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## Sunday, March 27th, 2022



### 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

"His son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son.' But his father ordered his servants, 'Let us celebrate with a feast, because this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again.'" - Lk 15:21-22a, 23b-24a

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

Sat. Mar 26	4-4:45pm	<b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions</b>
	5:00pm †	Ralph Biancaniello & Gerard Gosselin (Vince Addario)
		† Isaiah (Magazzeni Family)
Sun. Mar 27	9:30am	Missa Pro Populo
	11:00am †	Wally & Sophie Paterak (Chris Moyo & Family)
Mon. Mar 28	9:30am	Private Intention
Tues. Mar 29	9:30am	Intentions of John Mancuso & Family (Vince Addario)
	7-8pm	<b>HOLY HOUR &amp; Confessions</b>
Wed. Mar 30	9:30am †	Ralph Biancaniello (Vince Addario)
Thurs. Mar 31	9:30am †	Felice Biancaniello (Vince Addario)
Fri. Apr 1	9:30am †	Ralph Biancaniello (Vince Addario)
	7:00pm	<b>Stations of the Cross</b>
Sat. Apr 2	4-4:45pm	<b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions</b>
	5:00pm †	Nicole Deschamps (Michelle Delaney)
Sun. Apr 3	9:30am	Missa Pro Populo
	11:00am †	Bertha, Anto & Mary Dumehil (Rebeiro Family)

**Confessions from 9-9:25am before all weekday Masses.**  
**During Lent—Rosary at 9am and Mass Monday 9:30am**

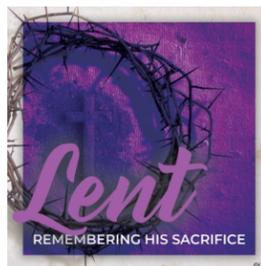
**Offertory March 13th 2022- \$1,730.00**  
**Offertory March 20th, 2022- \$1,420.00**  
**Collection for Ukraine to date- \$4,140.00**  
**Flowers: \$205.00**  
**Maintenance: \$110.00**

### Pope's Prayer Intention Month of April:

For Health Care Workers—We pray for health care workers who serve the sick and elderly, especially in the poorest countries: may they be adequately supported by governments and local communities.

### Fourth Sunday of Lent

God's love story reveals itself in our stories, experiences, and aspirations. We are all prodigal sons and daughters. There are many times in our lives when we would "sell our souls" in order to pursue our passions. We pursued what we wanted without regard for others or God. We have sowed our oats, thrown ourselves into careless pleasures, spent what we know we ought to have saved, turned our backs on those we love and abused gifts we have been given. We even hit bottom and realized the silliness and self-destruction of it all. We needed to come home. We knew we erred and needed a gentle presence to show us God's unconditional love. This wayward journey home changed us.



As much as we need to be welcomed, we are also the one who needs to do the welcoming and mercy giving. Those we love need our guidance, but they don't always take it. We know that what they are doing is off the mark, self-destructive and wrong. We have to let them go and let it happen, even though they might get hurt. As we wait and hope, they choose to make their way back to us. They don't

need us to judge them. They have done enough of that to themselves. We immediately embrace them and are just happy they're home. God uses us to help heal them. Knowing how much we craved understanding and forgiveness ourselves, we can now freely give it away. God uses what he has taught us to teach others.

We are also the entitled ones. At least we "think" we are entitled. After all, we work hard for what we have. We cannot get our heads around the idea that someone can get something that I really deserve! If I do what I'm supposed to do, I ought to be rewarded for that, right? If I do something wrong, I ought to pay the consequences. This is justice, isn't it? This is not God's justice. God is all about love, mercy, compassion, and forgiveness. God's justice is love freely given without merit. We carry the stories of the prodigal son, the unconditional forgiving father, and the entitled angry brother with us. When we make friends with all three, humbly telling those stories to others makes us Christ's ambassadors.

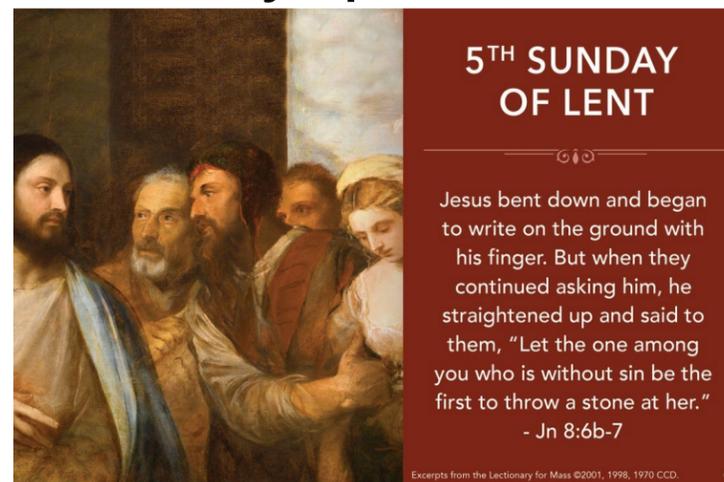
**Please continue to pray for a peaceful resolution to the conflict in the Ukraine. Thank you for your donations!** Funds will be forwarded to the Chancery office and will be sent to the Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA). **A prayer for peace can be found on the back of the Holy Week Liturgical Schedule inserted in today's bulletin.**

**During Lent.** Mass will be celebrated on Monday mornings at 9:30am. Also during Lent, we will pray the Rosary before each weekday Mass from Monday to Friday at 9am for world peace. All are welcome to join us.

**Easter Flower Memorial:** The beautiful Easter lilies and spring flowers that adorn our altar and sanctuary are a special part of the celebration of Easter in our parish. We invite all parishioners to share in the experience through a memorial or thanksgiving gift by using the **Easter Flowers Memorial Envelopes in your offertory boxes dated March 20th or you may use a plain envelope with your contact information.**

**Holy Cross Cemetery ANNUAL SPRING CLEAN UP, beginning on Tuesday April 19, 2022:** All wreaths, tin cans, glass jars, flower pots, and similar articles are to be removed before this date, if not; the cemetery will dispose of these articles. To make arrangements for the staff to hold the articles for a short period of time call the cemetery at 905 734-4172.

## Sunday, April 3rd, 2022



### 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus bent down and began to write on the ground with his finger. But when they continued asking him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her."  
- Jn 8:6b-7

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Mon. Apr 4	9:30am	Private Intention
Tues. Apr 5	9:30am †	Antonio Addario (Vince Addario)
		Birthdays Blessings for Vandana Gupta (Divya G.)
	7-8pm	<b>HOLY HOUR &amp; Confessions</b>
Wed. Apr 6	9:30am †	Souls in Purgatory (Danuta Mazur)
Thurs. Apr 7	9:30am	In Honour of St. Joseph (Teresa & Colin Walters)
Fri. Apr 8	9:30am	Intentions of Ida Biancaniello (Vince Addario)
	7:00pm	<b>Stations of the Cross</b>
Sat. Apr 9	4-4:45pm	<b>Palm Sunday</b> <b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions</b>
	5:00pm †	Helen Albanese (Vince Addario)
Sun. Apr 10	9:30am †	<b>Palm Sunday</b> Ruby Legge (Mark & Dayna Young)
	11:00am	Missa Pro Populo

**Confessions from 9-9:25am before all weekday Masses.**



### This Lent, give from the heart

This Solidarity Sunday, Development and Peace's *People and Planet First* campaign invites you to give from the heart and thanks you warmly for your generosity.

Your donation transforms the lives of some of our most vulnerable sisters and brothers across the world.

In Cambodia, for instance, your solidarity helped our partner DPA establish a community fishery in Srey Packly's village. She said, "Thank you very much to DPA and to the donors for supporting my family and fellow villagers to have fresh and healthy fish to eat and to improve our livelihoods."

Such is the difference you can make by giving to your Share Lent parish collection or at [devp.org/give](http://devp.org/give). Thank you for helping us build a world of justice.

**Envelopes are in your offertory boxes. Special collection envelopes are also available at the back of the church or you can make a donation by etransfer. Use the following email: [stannfendonations@cogeco.net](mailto:stannfendonations@cogeco.net) No password is required.**

### Fifth Sunday of Lent

We love to make examples out of those who have erred and done wrong. Publicly punishing others serves as a means of demonstrating the consequences for what is deemed inappropriate or wrongful behaviour. While this may appear an effective way of achieving conformity to established rules, it runs the real risk of distorting motivation. Obviously, we want people to do what is right and pursue healthy, virtuous behaviours and ideals. But is fear of punishment ever the best motivation for avoiding one action in favour of another?

Doing something out of fear is never healthy. Focusing exclusively on our behaviour and what others expect or think, leads to living life with a self-focused superficiality. We become more concerned about protecting ourselves from something negative and unpleasant, than investing ourselves in the freedom, wonder and awe of being human!

We can still find our way to the unacceptable or inappropriate behaviour as long as we do not get caught! Being a whole, focused, and God-centered human being requires more. It demands an investment of the heart. Virtuous, moral, and mature lifestyles reflective of

the Gospel necessitate love. When we experience and recognize love, God's unconditional love, in the depth of our soul, we fall in love with what we have found. We then find ourselves leaving destructive and sinful actions behind in search of something more holy, dignified, true, integral, and loving. This is really "mercy realized." God's tremendous, loving, eternal forgiveness and willingness to bring us back to something more real and tender is transformational. The respect for myself that I receive from God is so life changing that it causes me to run quickly away from anything sinful and self-destructive to things that are whole and holy. There are many people who want nothing more than to judge or criticize us. What would actually stoning the woman caught in adultery really accomplish? Nothing more than the inflation of the already self-righteous egos of a few men who think they have power. They have no power because they are sinners too, just like everyone else. What all of us have is the humble ability to express sorrow for pursuing destructive thoughts and actions and receive the power of God's mercy. Then, Jesus' request to "go and sin no more" will be one we proudly heed and follow.

### Sacrament of Penance Saturday April 2, 2022, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

In every parish across the diocese a priest will be available to hear individual Confessions. No matter how long it has been, you are welcome to celebrate this wonderful sacrament.

**Lectors for Palm Sunday and Good Friday:** If you have been scheduled to read on **Palm Sunday (April 9/10)** or **Good Friday (April 15)**, your binder is available this weekend at the back of the church, with your name on it. Two readers are scheduled. Please contact each other and assign yourselves the parts for the long gospel reading (**Luke—for Palm Sunday**) as well as the first & second readings and the petitions (petitions for Palm Sunday only). **A reminder that during Mass please use the Passion Narrative Lectionaries which will be placed on both lecterns for you.** Binders can be left at the back of the church. **Thank you.**

**Meeting of Indigenous Survivors with Pope Francis:** Catholics across the country are invited to join in collective prayer as a delegation of Indigenous survivors, Elders, knowledge keepers and young people travel to Rome to meet with Pope Francis from March 28-April 1, 2022. The journey, organized by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, represents an important moment in the ongoing journey of healing and reconciliation. As announced in October 2021, the delegation will also help inform the planned pilgrimage of the Holy Father to Canada at a future date. For more information, please visit [www.cccb.ca](http://www.cccb.ca)



