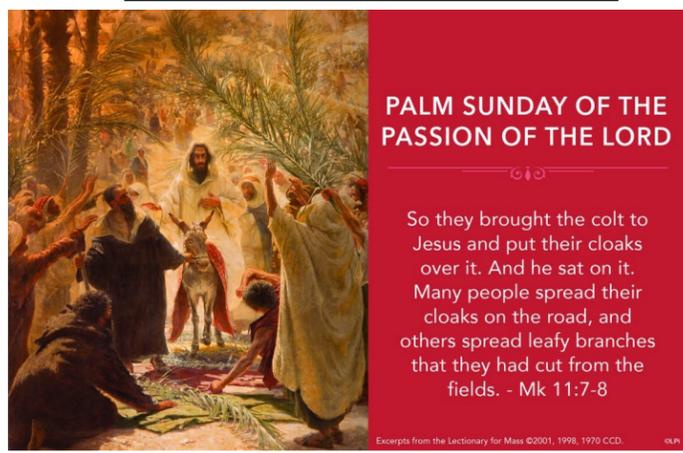


iRev. Chad Grennan, Pastor
 Email: frchadgrennan@gmail.com
 Rev. Deacon Jim McLaughlin (phone office for appointment)
 Liliana Haynes
 Office Administrator



Sunday, March 28th, 2021



MASS INTENTIONS		
Sat. Mar 27	4-4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions Palm Sunday
	5:00pm	✠ Wally & Sophie Paterak (Chris Meyo & Family) Anniversary Blessings for Lena & Vince Addario (Vince Addario)
Sun. Mar 28	9:30am	Missa Pro Populo
	11:00am	✠ Wayne Rebeiro & Anthony & Muriel Guest (Rebeiro Family)
Mon. Mar 29	9:30am	MASS CANCELLED
Tues. Mar 30	9:30am	Blessings & Health for Tony Tamburri (Ersilia Ferrara)
	7-8pm	Holy Hour & Confessions
Wed. Mar 31	9:30am	MASS CANCELLED
Thurs. April 1	7:00pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper Intentions of Jack & Dorothy Walters (Teresa & Colin Walters)
Fri. April 2	9-11am	Good Friday Confessions
	3:00 pm	Celebration of the Lord's Passion
Sat. April 3	9-11am	Holy Saturday (Easter Vigil) Confessions
	Noon	Blessing of Easter Baskets
	8:30pm	✠ Anthony & Muriel Guest & Anthony, Sybil & Wayne Rebeiro (Rebeiro Family)
Sun. April 4	9:30am	Easter Sunday Missa Pro Populo
	11:00am	✠ Anne Kardas (Jay Yurcich)
		✠ Anthony Filbert (Lynda Filbert & Family)

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Many struggle with Jesus. Some who consider themselves faithful hail him in their churches but still struggle to figure out what to do with him on our streets. The message is somehow more palatable when it echoes pious renderings and sentiments and involves singing hosannas during worship. It becomes a bit trickier when it gets to the part about changing the way we conduct the business of our lives, becoming more sensitive to the disadvantaged, poor, and marginalized, and living as servants of our Loving Creator. Ultimately, it is a struggle between wanting to be God ourselves and letting God be God as God is. That's why it's so easy to become hypocritical. We, like those who hailed Christ as he arrived in Jerusalem and sent Christ to the cross to die, also talk out of both sides of our mouths. We entertain what suits us at the time and walk away from the rest.

Many neglect God's beautiful creation because they prefer what humans have made instead. Progress isn't seen in preserving and enhancing what God has made but replacing it with something we believe is better and more useful. The earth, flowers, and animals are all expendable if they stand in the way of the "more" we want to achieve. We seek to remove as many obstacles and hurdles as possible in search of the easiest, quickest, and most efficient path we can find. We have created drugs and laws that preserve our free choice, even though it may mean setting aside God's vision and example. Why suffer when we can easily be put to rest? Why endure insult or injury when we can retaliate, eliminate or subdue? Why accept life when it is acceptable to choose otherwise? We want to be God and resist accepting the fact that our real Creator has already given us the blueprints for the life we need to live in the Beatitudes and in the example of his Passion. We don't like being stewards and managers and really want the power to do as we wish and desire. We want to create our own way.

Where has the true, effective Christian voice been through all of the wars and violence, prejudice and unjust conquests, abuse of human beings and attempted extinctions of nationalities, the establishments of procedures and protocols that serve only a few and not the many and all of the injustices and exploitations that are a part of our human history? A few courageous prophets have stood up and out throughout all of the comings and goings of our human journey with many receiving the same fate as the Crucified One we hail this week. Some still walk among us as shining stars showing us how it really can be. How would Jesus' journey have ended if he lived life as we do? Unless we encounter the good with the bad, the just with the unjust, the grace with the sin, the glory with the cross, the death with the life we most certainly risk rendering God obsolete. After all, haven't we already convinced ourselves that we can do better?

Pope's Prayer Intention Month of April:
Fundamental Rights: We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.

Offertory March 20th & 21st, 2021
Envelopes: 2, 260.00

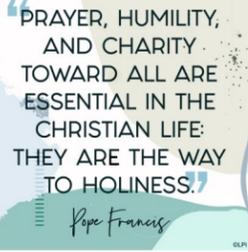
Interac E-transfer is also available to make donations. Please use the following email: stannfendonations@cogeco.net (No password required)

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

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Walk Every Step with Christ

Holy Week is a week for being mindful. We must set loose the baggage of Lent, and not be deterred by the dazzling sunrise of Easter morning beckoning in the distance.

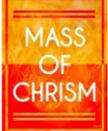


It's okay for us to be excited for Easter. We've waited so long, after all. In my opinion it's one of the best feelings there is: the yearning we have in our hearts for the Resurrection as we embark on Palm Sunday. And in a purely logical sense, many of us have Easter celebrations for which we are preparing, and practical considerations to contend with. It's going to be a busy week, one likely full of happy distractions.

But my friends, we simply must keep our feet on the ground. Let's not "skip" Holy Week. Resist the urge to flip to the last page of the book, to fast-forward to the final scene of the movie. Don't rob yourself of the journey. This week is a blessed opportunity. It is this week that teaches us who we are. In the span of the Triduum, we have the birthday of the priesthood, the institution of the Eucharist, the sacrifice on Calvary and so many other vivid and meaningful scenes.

It may sound strange, to advise someone to savour the moments of Holy Week. There are so many violent and heartrending moments, after all. But this is the valley of tears, remember — we are not in Heaven yet. And here, in our fallen, sin-filled world, it is the heartrending moments that seem to matter the most.

These are the moments that define us as Catholics. Live them. Cherish them. Be present for each one.



Chrism Mass will be Livestreamed from the Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria, St. Catharines, **Wednesday, March 31, 10:30 am.** thecathedralinstcatharines.com

Holy Cross Cemetery's Annual Spring Cleanup will commence on April 6, 2021. All wreaths, tin cans, glass jars, flower pots and similar articles not removed will be disposed of on April 6, 2021. If you are unable to pick up your wreaths, etc., by this date you can call the cemetery at 905-734-4172 and make arrangements for the staff to hold these articles for a short period of time until you are able to retrieve these items.

Niagara Region has now moved into the Red Zone- 30% attendance capacity is in place.

All parishes have resumed 30% capacity indoors. All Diocesan Pandemic Protocols remain in place including physical distancing and Contact Tracing protocols.

Once the 30% capacity has been filled, the doors will be locked. We will take attendance for each Mass and/or Liturgical service for contact tracing purposes.

Face coverings are mandatory.



Through his paschal Mystery, the Lord Jesus redeemed the human race and gave perfect glory to the Father. By dying, Christ destroyed our death; by rising, He restored our life. For this reason, The Easter Triduum, when we celebrate the suffering, death and resurrection of our Lord, is the high point of the liturgical year. The Easter solemnity is to the year what Sunday is to the week.



Holy Thursday is the day on which Christ celebrated the Last Supper with His disciples, four days after His triumphal entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. Only hours after the Last Supper, Judas would betray Christ in the Garden of Gethsemane, setting the stage for Christ's Crucifixion on Good Friday. Holy Thursday is more than just the lead-in to Good Friday; it is, in fact, the oldest of the celebrations of Holy Week. And with good reason: Holy Thursday is the day on which Catholics commemorate the institution of three pillars of the Catholic Faith: the Sacrament of Holy Communion, the priesthood, and the Mass. During the Last Supper, Christ blessed the bread and wine with the very words that Catholic and Orthodox priests use today to consecrate the Body and Blood of Christ during the Mass. In telling His disciples to "Do this in remembrance of Me," He instituted the Mass and made them the first bishops.



Good Friday: This is the Wood of the Cross, on which hung the Saviour of the world. ***Come, let us worship.*** This is a very special day of intimacy with our Lord. It is a day to pray the Stations of the Cross. A day of fasting and abstinence, in order to sharpen our awareness and openness. A day to stand at the foot of the cross as a forgiven sinner - to stand there side-by-side with everyone else who is forgiven. It is a day of profound gratitude.

Good Friday Pontifical Collection for the benefit of the Holy Land: The Pontifical Collection is scheduled this year on **Good Friday, April 2nd.** Our parish, once a year on Good Friday, is called to support Christians in the Holy Land. Many Christians in the Holy Land depend on the collection for their lives. As a Pontifical collection requested by Pope Francis, the annual Good Friday Collection helps to maintain not only the Holy Places above all, but also the pastoral, welfare, educational and social works that the Church carries out to the benefit of the Christian brothers and sisters and the local population.— Fr. Gilles Bourdreau, OFM, Commissary of the Holy Land in Canada. Envelopes are in your offertory boxes or you may use e transfer to donate.



Thank you for sharing love this Lenten season!

The *Share Love, Share Lent* campaign called you to share love, and you opened your hearts. Our parish raised \$1,575 for Development and Peace! This money will help sustain programs and projects that serve some of our most vulnerable sisters and brothers in the Global South! **Thank you for your generosity. We will continue to accept donations over the next few weeks. You may also use e transfer. Please add a note/comment that it is for ShareLent.**

