READINGS & PRAYERS

February 15th - February 21st, 2021

Each week's readings and prayers are also online at www.newcitycincy.org/readings-prayers

We begin this week in the season of Epiphany but pivot to the liturgical season of Lent on Wednesday, as we observe Ash Wednesday. Lent is a season recalling Jesus' suffering and atoning death for us and calls us to renewed repentance. Lent lasts for 40 days (not counting Sundays) and leads up to Good Friday, the remembrance of Jesus' crucifixion.

Monday Psalm 6 | Isaiah 63.1-6 | 1 Timothy 1.1-17 | Mark 11.1-11

Father in heaven, the loving plan of your wisdom took flesh in Jesus Christ, and changed mankind's history by his command of perfect love. May our fulfillment of his command reflect your wisdom and bring your salvation to the ends of the earth.

Tuesday Psalm 7 | Isaiah 63.7-14 | 1 Timothy 1.18-2.15 | Mark 11.12-26

O God, the strength of al those who put their trust in you: Mercifully accept our prayers; and because in our weakness we can do nothing good without you, give us the help of your grace, that in keeping your commandments we may please you both in will and deed.

Ash Wednesday Psalm 8 | Jonah 3.1-4.11 | Hebrews 12.1-14 | Luke 18.9-14

Lord, protect us in our struggle against evil. As we begin the discipline of Lent, make this season holy. May we repent and confess, and rest on your unending mercy.

Thursday Psalm 9 | Deuteronomy 7.6-11 | Titus 1.1-16 | John 1.29-34

Lord, may everything we do begin with your inspiration, continue with your help, and reach perfection under your guidance.

Friday Psalm 10 | Deuteronomy 7.12-16 | Titus 2.1-15 | John 1.35-42

Lord, with your loving care guide the penance we have begun. Help us preserve with love and sincerity.

Saturday Psalm 11 | Deuteronomy 7.17-26 | Titus 3.1-15 | John 1.43-51

Father, look upon our weakness and reach out to help us with your loving power.

Sunday Psalm 12 | Jeremiah 9.23-24 | 1 Corinthians 1.18-31 | Mark 2.18-22

Father, through our observance of Lent, help us to understand the meaning of your Son's death and resurrection, and teach us to reflect it in our lives.

*These readings and prayers are collected & adapted from For All the Saints: A Prayer Book For and By the Church

NEW CITY CATECHISM

Q24: Why was it necessary for Christ, the Redeemer, to die?

A: Since death is the punishment for sin, **Christ died willingly in our place to deliver us from the power and penalty of sin and bring us back to God.** By his substitutionary atoning death, he alone redeems us from hell and gains for us forgiveness of sin, righteousness, and everlasting life.