



**Why Do Catholics “Give Something Up” for Lent?**

The Church encourages Catholics to “give something up” for Lent as a form of self-denial and spiritual discipline. However, rather than simply abstaining from social media or sweets, Catholics should reflect on what truly inhibits their relationship with Christ. Lent is an opportunity to identify and remove these obstacles, not just for the 40 days of the season but for a lifetime.

St. Francis de Sales teaches that true devotion is about transformation, not just temporary acts of piety: *“Let us frequently call to mind that if we wish to enjoy the peace of our souls amid the difficulties of this world, it is not in great things, but in small ones, that we must be strong and constant.”*

Other saints also emphasized the importance of removing deep-seated spiritual impediments:

- St. John of the Cross warned against attachments, even to good things, if they prevent us from fully surrendering to God.
- St. Augustine cautioned against pride, stating, *“It was pride that changed angels into devils; it is humility that makes men as angels.”*
- St. Teresa of Avila advised that distractions, excessive busyness, and idle chatter take us away from deeper contemplation of God.
- St. Ignatius of Loyola encouraged daily self-examination to identify disordered attachments that hinder spiritual progress.

**St Francis de Paula Parish**

303 Encino Tularosa, NM 88352

575-585-2793

Mission Santo Niño de Atocha, Three Rivers



**March 8, 2026**

*3rd Sunday of Lent*

**Mass Times:**

Saturday: Vigil Mass 5:30pm

Sunday: Mass 11:00am

**Weekdays:**

Mass: 8:00am Wednesday & Friday

Communion Service: 8:00am

Tuesday & Thursday

1st Friday of the Month Anointing:

Holy Days: 8:00 am Mass and

6:00 pm (Mass)

**Pastor** - Father Patrick Montgomery

[pmontgomery@rcdlc.org](mailto:pmontgomery@rcdlc.org)

575-642-6934

**Deacon** Mariano Melendrez

[Mcm344484@gmail.com](mailto:Mcm344484@gmail.com)

**DRE**- Janie Aragon

575-430-7355

**Office Hours:** Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 10am-12am & 1pm - 3pm

**PRE-BAPTISM:** Contact Office

**BAPTISM CELEBRATION:** LAST Saturday of the month 10:00 am

**COMMUNION TO THE SICK:** To schedule Call Barbara Reay

575-430-4547

**MARRIAGE:** There is a six-month preparation period

**CONFESSION:** Will be Thursday’s 4pm-6pm EXCEPT the Thursday BEFORE

1st Friday

**Thrift Store:** Tuesday 9:00am-2:00pm

**Food Pantry:** Wednesday 3:00pm-5:00pm

**Mass Intentions must go through the office**

If you would like to have any announcements in the bulletin please contact the office or Brianna at 575-921-1025 or [bchavez32@yahoo.com](mailto:bchavez32@yahoo.com)

**BEFORE WEDNESDAY**

### Mass Intentions

**Saturday, March 7th 5:30pm** — † St Rita (special intention), Francisco & Maria Cereceres

**Sunday, March 8th 11:00am** — † Emilio Montoya

**Tuesday March 10th 8:00am** — † **Communion Services**

**Wednesday, March 11th 8:00am** — † St Rita (special intention)

**Thursday, March 12th 8:00am** — † **Communion Services**

**Friday, March 13th 8:00am** — † Santo Nino de Atoche

**Saturday, March 14th 5:30pm** — † St Rita (special intention), Fidel & Margarita Sanchez, Eloy Sanchez

**Sunday, March 15th 11:00am** — † Margaret Martinez, Marylou Stone

**\*\*Communion Services on Tuesday & Thursday\*\***

### Please Pray for the sick in our Parish

Kelton Starr, Naomi Pino, Gloria Diaz, Manny Diaz, Geralyn Aragon, Sylvia Duran, Joe & Yvonne Padilla, Jude Lovato, Jeff Aragon, Larry Stansel

### Second Collection for March 14-15, 2026

The **Catholic Relief Services Collection** fund allows parishioners to share resources with those parishes in our diocese unable to raise sufficient emergency funds when needed for facility repairs. **Please be generous towards our poorer parishes.**  
**Thank you!**

**ADORATION:** We are in dire need of substitutes. If you cannot commit to an hour, PLEASE, consider becoming a sub. Contact Naomi at 575-551-2498.

**This weeks readings can be found in the Missal on pages:**  
**69-72**

**Weekend Total Regular Collection**  
**02/22/2026**  
**\$2,478.32**

**Children's Mass: March 8, 2026**

Stations of the cross every Friday at 6pm during Lent

### Sacristans for the Month of February

**Saturday 5:30pm**— Rosa & Christine  
**Sunday 11:00am**— Ruthina & Rose

### Readers

**Saturday, January 5:30pm**— Steve & Liz Chavez  
**Sunday, 11:00am**— Children's mass

### **Fiesta News:**

We need the following donations for our food booths. Here is a list of items needed: Onions, Crackers, Potatoes, Variety of chips, Green chili (Frozen), and Red Chili. Also!! OUR famous baked goods for the Cake walk booth the day of the fiesta. ANY CASH donation will work as well. For any questions please contact any of the following  
Jordan Gaston (575)430-2986, Jon Salazar (720)926-2376, Jennifer Gaston (575)430-8930

If your child is interested in folklorico dancing, there will be sign-ups after the 11am mass Sunday, March 8th until 2pm. If you are unable to make this sign up, please reach out to Darlene 575-491-9562, Savannah 575-491-9827 or Brianna Chavez 575-921-1025

### Catholic Trivia

**Q: what language is it generally believed the text of the New Testament was originally written?**

A. Koine Greek

Donations for new or "re-gifted items are needed for Fiesta Bingo, kids games or dollar shop. Please contact Barbara Reay for pick up 575-430-4547

### Ushers for the month of March

**Saturday 5:30pm**— David Pino  
**Sunday 11:00am**— Gilbert Gaston

### Alter Servers

**Saturday 5:30pm** — Sheacy Lathan, EJ Padilla  
**Sunday 11:00am**- Robert Melendrez, Michael & Catherine Williams, Andrew Gibbs

### Easter Sunday!

We will have our Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, April 5th after the 11:00 mass. Donations needed of individual Wrapped candy or Cash donations are welcome as well. Please call Jennifer Gaston for pick up (575)430-8930

### United in Ministry 2026

### ONE IN CHRIST

**Forming Faith, Inspiring Hope, Renewing Love**

**For more information call 575-523-7577**

**Envelopes are located at the back of the church**

Lenten Penance Service will be held Wednesday, March 25, 2026 at St Jude in Alamogordo at 6pm.