Daily Devotion For March 3, 2023

"I want to know Christ, yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participate in his sufferings, becoming like him in death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead." Philippians 3:10

Last night we began a Lenten bible series on the 7 last words of from the cross. We will look at each word/phrase over the next 6 weeks. Lent as you know, began last Wednesday with Ash Wednesday. So, you may be asking, where does Lent come from and who started it?

The Lenten season developed as part of the historical Christian calendar and is typically celebrated by Catholics and some mainline Protestant churches that follow a liturgical calendar. Although its format has varied throughout the centuries and throughout different cultures, the basic concept remains the same: the season of Lent is meant to open our hearts to God's refining grace through prayer, confession, fasting, and almsgiving as we anticipate Holy Week.

Lent is an intensely penitential time as we examine our sinful nature and return to the God through repentance for our sins.

**Thought For Today:** Lent is an opportunity to contemplate what our Lord did for us on the Cross. Any sins come to mind that you need to repent and ask forgiveness? Take time today to confess your sins to God and thank Him for the great sacrifice of His son Jesus upon the cross of Calvary. Claim the forgiveness that we have through Christ.

**Today's Prayer Focus:** Praise God that He is a God of forgiveness. Prayers for Bob McIntyre who has surgery today on the bump he has on his tongue. Continued prayers for those in need of God's comfort and healing touch. Deo Volente.