

1. The word Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon word lencton meaning?
 - a. Desert
 - b. Forty
 - c. Spring**
 - d. Lectionary

The word Lent can also be translated from the Latin word quadragesima meaning "forty days."

2. Lent officially begins with...
 - a. Ash Wednesday**
 - b. Easter Sunday
 - c. Mardi Gras
 - d. Holy Thursday

The Ash Wednesday service is one of the more highly attended church services where people are marked with ashes on their forehead representing repentance and a reminder of our mortality.

3. Lent is often characterized by a time of intentional prayer, fasting, and...
 - a. Resting
 - b. Isolation
 - c. Service**
 - d. Fasting

One of the three traditional pillars of Lent, service or almsgiving is essential practice of our Christian life, calling us to acts of charity and justice.

4. Lent lasts...
 - a. 40 hours
 - b. 30 days
 - c. 40 days**
 - d. A fortnight

40 days coincides with Jesus' forty days in the desert where he spent time preparing for his ministry and experiencing temptations. Sunday's are not counted in the 40 day's since they celebrate Jesus' resurrection. Lent officially ends on Holy Thursday.

5. Where do the ashes come from that are used on Ash Wednesday?
 - a. Jerusalem
 - b. The palms from last year**
 - c. A fireplace
 - d. Burnt sacrifices

Palms are traditionally given out during Palm Sunday (the start of Holy Week) when Jesus' celebrated arrival in Jerusalem is recalled. The palms that were used from the previous year's celebration are burnt and used for the ashes on Ash Wednesday.

6. A common Lenten practice is to...
 - a. Give something up
 - b. Start a practice to better yourself
 - c. Do acts of service
 - d. All of the above**

Often people associate Lent with giving something up, such as candy or soda. However, people are realizing the significance of digging deeper and instituting practices that help them grow closer to God, be a better person, and live more like Jesus.

7. The Catholic Church invites its members to abstain from _____ on Fridays in Lent.
 - a. Meat**
 - b. Work
 - c. Sports
 - d. Eating out
1. In the early church, people spent the entire forty days fasting. Gradually, the Catholic Church diminished days of fasting to Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Members are also invited to give up meat on Friday's. Other churches encourage people to give up alcohol, sweets and other food luxuries regularly. Fasting not only develops self-control, but can be an aid to prayer and an experience of solidarity with those who rarely have the luxury of eating meat or eating whenever/whatever they choose.
8. The three holiest times of the year for Christians are Holy Thursday, Good Friday and _____.
 - a. Easter Vigil**
 - b. Christmas
 - c. New Years
 - d. Easter night

We experience Jesus' last supper, sentencing, crucifixion, and dying in these three most important days. Our faith as Christians is summed up in these three days by reminding us that through death and dying we can come to new life.

9. What colors are typically used in churches during the season of Lent?
 - a. Blue
 - b. Black
 - c. Purple**
 - d. Green

The color purple symbolizes both the pain and suffering that lead up to Jesus' crucifixion and the suffering of all humanity. However, purple is also seen as the color of royalty, which reminds us that through Jesus' death and dying we are left with hope and new life.

10. Lent can be seen as a call to _____.

a. **Conversion**

b. Sacrifice

c. Church

d. Family

Although all of these answers could be true, the season of Lent truly calls us to experience conversion in our life; to be intentional about opening our heart and our life to God. The practices of fasting, prayer, and service all work towards this idea of conversion – of choosing God in all aspects of our life.