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University Chapel to Observe Beginning of Lent

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February 19, 2007

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University Chapel to Observe Beginning of Lent

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – Illinois Wesleyan University's weekly chapel hour will observe Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, with a Catholic Mass on Wednesday, February 21 at 11 a.m. in the Evelyn Chapel (1301 N. Park St., Bloomington). The Mass will be celebrated by Father Antonio Dittmer, chaplain of the Saint Robert Bellarmine Catholic Center, and there will be a second service in the chapel at 4 p.m.

Coordinated weekly by the IWU Dean of Students Office, University Chapel Hour is free and open to the public.

For Christians, Lent is a 40-day period of repentance before the remembrance of Jesus' crucifixion on Good Friday (this year on April 6) and resurrection on Easter Sunday (April 8). In accordance with Catholic tradition, at each Mass, clergy will place ashes of the burnt palm fronds from the previous year's Palm Sunday on the foreheads of the congregation members as a sign of penitence, humility and human mortality.

For additional information, contact Lauren Linsner at llinsner@iwu.edu or by calling the Saint Robert Bellarmine Catholic Center at (309) 452-5046.

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