

## LENTEN PARISH GATHERING

Scripture: With Christ Jesus himself as the capstone, through Him the whole structure is held together and grows into a temple sacred in the Lord (Ephesians 2: 20-21).

Theme: During Lent, what return shall we make to the Lord?  
How can we build God's Kingdom as Gifted, Grateful, and Generous people.

5:30 Welcome and Meal

6:10 Prayer: St. Katherine Drexel

6:30 Age-Specific Lessons in Groups:

Adults      Scripture/Stewardship

Pre-K      Loaves and Fishes story, B.L.E.S.S Game, puppets

Gr. 1-5      Jesus Washes the Feet of the Disciples, story, and activity

Gr. 6-11      Responsible Stewards, discussion and quiz

7:15 Learning Activities for all ages:

**Gifted:**      Game

**Grateful:**      Prayers

**Generous:** We care and share

7:40 Sharing at tables, Announcements, and Responses—on “bricks”—  
How will you/your family build God's Kingdom during Lent? Place bricks on arch with song, Grateful, by Art Garfunkel in background.



## **The GIFTED GAME...**

Roll a **ONE**: Do you like to read and study? You might help younger children, older adults, or classmates by reading a story or acting in a play. What else could you do?

Roll a **TWO**: Do you like to play games? You might plan a game party for residents of a local senior apartment complex. What else could you do?

Roll a **THREE**: Do you like to cook and bake? You and your friends might bake cupcakes for the staff at your school. What else could you do?

Roll a **FOUR**: Do you like to grow things? You might want to start some seeds that will later be planted in a garden or pot. What else could you do? What else could you do?

Roll a **FIVE**: Do you like to draw and paint? You might make a set of note cards and give them to a nursing home along with envelopes and stamps. What else could you do?

Roll a **SIX**: Do you like to go shopping? You might shop for things to put in a care package for a local homeless shelter. What else could you do?

Roll a **SEVEN**: Do you like to fix things? You might collect some toys that you could fix up and donate. What else could you do?

Roll an **EIGHT**: Do you like to sing, dance, or play an instrument? You might want to entertain children at a local hospital. What else could you do?

Roll a **NINE**: Do you like to build things? You might want to hold a puppet show for children in your parish or neighborhood. What else could you do?

Roll a **TEN**: Do you like to play sports? You might collect good used sports equipment to give to someone who cannot afford to buy shoes, etc. What else could you do?

Roll an **ELEVEN**: Do you like to sew? You might want to make fleece hats and scarves for a local shelter. What else could you do?

Roll a **TWELVE**: Do you like to work on the computer? You might want to teach someone to use e-mail or internet. What else could you do?

### **Instructions for the GIFTED GAME**

1. Roll a pair of dice.
2. Add the two numbers together.
3. Look at the sheet for question that matches that total.
4. Answer the question if you can say “yes.”
5. Find someone at the table who can answer “yes” if you cannot.
6. That person gets to roll the dice until he/she cannot answer “yes” to a question.
7. Find someone who can answer “yes” and so on...



Have fun!



# We are Generous...



Start with God's Word: Genesis 1: 26-28

Treat the earth as God's creation:

Recycling,  
Buying local,  
Using less water,  
Use canvas bags instead of plastic or paper,  
Wise use of money and resources.

Stay Healthy:

Get plenty of exercise and fresh air.  
Make meals at home rather than eating out. Eat healthy foods.  
Save money by bringing a bag lunch to school or work.  
Grow some or all your own food.

Take a bag with you and use it to collect at-home materials at each of the Activity Centers.

Creatively Reuse:

Make dust cloths out of an old towel.  
Make cloth napkins out of an old sheet.  
Make placemats out of an old tablecloth:

Teach others to give by giving generously yourself:

As a family discuss finances and budgets.  
Decide together about giving to charities and church.  
Volunteer your time as well as your treasure.

Encourage savings with the Four-Bank system:

a spending bank to be used soon  
a saving bank to be used later  
an investing bank for money that will grow interest  
a donation bank for helping others.

Talk about one thing you could do as a family during Lent to be more generous with your possessions, your time, and your treasure.