

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



**The Diocese of St. Catharines
 60th Anniversary—1958-2018**
**“Put out into the deep water and let down your
 nets.” (Lk 5:4)**
Sunday, April 1st, 2018
The Resurrection of the Lord
Easter Sunday

Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed. For they did not yet understand the Scripture that he had to rise from the dead.

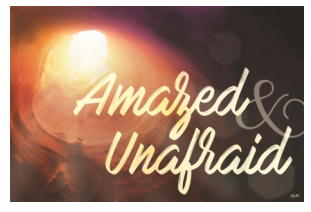
— Jn 20:8-9

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

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|----------------|------------------------------|---|
| Sat. Mar 31 | 9-10am Noon 4-5pm | Holy Saturday (Easter Vigil) Reconciliation Blessing of Easter Baskets Reconciliation Easter Vigil |
| Sun. April 1 | 8:30pm 9:30am 11:00am | Missa Pro Populo Easter Sunday † Anthony Filbert (Lynda Filbert & Family) † Patrick Devine (Devine Family) † Robert Vaillancourt (Carole Price) |
| Mon. April 2 | 9:30am 7-8pm | † Rose Repar (Phyllis & George Repar) Holy Hour & Reconciliation |
| Tues. April 3 | 9:30am | † Antonio Giancola (Ferrara Family) |
| Wed. April 4 | 9:30am | † Mary Voogt (Voogt & Green Families) |
| Thurs. April 5 | 9:30am | † Mary Voogt (Voogt & Green Families) |
| Fri. April 6 | 9:30am | † Mary Jane Lastovic (Rosemary & Family) |
| Sat. April 7 | 9-10am 4-4:45pm 5:00pm | Reconciliation Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation Missa Pro Populo |
| Sun. April 8 | 9:30am 11:00am 3:00pm | Divine Mercy Sunday † Martin Kolenko Jr. (Maria Jerebic) † Nicola Colangelo (Rosa & Family) Divine Mercy Prayers |

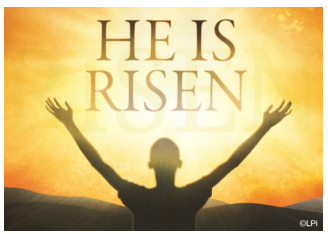
Reconciliation from 9-9:20am before all weekday Masses.

Easter Sunday
 The first light of Easter dawn had begun to creep over the horizon. The steadfast women from Friday's gory events are returning again to the body of their Lord. "Who will roll back the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" How quickly we return to mundane concerns and how thoroughly God wants to surprise us! Imagine the utter shock upon seeing the stone rolled away, the tomb empty, and a stranger clothed in light proclaiming the impossible. "You seek Jesus of Nazareth, the crucified. He has been raised; he is not here." He is risen indeed and the world will never be the same.

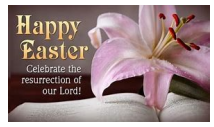


We know from other Gospel passages that Mary Magdalene made haste to the disciples to proclaim the Good News. We know that Peter and John rushed to the tomb to see for themselves. We know that the wonder and awe of the Resurrection permeated the lives of the apostles until their own dying day.

Can we comprehend the utterly world-changing nature of this surprise? The historical reanimation of a dead man is of no real value to us. But we know that Easter Sunday is so much more. By the Resurrection of Jesus, life has triumphed over death for us all. The gates of heaven are opened and the treasury of graces is poured out upon the here and now. This Resurrection Day, let us draw near, amazed yet unafraid, to the risen Christ. Let us recall the words of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, "Jesus is not a character from the past. He lives, and he walks before us as one who is alive, he calls us to follow him, the living one, and in this way to discover for ourselves the path of life" (Easter Vigil, April 15, 2006).



LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK
 Christ is risen indeed! We have arrived at the penultimate feast on the Church's calendar, the cause of our joy and our hope. Life has defeated death. Sorrow and suffering do not have the last say. In the resurrection of Jesus we see many reasons to rejoice. Not only has Jesus conquered the specter of visible death, but he restores to us graced life. On Holy Saturday, Jesus descended to the dead and delivered the just souls into heavenly paradise. What are our own Saturday tombs? Jesus has the power to open them all. That is our invitation, this day most of all. May resurrection joy fill your heart, your family, your workplace, and your community. Happy Easter!



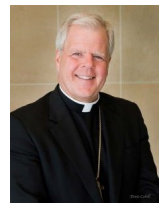
Our Easter Celebration would not have been as successful without the assistance of our Altar Servers, Musicians, Choir, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers, Lectors, Offertory Counters, Development and Peace Committee, Cleaners and Decorators. Thank you for giving of your time and talents and making our celebrations so special!

Offertory March 24th & 25th, 2018

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| 83 Envelopes | \$2,070.00 |
| Loose Collection | \$ 199.25 |
| Total Offertory | \$2,269.25 |
| Share Lent | \$ 520.00 |
| Flowers | \$ 105.00 |
| Roof donations | \$2,834.00 |
| Roof donations to date: | \$27,068.25 |

Thank you once again for your tremendous generosity. If you would like to donate for the roof, envelopes are at the back of the church or in the hall near the donation board.

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP
 My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,
 The scripture accounts of the Resurrection speak about the need for those who encountered the Risen Lord to share joyfully the good news with others. What made their message credible was the fact that they were witnesses - they had seen the Risen Lord.



There are so many ways that we are able to see the Risen Lord each day. We see Him most perfectly in the Holy Eucharist where Jesus is substantially present - body, blood, soul and divinity - under the appearance of bread and wine. Christ is also present in the Sacred Scriptures. In both the Old Testament and in the New Testament, Jesus the Word of God is present to strengthen our faith. Jesus is present in us and in the community of faith, as Jesus says, "For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am among them" (Mt. 18:20). We also know that the glory of God can be found in nature. As Genesis reminds us, God made all things and what He made was good. We can encounter Jesus in the beauty of creation. If we have encountered the Risen Lord in so many ways, how do we witness to this fact?

Do we share the good news that we have 'seen the Lord' so that others may come to know, love and serve Him? The theme for our Sixtieth Diocesan Anniversary is, "Put Out into the Deep" and it focuses on drawing people to Christ. We do this by joyfully witnessing to our faith and to the fact that we have seen the Lord. This is the heart of evangelization and something that we are called to do as followers of Jesus.

It is my hope and prayer that during the Easter Season we will take some time to consider prayerfully what it means to be a witness to the Resurrection. What am I doing to bring people to Christ? Perhaps it can begin by simply extending an invitation to someone to join you for the Sacred Triduum or Easter Mass. Do not be afraid to "Put Out into the Deep." You may be surprised by what you discover.

May the Risen Lord grant you a grace-filled Easter.
Yours sincerely in Christ,
Most Reverend Gerard Bergie, D.D.,
Bishop of St. Catharines

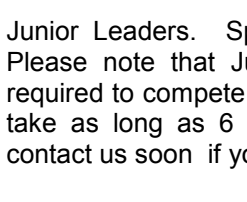


The Feast of Divine Mercy, celebrated on the Octave of Easter (the Sunday after Easter Sunday), is a relatively new addition to the Roman Catholic liturgical calendar. Celebrating the Divine Mercy of Jesus Christ, as revealed by Christ Himself to Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska, this feast was extended to the entire Catholic Church by Pope John Paul II on April 30, 2000, the day that he canonized Saint Faustina.

Divine Mercy Sunday, April 8th: Our Lord said to Saint Faustina: *Encourage souls to say the Chaplet which I have given to you. Whoever will recite it will receive great mercy at the hour of death....When they say this chaplet in the presence of the dying, I will stand between My Father and the dying person, not as the just judge but as the Merciful Saviour. Priests will recommend it to sinners as their last hope of salvation. Even if there were a sinner most hardened, if he were to recite this chaplet only once, he would receive grace from My infinite mercy. I desire to grant unimaginable graces to those souls who trust in My mercy... Through the Chaplet you will obtain everything, if what you ask for is compatible with My will.*

Please join us on April 8th @ at 3:00pm for prayers.

Parish Calendar
 April.....
 April 4th..... St. Ann School Easter Mass 9:30am
 April 15th..... Spanish Mass 1pm
 April 18th..... Finance meeting 6:30pm
This summer St. Ann Parish will be hosting their 3rd Annual Vacation Bible School from August 13th to August 17th. Registration is now open. Forms are at the back of the church or phone the office. All children from ELKP to Grade 6 can participate. Older students in Grades 7-12 can volunteer as Junior Leaders. Spots fill up quickly, so plan to register soon. Please note that Junior Leaders 14 years of age or older are required to complete the Police Record Check. As this process can take as long as 6 weeks to complete, we recommend that you contact us soon if you want to be involved.



Adult Faith Formation Series: Exploring Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation Amoris Laetitia, The Joy of Love. This faith formation series is being held on four consecutive Monday evenings, beginning April 9, 2018, 7-9pm., at the Catholic Centre, 3400 Merrittville Highway, Thorold, L2V 4Y6. Register online at <https://goo.gl/forms/DUIZAMOYdRtNPYB32> or by calling the Office of Religious Education, 905-684-0154, ext. 207 by April 4, 2018. A registration fee of \$10 will be collected on the first night to cover the cost of materials including a copy of *Amoris Laetitia*.

Annual Diocesan RESPECT FOR LIFE MASS: Celebrated by **Most Rev. Gerard Paul Bergie, Bishop of St. Catharines. Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria. Monday, April 9, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. A Special Diocesan Mass to thank God for the gift of life; to pray for human life in all its stages; to pray for those wounded by abortion. Reception to follow in the parish hall.**

St. Ann School Trivia Night & Silent Auction: Friday April 6th, 2018, Fenwick Fire Hall, Welland Rd., 6:30pm - Doors Open, 7:00pm - Trivia begins, 8:30 - First Table of Silent Auction items closes, 10:30 - Second Table of Silent Auction items closes, 11:00 - Trivia Ends. Please email stantrivia@gmail.com if you are able to donate an item.

The Niagara Foundation for Catholic Education's Annual is hosting the **Annual Bishop's Gala on Friday, April 20th, 2018**, 5:30pm, Club Roma, Vansickle Rd., St. Catharines. This event supports students in need throughout schools of the Niagara Catholic District School Board. For more information contact Sherry Morena 905-735-0240 X213.

Seasonal Agricultural Worker Ministry: To better support and welcome our seasonal workers to St. Ann's Church, we are in need of the following new or gently used items: sweaters, coats, hats, gloves, socks, bicycles, luggage, toiletries (e.g. new toothbrush/toothpaste/soap, etc.). Please drop off items in church basement. THANK YOU FOR YOUR LOVE & SUPPORT! Also, volunteers are needed to assist with a light meal provided for the workers following the Spanish Masses. **The first Mass will be on Sunday, April 15th at 1pm and the second on May 20th at 1pm. From June-November, the Masses will be celebrated on the first Sunday of the month at 1pm.** Food donations are welcome or if you can assist in preparation and clean up, that would also be very helpful.

"One Million Rosaries for Unborn Babies" is a global prayer event that involves praying the rosary for an end to abortion. The goal is to have 1,000,000 rosaries prayed from May 4-6, 2018. Participants are asked to pray one rosary for this intention. Details can be found at www.saintmichaeltarchangelorganization.org.

