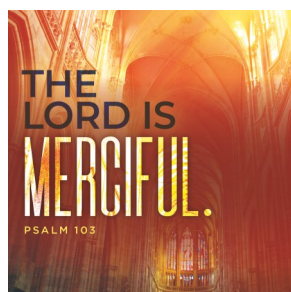


Rev. Chad Grennan, Pastor
 Email: frchadgrennan@gmail.com
 Rev. Deacon Jim McLaughlin
 (phone office for appointment)
 Liliana Haynes
 Office Administrator



Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Gospels continue to challenge us to the core. This is especially true in the way our social relationships have developed. Feeling safe and secure in the world are not things that come easily these days. Actually, we may find ourselves feeling more reservation, caution, reluctance, and fear than ever before. In a moment's notice, life can drastically change. When someone has been intentionally and violently hurt, especially someone we love, we can all too easily find ourselves very attracted to the Old Testament philosophy of "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth."



Intellectually, we know this is not what Jesus wants us to do. But on some level it just seems to make practical or even political sense. After all, why should we allow someone to get away with a heinous violent act? Yet, Jesus cannot be any clearer than he is with this! Offer no resistance to one who is evil. Turn the other cheek as well. When pressed into service, go two miles. Do not turn your back on one who wants to borrow. Love your enemies. Now, take a moment to reflect on all of this. Consider a horrible act of violence committed against someone you love. Listen. Think. Be honest. Can you do as Jesus directs?

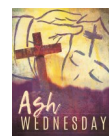
We want to be holy. But we are more comfortable with a definition of holiness that can keep us saying our prayers and on our knees in church. We are not comfortable with a definition of holiness that has something to say about to how we react to and negotiate life. We like to keep a sharp and strong line between the secular and the sacred. In fact, we would prefer that the doors between them be kept closed. God wants us to be holy as He is holy. If God sees this one way and we see it another, then where does this leave us on our journey to God? Our minds like the practical, worldly, and secular answers to things. They are more black and white and at first glance appear to make more sense. Holiness wells up from our souls and is beyond reason. It cannot be explained. It is something we just simply know comes as a result of deep prayer. The truly contemplative eye knows inwardly that what Jesus asks is true and then willingly does it. It may not be easy.

Lenten Prayer: Generous Father, you constantly shower us with your abundant graces. Grant, we pray, that our Lenten sacrifices, prayers and reflection will help us to better recognize the graces of this season. May we share what you have given us with those less fortunate. And help us, Father, to walk confidently on our path, leading us closer to you as we prepare to welcome your Son, our Risen Saviour, this Easter. Amen.



Cathedral Appeal Update

Did you know that our diocese has been blessed with five bishops since being named a diocese in 1958? Looking back, the Most Reverend John Aloysius O'Mara was appointed the third bishop of the Diocese of St. Catharines on February 2, 1994. He was installed in the Cathedral of St. Catharine of Alexandria on April 13, 1994 and faithfully served as our bishop until his retirement on November 9, 2001. Bishop O'Mara recently celebrated his 95th birthday. From installations to ordinations our Cathedral has been home to many blessed occasions in its 175 years. Restoration work continues and is on budget and on schedule. Thank you for prayerfully considering making a donation to this \$1.2 million appeal as we prepare for the future. Pick up a pledge form in your church or visit us on the web at www.saintcd.com/appeal. Thank you and God bless you!



Countdown to Lent.....Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 26th. Prayer, penance, fasting and almsgiving are the main Lenten works. "Even now," says the Lord, return to me with your whole heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning. Joel 2:12. **Masses will be celebrated at 9:30am and 7pm.**

Lenten Disciplines of Fasting & Abstinence

Catholics in good health ages 18 to 59 are required to fast and to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Fasting consists of eating only one meal, with the possibility of two smaller snacks that do not add up to a single full meal.

Catholics age 14 and older are to abstain from meat on all Fridays in Lent.

Question:

Why do we place ashes on our forehead each Ash Wednesday?

Answer:

Ashes are rich in spiritual symbolism. We recall in the second chapter of Genesis, when the human person is fashioned "out of the dust of the ground" and receives the breath of life (Genesis 2:7). In death, a person returns to the ground from which we came. The ancient Hebrews used ashes as a sign of repentance, reminding themselves that God is God and we are not. As the minister places ashes on our forehead, we hear either "remember that you are dust and unto dust you shall return" or "turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel." When we receive ashes, we remember our own mortality. We're reminded that we have limited time on this earth and we ought to make the best use of it that we can! People are in need of love, care, and compassion. We all need to continually rediscover the love of God. The Gospel invites every person in every stage of life to encounter and imitate Jesus here and now. The forty days of Lent are the perfect time to assess our own awareness of these realities.



Catholic Women's League News

Our **Spring Conference** is set for **Saturday, March 14, 2020 from 1 pm - 4 pm** and will be held at St. Therese of Lisieux in Port Colborne. There will be two guest speakers. Lisa Coxon from Northland Point will be speaking about Seniors and programmes specifically designed for them & Sylvia Verde will be speaking about Pope Francis. Our theme is "Loneliness" and both these ladies will be addressing this topic.

Fenwick's St. Ann Catholic Elementary School Parent Council Presents: Trivia Night and Silent Auction Fundraiser, Friday APR 24th RECEPTION 6:30PM Trivia begins 7:00PM Fire Station #2, 766 Welland Rd. \$20/ ticket (which includes pizza AND munchies) create your winning TEAM 8 players/table. Individual tickets may be purchased, although we are encouraging tables of 8 and booking tickets in advance. Payments may be made day of, at the door. To reserve tickets use School Cash on Line or email stanntrivia@gmail.com

Parish Calendar

- February 2020.....**
Feb 23rd..... Youth Ministry will host breakfast/brunch following all morning Masses.
Feb 24th.... CWL meeting after Morning Mass
Feb 26th..... Ash Wednesday. Masses 9:30am & 7pm.
March 2020.....
March 1st.... First Sunday of Lent
March 3rd..... **Morning Mass will be at 8:30am**
March 6th.... First Friday Holy Communion to sick and Homebound. Phone the office to arrange a visit.
March 6th..... World Day of Prayer—Fenwick United Church
March 16-20... March Break
March 18th.... Youth Ministry will take place during March Break.
March 28th.... Diocesan wide day of reconciliation. 10am-2pm.
March 29th..... Solidarity Sunday
March 29th..... Youth Ministry will host breakfast/brunch following all morning Masses.

The Way of the Cross: For Roman Catholics throughout the world, the **Stations of the Cross** are synonymous with Lent, Holy Week and, especially, Good Friday. This devotion is also known as the "Way of the Cross", the "Via Crucis", and the "Via Dolorosa." It commemorates 14 key events on day of Christ's crucifixion. **A Plenary indulgence is granted to the faithful who make a good confession before the pious devotion of the Stations of the Cross. Please join with us each Friday evening as we gather to walk with Jesus this holy season of Lent.**



Share Lent 2020

Lent prepares us for the heart of the Christian faith — the great Easter celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Lord. It is a time to have a heart-to-heart with God; to let oneself be more inhabited by Jesus, the Saviour; to ask for peace for oneself, one's family and the peoples of the Earth; and to seek inner transformation through prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

This Share Lent, let's stand in solidarity with the defenders of the Earth

This year, Development and Peace — Caritas Canada is encouraging us to support all those in the Amazon and the Global South who are caring for God's creation. How can we help?

Donate online at devp.org/give or give during the Solidarity Sunday collection on March 29, the 5th Sunday of Lent. Your generosity helps support over 149 projects in 36 countries around the world!

Read Development and Peace's Share Lent literature and **watch** the videos to learn about and hear from the guardians of the Earth. **Weekly literature will be inserted in the bulletin.**

Sign the Solidarity Letter addressed to two embattled Brazilian communities at devp.org/act.

"The cry of the poor is the Church's cry of hope. When we make their cry our own, we can be certain, our prayer too will reach to the clouds."

Homily of Pope Francis at the concluding mass of the Pan-Amazonian Synod

Today's bulletin insert is the Solidarity Calendar. Use this calendar to learn, think, pray and act throughout your Lenten journey. Also attached to today's bulletin is a jar sticker to create your own Lenten collection jar!

7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."
 - Mt 5:44

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

Sat. Feb 22	9-10am	Confessions
	4-4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions
	5:00pm	✠ In Memory of Dean Yakielashek (Myszczyzyn Family)
Sun. Feb 23	9:30am	Missa Pro Populo
	11:00am	✠ Ray Kardas (Stan & Krysia Fit)
Mon. Feb 24	9:30am	Intentions of Joseph Mullin (Teresa Walters)
		✠ Phil Schertzing (Horton Family)
	7-8pm	Holy Hour & Confessions
Tues. Feb 25	9:30am	✠ Louis Marshall (Mike & Anne Young)
Wed. Feb 26		Ash Wednesday
	9:30am	✠ Ray Kardas (Jay Yurcich)
	7:00pm	All Parishioners
Thurs. Feb 27	9:30am	Special Intention for Adrian Bauer (Teresa Walters)
Fri. Feb 28	9:30am	✠ Souls in Purgatory (Marguerite Fonseca)
	7:00pm	Stations of the Cross
Sat. Feb 29	4-4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions
	5:00pm	✠ Dave Battersby (Janet Battersby)
Sun. March 1	9:30am	Missa Pro Populo
	11:00am	Intentions of Adelaine Nohara (Teresa Walters) Joseph Baumgartner (Meier Family)

Confessions from 9-9:20am before all weekday Masses. Offertory February 15th & 16th, 2020

66 Envelopes	\$1,655.00
Loose Collection	\$ 45.15
Total Offertory	\$1,700.15

Lenten Food Drive: Baskets have been placed at the church entrance. Donations of nonperishable food items would be appreciated and will be forwarded to Pelham Cares.

Thank you.

