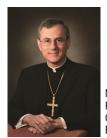


FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT MARCH 10, 2019

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Most Rev Ronald Peter Fabbro CSB Bishop of London

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SUNDAY EUCHARIST

6:00pm Saturday Sunday 8:30am, 10:30am, 12:30pm, 7:30pm

WEEKDAY EUCHARIST

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 12:05pm Tuesday, Thursday 7:30am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 11:00 to11:30am Saturday 4:30 to 5:30pm

Or by appointment

SACRAMENTS

Please contact the Parish Office

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Lent- A Time of Reflection and Renewal

"We have now entered the great season of Lent. For those of us who are old enough to remember, Lent in the past was not, in some respects, a time we looked forward to. Fasting and abstinence, not to mention other forms of penance, were in force and it was a serious business. Easter was looked forward to with real anticipation. Our attitudes to Lent tended to be on the gloomy and negative side. Perhaps nowadays we have gone to the other extreme where Lent hardly means anything at all. "You mean Lent has started already? Really. I had no idea! Easter will be on top of us before we know where we are and I haven't bought a thing!"

Yet Lent has always been one of the key periods of the Church year and it would be a great pity if we were to forget its real meaning. In fact, that is what we ask for in the Opening Prayer just before we sit down to listen to the readings: "Father, through our observance of Lent, help us to understand the meaning of your Son's death and resurrection and teach us to reflect it in our lives." Really, the whole purpose of Lent is beautifully summarized in that prayer - to understand the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus and to live that out in our own lives.

The period of Lent is six weeks to help us do precisely that. The Church provides Lent almost like an annual retreat, a time for deepening the understanding of our Christian faith, a time for reflection and renewal, a time to make a fresh start. In the First Reading of today's Mass, Moses speaks to the Israelites at the end of their forty years wandering in the desert and he prepares them for their new life in the Promised Land. That is what the Lenten season is meant to do for us also.

In the early centuries of the Church, Lent was seen as a time of beginning. It was – and again now is – a time for forming new converts, preparing them for their formal entry into the Church community by baptism and confirmation during the celebration of Jesus' resurrection at the Easter Vigil. For those of us who are already baptized, it can equally be a new beginning. Often we prefer to stay with the known and the familiar, even though it does not give us great satisfaction. We can settle into a routine kind of Christianity that goes on basically unchanged from year to year. It is not very inspiring but we stick with it rather than risk the unknown that radical conversion can bring.

The forty days of Lent correspond to Jesus' own forty days spent in the desert. For him, it was a period of preparation for his coming mission, to build the kingdom. Lent for us serves as a time of reflection and a time of reevaluating the quality and direction of our lives. A time for reconsidering our priorities both as Christians and human beings. A time to re-affirm our conviction of the equal dignity of every single human person. Let it be a second spring in our lives. Let it mean something in our discipleship with Christ."

> Excerpt from Commentary on the Sunday Readings, 1st Sunday of Lent, 2019; Living Space: www.livingspace.sacredspace.ie

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- 2. Hold your device over the full QR Code.
- 3. Your camera will scan the QR Code.
- 4. Follow the prompts to donate.



Our Lenten Journey at St. Peter's Cathedral

Lenten Luncheons

Sponsored by the Catholic Women's League every Wednesday following the noon Mass Ash Wednesday to Wednesday April 10 Free Will Offering

Stations of the Cross

Every Friday during Lent 12:45pm

Lenten Day of Confessions

Wednesday April 10, 2019 8:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

Lenten Penance

Change up your Lenten penances this LENT year. Instead of giving up something, try doing something instead. The gift of social media has made it possible for us to engage ourselves in prayer and reflection like never before. I offer you two media sites for you to check out. Both are deeply Catholic and totally free, seriously challenging for disciples willing to take up the daily cross and follow the Savior.

Check out: Word on Fire Catholic Ministries and Bishop Barron's Daily Gospel Reflections. Sign up https://dailycatholicgospel.com/sign-up-daily-gospel. A reflection will be delivered to your email each morning. The second site worth considering is Matthew Kelly's Dynamic Catholic webpage entitled "Best Lent Ever" at https://dynamiccatholic.com/best -lent-ever Once you sign up you will receive a link each day to a short video, a thought to focus on, an action to consider and a prayer to offer.

St. Patrick's Parish Annual Bazaar - Sponsored by the Catholic Women's League - Saturday March 23, 2019 10:00am - 2:00pm in the parish hall (corner of



Dundas and Oakland Ave.). We welcome your donation items and baked goods to any and all areas of our Parish Bazaar. Plan to join us and have fun! No books, clothing

or white elephant items. Health Regulations do not allow us to accept desserts with whipped cream or custard. There will be: bake table, lottery draw, 10cent table, plant table, special draw, raffle wheel, lunch room, religious table, touch 'n' bake, and jewelry boutique. For more information contact Bazaar Convener, Elaine Kocher, at 519-672-5504.

Not as Guests, but as Full Participants in Social and **Ecclesiastical Life:**

Perspectives on Women in the Church Today Thursday March 21, 2019 at 7:30pm

Joanne & Peter Kenny Theatre, Darryl J. King Student Life Centre 266 Epworth Ave., London

Dr. Catherine E. Clifford will be the speaker. She is a Professor of Systematic and Historical Theology in the Faculty of Theology, St. Paul University, and founding director of the Research Center on Vatican II and 21st Century Catholicism. Teaching and research focused in the areas of ecclesiology, ecumenism, and the history of Vatican II. This talk will consider the many ways that women are actively contributing to the life of the Catholic Church today in often unacknowledged ways. How might their gifts be more fully received into the structure of the church?



The Legion of Mary at St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica invites all active and auxiliary members in London to their annual renewal of consecration to Mary. Let us not miss this opportunity to renew our commitment to our Blessed Mother Mary along with legionaries

from Kitchener, Cambridge, and Woodstock as we collectively and individually say "I am yours my queen, my mother and all that I have is yours!" and receive blessings and strength to continue our journey to personal sanctification and sanctification of others through prayers and apostolic works.

2019 ACIES Ceremony: Saturday March 23, 2019, 2:00pm to 4:00pm, Blessed Sacrament Parish, 305 Laurentian Dr., Kitchener, ON. For more information and transportation arrangements, please contact: Jeniffer: 519-619-6786 or Gina: 226-580-6968 or email: ourladyofrock@gmail.com.

Learning and Support Group for Adult Survivors of Childhood Trauma

For survivors who want to find healthy, healing, get nonjudgmental answers to your questions, just listen, or simply feel you are not alone, this group is a free, safe and welcoming space. Meet in the 2nd floor Training/Wellington Room at the Central Library, 251 Dundas Street, London. Next dates are Saturday's: March 9 & 23, April 13 & 27, and May 11 & 25, from 10am to 12 noon. No need to register. Facilitator Sheila Stevenson is a survivor and ICF Certified life coach. For more information call her at 519-471-7608 visit www.londonpubliclibrary.ca/programs/.

St. Michael's Parish Mission - March 31-April 2, God...Jesus...Community...Love: Adventure with Terry Nelson Johnson, who will challenge those attending to enter more deeply into the mystery of grace, the mystery of God through storytelling, poetry, and humour. He works with parents, teachers, pastoral staff and faith communities. He designs and conducts formation programs that encourage, affirm, and inspire. For more information, please call St. Michael's Parish at: 519-433-6689 or email: stmichlon@dol.ca.

Our parish Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, and our Ash Wednesday Lenten Lunch, sponsored by the Catholic Women's League, were both well attended. These events take a lot of behind-thescenes work, and I know we all appreciate the efforts that are made. Thank you as well, to all who came to take part.

On Ash Wednesday, we began our Lenten journey to Easter. Lent reminds us that we are pilgrims in this world, following Jesus. We make greater efforts to remember we are loved by God, and realize more that we are called to respond to that gift. Lent is a time of penance and conversion, as we check our responses to God's invitation to growth by being really honest with ourselves.

Am I growing in faithfulness to Jesus? Am I advancing in my desire for holiness and regular prayer? Am I generous in sharing my faith and love of God in my daily life? The practices of prayer, fasting, and giving to the poor are meant to open us to be more available to God, allowing ourselves to do everything, not to be noticed by others, but out of a sincere love for God.

Lent is a call to simplicity. God wants us just to "be there," sensing his presence and allowing ourselves regular time to be quiet enough to feel his gentle nudges of the Spirit to a new way of life, however that may be for each of us. He invites us to let go of our fears, our sins, and any obstacle to growth. Lent is for listening. We will perhaps hear many voices trying to seduce us away from letting the Gospel touch our life and our society. However, we all also hear the gentle voice of Jesus saying what he wants of you and me, how he would like us to live each day, the faith that brings us to him. What would it be like if, at the end of Lent, I found I was a more prayerful, reflective, and discerning Christian? That I had gotten to know Jesus more as someone with whom I can talk anytime in times, good and bad knowing he is with me each step of my journey? Not a bad way to spend Lent, and it would beat, only giving up beer, popcorn, and dessert. It will then be a new beginning in faith, a gift of renewal leading us to the joy of Easter and the peace of the Risen Christ.

Don't be surprised where our Lenten journey will take us...

Fr. Jam Mocklen

The Legacy of St. Patrick - Pilgrimage to Ireland September 23 to October 3, 2019

As you enjoy a 10 day tour to the Emerald Isle, you will experience the history, culture and faith of Ireland that came through the missionary efforts of St. Patrick in the 5th century. This pilgrimage includes visits to many historical churches as well as a visit to Knock, where in 1879, Mary appeared to 15 townspeople. In addition, your Irish Guide, as part of this pilgrimage, Fr. David Johnston and Fr. John Pirt will be offering daily Mass. Cost is \$2639 per person (twin) - airfare extra. For further information, contact Cheryl Johnston at 519-855-6225 or email cjohnston@selloffvacations.com.

CELEBRATION OF WEEKDAY LITURGY

Monday, March 11 - 12:05pm

Elias Caudevilla; Intentions of Arya K. Garcia; Jim Hogan

Tuesday, March 12 - 7:30am

Intentions of Normita Punzalan; Peter Wright; Mary Gordon

Wednesday March 13 - 12:05pm Maria Paino; Mato Brkanovic; Lillian Rappini

Thursday, March 14 - 7:30am Guido Bombassaro; Helen Kasprzak; Peter Pham, Anne Bui & Ana Pham

Friday March 15 - 12:05pm Kate & Aubrey DuPont; Andy Robertson; Frank Melady

We remember in prayer all those who are sick, and all those who have died, including Sheila Jarvis, mother & mother-in-law of Kirtley Jarvis and Herman Goodden, and comfort for those who mourn.

We pray for those serving in pastoral ministry throughout our diocese:

Mrs. Betty Hompoth, Pastoral Minister; Deacon Victor Salazar; Rev. Gerard Bedard; Rev. Joseph Kannath; Rev. Russell Shantz; Mrs. Alice Chinnick, Catechist; Sister Magdalena Vogt, C.P.S., Pastoral Minister

READINGS - SUNDAY MARCH 17, 2019

First Reading - Genesis 15.5-12, 17-18

The Lord made a covenant with Abraham, his faithful servant.

Psalm - Ps. 27.1, 7-8, 9, 13-14 (R. 1a)

R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Second Reading - Philippians 3.17-4.1

Christ will transform our humble bodies, conforming them to his glorious body.

Gospel - Luke 9.28b-36

While Jesus prayed, the appearance of his face changed.

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