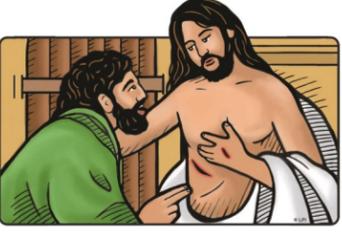


Rev. Chad Grennan, Pastor
 Email: frchadgrennan@gmail.com
 Deacon Jim McLaughlin
 (phone office for appointment)
 Liliana Haynes
 Office Administrator



Sunday, April 23rd, 2017
Second Sunday of Easter
(or of Divine Mercy)

“Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe.” Thomas answered and said to him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.” — Jn 20:27b-29

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

Sat. April 22	4-4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation
	5:00pm	Missa Pro Populo
Sun. April 23	9:30am	✠ Martin Kolenko Jr. (Teresa Hozjan & Family)
	11:00am	✠ Wally & Sophie Paterak (Meyo Family)
Mon. April 24	9:30am	Intention Available
	7-8pm	Holy Hour & Reconciliation
Tues. April 25	9:30am	Intention Available
Wed. April 26	9:30am	✠ Bernie Murray (Phyllis & George Repar)
Thurs. April 27	9:30am	Intention Available
Fri. April 28	9:30am	Intention Available
Sat. April 29	4-4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation
	5:00pm	Missa Pro Populo
Sun. April 30	9:30am	✠ Mario & Ann Cupido (Deacon Jim & Judy McLaughlin)
	11:00am	✠ Armand & Betty Mei (Patti & Cyril Simek)

Reconciliation from 9-9:20am before all weekday Masses. Offertory April 15th & 16th, 2017

104 Envelopes	\$3,176.25
Loose Collection	\$ 322.65
Total Offertory	\$3,498.90
Easter Flower Memorial	\$ 76.00
Share Lent Collection	\$ 50.00
Maintenance Collection	\$ 90.00
Holy Land	\$1,297.30
Syrian Refugee Family	\$ 100.00

Niagara Catholic Elementary Spring Open House, Wed, May 3, 2017, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Register at your neighbourhood Catholic elementary school. Please bring your child's birth certificate, baptism record, health card, immunization record and proof of address. <http://www.niagaracatholic.ca/join-us/elementary.html>

Second SUNDAY OF EASTER

“Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’” This greeting from the resurrected Christ must have been a profound one for the disciples. They were living behind locked doors “for fear of the Jews,” which really meant for fear of their own lives. They had seen what happened to Jesus and didn't want to face the same fate. Imagine the paralysis of this fear, keeping them locked inside a prison of their own making.

But even the walls and the locks could not keep Jesus out! He came “although the doors were locked” and brought them a message of peace. And then their fear turned to gladness for they “rejoiced when they saw the Lord.”

This transformation from sadness to joy, from fear to peace was not just a gift for these first disciples. It is a gift for all of the followers of the Lord, ourselves included! When we are afraid of what might happen in our lives, where we are trapped or paralyzed by the burdens of our own habitual sins, Jesus wants to step in and offer us peace. This is what we celebrate today on this feast of the mercy of Christ. His love and peace—the gift of his mercy—is meant for all of us, weak, sinful, and scared though we may be.

And we who receive this great gift of mercy from the Lord are also called to be merciful to others. We are called to be peacemakers and to forgive others as we have been forgiven. Our celebration of Divine Mercy need not stop at the doors of our own hearts. We can seek ways to be ministers of God's mercy to others, reaching out with the love of God, bringing comfort and consolation to those who need it most.

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Breathing is necessary for living. Without air and the ability to breathe, we would die. It is no wonder then that Jesus breathed on the disciples and gave them the Holy Spirit. As our physical breath is essential to physically live, the Holy Spirit is essential to personally and socially live. Jesus shows his friends that God is within them, sustaining them with his gifts and providing them with the fullness of life and love. We take God's role in our lives for granted and we give ourselves more credit than we ought. Much of what we treasure and accomplish every day is due to God's inner presence moving and acting within us calling us to new life.

God is Calling. Will you Answer? Day of Discernment, Saturday, May 27th, Catholic Centre. High School and post secondary students. Meet priests, seminarians, consecrated men and women who will share their stories, answer your questions and help you discover God's will for your life. 10am-2pm, Lunch provided. 3400 Merrittville Hwy, Thorold. RSVP by May 19th—Fr. Michael Basque. 905-899-1699 or vocations@saintcd.com

Next weekend, On Sunday April 30th, at 2pm, our Grade Two students will receive the Sacrament of First Eucharist. Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

Prayer at a Child's First Communion: Lord Jesus Christ, in the Sacrament of the Eucharist You left us the outstanding manifestation of your limitless love for us. Thank You for giving our children the opportunity to experience this love in receiving the Sacrament for the first time. May your Eucharist presence keep them ever free from sin, fortified in faith, pervaded by love for God and neighbour, and fruitful in virtue, that they may continue to receive You throughout life and attain final union with You at death. Amen.



Pathstone Mental Health
 Compassionate · Innovative · Professional
PATHSTONE MENTAL HEALTH
The Catholic Women's League of St. Ann's Parish in Fenwick ON is

sponsoring an inspiring presentation about Pathstone Mental Health on **Thursday, April 27 at 7:00 pm in the church hall.** Pathstone is supported by the non-profit Pathstone Foundation and contributions by donors. They have been providing free mental health services to children, youth, the elderly, and families for more than 50 years. They serve all children from birth to their 18th birthday. One out of five children in Niagara has a mental health issue such as Attention Deficit Disorder, Panic and Anxiety, Bullying, Autism, Depression, etc. Pathstone Mental Health is the only accredited provider of mental health in the entire Niagara Region. Last year alone, they provided services to 4400 children and youth. The need is great! We offer this invitation to our entire parish community, including our teachers, educational assistants, members of the school council, and extended family members. **"Children are always the only future the human race has; Teach them well."**

Catholic Women's League Evening of Reflection: Wed. April 26th, 6:30pm, St. Mary's Parish, Welland. Guest speaker Deedee Alexandre who will speak about her visit to the Holy Land. All welcome!



Divine Mercy Sunday, April 23rd. 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.

Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion is inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself. Amen.

Confirmation Meeting
 As we approach the end of the school year, we are looking ahead to the fall of this year when the Sacrament of Confirmation will be offered to our Grade 7 students who will begin Grade 8 in September. The meeting will take place in the parish hall on **Wednesday, April 26th at 5:30pm for parents/guardians and students.** The school and parish will be using the Chosen preparation program which is comprised of 24 lessons that provide everything the student needs, both intellectually and spiritually to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation and to become lifelong disciples of Christ. The program is relevant and interactive, using videos, student workbooks, small group discussions and independent activities to make the journey personal and meaningful.

Parish Calendar

April.....	Confirmation meeting 5:30pm
April 26th....	Pathstone Mental Health presentation 7pm (See info below)
April 27th....	First Communion, 2pm
April 30th.....	
May.....	
May 2nd.....	Strawberry Fair meeting 6:30pm
May 2nd....	Syrian Refugee Resettlement C. meeting 7pm
May 5th.....	Visitation of the sick and homebound
May 7th.....	St. Vincent de Paul meeting after 11am Mass
May 10-19...	Weekday Masses cancelled
May 20th.....	Reconciliation cancelled 9-10am
May 21st....	Special Collection: Pope's Pastoral Works
May 26th.....	Youth Ministry Trivia Night Fundraiser (more to follow)
May 28th.....	Ascension of the Lord
May 29-June 2...	Weekday Masses cancelled

Everyday Stewardship: Due to the constant unchecked flow of data and information through the Internet, it can be hard to know when a story is real news or rubbish. It never ceases to amaze me when someone I know has bought into some crazy fake news story. Sometimes the story is just so unbelievable: celebrities who gained two hundred pounds in a month, women having babies who were never pregnant, or people actually being seen who are dead! Like Elvis! The apostle Thomas found the news that Jesus was alive just too far-fetched to believe. But he didn't first hear the news on the Internet or read it standing in the grocery store checkout line. His friends told him. His fellow apostles told him they had actually seen the Lord with their own eyes. Their testimony was not enough. He needed proof. The resurrection of Jesus gives us not only hope, but also a reason to be his disciples. We have not seen with our own eyes but, like Thomas, we have a community, the Church, that has relayed the truth to us. This same Jesus now calls us to go forth to spread the Gospel. More unbelievable than that, we have, through the gifts we have been given, a chance to change and even save lives. The day may come that you, moved by this news of the risen Lord, will be an agent of his love to the point where someone will tell the tale that you, a follower of Jesus, actually helped to change his or her life. Pretty unbelievable, right? *Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS*
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Strawberry Fair First Planning Meeting: Tuesday, May 2nd at 6:30pm. Volunteers are needed to plan, organize and assist the day of the event. Please plan to join us for this meeting. **The date of the event will be June 11th.** If you cannot attend the meeting but would like to assist in any way, please phone or email the office. This event has been a part of our social activity in the parish for many years. A great way to begin the summer season ahead. Your assistance is most appreciated! Thank you!

During the Year of the Rosary, you are invited to the Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria on **Saturday, May 13,** the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima, to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Fatima Apparitions. His Excellency, Bishop Gerard Bergie will celebrate Mass at 7:00 pm with the recitation of the Rosary following.

The Serra Club of St. Catharines presents Trivia Night: promoting vocations to the priesthood and religious life. **Friday, May 26th, 2017.** Dinner 6pm, Trivia 7pm. Guest of Honour: Most Reverend Bishop Gerard Bergie. St. Ann's parish Hall, Niagara Falls. \$20/person or \$160/table of 8. For tickets, contact Victoria Robles 289-696-5896 or Mike Lettiere 289-296-5485.