



Vox Populi

07 March 2024

We are halfway through Lent 2024 so it is a good time to pause and reflect on how we are going.

Have our Lenten resolutions borne the effects we had hoped after receiving the ashes on Ash Wednesday?

It can be around this time our Lenten journey can become a little harder, more challenging. Not the time to let our Lenten sacrifices and resolutions go the way of most New Year's resolutions!

Giving up things we like will help us realise that the pleasures of this life are not what we live for.

The halfway point is not a time to be discouraged but to be encouraged and present with Our Lord.

If you think Lent is a kind of spiritual boot camp or marathon, think of the joy and celebration three weeks ahead.

This is a time to grow in grace and keep focused, and remember why we are fasting, doing penance and being charitable to others – all of it is in anticipation of Easter.

It is not for some arbitrary reason we give up certain pleasures for 40 days or that we make special acts of penance or charity. It is to unite us with and bring us closer to Our Lord.

God does not expect us to be perfect right now. Indeed, He knows that is not going to happen. God will always make up by His grace what we lack in perfection.

So, instead of focusing on our failures for the first half of Lent, we should focus on beginning anew each day and asking for God to reveal His mercy and grace ever more.