

Lent at UIW – An Introduction

From February 26 to April 9, we will enter into a special time of the liturgical year known as Lent. In other words, from Ash Wednesday to the day before Easter Sunday, we will be invited to devote ourselves to seek the Lord in prayer (especially by reading Scriptures), service (especially through almsgiving), and sacrifice (especially fasting).

In the past, the office of Mission and Ministry has endeavored to mark this Holy Season with various activities. This year I have invited high-level administration, faculty and staff, and students to help us link our Catholic identity and the celebration of this Holy Season with our own identity as the University of the Incarnate Word.

For that reason, our President, our Provost, and those deans who responded to my invitation will share with us their thoughts and reflections based on the Lenten Sunday Gospels on the University's [website](#) and in The Word Today. As leaders of our institution and as role models, they will invite us to see how the Word transforms our world, both here at UIW and beyond.

At the same time, some of our faculty and staff will lead us in short reflections every Lenten Friday at the end of Mass as we are sent forth. In a two- to three-minute format, they will inspire us, challenge us, and show us how the Word is alive and acting in their own areas of influence and how the Word can act in ours.

Finally, some of our faculty and students will invite us to learn how their specific religious traditions understand and promote peace and reconciliation through short, written reflections, which will be published in The Word Today. The overall purpose of these activities will be to promote inclusion, to engage in ecumenical and inter-religious dialogue, and to refine and deepen our understanding and commitment of our Catholic tradition to further peace and reconciliation.

It is my sincere hope and prayer that these Lenten exercises allow our entire university community to grow in knowledge and in wisdom with regards to our Catholic identity and the ways in which we can make the Word change our entire world.

For more information, please do not hesitate to contact us:

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