



7887 Walmsley Avenue
New Orleans, LA 70125-3496
Office: (504) 861-9521
Fax (504) 314-9614
Email: archbishop@arch-no.org

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To: Clergy, Religious and Laity in the Archdiocese of New Orleans

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

Four days ago, we began our Lenten Journey of 40 days. During this time, God calls us to look carefully at ourselves and identify our weakness and sin. In so doing we can undergo a change of heart and draw closer to the Lord Jesus. The church suggests that this is accomplished through prayer, fasting and sacrifices. I pray that your Lenten Journey be a time of blessing and new life.

As we begin Lent, we look at our society and identify ways that we are tempted to stray from the way of the Lord. I wish to identify one: pornography. It has become common in our society and darkens the lives of many. Children can become challenged and addicted. This Lent in the Archdiocese of New Orleans, we are inviting parents, parishes, schools and all organizations to learn more about this common struggle and to protect ourselves, others and especially our children.

Your parish has resources that will be given to you today and throughout Lent to address this issue.

May your Lenten Journey be blessed. As I remember you in prayer, please remember me.

Wishing you God's blessings, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Gregory M. Aymond
Archbishop of New Orleans

GMA/mk

Please place in your church bulletin for the 1st Sunday of Lent and read at all Masses, either before Mass or after the post communion prayer.