

## PASTOR'S COLUMN

### ***“Getting Ready For Lent – ‘The Purpose Driven Life’”***

Lent is rapidly approaching! The Season begins on Ash Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, and it is not too early to begin thinking about what special practices you will do during the Season.

Recently, I received a copy of ***“The Purpose Driven Life.”*** *“What On Earth Am I Here For?”* is the sub-title.

The author is Rick Warren who is the founding pastor of Saddleback Church in Lake Forest, California, one of America’s largest and best-known churches.

These words are taken from the jacket of the book:

*“This book will help you understand why you are alive and God’s amazing plan for you – both here and now, and for eternity. Rick Warren will guide you through a personal 40-day spiritual journey that will transform your answer to life’s most important question: What on earth am I here for? Knowing God’s purpose for creating you will reduce stress, focus your energy, simplify your decisions, give meaning to your life, and, most important, prepare you for eternity.”*

*‘The Purpose Driven Life’ is a blueprint for Christian living in the 21<sup>st</sup> century – a lifestyle based on God’s eternal purposes, not cultural values. Using over 1,200 scriptural quotes and references, it challenges the conventional definitions of worship, fellowship, discipleship, ministry, and evangelism.”*

The book is very good and would be perfect for Lent as it is divided into 40 reflections, one for each day of Lent!

I am going to make this my special devotional during the Season of Lent and would encourage others to do so.

It would be very supportive if a number of us are reading it and, in passing, we can share our thoughts and feelings about the message with each other.

The Parish has purchased 50 copies of the hard cover book at a discount rate. They are available in the Parish Office for only \$15. The book is also available at local bookstores. The website is [www.purposedrivenlife.com](http://www.purposedrivenlife.com)

Please join me in this Lenten opportunity. Together may we deepen our understanding of the question, “Why did God make us?” and the answer, “To know God, to love God, to serve God in this world and to be happy with God in the next!”

*F. Mike*