



All Parishes & Chapels of the Archdiocese Wednesdays in Lent, 6:30-8:00pm

What is it?

- A major pastoral initiative across all the parishes and chapels of the Archdiocese to encourage Catholics to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
- All priests throughout the Archdiocese are asked to be available to hear confessions. Seminary priests, Pastoral Center priests and retired priests are available to help cover in parishes that need priests.

When is it?

- On the Wednesdays of Lent, every church, chapel, and oratory will be open from 6:30-8:00pm for individual confession.
 - February 24, March 3, March 10, March 17, March 24, March 31
 - It will begin the Wednesday after Ash Wednesday (which is February 17)
- A confession service for the priests to go to confession is being organized in each of the regions.
- It is anticipated that this program will be continued during future seasons of Advent and Lent.

Coordinating Team

- Cardinal Seán has asked Bishop Robert Hennessey to lead this initiative.
- Bishop Hennessey has formed a team of priests who are regional representatives:
 - **Central:** Fr. Wayne Belschner (Sacred Heart, East Boston), 617-567-5776
 - **Merrimack:** Fr. Michael Parise (St. Andrew, Billerica), 978-663-3624
 - **North:** Fr. Thomas Rafferty (St. John, Swampscott & St. & St. Thomas, Nahant), 781-593-2544
 - **South:** Fr. Joseph Mazzone (Sacred Heart, Weymouth), 781-337-6333
 - **West:** Fr. Frank Silva (Corpus Christi – St. Bernard, Newton), 617-244-0608.
- These priest representatives are the contacts for parishes with need of additional priests, particularly parishes with multiple worship sites.

Communication about the Initiative

- Dedicated Website: www.TheLightsOnForYou.org (will launch around February 1)
- Highlight on our Archdiocesan website www.BostonCatholic.org.
- Bulletin announcements & PDFs
- Pilot articles/columns in February and throughout Lent
- Articles on TheBostonPilot.com
- Mention on CardinalSeansBlog.org (& inclusion in his weekly email)
- Press releases in February and Lent
- Word of Mouth & Personal Invite

Website Resources on www.TheLightsOnForYou.org

- How to Make a Good Confession & Examination of Conscience
- Confession FAQs
- Video message from Bishop Hennessey and many other videos on Confession
- Parish Resources (Bulletin articles/pdfs, prayers of the faithful, homily ideas, logo downloads)
- Links on Confession (General resources, Writings from the Popes, Pastoral Letters from Bishops)
- Articles about the Initiative

How You Can Help

- Please spread the word and invite others to come with you on the Wednesdays of Lent.
- Please consider your willingness to volunteer on these Wednesdays & discuss how you might be able to assist the pastor and parish staff in providing a warm welcome to all those that attend.
- Please encourage your parish to utilize the materials on the website from February 1 through March 31.