing us closer to God and one another.
- Each Weekend Mass will begin with the announcement of our theme followed by a 2-3 sentence reflection, to help focus us for the Liturgy.
- For the next 40 days, emphasis will be placed on **SILENCE**. We are invited to save our conversations for after Mass (tough one for me!!).
- You are invited to use the whole church space for prayer... a lot of time and effort has gone into preparing our worship sites for our Lenten Season, look at the tent... bring our younger companions! Please, take advantage of it to help us in our Lenten journey!
- Be sure to see the beautiful sign made by our Religious Education Program: some very thought-provoking tidbits can be found here!!
- Some dates to keep in mind:
  - March 15: Evening Prayer 7:00 pm at St. Matthew's WS
  - March 22: Reconciliation Service 7:00 pm St. Rose WS
  - April 4: Chrism Mass Cathedral Immaculate Conception

Have a Holy and Blessed Lent!

Fr. David