

March 5, 2017

# THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT 8:00 a.m. HOLY EUCHARIST Rite I 10:00 a.m. HOLY EUCHARIST Rite II

Saint Peter's Episcopal Church Hebron, Connecticut The Rev. Everett C. Perine, Rector Josh Ziemski, Organist 860-228-3244 ~ office@stpetershebron.com www.stpetershebron.com; Facebook

# THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I

#### **A PENITENTIAL ORDER**

We Prepare Ourselves with<br/>CelebrantReflection and Confession to Observe a Holy Lent<br/>Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins

People His mercy endureth forever.

A Call to the Observance of a Holy Lent The Decalogue and Summary of the Law

The Confession and Absolution

#### THE WORD OF GOD

#### We Listen to God's Word

The Collect for the Day and Readings from the Lectionary (*Readings may be found on the last page of the bulletin*) The Sermon The Reverend Everett Perine

# We Proclaim Our Belief

The Nicene Creed

We Offer Prayers of Intercession, and Thanksgiving The Prayers of the People

We Are Reconciled to One Another through God's Love and Forgiveness The Peace

### THE HOLY COMMUNION

#### We Offer Our Gifts to God

Bread and wine for our Eucharistic meal are brought to the altar on behalf of the gathered body. The ushers collect the offering of gifts from the people and present them at the altar as an offering to God

We Proclaim Our Faith	
The Eucharistic Prayer I	BCP page 333
The Lord's Prayer	BCP page 336
We Come Humbly Before God to Share Communion	
The Breaking of the Bread and Invitation to Communion	BCP page 337
O Lamb of God	BCP page 337
The people come forward to receive the bread and the wine	
The Communion	
We Are Sent Out Into the World	
The Post Communion Prayer	BCP page 339
The Lenten Blessing	BCP page 336

People	Thanks be to God.
The Dismissal	Let us bless the Lord.
The Lenten Blessing	
The Fost Communion	Flayer

BCP page 264 BCP page 317 BCP page 320

BCP page 326

BCP page 329

#### 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II

#### Prelude: "Voluntary in A minor"

Anonymous

#### We Prepare Ourselves with Reflection and Confession to Observe a Holy Lent

<b>Opening Hymn #150 "Forty days and forty nights"</b>	Aus der Tiefe rufe ich
Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins	
People His mercy endures forever.	
A Call to the Observance of a Holy Lent	BCP page 264
The Decalogue and Summary of the Law	BCP page 350
The Confession and Absolution	BCP page 352
Kyrie: S-86 "Kyrie"	Hurd

### THE WORD OF GOD

# We Listen to God's Word The Collect for the Day Readings from the Lectionary (Readings may be found on the last page of the bulletin) Antonio Vivaldi (arr. Hopson Sequence Anthem: "He Was Wounded" Antonio Vivaldi (arr. Hopson The Sermon The Reverend Everett Perine We Proclaim Our Belief BCP page 358 We Offer Prayers of Intercession, and Thanksgiving BCP page 388

We Are Reconciled to One Another through God's Love and Forgiveness

The Peace

#### THE HOLY COMMUNION

# We Offer Our Gifts to God

#### Offertory Hymn #574 "Before thy throne, O God, we kneel"

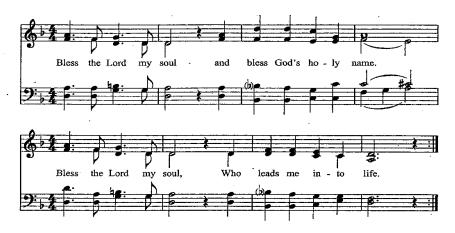
Bread and wine for our Eucharistic meal are brought to the altar on behalf of the gathered body. The ushers collect the offering of gifts and present them at the altar as an offering to God

#### We Proclaim Our Faith

The Eucharistic Prayer A **The Sanctus: #S-124"Holy, holy, holy Lord"** The Lord's Prayer

# We Come Humbly Before God to Share Communion

The Breaking of the Bread: WLP #825 "Bless the Lord my soul" (Sung 3 times)



The Invitation to Communion (*The people come forward to receive the bread and the wine*) The Communion The Communion Anthem: "Aria Cantabile" Samuel Wesley (ed

#### We Are Sent Out Into the World

 The Post Communion Prayer

 The Lenten Blessing

 Closing Hymn #142 "Lord, who throughout these forty days"

 The Dismissal

 People

 Thanks be to God.

Postlude: "Fugue in D minor"

Samuel Wesley (ed. C. Callahan)

BCP page 339 BCP page 336 *St. Flavian* 

Johann Pachelbel

During Lent, a Service for Healing will follow the conclusion of the Holy Eucharist. After the dismissal, anyone who wishes to participate in this service is invited to gather at the altar rail for a time of silent prayer and meditation.

St. Petersburg

BCP page 361

BCP page 364

Hurd

Taize

# A Word about the Ministry of Healing

The ministry of healing is part of the sacramental life of the Episcopal Church and all people, whether baptized or not, are welcome to come and receive this sacrament.

This sacrament emerges from our belief that the love of God through the presence of the Holy Spirit has the power to heal our emotional, physical and spiritual suffering. Although we may ask for a specific healing, we realize that it is God who decides how this healing is to occur. Healing may come to us in the form of physical recovery, emotional well-being or spiritual wholeness. The power of the healing service lies not with our expectation of results, but rather with our desire to allow the Spirit of God who dwells within us to transform our lives and help us to accept the healing power of God's love.

Celebrant	O God, be in our hearts and on our lips as we come before you seeking your healing love.			
	Silence is kept			
Celebrant	Brothers and sisters in Christ, if you wish to seek prayer, for yourself, on behalf of someone or for a crisis in the world, you are invited to receive the laying on of hands. Jesus says, "Come to me all you who are troubled and I will give you rest." So come, you who are burdened by regrets and anxieties, you who are broken in body or in spirit, you who feel deeply within yourselves the divisions and injustices of our world. Come, for Jesus invites us to bring him our brokenness.			
	Those who wish for laying-on of hands and anointing for healing may come forward. When all have received the sacrament of healing, the celebrant continues.			
Celebrant <b>People</b>	God of compassion and love, We offer you all of our suffering and pain. Give us strength to bear our weakness, healing even when there is no cure, peace in the midst of turmoil and love to fill the spaces of our lives. Glory to God, from whom all love flows, glory to Jesus, who showed his love through suffering, and glory to the Holy Spirit, who brings light to the darkest places. Amen.			
Celebrant <b>People</b>	God love you and have mercy upon you; through the cross of Christ, pardon you and set you free. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. God forgives you. Forgive others. Forgive yourself. In the name of the Lover of Souls, the Beloved, and the Love that exists between them, may the peace of God be always with you. And also with you.			
Celebrant	Go in peace, giving thanks for the healing power of God's love.			

Wednesday Evening Lenten Service: If you are looking to find some quiet time or time devoted to a simple Lenten discipline, please consider joining us during Lent for our Wednesday evening service. It begins at 7 p.m. with the Way of the Cross - a prayerful procession around the church, stopping at various "stations at crosses" to reflect on aspects of Jesus walk to the cross, death and burial. This is followed by our normal evening Communion service which includes a service of laying-on of hands and anointing with oil for healing. Periods of silence will be maintained throughout the service for those wishing to make "Being Silent with God" part of their Lenten discipline (please see last page of bulletin). Feel free to contact Father Perry for more information.

# PARISH FAMILY REMEMBRANCES AND THANKSGIVINGS ~ MARCH 5, 2017

- The Sanctuary Candle is given to the glory of God by Ellen & Curt Kraemer in loving memory of Shirley Kraemer
- We pray for our clergy: Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, the Presiding Bishop; Ian and Laura, the Bishops of Connecticut; and Perry our Priest;
- In St Peter's Cycle of Prayer we pray for all our parish family and especially for those who celebrate their birthdays this week: Brian Swanson (3/10), Betty Dombrowski (3/10), Leslie Hamilton (3/8), Barbara Alexander (3/5),
- In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for St. Barnabas', Greenwich; Christ Church, Guilford; St. John's, Guilford; The Connecticut Episcopal Clergy Association (ConnECA), clergy peer groups, and the Clergy Family Assistance Program

# Current Prayer List

- Prayers added the week of March 5: Jeremy, Gareth Bromell, Liz, John, Kathleen, Bill & June, Wendy, Sienna Roper; Phil Patros; Dianne Sayers; Jennifer, Frank Tomlinson; Derek, Nicky and Jackie, Cheryl F., Matt; Jules Bessette; Ruth Wilson, Diane; Joe, Cee-Cee; Dorothy; Dick Sage, Kathy; Julia, Dave; a Dear Friend; Emil & Annie; Ms. Kamins; Barbara Potterton; Louis Schluntz;
- **Prayers added the week of February 26:** Edward Murray, Susie, Henry Jones, Sam Docker, Michael Docker, Nicole, Janet Kay, Brian, Taylor Benson and Brian Benson, Kara Perriolat, The Caprara Family; Dianne Sayers, Mark and Linda Sayers Reynolds; Dawn; Christina; Sandra Hastings; The MacDonough Family; Rod & Janice Lambeth; Charles; The Conrad families, Deanne & John Bowen; Danielle, Chantelle and Kayleigh; Louis Domingue, Jim Vicevich, Bob & Bev Winter, Flo Columbe, Carolyn Asmuth, Caitlin Stevens, Richard MacRobbie, Janice Griffiths, Connie Rich, Mike Duval, Dianne Sayers, Donna Doyker and Marissa Garcia; Aly, Steffi; Susan; Elizabeth, Kim, Andrée, Dianna Tedesco; the Bossi and Liska families, Barbara and Family; Maidey and Ken, Everette; Jeanne, Sam; Helen and Family; Karen Emmons;
- Prayers added the week of February 19: Sienna Roper; Stephanie; Irene; Victoria, Paulette Likoudis, Bill, Walter, Melissa, Maidey, Jane, Jim & Bernie, Anna C.; John & the Romero family; Kelly; Tiffany Nicole, Chris; John & Sue; Lauren, Jeni, Kile, Lianie, Dana; Gina; Eva & Bill; The Gentino Family; Justin, Stephanie; Grace; Peter, the Kell family; Janet Kay; Sam Downey;
- We pray for all caregivers who selflessly give of themselves to care for loved-ones;
- We pray for all people suffering hunger, fear & displacement due to war and natural disaster;
- We pray for all with financial problems; those who have lost their jobs and homes; for the well-being of our families during life's changes; all who have suffered trauma; those who are ill, lonely or grieving; our veterans; all who travel; all those suffering with cancer; anyone who is hospitalized or disabled; those affected by natural disasters; and all abused, neglected and missing children.

# We pray for law enforcement officers.

We pray for healing and peace.

We pray for our whole nation: for peace, non-violence, and healing

We pray for our service men and women throughout the world.

We pray for all who have died, remembering especially Shirley Kraemer.

We give thanks for the many blessings of our lives and the joy we experience in our relationship with God.

# **Stewardship Corner**

# Our Vision: "Welcoming all. Serving our Community. Connecting with Others"

A life of Stewardship has as its foundation acts of generous giving. As part of our vision statement, "Serving Our Community" describes our intent to extend our generosity outward into the communities in which we live.

# "Serving our Community" Throughout the World

Our church school children have chosen to support those in need around the globe through the Episcopal Relief and Development Fund. Specifically, they chose three items to raise funds for - chickens, clean water, and fruit trees.

The children will be selling chocolate bars at coffee hour after church throughout Lent (so no giving up chocolate this year). The cost is \$2 per bar, or 3 bars for \$5. Please consider supporting their fundraiser.

# "Connecting with Others" In our Communities

<u>AHM Youth and Family Services</u> (in partnership with St. Peter's) is looking for volunteers to help with their newly designed Wildlife Trail situated on our wooded property adjacent to our parking lot across the street from the church. The Trail will be featured during the Maple Festival after which volunteers will be sought to help further develop and maintain the Trail for the enjoyment and education of young and old alike.

<u>ACHM Hunger Action Team</u> is a faith-based local group (serving Andover, Columbia, Hebron and Marlboro) that seeks to monitor and expand the local resources to provide support for local families in need. We are looking for one or more people from St. Peter's to represent us as they move forward. They generally meet on the second Wednesday of each month at 8:30 a.m.

**WAIM (Windham Area Interfaith Ministry)** would like to have a representative from St. Peter's to join their board that typically meets the last Thursday of each month at 6:15 p.m. for dinner followed by business meeting. WAIM began as a household goods distribution center for people in need in the Windham area, but has evolved into an organization that provides many services that may not be available from other sources. WAIM also has an opportunity for volunteers to act as Mentors to people who have gotten back on their feet and seek to improve their lives.

# "Connecting with Others" At St. Peter's

<u>Pastoral Care Ministry</u> is seeking parishioners who would like to visit and/or bring communion to the home bound and the sick. This ministry supports the work of the priest and serves our community by offering regular visitation to those who cannot make it to church. We also are hoping to recruit parishioners to join our numerous pastoral care ministries: bereavement, prayer shawl, meals to the homebound among others. Interested in becoming more involved in Pastoral Care? We will be meeting on Thursday evening, March 16 at 7:00 p.m. in the parish hall. Please join us!

<u>Newly Revived Liturgy Committee</u> will meet on Monday evening, March 6 at 7:00 p.m. in the parish hall. We will be discussing the format of all worship services and events during Lent and Holy Week. We'd love to have you add your voice to our discussion. Please join us.

If you are interested in any of these opportunities and would like more information, please contact me or one of our wardens: Rob Mangiafico and Barb Parkyn. **Please note: If you are already serving your community by volunteering your time, we would like to know about it!** 

Fr. Perry

# Parish News

# **Request for photos for parish directory**

At our last vestry meeting, we thought one simple and fun way to help develop connections would be to have a picture next to each name in the parish directory. This is optional, and the picture can be of your family, yourself, or something that represents who you are or reflects your personality and/or interest.

So, we are asking that you either email a picture/photo that you'd like next to your entry in the parish directory, or drop off a physical photo at the office. We would ask that you do this before March 7th, so we can put all of this together and send out the new parish directory by April 1st.

Barb and Rob, your wardens

# THINK SUMMER!

Camp Washington has issued its brochures for summer youth camp. They are on the table at the back of the church.

# LENT BEGINS ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1!

Lent officially began this past Wednesday. Here are the services in Lent:

**Sundays in Lent at 8 and 10:** Holy Eucharist beginning with the Penitential Rite. A Healing Service will be offered after each Eucharist for those who desire prayers for healing.

**Wednesday evenings in Lent:** Services start at 7 p.m. in the church with the "Way of the Cross" (an Episcopal version of the "Stations of the Cross") to be followed by our regular Communion service with healing liturgy.

#### Holy Week services to be announced.

# Some thoughts to guide us through Lent!

Our Gospel reading today recalls the transfiguration of Jesus on the mountaintop. When the moment is over, Jesus comes off the mountaintop and heads toward Jerusalem where he will enter in glory (Palm Sunday) before being arrested, tried and crucified (The Passion). He does not make the journey alone for he invites his disciple to join him, saying in effect, "Come walk with me." Accordingly, Jesus invites us to join him this Lent, following him on the path that leads to Jerusalem and the cross. That begs the question, "What does it mean to 'Walk with Jesus'?"

Here are some thoughts about practical ways we can walk with Jesus:

- Spend time in prayer (carve out a few moments each today be in prayer)
- Join in worship (Join us on Sundays for Eucharist followed by a Healing Service for interested parishioners. Join us on Wednesday evenings for Walking the Way of the Cross followed by a Healing Service and Communion.)
- Simplify our lives (Have simple meals and reduce "frivolous" spending)
- **Reassess our use of our resources** (Take inventory on what you spend your money on and what you neglect)
- Use our time and material resources to help others (Consider volunteering for one of our fundraisers or local support agencies; increase your pledging to St. Peters'; donate food and personal items to our monthly ingathering; reconnect with people who have been an important part of your life and thank them; take time to listen to others and, when appropriate, offer them your support)
- Maybe you have some ideas you would like to share! Consider submitting them to Sue Ostrout for inclusion in the Vision or pass them on to the office, to one of the wardens or to Father Perry!

# MARCH/APRIL

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
March 5	March 6	March 7	March 8	March 9	March 10	March 11
1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday Lent	Wardens'					
-	Meeting				Fr. Perry	
Holy Eucharist	9:15 am				Day off	
8 & 10						
10 a.m. Church	Liturgy	Choir practice	Holy Eucharist			
School G. Scouts	Planning Mtg.	6:30 pm	with Healing 7 pm			
	7 p.m.					
March 12	March 13	March 14	March 15	March 16	March 17	March 18
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday Lent						
Holy Euchowist	Wardens'				Fr. Perry	Community
Holy Eucharist 8 & 10	Meeting			Pastoral Care	Day off	Dinner
	9:15 am			meeting 7 pm		4 - 6 pm
10 a.m. Church						
School	Vestry 7 pm	Choir practice	Holy Eucharist			
Parish Town		6:30 pm	with Healing 7 pm			
Meetings 8 & 10						
March 19	March 20	March 21	March 22	March 23	March 24	March 25
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday Lent	March 20	March 21		March 25	1v1ai cii 24	iviar en 20
5 Sunday Lent	Wardens'				Fr. Perry	
Holy Eucharist	Meeting				Day off	
8 & 10	9:15 am	Choir practice	Holy Eucharist		Duyon	
10 a.m. Church	5.15 ull	6:30 pm	with Healing 7 pm			
School		0.50 pm	with freaming / pin			
March 26	March 27	March 28	March 29	March 30	March 31	April 1
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Lent						r
•					Fr. Perry	
Holy Eucharist	Wardens'				Day off	
8 & 10	Meeting	Choir practice			·	
10 a.m. Church	9:15 am	6:30 pm				
School		•	Holy Eucharist			
		Boy Scouts 7 pm	with Healing 7 pm			
Girl Scouts (KS)		• •				
April 2	April 3	April 4	April 5	April 6	April 7	April 8
5 <sup>h</sup> Sunday Lent			<b>Buildings and</b>			
			Grounds 7 pm		Fr. Perry	
Holy Eucharist	Wardens'	Choir practice			Day off	
8 & 10	Meeting	6:30 pm				
10 a.m. Church	9:15 am		Holy Eucharist			
School			with Healing 7 pm			
April 0	April 10	April 11	April 12	April 12	April 14	April 15
April 9 DALM	April 10	April 11	April 12	April 13	April 14	April 15
PALM (PASSION)	Wardens'				Er Dome	
(PASSION)					Fr. Perry	
SUNDAY Holy Euchorist	Meeting	Choir prostice	Holy Fuchariat		Day off	
Holy Eucharist	9:15 am	Choir practice 6:30 pm	Holy Eucharist with Healing 7 pm			
8 & 10						

# The Readings for the First Sunday in Lent

### The Collect

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

# The First Lesson: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die." But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

# The Psalm: Psalm 32

- 1 Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,\* and whose sin is put away!
- 2 Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt,\* and in whose spirit there is no guile!
- 3 While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, \* because of my groaning all day long.
- 4 For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; \* my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.
- 5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you,\* and did not conceal my guilt.
- 6 I said," I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." \* Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

7 Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; \*

when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

- 8 You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; \* you surround me with shouts of deliverance.
- 9 "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; \* will guide you with my eye.
- 10 Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; \*who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."
- 11 Great are the tribulations of the wicked; \* but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.
- 12 Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; \* shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

### The Second Lesson: Romans 5:12-19

As sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned-- sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

Therefore, just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

# The Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written,

'One does not live by bread alone,

but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.""

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you,'

and 'On their hands they will bear you up,

so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.""

Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.""

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

'Worship the Lord your God,

and serve only him.""

Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

# Taking on Silence with God

The Gospel for this day recalls Jesus' journey of 40 days and nights in the desert. Jesus used this period of silence to "commune" with God and prepare himself for the journey that lay ahead of him. Perhaps, following the way of Jesus, you would like to make silence part of your Lenten journey. If so, here are some suggestions to help you carve out a possible discipline for seeking silence in the desert this Lent:

# Find a place in your life to be your "desert" where you can set aside a period of quiet time to be with God:

- Set a time each day that you can devote to silence early morning, during work hours, before bed when is not important
- One minute, five minutes or even more the duration is not important, so begin with small amounts of time and build up to longer moments if you desire to do so
- If you find that you missed your allotted quiet time, stop what you are doing and take that moment to enter into your silence
- The place you choose as your "desert" is up to you it can be in a room of your house, in church, outdoors anywhere that you can be alone and be silent
- What you do, read or think during your time with God does not matter be creative and make it reflect who you are
  - You can read Scripture or Lenten devotionals followed by silence
  - You can walk the Way of the Cross in church
  - You can hold a hand-held cross or wrap yourself in a prayer-shawl
  - You can use meditation techniques or assume Yoga positions
  - You can simply walk and be silent
  - You can be silent as you cook or bake or work in your shop or fix your car

Don't set goals for yourself. Just allow the silence to let you want to move to the next encounter with God. Remember you are building a relationship with God and that takes time, it takes commitment and it takes a desire to want to continue.

Remember there is no one way to do this. Your journey is unique to you and the relationship you develop with God will be unique.

So, do whatever suits you, whatever it takes to carve out time with God in your life. But remember what the aim is:

# To spend quiet time with God, time that allows you to be silent and LISTEN to the One who loves you more than life itself.

May God bless you on your Lenten journey with God and may you find God filling your wilderness experience with a showering of God's grace and love.

# Father Perry +