

Upcoming Events Calendar:

Tues., Feb. 16th – *Shrove Tuesday/Mardi Gras Party!*

6 PM – Shrove Tuesday/Mardi Gras Zoom Party!!

Join Zoom Shrove Tuesday/Mardi Gras Party:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83063844164?pwd=anBsUWRsZ2dIODBOb0dDMktWMWg5UT09>

Meeting ID: 830 6384 4164

Passcode: 091313

Dial by your location +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kwgoC0EdR>

Wed., Feb. 17th – *Ash Wednesday*

10:30 AM – Morning Prayer w/ the Imposition of Ashes on Facebook and YouTube

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NeighborhoodParish/>

YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1qLQ1X-HRQ3SSu-6n9_Q8Q

or Search: Saint Matthew Browns Point

Fridays in Lent – *Stations of the Cross* (2/19, 2/26, 3/5, 3/12, 3/19, 3/26)

6 PM – Stations of the Cross

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NeighborhoodParish/>

YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1qLQ1X-HRQ3SSu-6n9_Q8Q

or Search: Saint Matthew Browns Point

Shrove Tuesday [**Mardi Gras**] (**Tuesday, February 16th**) is the day before Ash Wednesday (the first day of Lent), observed in many countries through participating in confession and absolution, the ritual burning of the previous year's Holy Week palms, finalizing one's Lenten sacrifice, as well as eating pancakes and other sweets.

Shrove Tuesday is observed by many Christians, including Anglicans, Lutherans, Methodists and Roman Catholics, who "make a special point of self-examination, of considering what wrongs they need to repent, and what amendments of life or areas of spiritual growth they especially need to ask God's help in dealing with." This moveable feast is determined by Easter [Day, which is calculated in the Gregorian calendar as the first Sunday after the first full moon in the Vernal Equinox]. The expression "Shrove Tuesday" comes from the word *shrive*, meaning "absolve".

As this is the last day of the Christian liturgical season historically known as Shrovetide, before the penitential season of Lent, related popular practices, such as indulging in food that one might give up as their Lenten sacrifice for the upcoming forty days, are associated with Shrove Tuesday celebrations. The term *Mardi Gras* is French for "Fat Tuesday", referring to the practice of the last night of eating richer, fatty foods before the ritual fasting of the Lenten season, which begins on Ash Wednesday. Many Christian congregations thus observe the day through the holding of pancake breakfasts, as well as the ringing of church bells to remind people to repent of their sins before the start of Lent. On Shrove Tuesday, churches also burn the palms distributed during the previous year's Palm Sunday liturgies to make the ashes used during the services held on the very next day, Ash Wednesday.



In some countries, especially those where the day is called Mardi Gras or a translation thereof, it is a carnival day, the last day of "fat eating" or "gorging" before the fasting period of Lent.

This article is modified from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shrove_Tuesday

Ash Wednesday (Wednesday, February 17th) is a Christian holy day of prayer and fasting. It is preceded by Shrove Tuesday and falls on the first day of Lent, the six weeks of penitence before Easter [Day]. Ash Wednesday is traditionally observed by Western Christians. It is observed by Catholics in the Roman Rite, Anglicans, Lutherans, Methodists, Moravians, and Independent Catholics, as well as by many from the Reformed faith (inclusive of the Congregationalist, Continental Reformed, and Presbyterian traditions).

As it is the first day of Lent, many Christians begin Ash Wednesday by marking a Lenten calendar, praying a Lenten daily devotional, and making a Lenten sacrifice that they will not partake of until the arrival of Eastertide.

Ash Wednesday derives its name from the placing of repentance ashes on the foreheads of participants to either the words "Repent, and believe in the Gospel" or the dictum "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." The ashes are prepared by burning palm leaves from the previous year's Palm Sunday celebrations.

This article is modified from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ash_Wednesday

The **Stations of the Cross** or the **Way of the Cross**, also known as the **Way of Sorrows** or the **Via Crucis**, refers to a series of images depicting Jesus Christ on the day of his crucifixion and accompanying prayers (**Fridays in Lent**). The stations grew out of imitations of Via Dolorosa in Jerusalem, which is believed to be the actual path Jesus walked to Mount Calvary. The objective of the stations is to help the Christian faithful to make a spiritual pilgrimage through contemplation of the Passion of Christ. It has become one of the most popular devotions and the stations can be found in many Western Christian churches, including Anglican, Lutheran, Methodist, and Roman Catholic.

Commonly, a series of 14 images will be arranged in numbered order along a path and the faithful travel from image to image, in order, stopping at each station to say the selected prayers and reflections. This will be done individually or in a procession most commonly during Lent, in a spirit of reparation for the sufferings and insults that Jesus endured during his passion.

The style, form, and placement of the stations vary widely. The typical stations are small plaques with reliefs or paintings placed around a church nave. Modern minimalist stations can be simple crosses with a numeral in the center. Occasionally the faithful might say the Stations of the Cross without there being any image, such as when the [Roman pontiff traditionally] leads the stations of the cross around the Colosseum in Rome on Good Friday.

This article is modified from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stations_of_the_Cross

