



1ST SUNDAY OF LENT



ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH

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SUNDAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING:

I will establish my covenant with you,
that never again shall all bodily creatures be destroyed
by the waters of a flood;
there shall not be another flood to devastate the earth.
(Gn 9:11)

PSALM:

Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those
who keep your covenant. (Ps 25)

SECOND READING:

Christ suffered for sins once,
the righteous for the sake of the unrighteous,
that he might lead you to God. (1 Pt 3:18)

GOSPEL:

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert,
and he remained in the desert for 40 days,
tempted by Satan. (Mk 1:12-13)

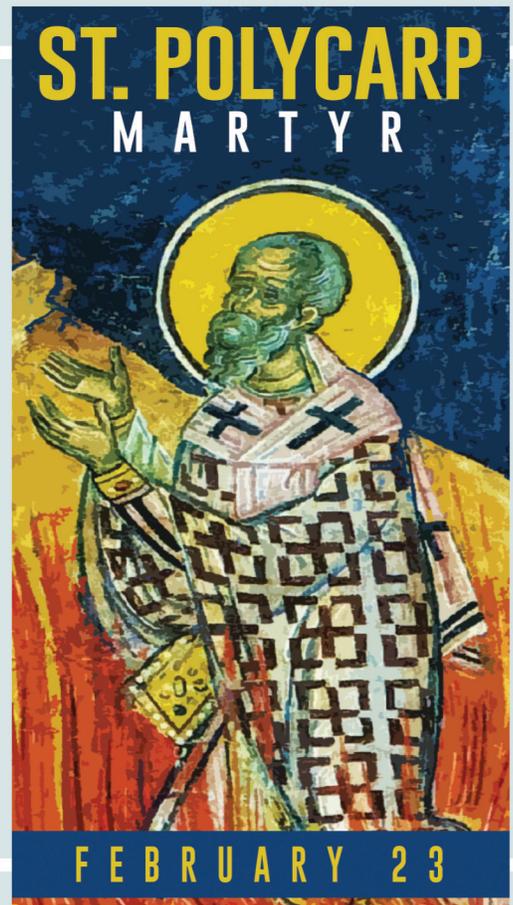
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OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 21, 2021

Sunday: 1st Sunday of Lent
Monday: The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle
Tuesday: St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr
Next Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Lent



1ST SUNDAY OF LENT



REFLECT

FIRST READING

God promises Noah to use a “bow in the clouds” (a rainbow) as a sign and symbol of His divine pledge to never again allow a world-wide flood to devastate the earth. This is the Bible’s first recorded covenant between God and humanity. What do you think of when you see a rainbow?

SECOND READING

Peter teaches that Jesus preached to both the living and the dead — those dead dating back to the days of Noah — and connecting us through baptism. What do you find intriguing about this idea?

GOSPEL READING

We hear about Jesus’ temptation in the desert and his inaugural gospel message to those living in Galilee. Jesus saw repentance as necessary to believe his good news. As we begin the Lenten journey, what aspects of your life require repentance?

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Weekly Schedule

Date	Celebration - Time	Diocese of Hamilton Prayer Calendar
<p>Monday, February 22:</p> <p>1st Reading: 1 Peter 5.1-4 Gospel: Matthew 16.13-19</p>	<p>Rosary – 7:30 AM</p> <p>Mass – 8:00 AM</p> <p>Chaplet – 3:00 PM (livestreamed)</p>	<p>Rev. Marian Gil, O.M.I.</p>
<p>Tuesday, February 23:</p> <p>1st Reading: Isaiah 55.10-11 Gospel: Matthew 6.7-15</p>	<p>Rosary – 7:30 AM</p> <p>Mass – 8:00 AM</p> <p>Chaplet – 3:00 PM (livestreamed)</p>	<p>Rev. Brendan McGrath</p>
<p>Wednesday, February 24:</p> <p>1st Reading: Jonah 3.1-10 Gospel: Luke 11.29-32</p>	<p>Rosary – 7:30 AM</p> <p>Mass – 8:00 AM</p> <p>Chaplet – 3:00 PM (livestreamed)</p>	<p>Society of the Sacred Heart of Jesus (S.J.C.)</p>
<p>Thursday, February 25:</p> <p>1st Reading: Esther 14.1, 3-5, 12-14 Gospel: Matthew 7.7-12</p>	<p>Rosary – 7:30 AM</p> <p>Mass – 8:00 AM</p> <p>Chaplet – 3:00 PM (livestreamed)</p>	<p>Rev. Jason Kuntz</p>
<p>Friday, February 26:</p> <p>1st Reading: Ezekiel 18.21-28 Gospel: Matthew 5.20-26</p>	<p>Rosary – 7:30 AM</p> <p>Mass – 8:00 AM</p> <p>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament – 8:30 AM –9:30 AM</p> <p>Chaplet – 3:00 PM (livestreamed)</p> <p>Stations of the Cross – 7:00 PM</p>	<p>Rev. Romelito Guillen</p>
<p>Saturday, February 27:</p> <p>1st Reading: Deuteronomy 26.16-19 Gospel: Matthew 5.43-48</p>	<p>Rosary – 8:00 AM</p> <p>Mass – 8:30 AM</p> <p>Chaplet – 3:00 PM (livestreamed)</p> <p>Sacrament of Reconciliation – 4:00 PM –5:00 PM (or by appointment, please call the parish office)</p> <p>Mass – 5:30 PM</p>	<p>Rev. Grayson Hope</p>
<p>Sunday, February 28:</p> <p>1st Reading: Genesis 22.1-2, 9-13, 15-18 2nd Reading: Romans 8.31b-35, 37++ Gospel: Mark 9.2-10</p>	<p>Rosary – 8:30 AM (livestreamed)</p> <p>Mass – 9:00 AM (livestreamed)</p> <p>Mass – 11:00 AM</p> <p>Hour of Prayer for victims of sexual abuse - 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM</p> <p>Mass – 4:00 PM</p>	<p>Second Sunday of Lent</p>

THE UNLIKELY SUSPECTS

Have you ever taken a nature walk? Have you leisurely strolled through a forest or field, with no real destination in mind and your only objective being receptivity to and observation of all God's creation?

Sometimes, Scripture readings can feel like a nature walk. All of salvation history plays out against the backdrop of the natural world, with all elements of God's creation — plants and animals and the dust of the earth itself — turning in a supporting performance. How about Jesus in the hot and dusty desert, tempted, living “among the wild beasts?” Noah departed from his ark with the animals he rescued, observing God's sign in the very clouds of the sky. Even God Himself, offering us salvation from original sin through the waters of baptism.

How often do we remember that God speaks to us through all of His creation, even in the unlikeliest suspects?

Let's go back to the nature walk. It sounds like a lovely way to pass an afternoon, amongst wildflowers and butterflies, but don't forget the beating hot sun, mosquitos, and threat of rain on the horizon. Remember, we're not in heaven yet. Here on earth, God may be present in His creation, but that doesn't mean it's always easy to endure.

Lent is, essentially, a time to listen for the voice of God in places we may not expect: the mild irritations you experience when you're craving the chocolate you gave up, or the dull pangs of hunger during the Ash Wednesday fast. It's a golden opportunity to see the divine hand in all of creation, even those unlikely suspects.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

DOES IT MATTER WHAT LEG YOU KNEEL ON WHEN GENUFLECTING?

Genuflection is an act of devotion that literally means “to bend the knee.” For many Catholics, it's an almost automatic gesture that we perform before entering our pew or row of seats at Mass. But, like many of the symbols and gestures of our faith tradition, genuflecting can also be an invitation for deeper reflection.

The practice of “bending the knee” is an ancient way of recognizing the presence of someone greater than we are. It has been said that the practice dates back to the time of Alexander the Great, but it became a common part of etiquette in the royal courts of the Middle Ages. From throne rooms and palaces, it was a small step to genuflecting, becoming part of the devotional lives

of Christians who used this secular gesture as a way of recognizing the presence of the One who is King of Kings, especially in the Eucharist. In our tradition, although many have been taught or prefer to genuflect by placing their right knee on the ground, there is no prescribed way to genuflect. This is especially important to keep in mind if physical limitations or age make certain movements difficult for us.



Today, Catholics are asked to genuflect in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament (whether in the tabernacle or exposed on the altar during eucharistic adoration). So, while it has become second nature to genuflect before entering your seat in church, we should pay attention to where the Blessed Sacrament is kept in each church or chapel we visit, and genuflect in the direction of the tabernacle where the Blessed Sacrament is kept. In churches or chapels in which

the tabernacle is in a separate space, we are invited to simply bow toward the altar.

Weekly Online Lenten Retreat for Youth and Families

Sunday Evenings in Lent from 7:00-8:00pm on Zoom

Each meeting has a different theme and will include a video, reflection time, conversation, an activity resource, and a prayer ritual (different each time) related to the theme.

Content will be geared to students in Grades 3 and up.

Feel free to attend as many or as few meetings as you would like.

Weekly Themes:

Feb 21: Making Your Lent Meaningful

Feb 28: Prayer

Mar 7: Fasting

Mar 14: Almsgiving

Mar 21: Repentance

Mar 28: Holy Week

Please email Wes at wmoga@hamiltondiocese.com if you would like to be added to the contact list to receive the weekly Zoom invite!

This Lent, our Youth Ministry community will be hosting a weekly online retreat for students and families!

Please see the poster above for all the details.

Hoping you'll be able to join in on this journey of faith and fellowship through the beautiful season of Lent!



THINKfast is our annual social justice event for youth! Participants fast from solid foods for 24 hours while exploring a particular social justice issue, and how they can make a difference, through games, simulation activities, videos, group discussions, and prayer. This year, the focus is on how the lives our brothers and sisters in the Global South are impacted by the scarcity of water and by private companies taking control of water resources.

THINKfast 2021 will be held online using Zoom.

Age Group: Grade 5 and up
Students in Grade 8 and older have the option of participating as leaders.

Dates and Times:
Session 1: Friday, March 5 from 7:00pm – 9:30pm
Session 2: Saturday, March 6 from 10:00am – 12:30pm
Session 3: Saturday, March 6 from 3:00pm – 5:00pm

Cost to participate: \$10

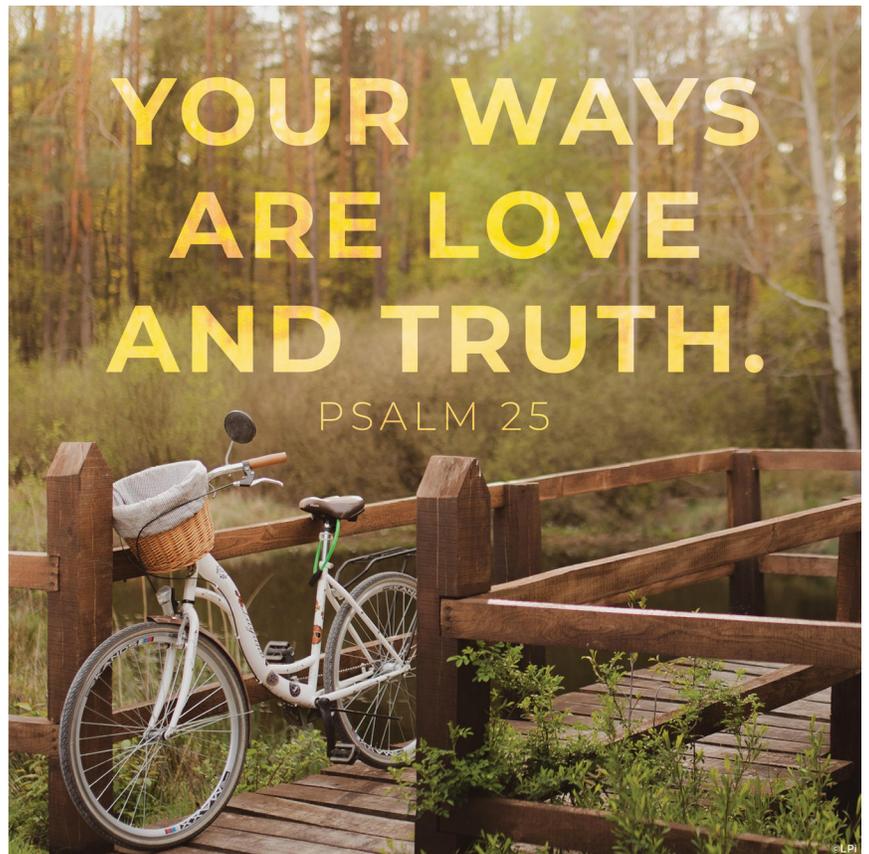
Registration deadline: Friday, February 26

You can visit <https://saintfxstoneycreek.com/thinkfast-2021/> to download the registration form!

LIVE THE LITURGY

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Throughout history God has given His people signs. Our season of Lent offers us God's sign that it is time to stop the ordinary routines of our lives, create some desert space, and listen more attentively for God to reveal His presence. We are asked to unplug from our attachments, compulsions, obsessions, addictions, routines, and busyness to clear the slate and take stock in who we have become. We are asked to remember the ancient sign of God's covenant with humanity in which He vowed to nurture, sustain, and protect the relationship He has with His people. Once we slow down a bit and clear away some of the clutter, we can see how the journey of our life is unfolding. We can see what brings us in and out of tune with God's love and how we can better imitate God's loving fidelity in our relationship with Him. Even though some good solid self-denial is the order of the day, greater happiness and wholeness will be the fruit of our labors. Pleasant journey through the desert!

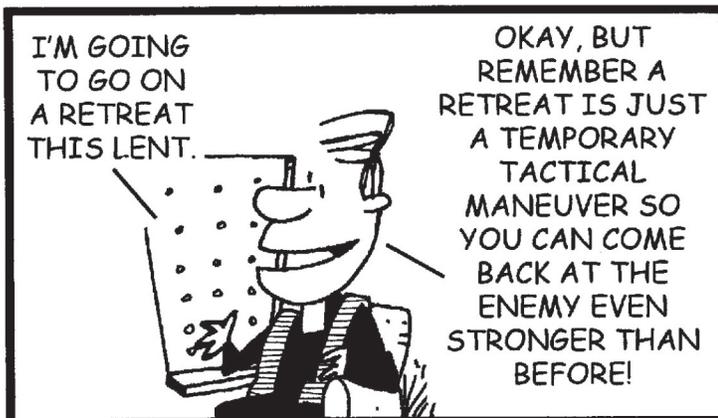


PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

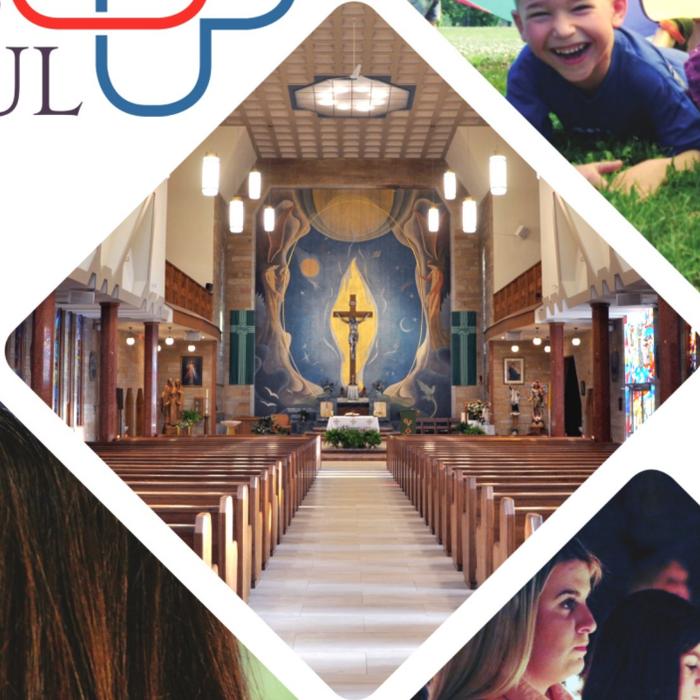
Our parish is grateful for your continued support at this time. Thank you!



1ST SUNDAY OF LENT



ONE
HEART,
ONE SOUL



Saint Francis Xavier
Parish



COME AND JOIN US VIRTUALLY ON OUR JOURNEY
IN EXPLORING THE HEALING SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION.

FORGIVEN explores the grace and healing offered in Confession and shows how this sacrament of mercy reveals the depth and bounty of God's love. By looking at God's revelation of his mercy in Scripture and making a step-by-step examination of the Rite itself, FORGIVEN communicates God's invitation to each one of us to come experience his indescribable love in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

The FORGIVEN program study will be held via Zoom on Tuesday evenings from 7:00pm – 8:30pm for five weeks during the season of Lent on the following dates and explore the following session topics:

Week 1.	February 23 rd	Where are You?
Week 2.	March 02 nd	An Encounter with Mercy
Week 3.	March 09 th	Embraced in Mercy
Week 4.	March 16 th	Biblical Foundations
Week 5.	March 23 rd	Answering Common Questions About Confession

To register for the FORGIVEN program study, contact Marianne by phone at 905-870-6554 or by email at mariannegrguric@cogeco.ca

A workbook is available for this session at a cost of \$15.00 (tax incl.) – workbooks will be available on a first come first serve basis.

CONSIDER MAKING THIS YOUR PERSONAL COMMITMENT DURING LENT - TO DEEPEN YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE MERCY AND LOVE OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST.

GOSPEL MEDITATION

ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

St. Oscar Romero said, "Aspire not to have more, but to be more." These powerful words provide the perfect framework for a conversion oriented Lenten experience. God is giving us this Lenten sign to stop being concerned about what you have and focus on who you are. This requires that we create a desert space and listen more attentively for God to reveal His presence. It is all so wonderfully simple on the one hand and so incredibly challenging on the other. The message is simple: love God, neighbor, and self. Those simple words make great sense, but we struggle translating them into reality. Our attachments, compulsions, obsessions, addictions, routines, and busyness all anchor us to the "idol of the self," keeping us mired in our compulsive need for self-aggrandizement. It's not about us!

God vowed, long ago, to nurture, sustain and protect the relationship He has with His people. He called us into being, nurtures us in being, and sustains us in being. Without the Loving Divine Presence, all life would cease. Once we slow down a bit and clear away some of the clutter, we can see how the journey of our life is unfolding. We can see what brings us in and out of tune with God's love and how we can better imitate God's loving fidelity in our relationship with Him. In short, we will see our myopic short sightedness and figure out how



we can better share the Divine Fire within with others. Lent isn't just about giving stuff up for forty days and indulging again at Easter. We need to push things much farther and wrestle with the question of how we can be more. "Being more" means becoming more fully alive and in touch with the holiness of life and the divinity that lives in and empowers all beings and things. It is realizing that the "quality" of our presence is crucial to being an effective witness and herald of God's unconditional love.

The illusion we have bought into causes us to believe that the wrong things and systems matter. We tirelessly fight to keep things the way they are, to return to the former

ways of doing things or restore some nostalgic fantasy memory of "life in the good old days." Lent isn't about maintaining what we have or returning to something that is gone. It's about becoming something new. It's about being more focused, centered, convicted, and grounded so that we can be a person who truly loves and treasures being made in the image of God. The secret to Gospel living is not found in accumulating anything for ourselves, even merit points for heaven. Gospel living means learning how to live with less so that others can live with more. The thought of permanently giving something up makes us feel uncomfortable. Truth often does.

After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." - Mk 1:14-15

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

"Learn to suffer a little bit for the love of God without telling everyone about it."

St. Teresa of Avila



EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE CHURCH, WE WILL PRAY THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS. THIS BEAUTIFUL DEVOTION ENABLES THOSE WHO PRAY IN THIS WAY TO RE-LIVE THE 14 STATIONS (EVENTS) IN JESUS' LIFE AS HE WENT THROUGH HIS PASSION FOR THE SALVATION OF THE WORLD. THEY HELP IS TO CONTEMPLATE, AND THUS ENTER INTO, THE PASCHAL MYSTERY AND CAN GREATLY ENRICH OUR LENTEN SPIRITUAL PRACTICE.



3 EASY STEPS

TO KEEPING YOURSELF & OTHERS HEALTHY!

We are cautioned to be especially careful during the Coronavirus outbreak. Here are some simple ways to keep sickness away.



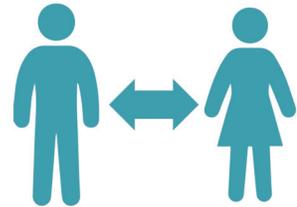
WASH YOUR HANDS

Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds using soap and water. If you can't wash your hands, use hand sanitizer frequently.



DON'T TOUCH YOUR FACE

Especially around the eyes, nose and mouth. If you must sneeze, use a tissue or your arm.



KEEP YOUR DISTANCE

Practice social distancing during this epidemic and stay away from large groups. Instead, call, email or check up on family and friends using social media.

COME TO CHURCH
WITH ME FOR

Lent

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1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

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Dear Friends,

The season of Lent is upon us! It began a few days ago with the celebration of Ash Wednesday, which also coincided with the re-opening of our church after the stay-at-home order was lifted. This Sunday we celebrate the First Sunday of Lent and follow Christ into the desert.

“Every year on the First Sunday of Lent, the gospel proclaimed is the wilderness temptation of Jesus. Mark’s account is honed to three short verses following immediately and urgently after the baptism of Jesus. The Spirit “drove” Jesus into the wilderness, says Mark. We often describe people as “driven” - by ambition, lust, desperation - but what drives Jesus is the Holy Spirit. He is tossed into the physical and spiritual space where, before he begins his public ministry, before he proclaims one word of the Good News, he must struggle with two consequences of his baptism: his naming as Son of the Father and his solidarity with sinful humanity represented by the crowds on the Jordan’s banks who were called by John to a baptism of repentance. Now there are no crowds; Jesus is alone with the Spirit of God and the spirit of evil, with the wild beasts and the angels, with communion and conflict, with the struggle - that will persist throughout his life and death - to be the faithful Son. He is alone with the memory of his ancestors and their wilderness wandering in what for them was not only a place of God’s revelation and promises, but also a place of their temptations and failures. Jesus will show himself to be the most faithful Israelite. The opposition between human sin and divine presence, between the “angelic” and the “beastly,” was starkly exposed in Jesus’s own psyche. And if we are honest and mindful, we know them in ourselves and in our own struggles to be faithful sons and daughters of our same Father.

The English artist Stanley Spencer (1891–1959) painted a “wilderness series” about the

life of Christ. In one of these paintings he depicts Jesus sitting on the desert sands with a “wild beast.” But the beast is not a roaring lion or a skulking tiger. In his cupped hands he holds a small but deadly scorpion. Jesus is no wraith-like ascetic, but very much a plump “flesh of our flesh” man. Spencer may be suggesting that the really dangerous beasts are those small ones that can slither insidiously into our lives; the persistent sins and small infidelities that, almost unnoticed, can inject a paralyzing venom into our discipleship...

Jesus comes out from his wilderness experience strengthened for praise and pain and mission. The arrest of John the Baptist is the first storm that breaks over Mark’s gospel, but over it rises a Galilean rainbow of hope as Jesus proclaims his first words: “This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.” On Ash Wednesday, the last words of that proclamation were an alternative that was pronounced as we were sprinkled with ashes as baptized disciples of the tempted One and called to Lenten mindfulness of the struggle between sin and grace, success and failure, into which we too are tossed.

The desert sand is not under our feet but in our hearts. Its grit is the daily irritations and indefinable loneliness we often feel. We need these Lenten weeks of heightened awareness of the importance of uncluttered spiritual and physical space where we can come to grips with our pain, where we can discover the beauty of God and our sisters and brothers under the surface sands of our busy lives, and where we can allow our ears to be “dug out” (Ps 40:6) by closer listening to the word of God in our Sunday liturgy. We may then become much wiser about the spiritual baggage that we, as wilderness travelers, need to keep or discard in the trek toward Easter.” (Living Liturgy 2021)

Daily and Sunday Masses have now resumed at the regular times and with the pandemic protocols in place. If you are coming to the church, please remember to sanitize your

hands at the stations provided in the Narthex, to wear your facemask at all times while you are inside the building, and to maintain social distancing. The parish office has also re-opened, and office hours are Tuesday to Friday from 9am to 4pm. If you need to visit the office, please make sure that you call in advance to schedule your appointment. If your request can be handled by phone or email, please use these methods to communicate with the staff in order to help minimize visitors to the office during this time.

As I mentioned in last week's email, tax receipts for 2020 are now available at the office. You can either request to have your receipt emailed to you or make an appointment to come pick it up during office hours. They will be also available for pick-up this Sunday in the lobby of the church before the 5:30pm Saturday Mass and 9:00am and 11:00am Sunday Masses - our secretaries will be waiting there to assist you.

I would like to remind those who make their donations to the parish through our website using CanadaHelps that a tax receipt is emailed to you automatically as a PDF file each time you donate, and is not recorded in our parish system.

Beginning tonight, the Stations of the Cross will be held at the church on each Friday of Lent at 7:00pm. You are welcome to come to reflect and pray. Pandemic protocols must be followed therefore we are not able to provide you with a booklet of the Stations to follow along with.

This week we begin the Lenten Bible study entitled *Forgiven*; it is not too late to register! Please see the parish bulletin for additional information. Meetings will take place online so that there are no social distancing concerns - you can participate from the comfort of your home!

One last reminder to any students in Grade 5 and up who would like to participate in this year's THINKfast, which will be held over

Zoom on March 5 and 6, that the registration deadline is this coming Friday, February 26. The registration form and much more information about this event are available at this link [here](#).

The weekly Lenten retreat for youth and families begins this Sunday evening on Zoom! More information can be found [here](#). If you have not received the Zoom invite and would like to participate, please contact Wes at wmoqa@hamiltondiocese.com.

In your prayers, please remember the soul of Lorenzo Castelli who passed away this week and whose funeral took place on Thursday: Eternal rest, grant unto him O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

I invite our parishioners who are homebound or unable to attend Masses in person at this time to join us for the live-streamed celebration of Sunday Mass at 9:00 AM, as we are now returning to our regular Sunday schedule. Before the Mass you can also join in for the recitation of the Rosary at 8:30 am, led by our parishioners.

We hope to see you soon, everyone.

God bless,
Fr. Mariusz



Kids Corner

READ THE
GOSPEL &
COLOR



Every day turn back to God. If your bedroom is messy, straighten it up. If you push your sister off her bike, help her get up and ride again. If you tear down your brother's blocks, help him build something new. If you disobey your parents, go and do the right thing right now. Ask God to help you stay close to him today. Then you will be close to him in heaven forever.

PRAYER

Holy Spirit, help me remember to obey you every day.

MISSION FOR THE WEEK

I will be a builder, not a wrecker.

Development & Peace Share Lent Campaign 2021

This year's campaign is highlighting the mission and values of Development and Peace and calls us to share love in this Lenten period. We are invited to engage in the campaign through the prayers, activities, and resources provided on the calendar on the following pages and to make a donation on Solidarity Sunday (March 21) to support the work that D&P is doing for our brothers and sisters in the Global South if we are able.

To view the campaign video, please click on the picture below:



Solidarity calendar

Weekly highlights

SHARE SHARE
LOVE LENT

This year, our full Lenten solidarity calendar and its many activities can be found online at devp.org/lent. Every week, you are invited to explore an aspect of Development and Peace through prayer, action and fundraising and to participate in a virtual event. This printable mini-calendar provides a brief overview of the *Share Lent* 2021 program.

Week 1

Values and mission

February 17

It's Ash Wednesday! To show your support for *Share Lent*, print the campaign poster and put it up in your home and/or parish.

February 18

Learn about the [Principles for a Just Recovery](#). How do they connect with [Catholic Social Teaching](#)?

February 19

Set up your own Lenten fundraising page on our [#SpreadingSolidarity](#) platform!

February 20

It's the World Day of Social Justice. Join us on Zoom at 1pm EST for a special *Meet our partners* activity. [Sign up here!](#)

February 21

Reflect on the [principle of solidarity](#). How does it apply to international cooperation efforts?

Legend

- Reflection/Prayer
- Testimony
- Advocacy/education action
- Fundraising action
- Campaign resources
- Online activity
- "Did you know?"

Week 2

Humanitarian action

February 22

Hawo lives in Somalia and is one of millions of internally displaced people around the globe. Discover her story.



Hawo

February 23

Read the reflection on last Sunday's Gospel reading!

February 24

Visit the online calendar to discover an interesting fact about Development and Peace!

February 25

Pray for the victims of humanitarian crises worldwide.

February 26

Read our [Recovering together backgrounder](#) on the COVID-19 emergency.

February 27

Plan a family movie night on the week's theme. See the online calendar for suggestions.

February 28

Discover [the story of Aysha](#), one of the world's 80 million forcibly displaced people.



Aysha

Online activity

Join us on Zoom for a *Meet our partners* activity: Humanitarian intervention — Realities from the field. [Sign up here.](#)

Week 3

Community development work

March 1

Visit the online calendar to discover an interesting fact about Development and Peace!

March 2

See the campaign guide for great liturgical resources and tools to promote *Share Lent*!

March 3

How should the principle of [participation](#) impact local development efforts? Discuss with family and friends.

March 4

Visit the online calendar to learn about the Pope's call to respect Indigenous peoples' wisdom.

March 5

Take a moment to thank your [Spreading Solidarity](#) donors!

March 6

Learn how young Fabio benefited from training provided by Development and Peace's Colombian partner, the Asociación Campesina de Antioquia.



Fabio

March 7

They're half the world and they're owed much more! Pray for the equal treatment of the world's women.

Online activity

Join us on Zoom for a *Meet our partners* activity: Changing structures and reaching the most vulnerable through a partnership approach. [Sign up here.](#)

Week 4

Youth involvement

March 8

It's **International Women's Day**. Write to a young woman who inspires you!

March 9

Write a solidarity chain letter to reach those who may not be able to donate online.

March 10

Use our campaign banner as your Facebook cover picture to promote the *Share Lent* campaign!

March 11

The national online THINKfast starts today at 3pm EST! Sign up here for this 25 hour interactive fasting and learning experience.

March 12

Read the reflection on last Sunday's Gospel reading!

March 13

How eco-friendly is your home or school? Find out through our special scavenger hunt!

March 14

Emily Lukasik, our animator for Central Ontario, explains why she is involved with Development and Peace.



Emily Lukasik

Week 5

Membership and fundraising

March 15

It's the **10th anniversary of the Syrian conflict**. Learn more about the work of our partner, Jesuit Relief Service, in the region.

March 16

Take a moment to pray for our community of members across the country.

March 17

Simone Fournier sits on Development and Peace's National Council since 2019. Learn what motivated her to join.



Simone Fournier

March 18

Visit the online calendar to discover an interesting fact about Development and Peace!

March 19

Start a climate conversation with fellow people of faith. Get ideas and tips on the *For the Love of Creation website*.

March 20

Remind everyone — friends, family, colleagues, parishioners — that they can donate to Development and Peace in several ways!

March 21

Solidarity Sunday
Catch the live stream of our online Fifth Sunday national mass on our website or on YouTube.

Week 6

Advocacy work

March 22

It's **World Water Day**. Visit the online calendar to discover an interesting fact about water and Development and Peace!

March 23

Ask your MP to ensure that Canada commits to a green and just recovery!

March 24

Read the reflection on this week's theme of advocacy.

March 25

To prepare for Holy Week, read the Way of the Cross on our resources page.

March 26

Read about Alexandra Cadar's involvement with her Development and Peace youth group.



Alexandra Cadar

March 27

Take a moment to pray for the Caritas Internationalis family and our partner organizations around the world.

March 28

Palm Sunday
Introduce Development and Peace to someone who's never heard of us!

Online activity

Join us on Zoom for a *Meet our members activity: A climate conversation — minimizing waste and promoting sustainability*

Week 7

Holy Week

March 29

Take time to meditate on our campaign prayer this Holy Week.

March 30

Why does Canadian solidarity matter in Brazil? Discover Sr. Jean Bellini's answer.



Sr. Jean Bellini

March 31

Who said it: Oprah or Pope Francis? Take this fun quiz in the online calendar!

April 1

Holy Thursday

Let the Lenten washing of the feet be a reminder to heed the call to serve with humility.

April 2

Good Friday

Join us on Zoom for our national online Way of the Cross evening activity!

April 3

Holy Saturday

Your fundraising year: what worked, what didn't? Discuss and brainstorm to do even better next year!

April 4

Easter Sunday

Happy Easter! Close the Lenten season with a final moment of prayer from the online calendar.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR FEBRUARY 22 TO FEBRUARY 28, 2021

DATE	MASS INTENTION	REQUESTED BY
Monday , February 22:	David & Sophie Colterman Daisy Funes & Napoleon Varela	Frank & Louise Kunkel Reyna Bergstrom
Tuesday , February 23:	Pia DiGiacinto For the intentions of Janina Posadyn, her children and grandchildren	Giannina Damiani & Family Janina Pasadyn
Wednesday , February 24:	MULTI-INTENTIONAL Tony Florio Special Intentions Maria Gebska For the health and well being of Wojciech Grzech For the souls of the deceased priests who served at St. Francis Xavier Parish	Marc Carmel Halina Kwasniewska Janina Pasadyn Anonymous
Thursday , February 25:	Serafina Bracco Jim & Hilda Sayers	Marianne & Rudy Jelovich Lorraine Bates
Friday , February 26:	In Thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart of Jesus & the Immaculate Heart of Mary Special Intentions	Ewa Nimcz Grazyna Chomicka
Saturday , February 27: 8:30 am Mass	Victoria Luscombe	Frank & Frances Florio
Saturday , February 27: 5:30 pm Mass	MULTI-INTENTIONAL Rachele Battista Stefano Fortunato Vladyslav Indyk Grace & Vlado Banko Maria Kazalac Albino Krbavac Ricky Resijan Baldassare Lupo	Battista Family Margherita Fortunato Marek Kulak Darinka Krbavac Darinka Krbavac Darinka Krbavac Nick & Leorita Staresina Mr. & Mrs. Tony Benzak
Sunday , February 28: 9:00 am Mass 11:00 am Mass 4:00 pm Mass	Sandor Talasz Jozef Pasadyn Silvia Malvestuto For the People of the Parish (Missa Pro Populo)	A. Smith Janina Pasadyn St. Francis Xavier Knights of Columbus Council 7969