

Reflection of Almsgiving during Lent

As we continue to journey through this sacred season, we are invited to reflect deeply on the three pillars of Lent: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. While prayer draws us closer to God and fasting purifies our hearts, almsgiving calls us to look beyond ourselves and into the lives of others, especially those who suffer. It's easy to become absorbed in our own lives, but during Lent, God calls us to step outside our comfort zones and extend a hand to those in need.

Almsgiving isn't just about giving money or resources; it's about giving our time, our compassion, and our love. It challenges us to let go of the things we cling to and embrace a spirit of generosity and selflessness. When we offer our help to others — whether through acts of charity, volunteering, or simply being present for someone who needs us — we become a reflection of Christ's love in the world. Through our giving, we experience the joy of becoming a vessel of God's mercy.

But true almsgiving asks us to examine our hearts. Are we giving out of obligation, or out of love? Are we giving our excess, or are we offering what costs us something? This Lenten season, we are invited to ask ourselves: How can we give more of ourselves? How can we be more intentional in reaching out to those who are often forgotten or ignored?

Almsgiving is also an opportunity to reflect on our own relationship with material possessions. It reminds us that everything we have is a gift from God and calls us to consider how we can better share those gifts with others. In giving, we are reminded that the true wealth of life lies not in what we accumulate, but in how much we give away.

Let us take time this Lent to reflect on how we can be more generous — not just in material ways, but in how we offer our time, our energy, and our hearts. Let our almsgiving be an act of love, drawing us closer to Christ and transforming us into His hands and feet in the world.