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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, April 15th, 2018
Third Sunday of Easter

Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures.
 And he said to them, “Thus it is written that the Christ
 would suffer and rise from the dead on the
 third day.” — Lk 24:45-46

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

Sat. April 14	9-10am	Reconciliation
	4-4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation
	5:00pm	✠ Mary Atkins (Wendy Atkins)
Sun. April 15	9:30am	✠ Frank Hozjan (Joe & Teresa Hozjan)
	11:00am	Missa Pro Populo
Mon. April 16	9:30am	✠ Dave Battersby (Janet Battersby & Family)
	7-8pm	Holy Hour & Reconciliation
Tues. April 17	9:30am	✠ Marie Culligan (Racz Family)
Wed. April 18	9:30am	Intention Available
Thurs. April 19	9:30am	Intention Available
Fri. April 20	9:30am	Michael Wilson (Karen Kennedy)
Sat. April 21	9-10am	Reconciliation
	4-4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation
	5:00pm	✠ Deceased Members of the Plesko Family (Frank & Ivanka Plesko)
Sun. April 22	9:30am	Missa Pro Populo
	11:00am	Kate Murrell (Karen & Michael)

**Reconciliation from 9-9:20am before all weekday Masses.
 Offertory April 7th & 8th, 2018**

77 Envelopes	\$1,794.75
Loose Collection	\$ 159.15
Total Offertory	\$1,953.90
Easter	\$ 50.00
Maintenance	\$ 297.00

Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and halleluiah is our song.
 —St. John Paul II

Third Sunday of Easter
“Why do questions arise in your hearts?” After the Resurrection, the Apostles experienced their fair share of incredulity. Jesus had died—John had been there—and now the tomb was empty. What should they believe? Was the Jesus before them truly real? And who was Jesus really? It’s no surprise that the Apostles were initially *“startled and terrified”* to the extent that they *“thought that they were seeing a ghost.”*

Jesus has compassion on his confused friends. Once he affirms his non-ghostly identity—*“look at my hands and my feet, that it is I myself”*—Jesus gets down to business. He has risen from the dead, but life would not continue as normal. Throughout Jesus’ ministry, he spoke in parables and veiled prophetic language. His followers likely thought much of his words were metaphors, some symbolism for the person and their relation to God. Now Jesus has something else in mind. He *“opened their minds to understand the scriptures,”* making known the connections between his

own words and deeds and *“everything written about [him] in the law of Moses and in the prophets and psalms.”*

Why now? Why this increased depth of understanding? The answer lies in the shifting role of the Apostles. *“You are witnesses of these things.”* The treasury of truth is no longer Jesus’ responsibility alone but our own. Then and there, the Apostles are appointed to proclaim the death and resurrection of Jesus, the forgiveness of sins and the mercy of God. This message is no longer for only the Jewish people but *“all the nations.”*

This is our invitation! We have the rich heritage of the Church’s teaching. By sacramental grace, God’s *“peace”* is *“with [us].”* We, too, are sent to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ and the hope that belongs to his call.

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Why are you troubled? Life can easily get the best of us. Anxiety, worry, doubt, and uneasiness are just some of the things that can trouble our hearts. Often we are troubled about temporal things. Sometimes our faith troubles us and we wonder where God may be. If we allow Jesus to open our minds so we can understand the Scriptures and the significance of his passion, death, and resurrection, we can begin to trust that God’s plan includes something much more than the current concern of our minds. Jesus can then become a light of revelation who helps us keep our lives in perspective and persevere.

WANTED! Young Adults, ages 18-35, to explore and share faith together. Come out to the Catholic Centre, 3400 Merrittville Highway, Thorold on either April 29/18 (4:30-6:30pm) or May 4/18 (5:30-7:30pm) for fellowship, a light supper and a brainstorming session focussed on growing this ministry in our Diocese. Contact Terri Pauco for more information and to register by email: fami-lyandyouth@saintcd.com; text: 905-351-9107 or phone: 905-684-0154 #209.

World Youth Day 2019: Panama City, Panama Jan. 18 – 26, 2019 OR Jan. 22 - 28, 2019 : Calling all young adults, 18-30 years of age! Come learn more about the pilgrimage to WYD 2019 in Panama. Those interested are asked to attend an Information Session at 7:00 pm at the Catholic Centre, 3400 Merrittville, Thorold on either: **Tuesday, April 17, 2018** or **Thursday, May 17, 2018** Questions? Contact Raoul Masseur (wypanama2019saintcd@gmail.com) or Terri Pauco, Family and Youth Office at 905-684-0154, or familyandyouth@saintcd.com.



**Seasonal Agricultural Worker Support Program
 (Migrant Ministry) Update**

Our St. Vincent de Paul society wishes to thank our parish family who have helped provide 47 Bicycles to our Amigos since their arrival in mid-March. They’re very appreciative for this support which gives them an opportunity to not only get out and enjoy our wonderful community but also attend Sunday Mass. We’re also providing a Spanish Mass beginning this Sunday at 1:00 p.m. The Mass in May will be on the 20th and thereafter, from June-November, every 1st Sunday of the month. There is still a need for new or gently used items; sweaters, light coats, socks, work gloves, new toiletries. A light lunch will be provided following the ‘Misa Espanol.’ Food donations are welcome or if you can assist in preparation and clean up, that would also be very helpful. Please contact the office.



World Day of Prayer for Vocations– April 22nd. The Fourth Sunday of Easter, Christians are invited to reflect on the meaning of God’s call and to pray for vocations. Christ the Good Shepherd, continues to lead his people through His Bishops, Priests and Deacons and calls many to follow Him in this way. Priestly, diaconal and religious vocations should be a constant concern in the hearts of God’s people.



Catholic Women’s League Convention May 22-23. The opening Mass will be held at St. Alfred Church on Tuesday evening, May 22 and will be followed by a reception and speaker. Wednesday will include prayer, business meetings, information sessions, fellowship, guest speakers..... a full day! You could choose to attend the entire Convention or only part. As always our St. Ann’s Council will reimburse half of your fee after the Convention. The cost the whole day is \$75, morning and lunch \$35, evening banquet \$50. Please let Donna Larocque know as soon as possible if you would like to attend but by **April 18th** at the latest!

The CWL of the Welland Region will hold their Spring Evening of Reflection on Tuesday, April 17th. It will be held at the **Hope Centre, 570 King Street in Welland across from the arena.** The guest speaker will be Christine Lajeunesse who is the spokesperson for Hope Centre. The evening will begin with the Rosary at 6pm and will be followed by a CWL Regional meeting. A tour of Hope Centre and presentation will begin at 7 and be followed by light refreshments. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to see first hand the wonderful work undertaken by Hope Centre. Please spread the word and consider joining us.

SEPARATED AND DIVORCED HEALING MINISTRY. This month’s topics are *‘New Relationships’*, (April 23). Meetings are 7 to 9 pm at Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre, 7020 Stanley Ave, Niagara Falls. Pre-registration is not required. For information call 905-356-4113 or 905-684-0154, or email separatedanddivorced@saintcd.com

Parish Calendar

- April.....
- April 15th..... Spanish Mass 1pm
- April 18th..... Finance meeting 6:30pm
- April 22nd..... World Day of Prayer for Vocations
- April 24th..... Confirmation Registration meeting 6:30pm

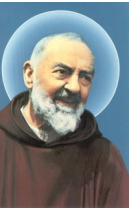


This summer St. Ann Parish will be hosting their 3rd Annual Vacation Bible School from August 13th to August 17th. Registration is now open. Forms are at the back of the church or phone the office. All children from ELKP to Grade 6 can participate. Older students in Grades 7-12 can volunteer as Junior 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.

The Niagara Foundation for Catholic Education 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.

St. Vincent de Paul Central Council is hosting their 3rd annual Trivia Night at St. Alfred Church on **Friday May 25**. Doors open at 6:30pm. Trivia starts at 7pm sharp. Tickets are \$20.00 per person includes trivia, pizza, snacks and door prizes. Proceeds will go towards sending kids to camp. (ages 6-15). For more information or tickets please contact Shelley at 905-329-8568 or shelleysvp@gmail.com.

NIAGARA WAREHOUSE OF HOPE: Helping People Help Themselves, 46 Broadway Avenue, St. Catharines, ON (Port Weller East) 905-646-7237 Giant Garage Sale, Bazaar & Bake Sale., **Saturday, April 21, 2018, 46 Broadway Ave., Starts 8:00 am** with BBQ Breakfast/Lunch. For your shopping pleasure: Donations Welcome. We collect donated hospital beds, linens, wheelchairs, walkers, used clothing, shoes, baby layettes, etc. and ship them to the developing nations in need. All Proceeds to The Niagara Warehouse of Hope.
www.niagarawarehouseofhope.com



The relics of Saint Pio of Pietrelcina – better known as Padre Pio will be at St. Gabriel’s Parish, of the Diocese of Buffalo on Saturday, April 21, 2018, from 7 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. The relics of Saint Pio available for public veneration will be the following : Saint Pio’s glove; Saint Pio’s crusts of the wounds; Cotton-gauze with Saint Pio’s blood stains; A lock of Saint Pio’s hair; Saint Pio’s mantle; Saint Pio’s handkerchief soaked with his sweat hours before he died; The Most Reverend Richard J. Malone, Bishop of the Diocese of Buffalo, will celebrate a Mass in honour of Saint Pio at 8:00 a.m. The Saint Pio Foundation, which is sponsoring the tour on the occasion of the 50th commemoration anniversary of his passing, will sell books and items related to Padre Pio in the entryway of the Cathedral.

“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.saintmichaeltthearchangelorganization.org.

