



## Our Lady of Sorrows

Traditional Catholic Mission Central Texas

### Upcoming Mass Details:

Date/Time/Location:

Sunday, March 9, 2025

Confession 4:30pm – Mass 5:00pm

Courtyard by Marriott Austin Dripping Springs – Meeting Room #2

1002 Rob Shelton Blvd, Dripping Springs, TX 78620

### Contact information:

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### Announcements

- Wednesday is Ash Wednesday and a day of Fast and Complete Abstinence
- During Lent, all 21-59 inclusively are bound to the rules of fasting. One main meal with two small meals which do not add up to the size of the main meal, with meat being taken only at the primary meal, unless a day of full abstinence.
- Ashes will be distributed after Mass next Sunday

### Note From Father

Dear Faithful,

Well, I was not able to successfully dodge the sickness which had fallen upon Bp. McGuire and many others at St. Gertrude's. Mercifully, however, it did not hit me nearly as hard as it had the Bishop and I was still functional and able to depart for the "Tour of Ashes". I have taken the "High Road" while Fr. Simpson takes the "Low Road"... That is I am serving St. Hugh and all the Northern Missions, while Fr. Simpson begins his trek to all the southern missions, in Texas. It is a fierce pace of mission work to get blessed ashes to everyone during the allotted time between Ash Wednesday and the First Sunday of Lent, but it is important for us to be able to give this highly symbolic and powerful sacramental to as many as possible, quite literally marking the start of Lent.

I pray that you give generously to Our Lord this penitential season, may be aided in perseverance in your offerings, and reap many spiritual fruits and obtain much growth in sanctification from this holiest of seasons!

In Christ, *Fr. Stephen McKenna*

### Set Your Missal

Lent I, second collect of St Frances of Rome. Preface of Lent.

### Prayer for the Start of Lent

O Lord Jesus, my Divine Redeemer, Who didst fast forty days and forty nights in the desert for my sake and the glory of Thy Eternal Father, help me observe this Lent more perfectly than ever in the past! Following Thy example, and with Thy assistance, may I persevere in penance, fastings, prayers and good works as befits my state of life and abilities. Help me thereby atone for my past sins, gain merit and future glory, and make reparation for the sins and outrages and apostasy of our times. May this Lent be for me an occasion of greater purification, the rooting out of my faults, and my more perfect formation into Thy image. Allow me not to yield to modern abandonment of traditional penances, but rather adhere to them with greater vigor, humility, and purity of purpose. In this Lent may I redouble my prayers and efforts for my own personal sanctification and the triumph of Thy Kingdom over the rising forces of evil and world disorder: and so to prepare myself not only for the holy days of Easter, but for the ultimate triumph of Thy Sacred Heart and our Immaculate Queen over the kingdom of Satan and Antichrist. Amen.



### **Prayer for the Start of Lent**

*(Prayer for the forgiveness of Sins)*

O God, Who rejectest none that come unto Thee, but in loving-kindness art appeased even with the greatest sinners who repent: mercifully regard our prayers in our humiliation, and enlighten our hearts, that we may be able to fulfill Thy commandments.

*(Prayer for the Tempted and Afflicted)*

O God, Who justifiest the ungodly, and willest not the death of a sinner: we humbly entreat Thy Majesty to protect Thy servants, who trust in Thy mercy, with Thy heavenly assistance, and preserve them by Thy continual protection; that they may constantly serve Thee, and by no temptation be separated from Thee.

*(Prayer Against Evil Thoughts)*

Almighty and most Merciful God, graciously hearken unto our prayers: and free our hearts from the temptations of evil thoughts; that we may worthily become a fit habitation for Thy Holy Spirit.

### **On the Fast of Lent**

*By Richard Challoner, 1807*

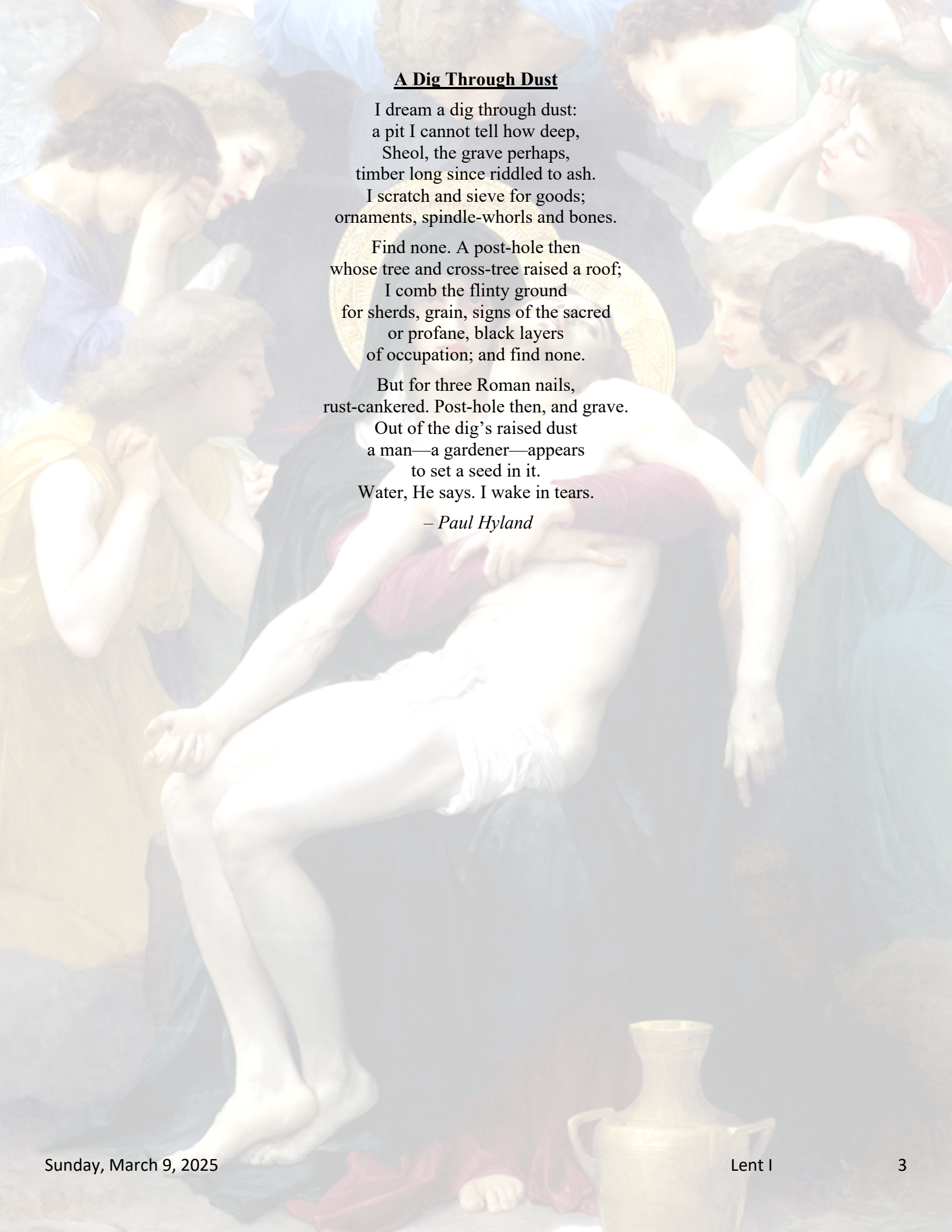
Consider first, that a fast of forty days has been recommended by the law and the prophets, and sanctified by the example of Christ himself. Moses fasted forty days, (Exod. xxiv. 18,) whilst he conversed with God in the mountain, when he received the divine law. And again, when the people had sinned, he returned to the Lord, to the mountain, and fasted other forty days, Exod. xxxiv. 28. Elias fasted forty days in the wilderness, before he came to the mountain of God, where he was favoured with the vision of God, as far as man is capable of seeing Him in this life, 3 Kings xix. 8. Christ our Lord, before He entered upon His mission of preaching His Gospel, retired into a wilderness and there employed forty days in prayer and fasting, St. Matt. iv. 2. How happy shall we be, if, by imitating according to our small ability, these great examples, we may also draw near to God, by this forty days' fast of Lent! But then, in order to this, we must join, as they did, retirement and much prayer with our fasting.

Consider 2ndly, that the forty days fast of Lent amongst Christians, is primitive and apostolical: it began with Christianity itself, and with Christianity has been received by all people and nations which have received the faith and law of Christ. Embrace then, O my soul, this solemn penitential fast, this apostolical practice, this precious remnant of primitive discipline. But see it be with a penitential spirit. 'Behold, now is the acceptable time, behold, now is the day of salvation,' 2 Cor. vi. 2. Take thou care not to receive so great a grace in vain. These forty days, if thou make good use of them, will be happy days to thee. 'O seek the Lord whilst He may be found, call upon Him while He is near.' Isaias lv. 6

Consider 3rdly, that the great business of Lent is to do penance for our sins, to go daily with Magdalene to the feet of Christ, to wash them in spirit with penitential tears, to make our confession to Him, and to lay down all our sins at His feet, begging that He would cancel them with His precious blood; to renounce them for ever, to detest them, and bewail them in His sight; to offer Him our poor hearts with all our affections, in order to make Him the best amends we can for our past disloyalties, by loving Him with all our power for the time to come, that, as He said of Magdalene, St. Luke vii. 47, 'Many sins are forgiven her, because she hath loved much,' so He may also say of us. In this spirit we should make a daily offering of our fasting, and of all other self-denials and penitential exercises of this time, to be united to the passion and death of the Son of God, and so to be accepted of, through Him, in satisfaction for our sins. O do this, my soul, during these forty days, and thou shalt live.

Conclude to make good use of this holy time, in which mercy flows. O admire and adore that mercy which has endured thee so long, and which presses thee now, at least, to return to Thy God. O take care lest, provoked by thy impotence, He cut thee off in thy sins.





### A Dig Through Dust

I dream a dig through dust:  
a pit I cannot tell how deep,  
Sheol, the grave perhaps,  
timber long since riddled to ash.  
I scratch and sieve for goods;  
ornaments, spindle-whorls and bones.

Find none. A post-hole then  
whose tree and cross-tree raised a roof;  
I comb the flinty ground  
for sherds, grain, signs of the sacred  
or profane, black layers  
of occupation; and find none.

But for three Roman nails,  
rust-cankered. Post-hole then, and grave.  
Out of the dig's raised dust  
a man—a gardener—appears  
to set a seed in it.  
Water, He says. I wake in tears.

— *Paul Hyland*