



PREP PARENT NEWS

February 2021

LENT (excerpted from <http://loyolapress.com>)

Yes, it's that time again! **Lent begins February 17.** People often don't look forward to Lent. Childhood memories of giving up candy or sitting through weekly Stations of the Cross come immediately to mind. Have you ever thought of Lent as a yearly second chance?

The Church gives us six weeks to take a long, loving look at our lives to see if our values and priorities are in line with God's desires for us every year. Since most of us find that we've wandered from God's path, Lent becomes that second chance, or do-over, to "return to God with our whole heart." As you journey through this annual second chance, remember that each step brings you closer to the welcoming arms of our loving God.

Seven Last Words of Christ

For years, I always thought that when people talked about the seven last words of Jesus, it referred to his last words on the cross "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit" which is actually eight words. And I was baffled when my Protestant friends held service on Good Friday with seven ministers preaching on the seven last words. After a bit of research, I found the so-called "Seven Last Words of Christ" refers to

the last words or, more literally, the seven last sentences or phrases Jesus Christ spoke from the Cross on Good Friday; these are recorded in the Gospels of St. Mark, St. Luke, and St. John.

The First Word – "*Father, forgive them for they do not know what they are doing.*" Luke 23:33-34

The Second Word – "*Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.*" Luke 23:39-43

The Third Word – "*Woman here is your son . . . here is your Mother.*" John 19:25-27

The Fourth Word – "*My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?*" (Matt. 27:46; Mark 15:34)

The Fifth Word – "*I thirst.*" (John 19:28)

The Sixth Word – "*It is finished.*" (John 19:30)

The Seventh Word – "*Father, into thy hands I commit my spirit!*" (Luke 23:46)

During Holy Week, why not set some time aside to meditate on his precious words with your family this year.



ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Zoom meetings are scheduled for February 7 and February 21 at 1 p.m. Please have your children complete their digital notebooks as well as the quizzes for Units 1 and 2. Questions or concerns can be sent to me via email – saintpeterpius@gmail.com