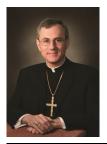


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## PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD **MARCH 28, 2021**



Ronald Peter Fabbro, C.S.B. Bishop of London

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### **Easter Triduum Schedule**

Please see inside.

### **Weekend Masses**

Saturday 5:00 PM

Sunday 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM, and 12:30 PM

### **Daily Mass**

Wednesday 12 Noon

Saturday & Wednesday Masses are also livestreamed here.



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## From Triumph to Tragedy to Resurrection

"We should see this week as one unit, summed up under the phrase "Paschal Mystery". It includes the suffering, death and resurrection as well as the ascension and the sending of the Holy Spirit. In fact, all these elements can actually be seen present on the cross on Good Friday.

The theme of this week and of today's liturgy is clear. What Jesus experiences for us is a manifestation of God's overwhelming love for each one of us. Further, by our identifying ourselves with the 'mystery' of Jesus' suffering, death and resurrection we ourselves experience a great liberation, a 'passover' from various forms of sin and enslavement to a life of joy and freedom. Certainly our celebration of Holy Week is not just to be one of memories, or even just of thanks but of entering, together with Jesus, into a new experience of living. It is meant to be real and not merely religious, pious and devotional make-believe.

Today's liturgy combines both a sense of triumph and tragedy. Very importantly, we are reminded at the beginning, that we are about to commemorate the triumph of Christ our King. We need to keep this in mind as we proceed in the second half to hear the long tale of the sufferings and indignities to which Jesus was subjected. A tale not relieved — yet — by the proper end of the story: the Resurrection to new life. So as we listen to the Passion story unfolding let us keep in mind the Hosannas as Jesus our King entered Jerusalem, his city. Very soon it will be difficult to recognise our King in the battered, scourged, crowned-withthorns, crucified remnant of a human being.

What we see in today's readings is God using perfectly human situations in order to convey, in dramatic fashion, his relationship to us. Today's readings also tell us that Jesus suffered. And he really did suffer. There are those who tend to minimise the sufferings of Jesus because "after all, he was the Son of God, he had a 'Divine Nature'." This is to deny one of the most central teachings of the New Testament that Jesus was one hundred percent a human being and, except for sin, shared our human experiences in every way.

Our key to understanding this week is in today's Second Reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians. "Let the same mind be in you which was in Christ Jesus." Though Jesus was in the form of God, he "emptied" himself, and went down to the lowest depths of degradation and humiliation, dying naked and as a convicted criminal.

This is the measure of his love for us, laying down his life for his friends, an expression of God's love for us. And, because of the intensity of the love he showed he is swept up into the glory of God. So that we, too, may follow. But, on the way, we also have to be ready to empty ourselves in love for him and to be totally at the service of our brothers and sisters.

So, as we participate in the liturgy of Holy Week, let us not concentrate simply on the sufferings of Jesus as if there was something good about suffering. Those sufferings only have meaning because they lead to resurrection, new life and new joy. Suffering, pain, sickness are not in themselves desirable. They become, however, sources of good when they help us to become more mature, more loving, more caring, more sympathetic people — in other words when they lead us to be more like Jesus himself, when they lead to our own liberation and the liberation of others."

Excerpt from Commentaries on Daily Readings-Palm Sunday, Living Space; https://livingspace.sacredspace.ie/la061/

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- 1. Place your device in camera mode or open the QR Code Reader.
- 2. Hold your device over the full QR Code.
- 3. Your camera will scan the OR Code.



## LIVING HOLY WEEK

#### Easter Triduum at St. Peter's Cathedral

**Thursday April 1;** Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper:7:00 p.m.\* **Friday April 2;** Proclamation of the Passion and Veneration of the Cross: 3:00 p.m.\*

Saturday April 3; Easter Vigil: 8:00 p.m.\*

Sunday April 4; Easter Sunday: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m.\*, 12:30 p.m.

\*Celebrations will be livestreamed on the Cathedral's YouTube channel.

Seating for all Easter Triduum celebrations is by reservation only by phone or online: Mon. March 29 & Tues. March 30; 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. As of publication time of this bulletin, Holy Thursday and Good Friday are filled to our given capacity size. Very limited seating is still available for the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday masses.

Doors of the church open 30 minutes before each Mass. Those with reservations must arrive no later then 15 minutes before Mass begins. Arriving late may result in your seat being given away to those arriving without a reservation. Those arriving without a reservation are not guaranteed a seat. Once mass has begun, no one will be admitted.

For those attending Mass in person, masks are mandatory at all times inside the church. Exemptions include children under two and those with a medical exemption (a note from your doctor is required in advance). Thank you for your understanding.

#### **Easter Celebration-RCCO**

The London Centre of the Royal Canadian College of Organists (RCCO) will be posting an "Easter Celebration" on YouTube on Saturday April 3. The program will involve Easter Readings chosen and read by Rev. Dr. Andrew Fullerton from Elmwood Ave. Presbyterian Church, London; Organ & Vocal Solos performed by local musicians Angus Sinclair, Ian Sadler, Owen Spicer, Katy Clark, and Paul Grambo; Trumpet Solo performed by Shawn Spicer; and the Choristers from Metropolitan United Church Choir School. This Easter Celebration will remain up for 2 months for you to access. The program link will be posted on the RCCO website on Saturday April 3.

#### Laudate Si Group Study-St. Michael's Parish

What does caring for the planet have to do with our faith? Come and explore Pope Francis' historical Encyclical Letter, "Laudato Si' - On Care for Our Common Home"! It is his appeal to "every person living on this planet" for an inclusive dialogue about how we are shaping the future of God's creation. You are invited to an 8-session group study series hosted by St. Michael's. Instead of meeting in person for this series, we will meet using Zoom. Internet access is necessary to participate. Coinciding with the wondrous spring season, sessions will be held Tuesdays from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM starting on April 20th. All are welcome. For more information and to register, please contact St. Michael's office (519-433-6689), before April 9th.

The Encyclical Laudate Si can be found here.

The guide that will be used for this series can be found here.

#### **Stations of the Cross**



The last Stations of the Cross for Lent will be prayed Friday March 26 at noon. This virtual service will feature our Cathedral's stations in still images accompanied by prayer and reflection. The service, and

all services prayed throughout Lent are on our YouTube *channel*.

Thank you to our video editor Morris Lamont for his photos of our stations and putting the services together so exquisitely each week and our Director of Liturgical Music, Gloria Gassi, for her contribution of the beautiful musical accompaniment and voice.

## **Praying the Easter Triduum**

With our continued capacity restrictions as well as those who cannot join us yet for in person liturgies, Creighton Online Ministries offers reflections for the Great Three Days-Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil. Click below to celebrate at home:

Holy Thursday | Good Friday | Easter Vigil

## **Ontario Conscience Rights Campaign**

Now that Parliament has passed Bill C-7 access to euthanasia and assisted suicide has been expanded to the disabled, those with mental illness and those who have an advanced directive. Consequently, there is a pressing need for legislation in the province of Ontario to protect the conscience rights of healthcare providers. Such legislation is in place in other provinces in Canada but not in Ontario.

Many Canadians are alarmed at the implications that Bill C-7 will have for our country. Healthcare providers, of different religions and of no religion, are seriously questioning how they will practise in this new environment without legislation that protects conscience.

The Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario supports the Ontario Conscience Rights Campaign. The campaign goal is to show the government that it will be supported by the public if such legislation is passed. It is important that we demonstrate our support during the month of March.

Please click <u>here</u> to view a letter from Bishop Fabbro to the Faithful of the Diocese detailing how you can participate in this campaign.



## Knight's of Columbus Trivia Night

Coming up next month, enjoy fun and prizes at our parish's Trivia Night. It will take place on Zoom and is hosted by the Knights of Columbus. More to come in the weeks ahead.



## From the Desk of the Rector

Holy Week has begun. It is called "holy" because we remember the selfless love of Jesus for all of us. He came into our life so we never have to endure anything alone. Earlier this week I was speaking with people in another city who are members of a committee/working group. They do a lot and give much of their time to needed projects. It is inspiring to listen to them. They did, however, share a frustration - the lack of action on the part of those who sign up for a project and do not follow through. Some of us may, at one time or another, found ourselves on either side of that criticism. One of the episodes of the Gospel we will hear his week is the time Jesus washed the feet of the disciples. It was very significant and there's a reason Jesus did it. He desired to show us something, to encourage us in our life and inspire us to live out our faith meaningfully. Washing feet is not a glamourous thing to do - not all feet are beautiful. Some feet could use some work. But Jesus did what his disciples were not prepared to do -wash their feet. What can this mean for us today? We may not wash each other's feet literally with soap and water, but it is an example we can carry out figuratively in other ways. Often, we get caught up in wanting things to go our own way - we expect to be given the place we want. But Jesus reminds us there is only one kind of greatness - the greatness of service. Sometimes the community is full of people wanting to stand on their

own dignity when we should be kneeling at the feet of our brothers and sisters. In every area of life, a desire for prominence – to be first - and an unwillingness to take a subordinate role messes up the scheme of things. However, we see many, many examples of the opposite behaviour in our city and within our parish family on a regular basis. There are people who respond to real needs by serving...the needs of the lonely for friends and affirmation, the needs of the guilty to be forgiven, he depressed to be encouraged, the despairing to be given hope, the hungry to be fed, those in need to be clothed, those who suffer injustice here and around the world to know people are in their corner, those who are discriminated against in any way to be welcomed, those who suffer from racism in all its forms to see it stopped, the weak to be strengthened, the divided to be united. We can't do it all, but we can pick one or two areas where we can give of ourselves, work selflessly and make a difference. Whenever I'm tempted to think of my own importance, I try to remember the image of our God - the one who created you and me - who became human in the person of Jesus, kneeling at his disciples' feet and washing them. I will be praying for you this week - praying that you and I will travel throughout the week with a heart that listens so we will experience the presence, peace, hope and love Jesus intends for us.

Fr. Sim Modlen

## READINGS FOR APRIL 4, 2021 THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD (EASTER SUNDAY)

First Reading - Acts 10.34a, 37-43 We ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.

Responsorial - Ps 118.1-2, 16-17, 22-23 (R.24)

R. This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad.

Second Reading - Colossians 3.1-4
Seek the things that are above, where Christ is.
OR

1 Corinthians 5.6b-8 *Clean out the old yeast so that you may be a new batch.* 

Gospel - John 20.1-18++ According to the Scripture: Jesus must rise from the dead.

## REQUESTED MASS INTENTIONS

## March 31—Wednesday 12:05 PM

Aurora Romero; Catherine "Kay" Capitano; Luisa Claricia; Marzolis Verceles; Abelardo Herrera; Intns of Fran Dittrich

We remember in prayer all those who are sick. We also pray for those who have died including Beth Tellaeche; and comfort those who mourn.

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

Rev. John Sharp; Rev. Pierre Wood, O.F.M. Cap.; Rev. Donald Pumputis; Rev. Danny Santos



## **Flowers for Easter**



We are collecting monetary donations to offset the cost of flowers for our Easter celebrations. Donations may be made in the name of family or friends, deceased or living, for whom you may wish to pray. These names will be placed in the bulletin and remembered in prayer throughout the Easter Season.

To make a contribution, please seal donations in an envelope,

along with your name, address and phone number as well as the name of the person you are honouring and drop it in the Sunday collection or mail in to the office. Donations can also be made by etransfer to <a href="mailto:basilica@dol.ca">basilica@dol.ca</a>, memo line- *Flowers for Easter*. Please indicate the same information as above in an email to the office. Thank you for your generosity.



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