

**Ash Wednesday Prayer Service – 7:30 p.m.
February 17, 2021**

Gathering

*In These Days of Lenten
Journey*

Opening Prayer

Liturgy of the Word

Jl 2:12-18

Ps:51:3-6b, 12-14, 17

*Be Merciful, O Lord, for we
have sinned. (2x)*

2 Cor 5:20–6:2

Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

*If today you hear his voice,
harden not your hearts*

Homily

Universal Prayer

*Lord, in your compassion,
hear our prayer*

Concluding Prayer and Final Blessing

Dismissal Song

Hosea

Blessing and Distribution of Ashes

*“Remember that you are dust,
and to dust you shall return”*

PULPIT ANNOUNCEMENTS

February 17, 2021

ASH WEDNESDAY

Welcome to all who are here to worship with us.

Today is Ash Wednesday.

**Whoever you may be, or wherever you find yourself
on the journey, please know that here at St. Matthias,**

All Are Welcome.

[pause]

**We enter into Lent with a hearts open
to create ourselves anew,
and to return to our God.**

**May we all walk these next 40 days and nights
with the Lord
in passion and praise.**

[pause]

**Let us now take this time to quiet our hearts and
minds as we prepare to be marked with the ashes
of humility and repentance!**

Music for Our Assembly

February 17, 2021 - Ash Wednesday

You are merciful to all, O Lord, and despise nothing that you have made. You overlook people's sins to bring them repentance, and you spare them, for you are the Lord our God.....Wisdom 11

Gathering Hymn - In These Days of Lenten Journey

Refrain

**In these days of Lenten journey we have seen and we have heard
the call to sow justice in the lives of those we serve.**

We reach out to those who are homeless, to those who live without warmth.

In the coolness of evening we'll shelter their dreams; we will clothe them in mercy and peace.

Refrain

We open our eyes to the hungry, and see the faces of Christ.

As we nourish all people who hunger for food, may their faith in our God be renewed. **Refrain**

© 1997, Ricky Manalo, CSP. Published by OCP. All rights reserved

Responsorial Psalm - Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned, be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned...Psalm 51

Communion/Closing - Hosea

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.

Refrain

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

The wilderness will lead you to your heart where I will speak.

Integrity and justice, With tenderness, you shall know. **Refrain**

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

Text: Based on Hosea 6:1, 3:3, 2:16, 21; Joel 2:12; Gregory Norbet, b.1940, © 1972, 1980, The Benedictine Foundation of the State of Vermont, Inc.

Permission to podcast / stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-621391 All rights reserved.

Responsorial Psalm

February 17, 2021

Ash Wednesday

Psalm 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17

R. (see 3a) Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Have mercy on me, O God, in your goodness;
in the greatness of your compassion wipe out my offense.
Thoroughly wash me from my guilt
and of my sin cleanse me.

For I acknowledge my offense,
and my sin is before me always:
“Against you only have I sinned,
and done what is evil in your sight.”

A clean heart create for me, O God,
and a steadfast spirit renew within me.
Cast me not out from your presence,
and your Holy Spirit take not from me.

Give me back the joy of your salvation,
and a willing spirit sustain in me.
O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Prayers of the Faithful
Ash Wednesday – February 17, 2021

Response: Lord, in your compassion, hear our prayer

1. For Pope Francis and church leaders...In this season of Lent, guide them and Your people toward lives of prayer and repentance, we pray...
Lord, in your compassion, hear our prayer
2. For global, national, and local leaders, especially those of our own country...Renew their commitment to the ideals of social justice, racial equality, and opportunity for all people, we pray...
Lord, in your compassion, hear our prayer
3. For this intentional faith community of Saint Matthias...May the ashes we receive today remind us to Live Lent more fully as Your disciples, worthy of our calling, we pray...
Lord, in your compassion, hear our prayer
4. For the candidates and elect preparing to receive the sacraments...Help them use this time of reflection and discernment to draw closer to You, our loving Savior, we pray...
Lord, in your compassion, hear our prayer
5. For those who are ill in body, mind, or spirit, especially those on our parish and school sick lists...Bless them with the gifts of hope and strength to face their daily challenges, we pray...
Lord, in your compassion, hear our prayer
6. For those who have died, especially Austin Blachier...Welcome them home to the heavenly reward You have prepared for all the faithful, we pray...
Lord, in your compassion, hear our prayer
7. For the intentions of those assembled today for worship. . .Hear our petitions and, in Your great mercy, answer them, we pray. . .
Lord, in your compassion, hear our prayer