

Daily Homily
Thursday After Ash Wednesday
Lent
23 February 2023
[USCCB Daily Readings](#)

Happy Lent!

Right now we are on the porch of Lent... Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Sunday is when we go through the door and into the house or mansion of Lent and all the many rooms that Lent wants us to explore this year.

I for one have been bombarded by materials for reflection. I think every Catholic publishing company has something coming to me in my inbox for these days. I have received free copies of books, journals, and calendars for daily reflection in the mail. I could be spending every day, each day reading through all the materials I'm getting. It's a bit overwhelming.

Let's not forget the tools the Church lays in front of us ... simply... for our fruitful journey. The Opening Prayers for Mass. There is a prayer there for each day of Lent. During Ordinary Time we (usually) repeat the prayer from Sunday Mass day after day. Not in Lent, for the most part the Opening Prayer (Collect) is written for that particular day and mostly without being repeated. For today's Mass the Opening Prayer says... we can't do Lent without God... God leads us through Lent... our effort this Lent is about our dependence on God.

The other tool, daily Scripture... God's Word... God talking to us. God has something to say each day to us through Scripture. What do you hear today? Take up your cross follow me... lose your life to save it. I hear: God more; me less. What do you hear?

Just some tools that are sitting on the porch of Lent for us to pick up and take inside.