

ASH WEDNESDAY

February 18, 2026



Everyone is welcome to join us via Zoom.us
06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Zoom meeting opens at 5:45 PM.

The link to join the meeting is

<https://zoom.us/j/231599312?pwd=bHJMT1NZOEtERE1oOTQwdS84NU45Zz09>

For those joining by phone or through an app, you will need meeting ID and password:

Meeting ID: 231 599 312 Password: 333 333

One tap mobile

+16468769923,,231599312# US (New York)

+13126266799,,231599312# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 231 599 312 Password: 333 333

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/abm1zHjEP>

Additional Instructions and Preparation

- When signing into Zoom liturgy, kindly type your name and where you're joining us from in your caption.
- Mute mic and chat functions help to optimize your experience during the liturgy.

Suggestions for Ash Wednesday and the Lenten Season:

- Participate in the DignityUSA weekly Lenten refection each Wednesday at 8 pm ET.
- Fasting on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday
- Dedicate set time for pray, quiet time or meditation
- Help defeat anti- LGBTQI actions (bills, policies, appointments) by writing to your politicians, corporations who have supported the politicians, participate in rallies, etc.
- Donate to food banks
- Take time to clean closets and cabinets and give away unwanted items.
- Do something small that will make a difference. Love is stronger than hate.
- Spend time to recharge yourself.

GATHERING

Hymn

Ashes

Tom Conry

1. We rise again from ashes, from the good we've failed to do.
We rise again from ashes, to create ourselves anew.
If all our world is ashes, then must our lives be true,
An offering of ashes, an offering to you.
2. We offer you our failures, we offer you attempts,
The gifts not fully given, the dreams not fully dreamt.
Give our stumblings direction, give our visions wider view,

An offering of ashes, an offering to you.
3. Then rise again from ashes, let healing come to pain,
Though spring has turned to winter, and sunshine turned to rain.
The rain we'll use for growing, and create the world anew

From an offering of ashes, an offering to you.

WELCOME

Sign of The Cross & Greeting

Presider: Let us begin in the name of God, who is Creator,
Redeemer, and Sanctifier.

All: **Amen.**

Presider: May the grace and peace of God be with each of us.

All: **And also with you.**

Presider: We begin this Lent by asking God to be with us this Lent in our daily lives
and to shower us with love and mercy.

Opening Prayer

WORD

First Reading

Joel 2: 1, 12-17

The Word of God. **R/ Thanks be to God.**

Responsory

Hosea

Gregory Norbert

1. Come back to me with all your heart. Don't let fear keep us apart.
Trees do bend, 'though straight and tall; so must we to others' call.

Long have I waited for your coming home to me and living deeply our new life.

2. The wilderness will lead you to your heart where I will speak.
Integrity and justice, With tenderness, you shall know.

Long have I waited for your coming home to me and living deeply our new life.

3. You shall sleep secure with peace; faithfulness will be your joy.

Long have I waited for your coming home to me and living deeply our new life.

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 5:20 — 6:2

The Word of God. R/ **Thanks be to God.**

Acclamation:

Return to God

**Return to God with all your heart, the source of grace and mercy;
come seek the tender faithfulness of God**

Gospel

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-1

May God be with you. **R: And also with you.**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew **Glory to You, O God.**

The Good News of Salvation! **R. Return to God with all your heart, the source of
grace and mercy; come seek the tender faithfulness of God.**

Reflection

Danny Larkin

BLESSING AND DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES

Prayer of Blessing

God, bless these ashes we are about to use, that they are reminder of the work we called to do throughout our lives and in particular during Lent. Amen.

Distribution

Person who just received ashes will place ashes on *put ashes on the forehead of the next person by making a cross and saying out loud,*

Come to Jesus with all your heart. Be faithful to the Gospel.

Prayers of the Community

Response will be, **Be near us, O God**

The Greatest Prayer

Presider: Now, in obedience to Christ himself, let us join in prayer, asking God to forgive us as we forgive others.

Our every-loving God, ,,,
...For the Kin-dom, ...
now and forever. Amen.

Final Prayer

SENDING

Blessing

Hymn

Turn to the Living God

Lori True

Refrain:

Turn, turn to the living God,
the God of healing and comfort,
and with delight, God will turn to you.
With delight, God will turn to you.

1. For now is the time of fulfillment. The reign of our God is at hand.
Reform your life, turn from sin and believe this glorious news.
2. Come, and return to the Lord. All you weary, bring your grieving hearts.
With kindness and mercy God's compassion will fill your hearts with love.
3. Have mercy, O Lord, on your people. In your goodness wipe away our guilt.
Wash us clean, free us to become your living song of praise.
4. Come, sing with joy to the Lord. Listen with an open heart.
Hear God's voice and follow; our good shepherd is guiding the way.

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Dignity/New York gathers proudly as a faith community of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex and Straight Catholics and our friends. We welcome people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. We welcome all to our liturgies regardless of their faith tradition, and all are invited to share in the Body and Blood of Christ at Communion. Our community has both ordained and lay presiders whom we have called forth to lead us during our liturgies.

As a progressive and inclusive Catholic community, we use gender-inclusive language. For example, you will notice that we use "All-loving God" instead of "Our Father" when reciting the Greatest Prayer. We make our best efforts to change our hymnals and printed materials as necessary, but they do not always reflect our use of gender-inclusive language. Please feel free to change any non-inclusive language as you prefer.

Also in the interest of inclusivity, our community has intentionally chosen to use the language of the Mass prior to the revision of the Roman Missal in 2011.