

# THE SKIFF



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THIRTY-ONE NORTH TEXAS MINORS RESCUED IN HUMAN TRAFFICKING OPERATION

A STUDENT MEDIA PUBLICATION OF TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

FORT WORTH, TEXAS



## FINDING THEIR WAY

STUDENTS TRY TO NAVIGATE FAMOUSLY CONFUSING SID W. RICHARDSON BUILDING

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## FOOD TRUCK FUN

THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE CONGREGATE TO EAT AT A POP-UP TURKEY LEG HUT

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## CAMPUS NEWS

# TCU students try to navigate famously confusing Sid W. Richardson building

By **ABBY HOFFACKER**  
STAFF WRITER, TCU360

TCU students struggle to get to classes in the science building. This advice could help.

Infamous for confusing un-suspecting students, the Sid W. Richardson Building chews up first-year students and spits them right back out. With its low ceilings, long hallways, and twisting staircases, it's easy to see why. (See the Hogwarts moving staircases from J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter series for reference).

"The numbers (in reference to the building's office and classroom numbers) don't make sense," said Dr. Michael Pelch, an assistant professor of professional practice in the geology department. "It has a look that you shouldn't be here... like the back hallway of a



PHOTO BY HEESOO YANG

The hallways of the building are notoriously difficult to navigate.

hospital."

The building, which connects to neighboring Winton-Scott Hall, was constructed in 1970 and named after a well-known oil and ranching tycoon from Fort Worth. The architect is said to have modeled the building based on a Scottish castle.

For many science majors, it is easy to get used to this building. However, for first-year students and those non-science majors who do not have many classes there, it can remain a difficult challenge throughout their college years.

"I had a professor

freshman year ... On the first day of class she took us on a walk to find her office because there's no way we would have found it otherwise," said Courtney Parks, a sophomore biology student.

Parks' advice to students is to use elevators and vending machines as reference points.

Leaving for class 20 minutes early has helped Sally Ho, a junior psychology student, navigate through Sid W. Richardson.

"When you go upstairs," said Ho, "it's very confusing."

And if these tips don't work, don't worry. Getting lost in Sid Richardson is a rite of passage for all TCU students.

Good luck.



PHOTO BY HEESOO YANG

Student walks up the stairs in Sid W. Richardson Building.



## The Skiff

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COMMUNITY

# The scoop: Ranking the best ice cream shops in Fort Worth

By **LUCY PUENTE**  
STAFF WRITER, TCU360

Whether it's a treat with friends, a date night or a reward after a long day full of studying, many TCU students agree that ice cream hits the spot. Fort Worth has many ice cream options to offer to students, and they're all near the TCU campus.

Here are seven of the closest and tastiest ice cream destinations to try, rated on proximity to campus, price, texture, variety and how much ice cream was given in a small sized cup.

## The Rankings

### 7. Cow Tipping Creamery

Proximity: 3.2 miles  
Price: \$3.50 + \$1 for extra toppings  
Texture: soft serve  
Variety: 3 flavors, 22 toppings  
Size of small: runs large  
Overall Score: 2.5/5

Despite being 3.2 miles from campus, Cow Tipping Creamery had to come last. With only three flavors to choose from—vanilla, chocolate and swirl—the ice cream was a regular



PHOTO BY LUCY PUENTE

Cow Tipping Creamery—Small cup of vanilla soft serve with sprinkles.

soft serve that you could find at a Chick-fil-A or McDonald's. Multiple toppings are available here, but the creamery does not offer the same variety of ice cream flavors as others in Fort Worth.

### 6. Dairy Queen

Proximity: 5.5 miles  
Price: \$1.29 + \$1 for extra toppings  
Texture: soft serve  
Variety: 2 flavors, 35-40 toppings  
Size of small: true to size  
Overall Score: 3/5

The “stop sign of Texas” makes its signature blizzards and sundaes a staple; however, if you are looking for more variety, this is not the place to go. Dairy Queen only offers soft serve ice cream with two flavors, but it makes sure the toppings are the focus of the menu. Dairy Queen's ice cream can be hit or miss, and when the line is long, the ice cream can be melted.

### 5. Melt

Proximity: 3.4 miles  
Price: \$3.75 + .50 for extra toppings  
Texture: creamy  
Variety: 12 flavors



PHOTO BY LUCY PUENTE

Dairy Queen—Small chocolate dipped vanilla soft serve in a sugar cone.

Size of small: smaller than expected  
Overall Score: 3.5/5  
The aesthetic of Melt seems to be the focus of the business and is what customers pay for. On the pricier side of the ice cream destinations, Melt is more of a place for Instagram pictures. The 12 flavors offered are unique to the menu and grab the attention of trendy college students.

### 4. Curly's Custard

Proximity: 4.8 miles  
Price: \$3.39 + .75 cents for extra toppings  
Texture: custard  
Variety: 5 flavors, 33 toppings  
Size of small: runs large  
Overall Score: 4/5

Curly's Custard is the creamy ice cream to enjoy on a warm sunny day in Texas; however, because it offers no indoor seating, the drive-thru is a better option when the weather is rough. The prices are fair and many toppings are offered to customers, allowing a variety of combinations to create unique sundaes with both dairy and dairy-free options.



PHOTO BY LUCY PUENTE

Melt—Small cup of scooped 'beans' with sprinkles.

### 3. Marble Slab Creamery

Proximity: 2.1 miles  
Price: \$4.49 + .59 cents for extra toppings  
Texture: buttery and smooth  
Variety: 22 flavors, 40+ toppings  
Size of small: true to size  
Overall Score: 4.5/5

Being the second closest ice cream destination to the TCU campus, Marble Slab offers buttery and smooth ice cream. When ordered, the ice cream is put on a chilled marble slab where customers choose their desired toppings to be mixed into the dessert. The location is owned by a married couple who are TCU graduates.

### 2. Creamistry

Proximity: 4.3 miles  
Price: \$6.44+ .50 for extra toppings + free whipped cream  
Texture: Lucious  
Variety: 18 flavors, 35 toppings  
Size of small: runs large  
Overall Score: 4.5/5

Liquid Nitrogen made ice cream. Creamistry offers hundreds of combinations and flavors of ice cream. All of the



PHOTO BY LUCY PUENTE

Curly's Custard—Small cup of vanilla custard with sprinkles blended in.



PHOTO BY LUCY PUENTE

Braum's—Small cup of scooped vanilla with whipped cream and sprinkles.

dairy ice cream flavors are offered as non-dairy and vegan options making the sundae creations endless. Once ordered, the ice cream is made before your eyes by adding a cloud of liquid nitrogen to a bowl of your liquid ice cream base of choice. Even though Creamistry is an investment, the free whipped cream and fresh ice cream make the price worth it.

### 1. Braum's

Proximity: 2 miles  
Price: \$1.59 + 1 free topping and .25 cents for extra toppings  
Texture: Thick and creamy



PHOTO BY LUCY PUENTE

Marble Slab Creamery—Small cup of vanilla with sprinkles rolled in.

Variety: 27 flavors, 35 toppings  
Size of small: true to size in a cup, runs large in a cone  
Overall Score: 5/5

A classic wallet-friendly ice cream. Braum's offers 27 flavors and a variety of seasonal flavors, classic toppings, sundaes and cones. With the cheapest price of all the competitors and a wide array of flavors, the combinations are limitless. Braum's is a Southern exclusive ice cream destination and will leave you wanting their creamy and thick ice cream every day.



PHOTO BY LUCY PUENTE

Creamistry—Small cup of nitro-frozen vanilla with sprinkles and whipped cream.

## COMMUNITY

# Thousands turn out to try pop-up Turkey Leg Hut

By **LUCY PUENTE**

STAFF WRITER, TCU360

Potter's House of Fort Worth had an endless line Saturday evening.

Families and friends were prepared to wait up to 10 hours for a smoked turkey leg.

The Houston-based Turkey Leg Hut debuted its first pop-up location this weekend in the parking lot of the church on Woodhaven Boulevard.

"We have heard about The Turkey Leg Hut on Facebook and wanted to try the Houston location," said customer Charlotte Allen. "When my husband heard about it on the news we had to come out today."

The Turkey Leg Hut began in a parking lot at the Houston Rodeo in 2016 and has grown to become a restaurant. They have gained more

than 400,000 followers on Instagram and more than 500,000 on Facebook.

"We have people that are here ordering multiple turkey legs, I'm not just talking about two or three turkey legs. I'm talking about 10, 15, 20, 25 turkey legs," said Nakia Price, the co-owner and founder of Turkey Leg Hut.

In addition to the turkey legs, people could dine on cajun bowls brought to Potter's, which is only 9.2 miles away from TCU.

## Managing the crowd

The fall-off-the-bone turkey legs were sold starting at 11 a.m. until midnight.

The chefs kept the cooked turkey legs in large warmers that emptied out regularly.

Brianna Corbett

was six hours into an estimated nine-hour wait.

"It smells so good," she said. "We are in the direction where the wind is blowing so the smoke of the turkey legs blows this way. We have been tortured this whole time waiting in line; it boosts our taste buds."

Corbett came prepared for the long line with a wagon full of snacks, chairs, and solar phone chargers.

## Community outreach

Tiffany Brinkley, the community outreach director of The Potter's House of Fort Worth, said the collaboration with TLH was part of the annual Spring Harvest Festival hosted by the organization.

The festival helps people with their healthcare providers,



PHOTO BY LUCY PUENTE

The pop up turkey leg shop drew thousands.

financial services, property management companies, parenting centers, and STEM educational resources for students.

"Our campus pastor is related to the owners of Turkey Leg Hut. This is more than family," said Kinyana McCoy, the digital content manager

of The Potter's House. "It is an opportunity to feed our community with resources they need."

# Thirty-one North Texas minors rescued in human trafficking operation

By **LOGAN ORSINI**

STAFF WRITER, TCU360

A 30-day joint law enforcement operation helped rescue 31 North Texas children, including a 13-year-old who was being held in a Fort Worth apartment.

"Operation Missing in the Metroplex" brought together officers from several North Texas police departments, Homeland Security and the U.S. Marshals Service. The 13-year-old was among seven children whose rescue was tied to sex trafficking, according

to The United States Attorney's Office Northern District of Texas.

The other six cases include:

A 15-year-old Jane Doe recovered by Dallas Police at a residence in Dallas following a tip by a confidential source.

A 17-year-old Jane Doe recovered by Dallas Police inside a vehicle in Dallas.

A 16-year-old Jane Doe recovered by Arlington Police inside a residence in Kerens, TX following an analysis of social media.

A 15-year-old Jane

Doe from Fort Worth recovered in an Uber in Houston during a prostitution sting.

A 16-year-old Jane Doe recovered by Fort Worth Police at a "john's" house in Fort Worth.

A 16-year-old Jane Doe recovered by Dallas Police walking on Lancaster Blvd.

Fort Worth Police Department Investigator Sergeant Johnson, from the human trafficking unit, said that this investigation process was different from others in that they partnered with the U.S. Marshals Service and task force personnel

to locate the juveniles.

"This was a very important operation that yielded great results," Johnson said. "We anticipate further joint operations like this to occur in the future."

In addition to Fort Worth, officers from Dallas, Arlington and Grand Prairie participated.

The acting United States Marshal Quintella Downs-Bradshaw said in a press release that victims should know that they are not to be forgotten. She added that there is always hope and a way to return home.

"To observe law enforcement partnerships and community concerns culminate into such a successful recovery outcome is rewarding," Downs-Bradshaw said.

The remaining 24 minors were recovered from friends or relatives and reunited with their legal guardians.

Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price said that human trafficking is a serious issue in Texas today.

"It is on all of us to make sure we do everything we can to protect our kids," Price

said. "An effort like this takes teamwork at every level, and I am proud of the work the Fort Worth Police Department did in partnership with state and federal agencies."

The US Marshal Service, Homeland Security Investigations and state and local authorities work year-round to rescue lost children. Call The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children at 1-800-THE-LOST (1-800-843-5678) to report a missing child.

## CAMPUS NEWS

# TCU announces 'back to campus' plans for fall semester

By **CAMILLE PLUNKETT**

STAFF WRITER, TCU360

TCU announced plans to return to in-person learning and an on-campus experience this fall.

Chancellor Victor Boschini made the announcement as COVID-19 cases remain low and vaccinations continue to rise among the campus community.

"This decision was made in concert with our Campus Readiness Task Force and TCU's Public Health Group, the same teams who have led our successful planning and safety precautions for the past year," Boschini wrote in an email to the campus community. "We will, of course, continue to closely monitor conditions across the country, as well as the latest guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention."

## In-person classes will increase in the fall

Almost all classes will return to an in-person format, except for a few who do not fit the class schedule or inside of available spaces.

Others will be held in "nontraditional classroom areas" to accommodate social distancing protocols, according to an email sent by Provost Teresa Abi-Nader Dahlberg. "These areas have been transitioned to fully support a classroom learning environment," Dahlberg wrote. "We will reevaluate all classroom spaces and physical distancing protocols as

the semester nears."

Just days after the university's announcement, the CDC lowered its distancing requirement in schools from six to three feet.

Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Kathryn Cavins-Tull told TCU360 in an email that this could make classrooms feel even more normal next fall.

"If the decision is made to lower social distance requirements from six feet to three feet, campus may look a lot like what you have been used to pre-COVID," she said.

## Campus cases remain low as vaccinations continue to rise

The growing number of vaccinated community members and continuance of low case numbers played a role in TCU's decision to return to campus in the fall.

Over 2,000 TCU students, faculty and staff have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, according to Cavins-Tull.

Active cases among on-campus students reached zero for the first time since August during the first week of March. There are currently 15 active cases among students and staff, according to the university's dashboard.

"Because of continued vigilance with our health and safety measures, COVID case count remains low on campus and within our community," Boschini said in his email. "The pandemic has taught us



PHOTO BY HEESOO YANG

TCU welcomed students home amid the pandemic.

to stay flexible, remain humble and to be prepared for changes in guidance."

Cavins-Tull said that she hopes that more vaccines will become available to TCU students in the near future. TCU community members can register for the vaccine online with the TCU COVID-19 vaccine form.

## Reevaluation, flexibility stressed as TCU eyes upcoming return to campus

Both Cavins-Tull and Boschini expressed optimism that the university will be able to stick to its plans for the fall, but emphasized the need for flexibility.

"August is still five months away, which is a lifetime in regards to COVID-19," Cavins-Tull wrote. "Protocols for COVID are based on infection rate, hospital rates, federal, state and



PHOTO BY HEESOO YANG

Students walk to class in their first week back to campus for the Fall 2020 Semester.

local guidance and, most importantly, vaccination rates."

Boschini said that "healthy decisions" need to be made now to prepare for the fall, and mentioned the participation of TCU students and staff in the vaccination site located on campus.

The chancellor added

that the university will continue to monitor pandemic conditions across the country and the latest CDC guidelines.

More details will be provided as the semester approaches, but Cavins-Tull saw the announcement as a turning point.

"I hope the community

was excited and hopeful for our future," she wrote. "It finally feels like we are turning the corner and can see some return to the activities we loved prior to COVID."



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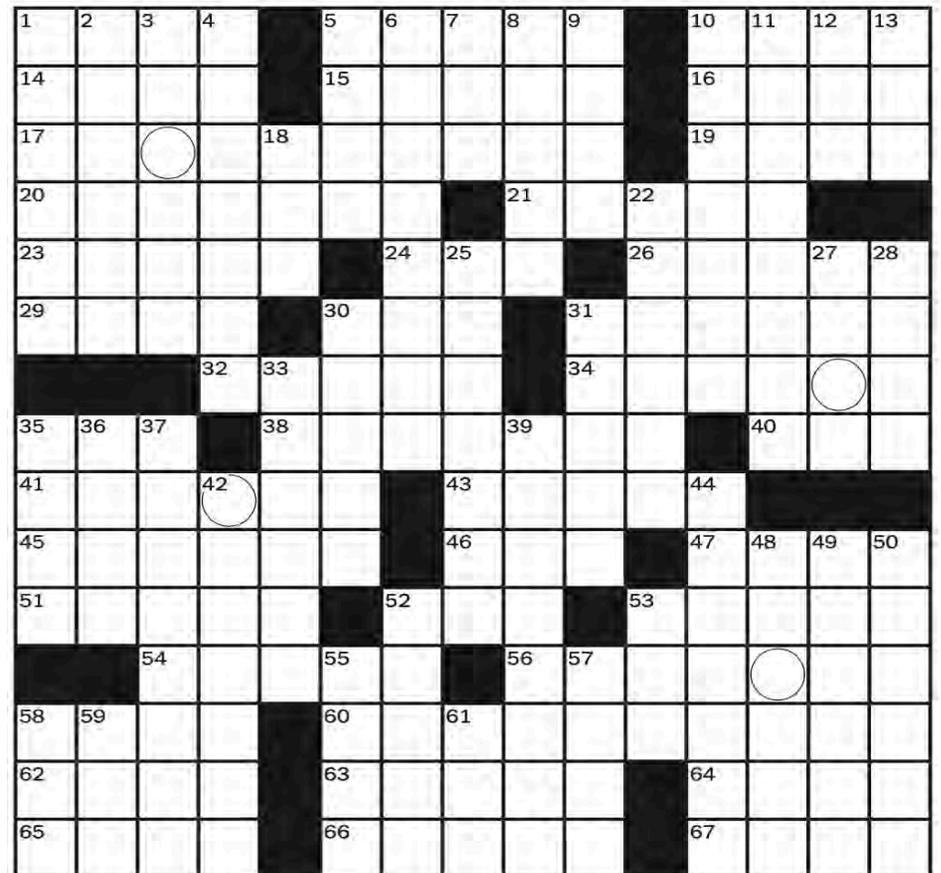
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**The New York Times Edited by Will Shortz**

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  - 59 Shade
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**Carpe Diem by Niklas Eriksson**





**Dustin by Steve Kelley and Jeff Parker**



# Horoscope

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) ★★★ Today, share spare time with a friend who makes you laugh and smile. Avoid religious and political topics. Try walking, biking, dancing or any other physical activity that you can enjoy doing together. Tonight: Send family a photo collage.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) ★★★★★ A piece of furniture or decorative art may tempt you to overspend. Watch your impulses. What you love today you might not like tomorrow. Show your family in words and action how much you appreciate them. Tonight: Answer texts and email.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) ★★★ Catch up on reading.

If the sun is shining, take your book or device outside. Return communication you may have forgotten about. Meet up with friends who love stimulating conversation and a friendly debate about hot topics. Tonight: Vegetarian meal.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) ★★★★★ Walk where you can smell fresh flowers. That may remind you to buy a bouquet for your home or office. Treat yourself to a frivolous item that won't impact your finances but you will enjoy. Tonight: Start a mystery novel.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★★ Pat yourself on the back. A project you have been working on will reach its conclusion. Attend a gathering where you can network with people whose interests mirror your own. An important contact might emerge. Tonight: An emotional

discussion brings closure.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★ Today might bring vacillating moods. Excuse yourself politely from an appointment and take alone time. Your imagination may be especially active. Catch up on journal entries and jot down creative ideas you want to run by your team. Tonight: Dance movements

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★★ Plan to visit a friend who lives out of town. In the meantime, set a time to connect online. Someone you did a favor for may write a note that could bring a tear to your eye. Tonight: Calm your nerves.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★ Expect the unexpected in all areas of life. Your career may take a surprising new turn. Adapt to current trends, and you will fit right in. Stay

focused and continue to be a team player. Tonight: Add to your playlist.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★★ Someone might ask you to mentor them. Accept the challenge. You may discover teaching skills you doubted you had. Talk to people from other cultures. Learn a language online through lectures and recordings. Tonight: Dinner will be waiting for you.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★★ Today you want to be where the action is, whether at home or work. Enter an online game or tournament. You are a healthy competitor, so anyone who stands in your way better watch out. Tonight: Invite friends to dinner.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★ Someone might break a promise or cancel an

appointment without notice. Be compassionate rather than judgmental. There may be extenuating circumstances. Make the first move to get in touch. You always know the right things to say. Tonight: Sweet-smelling incense.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★★ Strong opinions could get you in hot water. Keep provocative ideas to yourself for now and you will succeed. Show others by example how to be diplomatic and charming. You will get rewarded for your efforts. Tonight: Pet love.



## CAMPUS NEWS

## Resident assistants helped serve food during February's winter storm

By MAIZEY EDGAR

STAFF WRITER, TCU360

The freezing temperatures and icy roads that brought much of Texas to a halt in February triggered an emergency protocol for TCU Dining Services as the university scrambled to keep students fed.

For four days – the longest emergency stretch in a decade – resident assistants (RAs) and hall directors pitched in to help dining staff.

wouldn't have to risk driving to and from their homes during severe weather conditions, there weren't enough people on hand and the protocols were enacted.

RAs wiped down tables and provided a sense of community building for their residents, using a rotation created by hall directors for each mealtime, said Director of Housing and Residence Life (HRL) Craig Allen.

their lowest.

The prolonged storm, which left many off-campus students without power for multiple days, added to the strain.

**Not an everyday occurrence**

The last time TCU Dining Services utilized the protocol was in February 2015.

Allen said many hall directors and RAs were unaware they would be asked to step up.

"I was personally not aware of the emergency protocol until about a week before we were forecasted to experience severe winter weather," said Emily Morales, junior mechanical engineering major and an RA in King Hall.

Allen said that moving forward, HRL will be sure to mention the protocols and make sure that residence staff know that it is a possibility.

Some RAs said working in Market



PHOTO COURTESY OF SWATI BHARATHI

Resident assistants contributed to the community during the storm.

Although TCU provided hotel rooms so the dining hall staff

Some residential staff even served food when staff numbers were at



PHOTO COURTESY OF SWATI BHARATHI

Resident assistants in charge of wiping down tables in Market Square.

Square and King Family Commons was an opportunity to

an RA in Clark Hall, said she developed an appreciation for the hard

Allen said the RAs and hall directors earned the appreciation of students.

He also said a group of students brought in a bag of thank you notes to give to dining staff on Feb. 19, and that the graciousness of students and staff really "boosted morale" and allowed for the functioning of the dining halls under such unprecedented conditions.

"[We] served more meals in those first few days than we serve on an average day any day of the semester, and we did it during a shorter time period because everyone just came at once"

- CRAIG ALLEN

DIRECTOR OF HOUSING AND RESIDENCE LIFE

help create a sense of community during the storm.

Junior nursing major Zea Maroon, who is

work carried out daily by dining staff, and she had time to interact with residents more than she usually would.

## TCU students talk about what the season of Lent means to them

By LINDSEY BAKONYI

STAFF WRITER, TCU360

The start of Lent – the 40 days before Easter – is typically marked with prayer and ashes. This year, however, Ash Wednesday was met with COVID-19 restrictions and, in Texas, a winter storm that left more than 2 million without power that day.

Despite the initial hurdles, some TCU students are still

observing the season.

Lent began on February 17, 2021, and ends Saturday, April 3, 2021 this year.

Organizations around campus, such as TCU Catholic and TCU Student Ministry, are continuing to honor Lent by hosting weekly worship events such as Mass and Bible studies.

Although some students are struggling to celebrate Lent while being away from their

families, others say that they aren't forgetting the importance of the season.

"For me, Lent is reflecting on myself and how I can strengthen my relationship with God," Keelin DeGeorge, a junior business major, said.

DeGeorge said although it is harder to put aside time to focus on her faith while at school, she tries the best she can because she knows how important faith is in her life.

TCU junior political science major Elle Eckersall also explained why Lent is so important to her.

"It is a period of reminding myself of what I am rooted in and choosing to make sacrifices," Eckersall said. "It reminds me of my purpose here in this world and brings me back to what truly matters."

Whether it be going to weekly religious

celebrations to celebrate the season of Lent, or simply doing something more personal, Lent is still easy to observe for some students.

"This year I am honoring Lent by adding something that requires self-discipline into my life and taking time each day to reflect on the grace I have been given to live this life here on earth," Eckersall said.

Eckersall explained that as the Easter holiday

gets closer, she pushes herself to read bible passages that describe the events leading up to Christ's sacrifice on the cross to remind her how grateful she is and what truly matters in her life.

With the Easter holiday quickly approaching, students like Eckersall and DeGeorge are making sure they remember the true importance of the season and what it means to them.