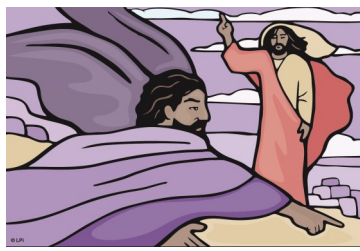


Rev. Chad Grennan, Pastor
 Email: frchadgrennan@gmail.com
 Rev. Deacon Jim McLaughlin (phone office for appointment)
 Liliana Haynes
 Office Administrator



First Sunday of Lent

As we enter into this Lenten season of penance and self-denial, we're reminded that the God we follow is no stranger to these things. In this Sunday's Gospel, we see the temptations of Jesus which have parallels throughout Scripture and in our own lives. The apostle John warns against temptations to sensual lust, enticement of the eyes, and a pretentious life (cf. 1 John 2:16). Before Eve plucks the fruit from the tree, she hears it is good for food, pleasing to the eyes, and desirable for gaining wisdom (cf. Genesis 3:6). The temptations of Jesus are our own.



"Turn these stones to bread." Here is the lure of bodily comfort, like good food or sensual lust. It's the simplest of temptations because it's instinctual. We want good for our bodies! But there may be times these bodily goods don't serve the higher good for our souls. The leap "from the temple parapet" would entice the eye of the person watching. A feat like this would prove Jesus' Messianic ability. His popularity could be a shortcut to the cross. We might not be daredevils, but we want people to like us and be impressed by us. Do we sacrifice our values along the way? To "bow and worship" the devil - and so claim power and a pretentious life - seems like a dramatic temptation. Not everyone may feel enticed by power in the professional sense, but all of us want control. A volunteer team can feel just as intense as the boardroom! How often do we prefer to be in control of our lives (and perhaps even the lives of others), rather than allow God to be God? When we consider areas of temptation and sin, it's not to feel ashamed. The temptation in the desert reminds us that we are not alone and that the strength of Jesus can be our strength, too.

ANNUAL DIOCESAN RESPECT FOR LIFE MASS will be celebrated by **Most Rev. Gerard Paul Bergie**, on **The Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord** Monday, March 25, 2019, 7pm, **The Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria**, 67 Church Street, St. Catharines. *Let us pray together for the protection of life in all its stages; for greater respect for God's gift of life: for those wounded by abortion. Reception to follow.*

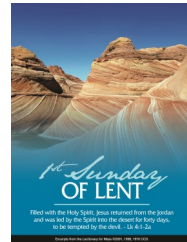
Invest ONE HOUR to save a Lifetime! 40Days for Life – Be an active participant in this peaceful campaign through prayer and fasting during Lent, March 6th – April 14th. We ask each church to adopt **ONE DAY (For our Parish – Saturday, April 13th) from 8 am – 8 pm**, with two or more people to give public witness for one or two hours standing on Portage Street at the Niagara Falls General Hospital, holding a sign "Pray to end Abortion." This is a prayerful, silent **VIGIL**. To sign up for **Saturday, April 13th** please register at the [sign up table](#) at the back of the church or contact Karen Jankovich: kjankovich@sympatico.ca For general inquiries and to sign up for other days during Lent, please contact Annette: loeffenlife@gmail.com, 905-325-1251, or Angela: angelabraun@live.com

Defend the Sanctity of Life! Petition of One Million – Please sign the petition at the back of the church to protect the unborn. For further information: www.petitionofonemillion.ca

On Saturday, April 6, 2019, in every parish church across the diocese a priest will be available from 10am – 2pm to hear individual confessions. There will also be Eucharistic Adoration during this time. No matter how long it has been, you are welcome to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance, which assists us in spiritual discipline as we turn away from sin and open our hearts to reconciliation and healing or you can also simply come to pray before the Lord.

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. **Items most needed include:** Diapers sizes 4-6 (all ages), pull ups size 3T and up. Food items: stews, chili, jams, tea and coffee. Baking supplies of any kind are also welcome and gift cards. At this time, there is an abundance of pastas and sauces and peanut butter.

Migrant Ministry: Once again, our parish will be welcoming the seasonal agriculture workers as they return to our community during the month of March. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be collecting warm clothing for the men, as they will arrive during the cooler weather and may be unprepared for the colder climate. Items most in need are socks, warm gloves, and toques. We are also accepting donations of gently used men's sweaters and coats, as well as new toiletries. If you have any items to donate, please leave them in the church basement, with a note indicating that they are for the seasonal agriculture workers. Thank you for your continued support. **Volunteer needed to co-ordinate this ministry. If you want more information or the opportunity to discuss the duties of the position, please phone the office soon.**



EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

It will take too long. I can't spare it. I don't know anybody. I am just too busy. How many excuses can you think of to put forth as reasons why you should say no to the call of Jesus Christ? Wait. You didn't know to whom those responses were directed? We say no to many things and many people, but we wouldn't say no to Jesus. Really? During this Lenten season, like all the other seasons, we will be asked to respond in many different ways. There will be fasting, almsgiving, and abstinence from certain foods. There will be invitations to various devotions and formational studies. We will be asked to reflect on our faith and then dive deeper. The argument will be made by some that many of these things are being asked of us by others and not Jesus. Of course, that will just be another excuse like those above. For every calling upon us comes with a temptation to take the easy way out or to minimize the value of the request. We will stay caught up in an endless cycle of excuses that lead us nowhere. That is unless we simply choose to stop the madness and say YES! This Lent, give up and give in. Let God take over as you surrender all you are and have to Him. Now is the time to turn to Jesus. No more excuses.



Lenten Prayer:

My refuge and my fortress, my God in whom I trust. Psalm 91:2. COMPASSIONATE ONE, simply watching the news can fill my heart with fear. I see a world that is daily exploding in conflict, a world that is marked by acts of violence, hatred and indifference in the face of crying human need. Tell me, is there any place I can call safe? Tell me, where might I find security for myself and for all whom I love? With deep trust, I give my anxiety to you. I place my concerns in your welcoming embrace. Today, I hold in tenderness and fervent prayer those who long and search for the shelter of your loving heart.

Parish Calendar

- March.....** First Sunday of Lent
- March 10th....** St. Vincent de Paul meeting following 11am Mass
- March 11-15...** **March Break**
- March 12th....** Lenten Day of Recollection for Diocesan priests and deacons. **Mass this day will begin at 8:30am.**
- March 13th.....** **Youth Ministry Cancelled**
- March 25th.....** **Holy Hour Cancelled**
- Youth Ministry**—Grades 5-8 and high school students are welcome to attend. Wednesday evenings 6:30-8:30pm.
- Bingo:** Thursday Evenings 7pm in parish hall. All welcome to attend.

Catholic Women's League



The CWL council of St. Alexander Parish will host the Evening of Reflection on Thursday, April 11th at 6pm. Amelia Leraci will give a presentation on Shoe Box Donations. They are also hosting a bus trip to Midland on Saturday, June 8th. They will visit **Martyrs' Shrine** in the morning and the **Midland Butter Tart Festival** in the afternoon. The cost is \$50. Contact St. Alexander to register.

The Diocese of St. Catharines will hold a **Day of Reflection for Women** on Saturday, June 22 at Gethsemane Centre in Wellandport. The speaker will be Dr. Josephine Lombardi whose topic is The Gift of Hope. 9:45 am - 3 pm with lunch provided. Free will offering.

The Annual Diocesan Convention will be held on May 21st and 22nd. Mass is on Tuesday evening at St. Alfred Parish. On Wednesday the business, speakers and social events will be hosted at the Holiday Inn and Parkway Suites on Ontario Street in St. Catharines. The speaker at the Convention is Dr. Anne Jamieson. Her topic: A Recipe for Faith: Choosing and Using the Best Ingredients. **Deadline for registration is March 30th.** The council will pay half of the registration after members have attended.

National Palliative Care week is May 5th - 11th. Once again this year we will pray the rosary together for Palliative Care. This year we are able to choose the day and our Council will pray the rosary after morning Mass on May 6th. We will follow with a brief meeting.

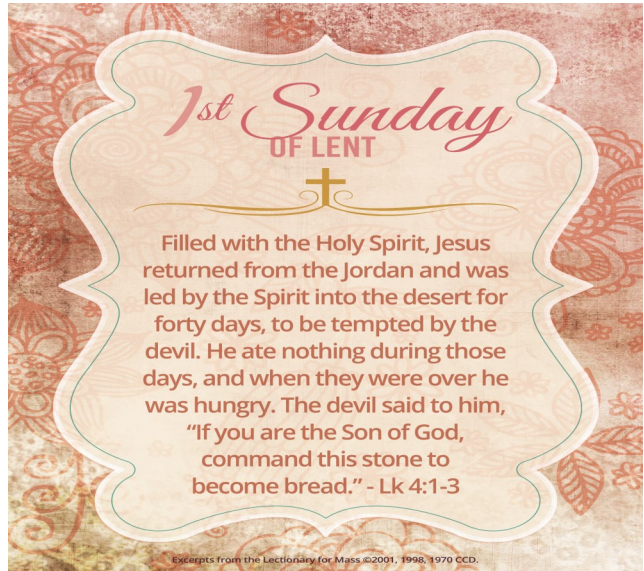


Development and Peace Share Lent Campaign 2019

The Mini-magazine is a central part of our Share Lent campaign. Browse through your copy to find out how our partners in Bangladesh, Colombia, Lebanon, Nigeria and the Philippines are working with forcibly displaced people and communities. *Share the journey with poor coastal communities in Tacloban, the Philippines:* In 2013, poor coastal communities in the Philippines saw their homes ravaged by Super Typhoon Haiyan. Thanks to your donations, Development and Peace and its local partners formed a consortium for the purchase of a piece of land that affected communities were empowered to transform into the Pope Francis Village. Watch the documentary *After the storm* to follow the inspiring journey of these communities: devp.org/en/philippines-documentary.



Sunday, March 10th, 2019



Sat. Mar 9	9-10am	Confession
	4 -4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confession
	5:00pm	✠ Gerry Berkhout (Larocque Family)
Sun. Mar 10	9:30am	✠ Nicola Colangelo (Rosa Colangelo & Family)
	11:00am	Missa Pro Populo
Mon. Mar 11	9:30am	Steve Bozik (John & Veronica Douglas)
	7-8pm	Holy Hour & Confession
Tues. Mar 12	8:30am	✠ Margaret Tom (Delores Kennedy)
Wed. Mar 13	9:30am	Ava Wilson (Granda & Granny Kennedy)
Thurs. Mar 14	9:30am	✠ Special Intention (Teresa Walters)
Fri. Mar 15	9:30am	Special Intention (Teresa Walters)
Sat. Mar 16	4 -4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confession
	5:00pm	Missa Pro Populo
Sun. Mar 17	9:30am	✠ Stella Pellerine (Larocque Family)
	11:00am	✠ Beatrice Sturgeon (Thelma Poolsaar & Family)
		✠ Anthony Filbert (Lynda Filbert & Family)

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

Offertory March 2nd & 3rd, 2019

74 Envelopes	\$1, 875.90
Loose Collection	\$ 60.30
Total Offertory	\$1, 936.20
Maintenance Collection	\$ 390.00

A reminder- Our website domain name has changed to the following: www.stannfenwick.com

