

## **Join Our Lenten Book Discussion Group**

### **A Journey of Prayer, Reflection, and Spiritual Renewal**

Deepen your Lenten Journey with thoughtful reading and discussion.

Lent is a season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving - a time to turn our hearts more fully to God. Join us for a special Lenten Book Discussion group as we reflect on key spiritual writings that inspire deeper conversion and holiness.

**Dates: Thursday, March 13, March 27, and April 10 at 10:00 am in the Parish Hall.**

#### **What We'll Be Reading:**

##### **Meeting 1: Thursday, March 13**

The Encyclical *Paenitentiam Agere* by Pope St. John XXIII

Read the full encyclical, available on the Vatican website: [https://www.vatican.va/content/john-xxiii/en/encyclicals/documents/hf\\_j-xxiii\\_enc\\_01071962\\_paenitentiam.html](https://www.vatican.va/content/john-xxiii/en/encyclicals/documents/hf_j-xxiii_enc_01071962_paenitentiam.html)

##### **Meeting 2: Thursday, March 27**

*Charles de Foucauld: Writings Selected with an Introduction*, edited by Robert Ellsberg (ISBN: 9781570752445) Available at Amazon for wherever books are sold.

Read "Introduction" & Part 1 (pages 1-64)

Saint Charles de Foucauld (1898-1916) was a soldier-turner-hermit whose radical life of prayer and sacrifice in the Sahara Desert continues to inspire Christians today. His writings reveal a heart completely surrendered to God, making his reflections especially meaningful during Lent, a season of self-denial and deeper trust in the Lord. Charles de Foucauld was canonized a saint in May 2022.

##### **Meeting 3: Thursday, April 10**

*Charles de Foucauld: Writings Selected with an Introduction*, edited by Robert Ellsberg (ISBN: 9781570752445)

Read Part 2 and Part 3 (pages 68-127)

Continuing our discussion of Charles de Foucauld's writings, we will explore his reflections on vocation, mission, faith, and prayer. His profound insights challenge us to deepen our faith, embrace simplicity, and trust more fully in God.

#### **Why These Readings for Lent?**

-Both of these authors are modern saints who make the wisdom of past ages relevant for our daily lives.

-Pope St. John XXIII's encyclical calls us to true penance and renewal, essential Lenten themes.

-St. Charles de Foucauld's writings challenge us to enter into the desert, to grow spiritually, and to prepare our hearts for Easter.

Join Us!

No prior experience with theological texts is required - just a heart open to growing in faith! For more information contact Fr. Jacob.

We look forward to journeying through Lent with you!