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The Diocese of St. Catharines
 60th Anniversary—1958-2018
 “Put out into the deep water and let down your nets.” (Lk 5:4)
 Sunday, February 11th, 2018
 Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

A leper came to Jesus and kneeling down begged him and said, “If you wish, you can make me clean.” Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand, touched him, and said to him, “I do will it. Be made clean.”
 — Mk 1:40-41
 Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

Sat. Feb 10	9-10am	Reconciliation
	4-4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation
	5:00pm	Missa Pro Populo
Sun. Feb 11	9:30am	✠ Lewis Tremere (Donna & Jean Larocque)
	11:00am	✠ Mary Wood (Joan & Tim Crowther)
Mon. Feb 12	9:30am	Intentions of Lily & Ivan Venus (Walters Family)
	7-8pm	Holy Hour & Reconciliation
Tues. Feb 13	9:30am	✠ Dean Lisowick (Walters Family)
Wed. Feb 14		Ash Wednesday
	9:30am	✠ Mary Voogt & David Green (Voogt & Green Families)
	7:00pm	Missa Pro Populo
Thurs. Feb 15	9:30am	✠ Francis & Angela Walters (Walters Family)
Fri. Feb 16	9:30am	Intentions of Michelle Knight (Walters Family)
Sat. Feb 17	4-4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation
	5:00pm	Missa Pro Populo
Sun. Feb 18	9:30am	✠ Martin Kolenko Jr. (Maria Jerebie)
	11:00am	✠ Mike Gorka (Biggar & Mikolasek Families)

Reconciliation from 9-9:20am before all weekday Masses.

Offertory February 3rd & 4th, 2018

72 Envelopes	\$1,653.60
Loose Collection	\$ 57.00
Total Offertory	\$1,710.60
Maintenance	\$ 295.00

2017 tax receipts are now available at the back of the church.

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 We may not like it, but generosity and risk often go hand-in-hand. At least, that's what Jesus shows us in today's Gospel as a leper approaches him for healing. Until the nineteenth century, lepers were shunned to the margins of society for fear of spreading the disease. To touch a leper was to risk becoming unclean yourself. In today's Gospel, Jesus defies convention. "Moved with pity, he reached out his hand, [and] touched him." The leper is healed! But this is not the only risk Jesus takes.

Before Jesus heals the man, he knows full well the desperate nature of his situation. Jesus knows that this man will be overjoyed upon being healed and that he just might tell everyone he knows. For a Messiah looking to temporarily fly under the radar, healing this particular leper might not be the best idea. Jesus heals anyway. It can be easy to become calculated in our giving. If I go out of my way to help this person, how will it affect my reputation? How will this charitable donation affect my budget? How could I possibly make time to volunteer regularly? In today's Gospel, Jesus casts these concerns aside. He touches the untouchable. He reaches the unreachable. For his efforts, he receives a betrayal of his request for silence. "The man went away and began to publicize the whole matter." Before long "it was impossible for Jesus to enter a town openly." Jesus is forced to remain "outside in the deserted places." It would appear, perhaps, that he is unable to accomplish his mission.



When we take a risk to be generous, things might not follow the prescribed path. We might be disappointed. We also might be surprised! Our witness to radical generosity is attractive to a world in desperate need. Indeed, when Jesus took risks for love, "People kept coming to him from everywhere."

Lent begins February 14th There are traditionally forty days in Lent which are marked by fasting, both from foods and festivities, and by other acts of penance. The three traditional practices to be taken up with renewed vigor during Lent are prayer (justice towards God), fasting (justice towards self), and almsgiving (justice towards neighbour). Today, some people give up something they enjoy, and often give the time or money spent doing that thing to charitable purposes or organizations. Lent is a season of sorrowful reflection that is punctuated by breaks in the fast on Sundays (the day of the Resurrection); thus, Sundays are not counted in the forty days of Lent. **Masses Ash Wednesday...9:30am & 7pm.** The distribution of ashes reminds us of our own mortality and calls us to repentance. The ashes that we receive are a reminder of our own sinfulness, and many Catholics leave them on their foreheads all day as a sign of humility.

The following is provided from the Code of Canon Law for your information.

Can.1251 Abstinance from meat, or from some other food as determined by the Episcopal Conference, is to be observed on all Fridays, unless a solemnity should fall on a Friday. Abstinance and fasting are to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
Can.1252 The law of abstinance binds those who have completed their fourteenth year. The law of fasting binds those who have attained their majority (age 18) until the beginning of their sixtieth year. Pastors of souls and parents are to ensure that even those who by reason of their age are not bound by the law of fasting and abstinance, are taught the true meaning of penance. The law of abstinance forbids the use of meat, but not of eggs, the products of milk or condiments made of animal fat.

World Day of the Sick
On Sunday, February 11, 2018, the World Day of the Sick, Bishop Bergie will celebrate Mass with the communal celebration of the Sacrament of the Sick at 2:00 pm at the Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria. All are welcome to attend, especially the sick and those who care for the sick.
"For those who are sick or suffering and for doctors, nurses, health care workers, and pastoral caregivers who work to restore health to those afflicted with illness and disease, we pray to the Lord."

40 Days for Life – Be part of this peaceful campaign by prayer and fasting during Lent, February 14-March 25. We ask each church to adopt ONE DAY (For our Parish—Thursday Feb. 22nd) from 8 am – 8 pm, with two or more people to give public witness for one or two hours standing on Portage Street at the Niagara Falls General Hospital, holding a sign "Pray to end Abortion – 40 Days for Life." To sign up: www.wpcprolife.com, and follow the link. You may sign up at your church – or contact Angela: angelabraun@live.com or Annette: loeffenlife@gmail.com or phone 905-931-0363.



Lent is a time to reconnect with God through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. This Lenten season, Development and Peace – Caritas Canada invites you to learn more about peace and dialogue as part of the Share Lent Campaign. In a world where a multitude of cultures, religions, and beliefs co-exist, one of the first requirements for peace is to look within ourselves in order to speak with kindness and establish a sincere and genuine dialogue with "the other." This year, and in the future, let us make a commitment to be artisans of peace, engaging in an approach based on openness and respect. Let us meet each other half way and establish a dialogue. **Peacemaking calls for courage, much more so than warfare. It calls for the courage to say yes to encounter and no to conflict: yes to dialogue and no to violence; yes to negotiations and no to hostilities; yes to respect for agreements and no to acts of provocation; yes to sincerity and no to duplicity. All of this takes courage, it takes strength and tenacity.** — Pope Francis, Invocation for Peace, June 8, 2014.

Thanks to money donated annually by Catholics during Share Lent, Development and Peace can support 170 partners and 202 projects in 36 countries around the world! There are many ways to be part of Share Lent. Use the Solidarity Calendar with your family. (Inserted in today's bulletin) You can make a donation on Solidarity Sunday, which will take place on March 18. Or join our parish's Development and Peace committee. To find out more about Share Lent, please contact the office.

CWL Annual Diocesan Retreat: Theme: Come Rest in Christ. Saturday, March 17th or Wednesday, March 21st., 8:30-2:30pm, Registration 8:30-9am. \$35 per person. Gethsemane Ministries, Wellandport. Deadline to register, Feb. 21st. Guest Speaker: Fr. Stephen Bruzzese. Phone the office. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend!

Join the CWL in celebrating the 60th Anniversary of the St. Catharines Diocesan Council— 1958-2018: Saturday, April 21st, Mass 4:30pm at the Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria. Dinner 6pm, Club Roma, St. Catharines. Tickets \$35, all welcome. Ticket Deadline: Feb. 21st.

Parish Calendar
 Feb 10/11.... Youth Ministry Bake Auction
 Feb 11th.... Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes—World Day of The Sick. Anointing available following 11am Mass. More info in bulletin.
 Feb 11th..... St. Vincent de Paul meeting following 11am Mass
 Feb 14th..... **ASH WEDNESDAY.** Masses 9:30am & 7pm
 Feb 20th.... **Mass cancelled**
 Feb 20th.... Vacation Bible School meeting
 Feb 25th.... Youth Mass 9:30am
 Feb 28th.... St. Ann School Lenten Reconciliation
 March.....
 March 2nd..... World Day of Prayer
 March 2nd.... Visitation of the sick and homebound
 March 2nd.... Youth Ministry Bingo Lookout Ridge
 March 11th.... St. Vincent de Paul Meeting following 11am Mass
 March 12-16... March Break
 March 17th.... Diocesan wide day of Reconciliation 10am-2pm
 March 18th.... Solidarity Sunday
 March 19th.... Feast of St. Joseph
 March 25th.... Youth Mass 9:30am
 March 25th.... Palm Sunday
 March 29th.... Holy Thursday (Bingo Cancelled)
 March 30th.... Good Friday
 March 31st.... Holy Saturday (Easter Vigil)
 April 1st.... Easter Sunday

Vacation Bible School 2018
 This summer St. Ann Parish will be hosting Vacation Bible School from August 13th to August 17th. A volunteer meeting will be held in the parish hall on **Tuesday, February 20th from 6:00pm to 6:45pm** for anyone interested in being an adult leader, or a junior leader (grade 7 to 9) please join us. This year's camp theme will be chosen at the meeting. For any further info please contact Genevieve Broadley @ 289-219-4233 or gbroadley@branchesoftheword.org



Roof Fundraiser: Through the generosity of our parish community, we are able to meet our day to day expenses and provide a beautiful worship area and hall to celebrate Mass, host social occasions, conduct meetings, and participate in parish ministry. From time to time though, major repairs require extra funds needed to complete them. The most pressing maintenance issue at this time is our roof. It was last replaced in the mid 1990's and is showing wear and stress and needs to be replaced. The finance committee has been working on a fundraising project to assist with this major issue. In today's bulletin you will find a flyer showing the fund raising method chosen as well as information regarding maintenance projects we have completed over the last 10 years with your generous donations. On the weekend of **February 24/25**, we are asking all parishioners to meet in the parish hall and consider making a donation for this much needed project. Volunteers will be available to assist you with information on how to complete the donation process. If you have any other questions, we would be happy to answer them. Thank you!



Kindergarten at Niagara Catholic: Nurturing Souls and Building Minds. Winter/Spring Open House. February 28, 2018 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Online registration available year-round. Discover what makes Niagara Catholic so special. niagaracatholic.ca/join-us

