Archbishop Lori to Celebrate Ash Wednesday Masses Marking the Beginning of the Season of Lent

Archbishop William E. Lori, Archbishop of Baltimore, will celebrate the following mid-day and evening Masses in Baltimore on Ash Wednesday, March 5, 2014:

Baltimore Basilica, 409 Cathedral Street, Baltimore, 12:10 p.m. The Cathedral of Mary Our Queen, 5200 N. Charles Street, 5:30 p.m.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, the 40-day period when the Catholic Church asks the faithful to give themselves to prayer and to the reading of the Scripture, to fasting and to giving alms, in an effort to sharpen their senses and focus mind and heart on the reign of God. Rules for fasting and abstinence can be found at www.archbalt.org/about-us/catholic-resources/fast-abstinence.cfm.

Easter is Sunday, April 20.

For the sixth straight year, the Archdiocese is promoting the sacrament of Reconciliation, also known as Penance or Confession, during Lent. All Catholic parishes in the Archdiocese will make the sacrament available during lent and will hear confessions on Friday, April 11 from 3-8 p.m. The campaign is called "The Light is on for You" and was first initiated in the Archdiocese of Washington. It utilizes a multi-media marketing campaign to encourage Catholics in the Archdiocese of Baltimore to reconnect with the sacrament during Lent.

For more information about "The Light is on for You," contact a Catholic church in the Archdiocese of Baltimore or visit www.archbalt.org/about-us/light/index.cfm.