

QUIZ FOR ADULTS

February 21, 2021

ALL ABOUT THE SEASON OF LENT

Msgr. Pat Stilla

(Scroll down to the bottom of page 2 for the correct answers)

1. The word, "Lent" comes from the Anglo-Saxon word, "lencten", which means:
 - a. 40 days;
 - b. a desert experience;
 - c. springtime;
 - d. penance.
2. The number 40 is significant in the Jewish Faith because it is associated with:
 - a. a period of trial and new beginnings;
 - b. a time of fasting;
 - c. completeness;
 - d. perfect harmony with God.
3. For Christians, the 40 days of Lent are associated with:
 - a. Noah and the Flood;
 - b. John the Baptist's preaching on repentance;
 - c. Jesus' 40 days in the desert;
 - d. A time of suffering.
4. For most Christians Lent:
 - a. begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Thursday;
 - b. begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on the night of the Easter Vigil;
 - c. begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Good Friday;
 - d. begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Palm Sunday.
5. In our Catholic calendar the actual number of days in the Season of Lent number:
 - a. 43 days;
 - b. 40 days;
 - c. 48 days;
 - d. 46 days.
6. Violet which is used at Masses and Services during Lent is a Church colour which represents:
 - a. penance and conversion;
 - b. the royalty of Christ, the King;
 - c. Christ's blood that was shed for us;
 - d. peace and tranquility.
7. "Mardi Gras" which is observed on the day before Ash Wednesday literally means:
 - a. "Fat Tuesday";
 - b. "Tuesday of Preparation";
 - c. "Tuesday of Fasting";
 - d. "Shrove Tuesday".
8. Two very solemn feasts occur during the Season of Lent before Holy Thursday. They are:
 - a. The Feasts of St. Patrick and St. Joseph;
 - b. The Feast of the Annunciation and the Feast of St. Joseph;
 - c. The Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Feast of the Apostles Peter and Paul;
 - d. none of the above.

9. In Church history, Lent was once to be observed not by every Catholic, but by:

- a. notorious sinners who were shunned in a community;
- b. women who were entering a Religious Order of nuns;
- c. persons who were excommunicated and now wished to repent;
- d. lay adults who were preparing for Baptism.

10. During Lent, Catholics are encouraged to:

- a. pray and fast;
- b. give to charitable causes;
- c. attend Mass more frequently;
- d. all of the above.

11. Ashes are used on Ash Wednesday:

- a. to show others that Catholics use this season to deprive themselves of fun activities;
- b. to teach us that inner beauty is more precious than outer beauty;
- c. to remind us that outer beauty will fade;
- d. to help us remember that life is short and that we should not waste our time on earth.

12. Sundays that occur during the Lenten Season:

- a. are not counted as part of the Season;
- b. three are counted but the others are not;
- c. are considered special fasting days;
- d. none of the above.

13. Fasting is reducing the quantity of food that we eat and abstinence is abstaining from eating meat. Most Catholics are obliged to observe both on two days in Lent:

- a. Palm Sunday and Good Friday;
- b. Holy Thursday and Good Friday;
- c. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday;
- d. Ash Wednesday and Palm Sunday.

CORRECT ANSWERS

1. **c.** It always occurs in the Spring, at least in the northern hemisphere.

2. **a.** For Jews, it also means, transition, change and renewal. It means the same for Christians.

3. **c.** Jesus used this time after His baptism in the Jordan, to prepare Himself for three years of public ministry among the people.

4. **b.** It officially ends at the Easter Vigil Mass when the 'Glory to God in the Highest' prayer is sung and all the church bells are rung.

5. **d.** the extra 6 days are Sundays which are not counted as penitential days because Sunday is the joyful day of the Resurrection.

6. **a.** Instead, royal purple represents the Kingship of Christ, red represents blood and white stands for peace and harmony.

7. **a.** On this day Catholics were to consume all fats and fatty foods', in their homes because they were not to be eaten during Lent.

8. **b.** Annunciation (March 25) and St. Joseph (March 19), both always occur during Lent.

9. **d.** The 40 days were used to learn the Catholic Faith before an adult was baptized.

10. **d.** These are meant to renew a person's spiritual health and vitality.

11. **d.** It reminds us that God created humans from dust and unto dust we shall all return despite our knowledge, wealth or position.

12. **a.** (see # 5)

13. **c.** Only those who are 18 to 59 are obliged to fast. Those who are 14 and over are obliged to abstain. All others can choose to do so.