



# Ash Wednesday

## Distribution of Ashes in Parishes

### ASH WEDNESDAY MASS

Mask stays on while distributing Ashes.

#### Blessing of Ashes

Dear brethren (brothers and sisters),  
let us humbly ask God our Father  
that he be pleased to bless with the abundance of his grace  
these ashes, which we will put on our heads in penitence.

O God, who are moved by acts of humility  
and respond with forgiveness to works of penance,  
lend your merciful ear to our prayers  
and in your kindness pour out the grace of your + blessing  
on your servants who are marked with these ashes,  
that, as they follow the Lenten observances,  
they may be worthy to come with minds made pure  
to celebrate the Paschal Mystery of your Son.

Through Christ our Lord

Amen.

**Distribution of Ashes – Say one of the formulae below only once. It is not necessary to say it to each person who approaches you to receive the Ashes.**

Repent, and believe in the Gospel.

or

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.



# Ash Wednesday

## Distribution of Ashes in Parishes

### Sprinkling of Ashes

- The people wear masks during the distribution of the Ashes.
- Gentle music could be played as the Ashes are distributed.
- Cleanse your hands before the distribution of the Ashes.
- Invite people to move forward to receive Ashes.
- Encourage social distancing as they come forward.
- Once a person is in front of you take some of the ashes and sprinkle it over their head without saying anything.

### Music Suggestions

- Hosea (*Come back to Me*):
  - As One Voice 1 #30;
  - Catholic Worship Book #715;
  - Gather Australia #213
- Ashes (*We rise again from ashes*):
  - As One Voice 2 #16;
  - Gather Australia #209.