

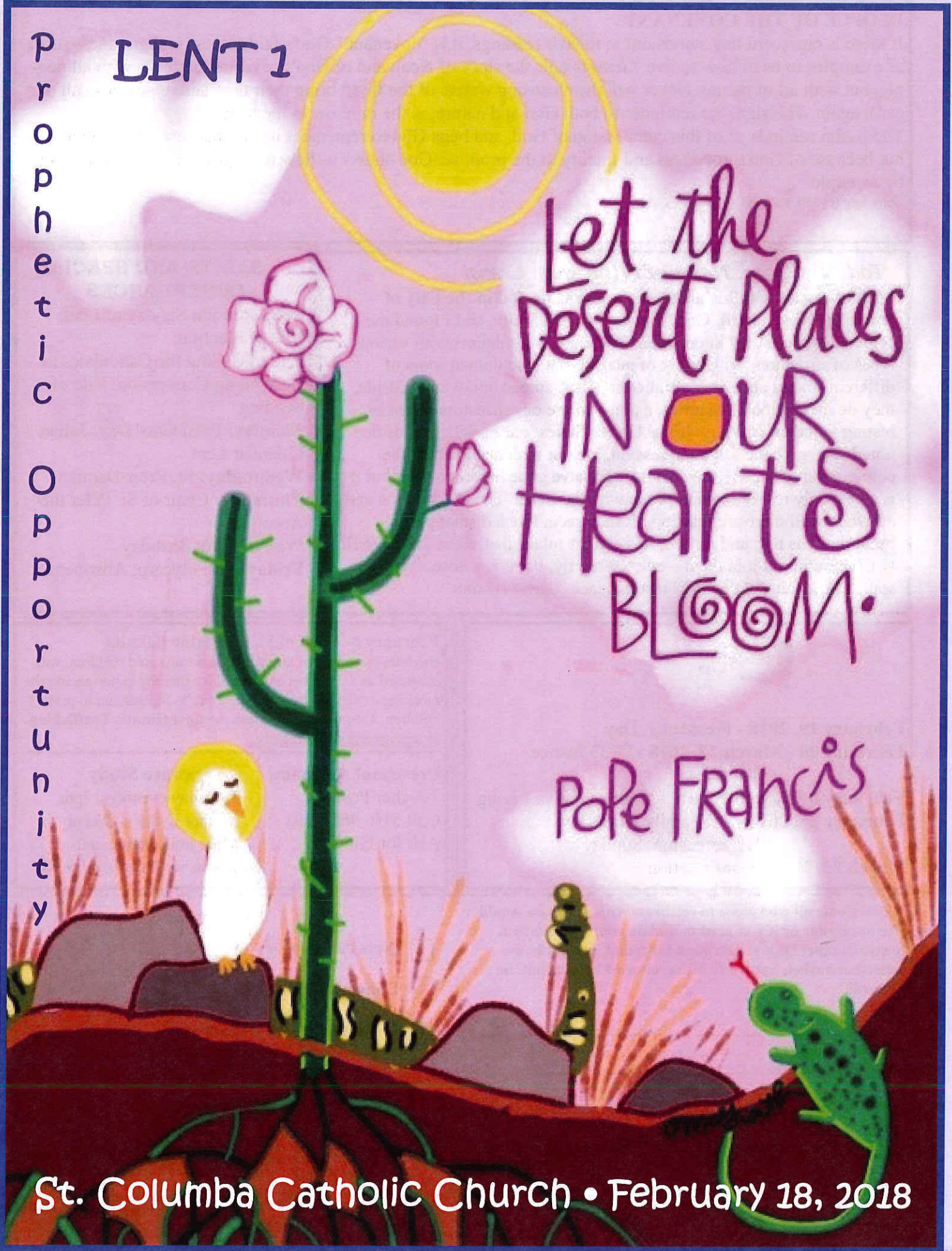
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LENT 1

Let the  
Desert Places  
IN OUR  
HEARTS  
BLOOM.

Pope Francis

St. Columba Catholic Church • February 18, 2018



**PEOPLE OF THE COVENANT**

If there is one word that stands out in today's readings, it is "covenant." God's faithfulness and goodness serve as examples to us of how to live. Genesis tells the story of Noah and of God's covenant not only with all people, but with all of nature. Never will the cleansing waters of the flood bring their destructive power to all the earth again. The sign, the reminder to both God and nature, is the rainbow in the heavens.

The psalm reminds us of this compassion of God, and begs God to remember us, not because of our goodness, but because of God's goodness and fidelity to the promise. God shows us how to be good, not by decree, but by example.

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*Today's Good News ~Living with Christ*

**“David rested with his ancestors and was buried in the City of David” (1Kings 2:10).** One summer I visited Sicily, and I found the cemeteries there very interesting. There are mausoleums with various types of structures, with a mix of peaked, flat, and domed roofs of different shapes and sizes. Walled in, often spread out over a hillside, they do indeed look like cities, a place where our ancestors might be resting together, waiting. In the United States, our burial grounds do not always give the same impression, but our understanding of the communion of saints does. Those who have gone before us rest, but it is a heavenly rest of joy and peace with the Lord. The City of God and all who dwell there are feasting. It may seem like a distant place, but it really is not; and for me, it is a great solace that when I receive Holy Communion, I join them—ever so briefly, but it is a taste. May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace. **AMY WELBORN**

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

- Sunday:** First Sunday of Lent; Rite of Election; Rite of Calling the Candidates to Continuing Conversion; Rite of Sending
- Monday:** Presidents' Day; Julian Calendar Lent
- Wednesday:** St. Peter Damian
- Thursday:** Chair of St. Peter the Apostle; Washington's Birthday
- Friday:** St. Polycarp; Abstinence



- February 19, 2018 - Presidents' Day**
- February 20 - March 27, 2018 - OCO Justice**  
Tuesdays
- February 8 - March 1, 2017 - Contemplative Living**
- February 25, 2018 - All Family Faith Day**  
Hypertension Sunday
- March 25, 2018 - Confirmation**

**February 8- Feast of St. Josephine Bakhita**

Bakhita, patroness of kidnapped and trafficked children, was abducted as a child becoming a slave thereby experiencing the meaning of slavery by living it. Pray to St. Bakhita to protect children. **U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking.** [sistersagainstrafficking.org](http://sistersagainstrafficking.org)

**Preschool Assistant**  
Teacher Position  
Call 510- 465-8591  
Ask for Gloria

**Scripture Study**  
Thursday evenings, 7pm  
Mother Lydia's Chapel  
More information call  
Gillian Small (510) 501-9726

We welcome all who come to celebrate with us. If you would like to register or if you need to update your information, please complete this registration form and place it in the collection basket, return to office or send us an email. Be Blessed!

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Phone Day \_\_\_\_\_ Eve \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

- New Parishioner
- Change of Information
- Moving: Remove from list
- Please Call me - best time \_\_\_\_\_
- I would like to serve as \_\_\_\_\_