

Living Faith Kids

Daily Devotions for Africa



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“Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be.”



Luke 1:29

Dear friends in Christ, here we are with a new month. Throughout this month of march, we will be living the Lenten Season which prepares us for Easter. Lent is meant to be a time of repentance. These 40 days are set aside to praise and worship the Lord; to read the Bible more, and to pray more often. Christians who observe Lent correctly come closer to God.

Oh Lord and Master of our lives! Take from us the spirit of laziness, desire for power, and idle talk. Give us the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, generosity and love. Grant us to see our own errors and not to unjustly judge our brothers, for you are blessed, now and forever. Amen.

May the Lord be with us throughout this month of March.

Rev. Fr. Jean-Claude DIWEDIGA, a.a.

Welcome to

Living Faith Kids

Daily Devotions for Africa

With this magazine, we can...

Read words from the Bible

God speaks to us in Scriptures. So each day, we pick a short quote from one of the daily Mass readings in order to think and pray about.

Pray with daily devotions

Daily prayer is a great way to get to know God better. Each reflection can help us to pray with the Word of God—every day!



Discover, learn, play and love

Our Catholic faith is like a big treasure chest waiting for us to discover. Here we will find games, activities, puzzles and more to help us learn about the sacraments, saints, feast days, the Mass and more. Have fun!

Reading the Bible

Our daily devotions begin with a passage from the Bible. Want to read more? The CITATION (sigh-TAY-shun) will guide you to the reading in three easy steps:



1: Book. The Bible is divided into books. Check your Bible for a list of titles.

Psalm 47:2 is from the Book of Psalms.

2: Chapter. The first number is the chapter. Bibles usually show book and chapter at the top of each page.

Psalm 47:2 is in Chapter 47 of the Book of Psalms.



3: Verse. Last are the verse number(s). Verses are usually a sentence or two long. The tiny numbers are hidden inside the text.

Psalm 47:2 is verse 2 of Chapter 47.

Ready? Set? Go!

Practice by looking up Psalm 47:2.



March at a Glance

Activity Calendar of March



Week

1 Forgive somebody who has done you wrong.



Week

2 **Saints Perpetual & Felicity**

Repeat daily "Lord I come to do your will"



Week **Saint Patrick**

3 Pray for the Church in Nigeria.



Week **Annunciation of the Lord**

4 Repeat daily "I am a messenger of Good News"

For as Jonah was a sign to the Ninevites, so also will the Son of Man be to this generation.

Luke 11:30

Wednesday March 1



LENTEN WEEKDAY

There are different kind of signs: traffic signs, road signs, warning signs and so on. Jesus as well as Jonah are warning signs for Christians today and for the Ninivites in the past. As disciples of Jesus, we are also called to be signs for our brothers and sisters. Let us think about the kind of signs we are for people with whom we work, at school, at home, in our different places.

May the spirit of God help us to be a good signs for one another!

“Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.”

Matthew 7:7

Thursday March 2

LENTEN WEEKDAY

Usually children or kids, know how to ask something from their parents. They sometimes receive what they need because they use the right way to make their parents to accept their demands. So, if we ask by using the right way, if we knock at the right door God will always answer to our prayer.

Oh Lord, inspire us always the right prayers!

But whoever says, 'You fool!' shall be in danger of hell fire.

Matthew 5: 22

Friday

March 3

Usually, when we get annoyed, we abuse and we easily use insult or bad languages.

Here, Jesus is inviting us to be careful, not to use such words but to be kind, calm and good. A fool is defined as a person who is out of his mind and does not behave well in the society.

Therefore let us ask God to give us his spirit in order to respect everyone we meet.

But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5: 44-45

Saturday

March 4

Who is my enemy and how do I recognize those who are my enemies? An enemy is someone who hates. An enemy may criticize you or hate you because of your faith, or because you always say the truth. As Christians, Jesus invites us to be strong and love those who hate us. It will be difficult but that is our cross as followers of Christ.

May the Spirit of God protect us!

Deuteronomy 26: 16-19 / Psalm 119: 1-2, 4-5, 7-8 / Matthew 5: 43-48

When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified. But Jesus came and touched them. "Get up," he said. "Don't be afraid." Matthew 17:6-7

Sunday

March 5

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

What does it mean to be afraid? It is to be disturbed by fear. Sometimes we are afraid of making mistakes, we are afraid of taking decisions or being faithful to our vocation. We have to be prayerful if we want to avoid fear; through prayer we are not alone, God is with us, he protects us, and He always helps us to be on a good way.



Genesis 12: 1-4a/ Psalm 33: 4-5. 18-19. 20. 22/ 2 Timothy 1: 8b-10/

Matthew 17: 1-9

“Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven.”

Luke 6 :37

Monday

March 6

LENTEN WEEKDAY

It is usually easy to judge someone from outside. we usually judge and condemn people, wrongly because we only see the outside face of the situation. Whereas the right one is within. Rather than to judge it is better to forgive in order to be forgiven.

Let us open up our heart and soul to the tender healing and loving mercy!

Daniel 9: 4b-10 / Psalm 79: 8. 9. 11 and 13 / Luke 6: 36-38

For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.

Matthew 23:12

Tuesday

March 7

LENTEN WEEKDAY

It is easy to exalt oneself than to humble oneself. What is humility? A humble person thinks little of himself. A truly humble person, thinks less of himself than even others think of him. A humble person thinks better of others than of himself because he can see his own heart and sins better than he can see the heart and the sins of any other person. Even when he faces difficulties, his greatest grief is the state of his heart. While a hypocrite loves to boast about his goodness, the humble soul is always aware of his weakness. A humble person praises God in times of trouble. He praises God even in times of great difficulties.

Are we ready to be humble ?

Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant.

Matthew 20:26

Wednesday March 8



LENTEN WEEKDAY

Am I able to sweep or to clean the floor at school or at home easily without complaining? At time we think that we can't do some jobs. We think ourselves higher than others and we want people to serve us. We usually forget that we have to serve one another especially those who need our help and those who are invalid.

May God help us to build in our life the spirit of service!

Jeremiah 18: 18-20 / Psalm 31: 5-6. 14. 15-16 / **Matthew 20: 17-28**

He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'”
Luke 16: 31

Thursday

March 9

LENTEN WEEKDAY

Who are the Moses and the prophets of today, so that we listen to them? We always read the Word of God, we always attend the mass and listen to the preaches of priests and their different teachings. All these are to help us live a better life in order to prepare ourselves for the kingdom of God.



Jeremiah 17: 5-10 / Psalm 1: 1-2. 3. 4 and 6 / Luke 16: 19-31

“Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.”

Matthew 21 :43

Friday

March 10

LENTEN WEEKDAY

The Kingdom of God is a real place where we are called to be after this life.

It is a place where God reigns as King. Therefore in that place there is no cry, no pain, no death; only joy, happiness and contemplation of God's face. Those who will inherit that Kingdom are people who have worked for it, who love their brothers and sisters, who are kind and good to others, people who produce fruits from the word of God given to them.

Are we willing to inherit the Kingdom of God?

Genesis 37: 3-4. 12-13a. 17b-28a / Psalm 105: 16-17. 18-19. 20-21 /

Matthew 21: 33-43. 45-46

But we had to celebrate and be glad,
because this brother of yours was dead and
is alive again; he was lost and is found.

Luke 15:32

Saturday March 11

LENTEN WEEKDAY

When we sin or offend God, our relationship with Him goes down; we are cut off from Him. The only way to come back to God is to ask for pardon. Through the mercy of God we receive the remission of our sins. We must thank God for his mercy in our life, we must celebrate anytime the wonder of God in our life.

How often do we ask God for forgiveness in prayer and through the confession of our sins?

“If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.”
John 4:10

Sunday

March 12

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

At time, we are ignorant of the goodness of God. Ignorance is the source of our lack of faith. Jesus is capable of everything in our life. Whoever believe in God is capable of everything through prayer. Most often we hardly know how to pray, we don't say the right prayer and we don't ask for the right things that we need. However God knows what we really need for our life, but we must still ask for it.

How often do we pray? And what do we ask when we pray?

Exodus 17: 3-7 / Psalm 95: 1-2. 6-7. 8-9 / Romans 5: 1-2. 5-8 / John 4: 5-42

Truly I tell you," he continued, "no prophet is accepted in his hometown.

Luke 4:24

Monday March 13

LENTEN WEEKDAY

As followers of Jesus, we are automatically prophets of our time; because we are called to bear witnesses and live according to our faith. Sometimes those who really want to be faithful and spread the Word of God around themselves either at school, or at home, find difficulties because people are not ready to change their bad behaviours. Jesus himself was victim of many challenges and difficulties in his time, but he did not give up.

Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?" Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

Matthew 18 :21-22

Tuesday March 14

LENTEN WEEKDAY

To forgive someone who has deeply offended us, we need the grace of God in order to forgive truly. We are invited to always forgive others each time they offend us. In today's verse, it is said to forgive seventy-seven times. This is possible only if we are connected to God, if we are blessed with his grace.



Daniel 3: 25. 34-43 / Psalm 25: 4-5ab. 6 and 7bc. 8 and 9 / **Matthew 18: 21-35**

...whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5: 19

Wednesday March 15

LENTEN WEEKDAY

Teaching and practicing are the main tasks of a Christian. It is at time easy to teach but difficult to practice. If someone succeeds in practicing what he teaches, then he has received such a grace from God. But those who teach without practicing have done nothing. That is why Jesus said that whoever practices and teaches his command which is love for one another, will be great in heaven.

Are we ready to always love God and others?

Deuteronomy 4:1. 5-9 / Psalm 147: 12-13. 15-16. 19-20 / Matthew 5: 17-19

Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters.

Luke 11:23

Thursday

March 16



LENTEN WEEKDAY

Our life is always made of ups and downs.

Some moments in our life we behave well and other days we fail in doing good. Any time we behave wrongly against the love of brothers and sisters we behave against God. Anytime we do well, we don't scatter but we gather together with God.

We are then invited to come back to Jesus with one mind and one heart in order to gather together with him.

Jeremiah 7: 23-28 / Psalm 95: 1-2. 6-7. 8-9 / **Luke 11: 14-23**

Love the Lord your God with all your heart
and with all your soul and with all your
mind and with all your strength.

Mark 12:30

Friday

March 17

LENTEN WEEKDAY

Usually love demands everything. When you love someone you must be able to respond to his or her demands. Very often, we see how people commit themselves when they truly love someone; they are ready to help the person they love. So is our love for God.

Thank you God for loving me. I love you too.

For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.

Luke 18:14

Saturday

March 18

LENTEN WEEKDAY

Our God is always defined through his humility. He is so humble that you can even compare him to a servant. He is against those who exalt themselves. Our tendency sometimes is to show to our friends that we come from a great, rich and powerful family, that we are more intelligent than others, that we need to be served and be respected. By living so, we refuse to be humble.

Let's ask God for the grace of humility!

Hosea 6: 1-6 / Psalm 51: 3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab / **Luke 18: 9-14**

We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him.

John 9 :31

Sunday

March 19

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Anyone who recognises the existence of God and praises Him, God listens to him. This means that God is not deaf to all our prayers. There are some demands which can be answered as soon as we finish our prayer and others may take long before being realised and others may never be answered. Because God knows what we need in order to grow in his love. He knows when to give and how to give.

May God grant us enough faith to always believe in Him.

1 Samuel 16: 1b. 6-7. 10-13a / Psalm 23: 1-3a. 3b-4. 5. 6 (1) / Ephesians 5: 8-14
/ **John 9: 1-41**

When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife.

Matthew 1:24

Monday

March 20

SAINT JOSEPH, HUSBAND OF MARY, SOLEMNITY

The example of Joseph here is given to show us that we must listen and behave according to what we are called to do. Joseph always did the will of God. He never murmured, he never abused, he never criticised God. As for us, we often criticise our friends, our teachers in school even our parents at home.

May we follow the example of Joseph and do the will of God!

2 Samuel 7: 4-5a. 12-14a. 16 / Psalm 89: 2-3. 4-5. 27 and 29 / Romans 4: 13. 16-18. 22 / **Matthew 1: 16. 18-21. 24a**

Then Jesus said to him, “Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.” At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked.

John 5 :8-9

Tuesday

March 21

LENTEN WEEKDAY

From Jesus’ command, the crippled respected what Jesus said. He never doubted, he never murmured, he never complained about what Jesus asked him to do. At time we argue with our parents, we abuse our teachers because they ask us to do an assignment, to fulfil our duties. Here the crippled blindly respected the word of Jesus and finally he found himself cured. In the same way, if we respect the commandments of God, we will be saved.

May God give us His Spirit of obedience! respecting his

Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life. John 5 :24

Wednesday March 22



LENTEN WEEKDAY

Dear friends, it is important to believe in the word of God. At times, there is no link between our love for the God and His Word. It is easy to express and to say that we love God; but it is difficult to put His Word into practice. To love God and to put His Word into practice, is linked.



Isaiah 49: 8-15 / Psalm 145: 8-9. 13cd-14. 17-18 / **John 5: 17-30**

John was a lamp that burned and gave light, and you chose for a time to enjoy his light.

John 5 :35

Thursday

March 23

LENTEN WEEKDAY

To be a lamp, what does it mean? The use of a lamp is to shine in the darkness so that people who are living in the darkness may see and move freely. John Baptist was a lamp for his disciples and for those who want to repent and change their life. He was the voice that was crying in the desert inviting people for conversion. We too, we are invited to be the lamp and the light for our brothers and sisters.



Exodus 32: 7-14 / Psalm 106: 19-20. 21-22. 23 / **John 5: 31-47**

I am not here on my own authority, but he who sent me is true. You do not know him, but I know him because I am from him and he sent me.

John 7 :28-29

Friday

March 24

LENTEN WEEKDAY

What does authority mean? It is a power given to a person to make a decision. God has given his power, his authority to Jesus to come and reveal Himself to US. Whoever receives Jesus as the one who comes from God, receives also his Father who sent him.

May we always love Jesus and his authority as we love God and his commandments!

Wisdom 2: 1a. 12-22 / Psalm 34: 17-18. 19-20. 21 and 23 /

John 7: 1-2. 10. 25-30

“I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered.
“May your word to me be fulfilled.”

Luke 1 :38

Saturday

March 25

ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD, SOLEMNITY

A servant is the one who performs duties for others; especially a person employed in our houses or in our schools as house workers or as office cleaners. Mary is a servant of God, because she is ready to do whatever God commands. Are we ready to do like Mary by becoming the servants of God in the church?

May God help us become His good servants.

Isaiah 7: 10-14; 8: 10 / Psalm 40: 7-8a. 8b-9. 10. 11 / Hebrews 10: 4-10
/ Luke 1: 26-38

It is when a person walks at night that they stumble, for they have no light.”

John 11 :10

Sunday

March 26

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Usually our life is full of stumbling blocks.

To be a good Christian we must avoid to walk in the darkness in order to avoid stumbling. Walking in the darkness means living without God who is the light of our life. We sometimes think that we can lead our life without God, we can be excellent in class without God, we can get good health through our own capacity. This is not true. Jesus is the light and the leader of our life. Without him we can't do anything.

Are we ready to rely on Jesus Christ through prayer?

Ezechiel 37: 12-14 / Psalm 130: 1-2. 3-4. 5-6. 7-8/ Romans 8: 8-11 /

John 11: 1-45

“Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.”

John 8 :7

Monday

March 27

LENTEN WEEKDAY

To commit sin is against the will of God.

We are always invited to avoid sin and live a holy life. Someone who recognises that he is a sinner and asks God for forgiveness, starts being holy. Because as human beings, we are all sinners. If we are really attentive we can even try to count the number of time we sin a day. Our life is full of sins. The saints are sinners pardoned.



Daniel 13: 1-9. 15-17. 19-30. 33-62 or 13: 41c-62 / Psalm 23: 1-3a. 3b-4. 5. 6
/ John 8: 1-11

The one who sent me is with me; he has not left me alone, for I always do what pleases him.

John 8: 29

Tuesday

March 28

LENTEN WEEKDAY

God is our Father and our Creator, We are his children. He never abandons us. As God is always with Jesus He is also with us because we are his adopted children. But we must be careful, any time we don't do the will of God, we are in the state of sin and his grace never reach us because through sin we go far away from God.

May God help us to always do His will.

Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.

John 8 : 32

Wednesday

March 29

LENTEN WEEKDAY

Sometimes we forget that the Truth is Jesus himself. We tell lies around us, at school, at home. Let us never say lies and let us never support someone who says lies. Anytime we lie, we are not free, our mind is confused, we are afraid of being discovered. While truth sets us free even if at times it is painful.

May we always live and fight for the truth!

Daniel 3: 14-20. 91-92. 95 / Daniel 3: 52. 53. 54. 55. 56 / John 8: 31-42

Very truly I tell you, whoever obeys my word will never see death.

John 8: 51

Thursday

March 30

LENTEN WEEKDAY

Our Christian life is based on obedience.

To be a true child of God, we are called to obey his commandments. By obeying we are protected from all enemies, from any danger which can stop us from being in good relationship with God. Obedience to the Word of God, opens the door to graces and blessings.



Genesis 17: 3-9 / Psalm 105: 4-5. 6-7. 8-9 / **John 8: 51-59**

Do not believe me unless I do the works of my Father. But if I do them, even though you do not believe me, believe the works, that you may know and understand that the Father is in me, and I in the Father. John 10: 37-38

Wednesday

March 31

LENTEN WEEKDAY

The quality of our work always shows the type of person we are. If we do good to people then we are good, otherwise we are not. Jesus invites us to believe the work that he always does for us. Through his work, he shows that the Father is in him and him in the Father. So any time we do good, we are in communion with God. We are in God and He is in us.

Are we ready to avoid bad things and do good things only?

Jeremiah 20: 10-13 / Psalm 18: 2-3a. 3bc-4. 5-6. 7/ John 10: 31-42

Living Faith Kids features daily devotions based on the daily Scripture readings, commentaries and illustrations. This quarterly pamphlet is mainly made for African children in order to help them grow in faith and wisdom. It also helps develop their habit of daily prayer and build their relationship with Jesus Christ and the Church. This is an important tool for our kids to take part in liturgical worship and parish life. It can therefore be used in our schools, catechesis classes and homes.

Rev. Fr. Jean-Claude Diwediga, François Nzanzu, ... Editors for Africa;
Regis Jean-François ...Assistant Editor for Africa; Naomi Sawadogo ...
Designer for Africa; Yves Boro ... Interior Art; Yves Boro...Cover Art.
Rev. Fr. Fabrice Adzakli; Rev. Fr. Blaise Bonou-Yehouenou;
Bro. Bonaventure Piessou; Bro. Nnaemeka Dominic MBAEZE...
Contributing Writers.

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address: P.O. BOX 58488 City Square 00200 Nairobi, Kenya,
phone: +254 727074304 – email: info@livingwithchrist-africa.com

IMPRIMATUR

+Rt Rev. Dominic Kimengich
Chairman, Commission for Liturgy
Kenya Conference of Catholic Bishops
February 15, 2018

“I am the light of the world, says the Lord; he who follows me will have the light of life.”

John 8:12



“If you offend, ask for pardon; if offended, forgive.”

Africa