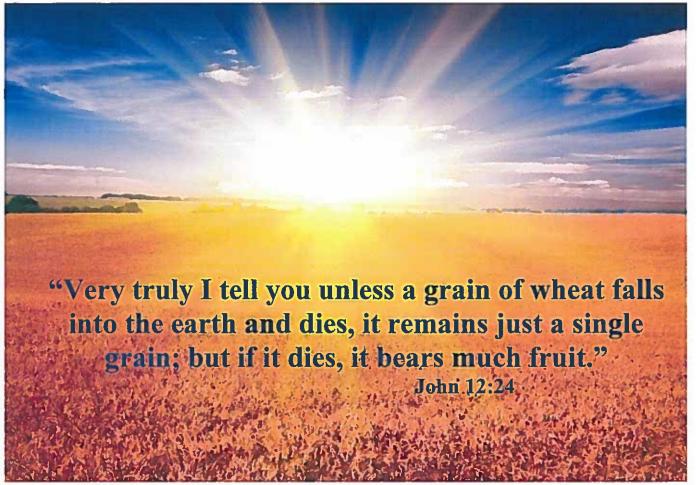
The Cathedral of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception

The Mother Church of the Faithful of the Archdiocese of Kingston The Most Reverend Brendan M. O'Brien, Archbishop of Kingston



279 Johnson Street, Kingston, ON K7L 1Y5 Telephone: 613-546-5521, Fax: 613-546-1947

email: smarys@cogeco.net Web Site: stmaryscathedral.ca
Parish Office Hours: Monday to Friday 9 to 5 pm, Closed 12 noon to 1 pm

Mass Schedule:

St. James Chapel: Mon.-Sat. 7:45 am Cathedral: Mon.-Fri. 12:10 pm <u>Saturday Vigil:</u> 5:00 pm (no incense) <u>Sunday Masses</u>: 8:00 am (no incense), 10:30 am (incense is used), 7:30 pm (incense is used)

Opportunities for Confession "The Light is On!"
One half hour before each Mass held in the Cathedral
Additionally: Wednesdays 1 pm - 5 pm & Saturdays 4 pm - 4:50 pm

Masses: Monday Mar. 19th 7:45 am John Szarek, 2nd anni 12:10 pm Wilfred McCue 12:40 pm Stations of the Cross Tuesday Mar. 20th 7:45 am Father Bob Flurey 12:10 pm Catholic Womens' League 12:40 pm Stations of the Cross Wednesday Mar. 21st 7:45 am Father Bill Powell 12:10 pm Clara Corea 12:40 pm Stations of the Cross Thursday Mar. 22nd 7:45 am Father Charles Gazley 12:10 pm Living & deceased family members of Josephine Murray 12:40 pm Stations of the Cross Friday Mar. 23rd 7:45 am Father Paul MacAvoy 12:10 pm Fred Darling, 7th anni 12:40 pm Stations of the Cross Saturday Mar. 24th 7:45 am Msgr. Patrick Carty 1:00 pm Special Mass for those completing the 33 days for Glory 4:20 pm Stations of the Cross 5:00 pm Gary Mangan Palm Sunday Mar. 25th 8 am Drago Jakov 9:50 am Stations of the Cross 10:30 am For the people of the Parish 7:30 pm For the people of the parish

Ministries: Sat. Mar. 24th, 5 pm

Altar Servers	Lucas M. Peter M. Barry M.
Lectors	Adora J. Lynn P. Ann L. Mark M.
EM of the Eucharist	Jacqueline O Theresa D.

Sunday Mar. 25th, 8 am

Altar Servers	Charles F.	Doug S.
Lectors	Bill M. Elizabeth N.	Cathy S. Betty R.
EM of the Eucharist	Emily R.	Marcel R.

Sunday, Mar. 25th, 10:30 am

Altar Servers	Jude T.	Mario D.
	Bohdan Y.	Tiago F.
Lectors	Janet W.	Sally R.
_	Larry R.	Pat B.
EM of the	Bob C. Jose (C. Dianne I.
Eucharist	Sr Shannon	Teresa K
<u></u>	Connie A.	Rita F.

Sunday, Mar. 25th, 7:30 pm

Altar Servers	Students	
Lector	Michelle S. Carmen B.	Taylor C. Sara B.
EM of the Eucharist	Pene L.	Grace G.

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Coming Events

Sat./Sun., Mar. 17th / 18th: Religious Items from Holy Land artists available for purchase in the vestibule of the cathedral.

Sun., Mar. 18th: Solemn Sung Vespers in the Cathedral at 6:45 pm. Tues., Mar. 20th: Moms & Tots @ 10 am, St. Mary's Parish centre.

Wed., Mar. 21st: Alpha continues in the Parish centre.

Thurs., Mar. 22nd: THE FINAL Bible and the Sacraments at 7 pm in the Parish Centre.

<u>Billings Life Clinic</u>: Monday, March 26 at St. Paul the Apostle Church in Room D from 7-8 pm (patio entrance). Call us at (613)544-8495 or email: kingston@naturalfamilyplanning.ca

Tues., Mar. 27th: Knitting group meets, Parish centre.

Holy Week begins next Sunday, March 25

Holy Thursday: 7 pm March 29 Good Friday, 3 pm March 30 Easter Vigil, Sat., March 31, 8 pm Easter Sunday: regular Masses

Please pray for our Sick: Carmen Davies, Bev Dickison, Patrick Gambin, Lori Keyes, Janice Lumb, Matthew McDonald, Tony Overvelde and Gabriel Sikema.



will be prayed Monday through Friday throughout Lent after the noon Mass and 40 minutes before the 5 pm Saturday Vigil Mass and the 10:30 am Sunday Morning Mass.

Introit text for 10:30 am Mass: Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength. (Psalm 43:1-2) All bow at the thrice holy name of God: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning is now and will be forever. Amen.

THIS WEEKEND: AFTER EACH OF THE MASSES:

March 17/18 Holy Land Wood Art HLWA Inc will be at the back of the cathedral after each of the Saturday Vigil Mass & Sunday Masses selling some of their beautiful art in an effort to strengthen the Christian presence in the Holy Land. The main income for the Christian community of Bethlehem, the birth place of Jesus, is selling their hand crafted olive wood religious items to the pilgrims who visit the area. The past few years have been extremely hard for the community as a result of declining tourism. Some Christians responded by fleeing the Holy Land, and the absence of a living Christian community is very dangerous for the Holy Sites such as the Church of The Nativity. Please stop and look at their display next weekend. These beautiful handcrafted religious objects make great First Holy Communion, Confirmation and even Wedding gifts. Please be generous to our struggling Christina sisters and brothers in the Holy Land.

Contacts

Rector: Father Shawn J. Hughes, fathershawnihughes@gmail.com

In Residence:

Father Dan Ryan Father Killian Eke Father Antony Werunga Father Paul Mawala

Deacon: Blaine Barclay, blainebarclay31@gmail.com

Parish Office Administrator: Suzanne, smarrys@cogeco.net

Co-ordinator of Ministries, Pastoral Caring Coordinator, and Catholic Women's League President: Ann Lyng, alyng@cogeco.ca

Music Director and Organist: Jeff Moellman, musicmoell@gmail.com

Parish Council Secretary: Ellen Hawman, ellen.hawman@sympatico.ca

Knights of Columbus Council #728 Grand knight: Jude Thusiar ithusiar@hotmail.com

Finance Committee Chair: Mark Levac, mark@levacsupply.com

University Chaplain:
Fr. R. de Souza,
chaplain@newmanhouse.ca,
ridesouza@cardus.ca

Catholic Christian Outreach: Sherley Vo – lead Missionary sherley.vo@cco.ca

Billings Method Natural Family Planning: Ann Murray, kingston@naturalfamilyplanning.ca Creighton Model Fertility Serena, Sympto-Thermal Method of Family Planning: www.serena.ca

serenakingston@gmail.com

Adoration: Natalie Holland, nholland@cogeco.ca 613-876-1801

St. Mary's Refugee Sponsorship: Angela Gambin,

stmarysrefugee@gmail.com

REMINDER TO ALL MAKING OR RENEWING THEIR MARIAN CONSECRATION THIS SATURDAY, MARCH 24TH: We will

gather in St. James' chapel to begin at 1 pm Saturday afternoon. We will celebrate the Eucharist and will make our Marian Consecration.



NEXT SUNDAY, PALM SUNDAY



DOMENICA, WILMA, SANTINA, AND THEIR ITALIAN BAKER FRIENDS ARE BACK!!! PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 25th after the 8 am and 10:30 am Sunday Masses, Domenica Bracciodieta and her Italian friends are having another bake sale making all different kinds of homemade Italian Easter Bread. Proceeds from this fundraiser will go

toward the Sanctuary Floor Restoration. Many thanks to all for their generosity to St. Mary's in doing all this wonderful baking.

THIS SUNDAY EVENING, MARCH 18th 6:45 pm here at St. Mary's Cathedral SOLEMN SUNG VESPERS

This New tradition continues at St. Mary's
Every third Sunday of the month we will have Solemn
Sung Vespers (Evening Prayer),

Vespers is the sunset evening prayer service in the Catholic and Orthodox liturgies of the liturgy of the hours. The prayer consists of an opening hymn, three chanted psalms giving thanks for the day, a brief reading from Scripture, the Magnificat, formal prayer intentions, the Our Father and a closing prayer. This prayer is led by a presider, and cantor, with music under the direction of Jeff Moellman. Please join us

APRIL 7TH: The Knights of Columbus of Kingston Mills Council

Present an Evening with *FATHER THOMAS ROSICA* of SALT AND LIGHT TELEVISION. \$38 per person Includes \$10 charitable donation to Salt and Light TV; Four course Meal begins at 5:30 featuring Veal Cordon Bleu as the main entrée. Dietary needs accommodated. Cash bar available. , Meal, timing, location details at Knightsdeals.ca or Pete 613.817.5353. Father Rosica's presentation begins at 7 pm. If you want to



come only for the Presentation it is \$10. Children under 12 free. Salt and Light gift store items will be available. At Our Lady of Fatima Parish Hall. For more info and for tickets email <u>deals@knightsdeals.ca</u> or call or text 613-817-5353.



THE LIGHT IS ON!!!!

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONFESSION THROUGHOUT THE REST OF LENT

Every Monday through Friday: 11:30 am - 12 noon

Every Wednesday: 1 to 5 pm Every Saturday: 4 to 4:50 pm

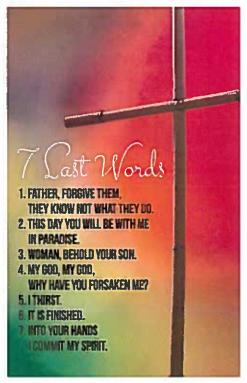
Every Sunday: 7:20 to 7:55 am, 9:50 to 10:20 am, 7:00 to 7:25 pm

Additionally:

THIS Sunday March 18th: 2 to 4 pm THIS UPCOMING Fri., Mar 23: 7 to 9 pm

Holy Thursday March 29th: 2 to 4 pm Good Friday, March 30th: 9 to 11 am

<u>Examinations of Conscience</u> and a review of <u>How to Go to Confession</u> are at all the entrances of the cathedral.



The Seven Last Words – Good Friday, March 30th from 12 noon to 2 p.m. at St. Mary's Cathedral, the students of Newman House will be leading the Seven Last Words devotion – readings, meditations and music which prayerfully recall the seven times that Jesus speaks from the Cross. Father Raymond J. de Souza will preach the meditations on the theme, "The Splendour of Truth Shines from the Cross". The meditations will mark the 25th anniversary of The Splendour of Truth (Veritatis Splendor), the encyclical of St. John Paul II on our moral life in Christ.

PARISH FISH FRY - Saturday March 24th, 5 pm at St. Paul the Apostle, 1111 Taylor-Kidd Blvd., Kingston. Bring your family out to enjoy terrific people and a great meal of Fish & Chips, Salad and Dessert while helping the Knights raise funds for local charities.

New Life Course – Come experience the Love of God in a unique & personal way! The St. Andrew School of Evangelization course begins Friday, April 20, and continues until Sunday, April 22. It will be held at Holy Rosary Church in Belleville. The cost is \$40, which includes 3 meals and snacks. For more information, contact Ruth Terry at 613-661-2498 or terry@alcdsb.on.ca.

The Prefaces of Lent

The Preface of the Mass is said by the celebrant immediately before we sing Holy, Holy, Holy (the Sanctus), the song of the angels around the Heavenly throne. (Rev. 4:8 & Isaiah 6:3) They are prayers which succinctly summarize the spirituality of Lent.

They all begin with It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Christ our Lord.

- 1. For by your gracious gift each year, your faithful await the sacred paschal feasts with the joy of minds made pure, so that, more eagerly intent on prayer and on the works of charity, and participating in the mysteries by which they have been reborn, they may be led to the fullness of grace that you bestow on your sons and daughters.
- 2. For you have given your children a sacred time for the renewing and purifying of their hearts, that, freed from disordered affections, they may so deal with the things of this passing world as to hold rather to the things that eternally endure.
- 3. For you will that our self-denial should give you thanks, humble our sinful pride, contribute to the feeding of the poor, and so help us imitate you in your kindness.
- 4. For through bodily fasting you restrain our faults, raise up our minds, and bestow both virtue and its rewards, through Christ our Lord.

They all end with: And so with the angels and saints, we praise you, as without end we acclaim.

In the Footsteps of St. Paul: An October 10-Day Pilgrimage & Cruise to Greece & Turkey with Fr. Richard Whalen & Fr. Justin Pulikunnel Join us on one of the most exciting pilgrimages and see Athens, with the Acropolis and Mars Hill where St. Paul delivered his famous sermon about the "Unknown God", and Corinth, where Paul lived for three years. Plus a 4-day Greek Isle Cruise & Turkey including Ephesus and the House of Mary, islands like Mykonos, Santorini, Crete, Rhodes and Patmos with St. John Evangelist. Connect to the roots of Christian faith in the most spectacular settings in Europe, from ancient ruins, to towering cliffs, to a relaxing cruise and sandy beaches on the Greek isles. This pilgrimage is from October 18th-27th, 2018. Mass and devotions every day, with a special emphasis on the notoriously difficult theology of St. Paul. If you're interested in learning more and want to see a detailed itinerary, email Fr. Whalen (frrpwhalen@gmail.com) or Fr. Justin (justin.pulikunnel@gmail.com) directly. The cost of this pilgrimage is \$4190 CDN per person, based on double occupancy. All hotels are upgraded. Why not prayerfully consider joining in what could be an incredible spiritual journey? Deadline to register is April 15th.

A Very Special Thank You!

A huge thank you to all the ladies who provided delicious food items and / or

supplies for Hospitality Sunday on March 11: Wilma Fernetich, Lois Halligan, Ellen Hawman, Jurate Kaminskas, Anne Lanzo, Nancy Pearce and Margit Thompson. Thank you to Margit Thompson for helping with the set up before Mass and to Marla and Robin Cases for helping with the cleanup after Mass. Thanks also to Bridgit Fagan for helping after the 8:00 am Mass. A very special thank you to Mary and Mark Hitchcock and to John Palmer for their dedicated commitment to Hospitality Sunday over the past years.

Many hands make light work! Join our Hospitality Team! Be involved in your parish community! Please consider helping and/or donating food items once per month!

To help or to donate food items, contact Ann Lyng, 613-546-5521 Ext 5; alyng@cogeco.ca

THE NEXT HOSPITALITY SUNDAY IS APRIL 8TH AFTER BOTH THE 8:00 AM AND 10:30 AM MASSES

Gospel Singing at St. Barnaby Church in Brewers Mills: On April 15th at 6 pm. St. Barnaby church will host gospel singers, Rev. Patsy Schmidt, Joe Saunders, Mark & Sharon Alton and Ruth & Gord Griffin. A free will offering would be appreciated!

St. Patrick's Day Luncheon on Tuesday, 13 March 2018, from 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., in the basement of St John the Apostle Parish, Kingston (corner of Patrick & Quebec Street). The \$5.00 fee includes soup, sandwiches, tea, coffee and dessert. Children under 5 are free! Sponsored by the CWL of St. John the Apostle Parish.

<u>Dinner and Dance</u> Sat. April 14 at Rideau Acres from 5-10pm featuring Still Standin' Band and catering by Greek Islands. Tickets \$55 on-line at neeje.ca or call Irene at 613-549-7421. A fundraiser to support Neeje's work inspiring women to lead meaningful lives.



Archdiocesan Celebration of the Chrism Mass

Archbishop O'Brien and the clergy of the Archdiocese will celebrate the Chrism Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral, on Tuesday, 27 March 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

This Mass is a manifestation of the communion of the clergy with their Archbishop; and, at this celebration, all priests and deacons will renew their ordination promises. Everyone is called to pray for our clergy that they may remain faithful ministers of Christ. In addition, at this Mass, the oils used for the Sacramental life of the Church will be blessed by Archbishop O'Brien and distributed to each Parish and Institution in our Archdiocese.

A reception will follow at École Cathédrale.

All are invited to participate in this special celebration.



<u>Donation from Arbor Memorial Funeral Homes</u>: If you have been over at the Parish Centre you will have seen 100 of these beautiful upholstered wooden chairs. They were in the chapel of Robert Reid Funeral Home and they were replacing them. They thought of us and offered to donate them to us. Many, many thanks to them for this very generous gift.

<u>Celebration of National Nurses Week:</u> The Archdiocese of Kingston invites you to a Mass celebrated by Archbishop O'Brien at St. Mary's Cathedral, Sunday, May 6th at 10:30 am. Reception to follow. All welcome, especially Nurses past and present.

CWL ANNUAL DIOCESAN CONVENTION

The Catholic Women's League Annual Diocesan Convention will be held from May 5-6, 2018 at the Ambassador Hotel and Conference Centre. The theme this year is "Inspired by the Spirit, Women Respond to God's Call". Registration fee, which includes the annual report book, is \$25. **Deadline for registration is March 12, 2018**. To register or for more information, contact Ann Lyng, St. Mary's Parish CWL President.



Ryandale Shelter for the Homeless is seeking people to join its Board of

<u>Directors.</u> Ryandale is a Kingston based non-profit charitable organization that has been providing shelter and lessening the effects of poverty for 25 years and is currently exploring new ways of serving the needs of those that are making the transition from chronic homelessness to a more sustainable healthy lifestyle. Ryandale is looking for people to be directly involved with the management of a transitional house and have an interest in developing and expanding Ryandale's

future. The time commitment is 4-6 hours per month including meetings and committee work. If interested, please email Ryandaleshelter@cogeco.net, or 669 Victoria Street, Kingston ON, K7K 4S6 (613) 548-8466.

<u>Lay Faith Development Series:</u> April 14th, 10 am – 2 pm. Catholic Pastoral Centre, <u>390 Palace Rd, Kingston.</u> Registration 10\$ (Lunch included). Register on-line @ http://www.romancatholic.kingston.on.ca/ or call Gorett <u>613-548-4461</u>. Our first topic will be on <u>Franciscan Spirituality</u> with presenter Friar Ed Debono. If you have any questions or for more information call Mary-Jo MacKinnon-Simms: <u>613-548-4461 x 115.</u>

Regiopolis-Notre Dame Catholic Secondary School Report Card Dates - On Friday, March 23rd, students will receive Early Diagnostic Reports for semester two. Parent/Teacher Interviews are scheduled for Tuesday, March 27th. Parent/Teacher Interviews - Once again, Parent-teacher interviews can be booked online. Go to the RND website to book your appointments. Parents will have access for booking appointments beginning Wednesday, March 21st at 8:00am.

Important Information regarding the Canada Summer Jobs Grant

Let's make a difference!

As you have heard in the news the federal government is requiring any applicant for a summer job to check off a box that they confirm support of the pro-abortion and gender polices of the Liberal party. This has garnered great concern and resistance not only from Catholic parishes who have been funded by the Canada Summer Jobs Grant in the past but other Christian denominations, and Jewish and Muslim leaders as well. It means that we can't apply for these grants because in good conscience we can't check that box. The promise of a free and democratic society is that there be no religious or ideological test or conditions to receiving government benefict or protection. This is being discussed this Monday, March 19th in the House of Commons. With all the opposition to the requirement to sign the attestation, a vote has been called asking the government to reverse the attestation policy.

The promise of a free and democratic society is that there be no religious or ideological test or conditions to receiving government benefit or protection.

YOU CAN DO TWO THINGS:

1. Contact our MP, Mr. Mark Gerretsen, MARK.GERRETSEN@PARL.GC.CA and ask him to vote "In favour of the motion to reverse the attestation policy." This does not need to be lengthy or detailed.

The email could read as follows:

Dear Mr. Gerretsen:

I am writing in regards to the Canada Summer Jobs Grant. I understand that there is a motion on the floor to reverse the attestation policy. On March 19, 2018, I am asking you to vote in favour of the motion to reverse the attestation policy. The promise of a free and democratic society is that there be no religious or ideological test or conditions to receiving government benefit or protection.

Sincerely

Your Name

address

2. Secondly: ask everyone to contact their MP and ask them to vote "in favour of the motion to reverse the attestation policy".

YET ANOTHER GREAT LENTEN MEDITATION FROM THE LITURGY OF THE HOURS From a sermon by Saint Leo the Great, pope: The virtue of charity

In the gospel of John the Lord says: In this will all men know that you are my disciples, if you have love for each other. (John 13:35) In a letter of the same apostle we read: Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God; he who does not love does not know God, for God is love. (1 John 4:7) The faithful should therefore enter into themselves and make a true judgment on their attitudes of mind and heart. If they find some store of love's fruit in their hearts, they must not doubt God's presence within them. If they would increase their capacity to receive so great a guest, they should practice greater generosity in doing good, with persevering charity.

If God is love, charity should know no limit, for God cannot be confined.

Any time is the right time for works of charity, but these days of Lent provide a special encouragement. Those who want to be present at the Lord's Passover in holiness of mind and body should seek above all to win this grace, for charity contains all other virtues and covers a multitude of sins.

As we prepare to celebrate that greatest of all mysteries, by which the blood of Jesus Christ did away with our sins, let us first of all make ready the sacrificial offerings of works of mercy. In this way we shall give to those who have sinned against us what God in his goodness has already given us.

Let us now extend to the poor and those afflicted in different ways a more open-handed generosity, so that God may be thanked through many voices and the relief of the needy supported by our fasting. No act of devotion on the part of the faithful gives God more pleasure than that which is lavished on his poor. Where he finds charity with its loving concern, there he recognizes the reflection of his own fatherly care.

In these acts of giving do not fear a lack of means. A generous spirit is itself great wealth. There can be no shortage of material for generosity where it is Christ who feeds and Christ who is fed. In all this activity there is present the hand of him who multiplies the bread by breaking it, and increasing it by giving it away.

The giver of alms should be free from anxiety and full of joy. His gain will be greatest when he keeps back least for himself. The holy apostle Paul tells us: He who provides seed for the sower will also provide bread for eating; he will provide you with more seed, and will increase the harvest of your goodness, (2 Corinthians 9:10) in Christ Jesus our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen.

A LETTER FROM FATHER SHAWN

I would like to sincerely encourage you to enter into the liturgies of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil/Easter Sunday with the seriousness and solemnity each of these great celebrations deserve. Please don't let this just be another weekend like any other weekend. For Catholics this is *THE* weekend of the year and should be set aside for the liturgical celebrations, prayer and little else. When someone dies, everything stops. We mourn, we have a wake, the funeral and the burial. This upcoming Triduum, all non-essential issues should take second place as we enter into the greatest mysteries of our faith. Set Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday aside as days of attending the Liturgical celebrations. They are days of less activity and more spirituality and prayer. Remember Good Friday is a day of Obligatory fast and abstinence to enter not only spiritually but even physically into the Lord's Suffering and Death. Easter Sunday should be set aside as the day for great liturgical (parish family) and great family celebrations in our homes.

LENT, THE PASCHAL TRIDUUM AND EASTER: PUTTING INTO CONTEXT THE GREAT MYSTERIES WHICH ARE THE HEART AND FOUNDATION OF OUR FAITH

In the first few centuries of the Early Church, the early Christian converts approached the waters to be baptized and renew their faith in the Risen One only once a year, at Easter. One time above all else was set aside for the testing of converts, when the waters were stirred and the words of baptism were spoken. (Matthew 28) This showed them that by being a Christian, we have chosen an unusual way of life; unique and somewhat difficult way of life. This way shows us that by our baptism we belong to Christ, we have died with Christ in the faith and hope that we will be raised with Christ. Lent, the Paschal Triduum, and Easter are the centre and therefore summit of our entire liturgical year and not the Advent/Christmas cycle! Through Christ's 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 highest point of the Liturgical year. The whole reason we are obliged to fulfill the third commandment of keeping holy the Sabbath by going to Mass on Sunday is because Christ rose from the dead on that first Easter Sunday and we celebrate every Sunday as a type of Easter Sunday. We celebrate Christmas only once a year. We celebrate the great mystery of Christ's Suffering, Death and Resurrection in a special way every Sunday and in fact every day that the Mass is celebrated. The Easter solemnity is to the year what Sunday is to the Week.

Holy Week begins next Sunday with Palm Sunday (March 25). On this day the Church celebrates Christ's entrance into Jerusalem to accomplish his paschal mystery. The sacred Triduum (THREE DAYS: *Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil/Easter Sunday*) are the culmination and pivotal point not merely of Holy Week but of our entire liturgical year. Late afternoon on Holy Thursday, Lent ends and the church enters the PASCHAL ("Easter"/"passage"/"Passover") TRIDUUM which is celebrated over three days: PASCHAL TRIDUUM ("Three Days") which begins with the celebration of the Last Supper on Holy Thursday evening, 7 pm on March 29th, continues with the celebration of the Passion of Our Lord on Good Friday, 3 pm on March 30th, and ends with the celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord at the Easter Vigil, 8 pm on March 31st, and throughout Easter Sunday, 8 am, 10:30 am & 7:30 pm on April 1. Pasch means Easter. (It is Middle English, and comes from Old French pasche, from the Late Latin pascha, meaning Passover/Easter, from the Late Greek paskha, which came from the Aramaic pasḥā, Passover, and from Hebrew pesacḥ. Pesach is the Jewish feast that was celebrated annually at God's command to commemorate the deliverance of the Jews from the bondage of Egypt.)

Over these Three Days (the Triduum) the whole church enters into a new fast and prays, not in a Lenten mode, but as a nervous bride and groom before their wedding; with the anticipation of lovers long separated before the reunion. Periodically, over the Three Days, we gather as the Church to pray and prepare ourselves for Saturday night, the VIGIL with its awesome recital of the great Scripture stories of our salvation history which climax with the story of the Christ, the Risen One in the midst of the faithful. Then, with those who have strongly renounced the way of evil and professed their faith in the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, the Church baptizes and then gathers around the table for the Eucharist.



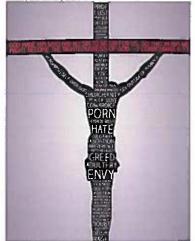
On Holy Thursday, at the Mass of the Lord's Supper we commemorate the institution of the Eucharist, the institution of the priesthood and Christ's commandment to love one another. By Christ's washing the feet of the disciples He emphasise that leadership in Christ is to be a servant to the Servants of God.

On Good Friday we commemorate His passion and death. We venerate His cross: the central symbol of His great act of love. And then we wait. We wait in the silence of the tomb until 8 pm on Saturday, when the Easter Vigil commences. The great Easter praises are sung and we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord.

Easter Sunday morning, Easter Day, blends us into that great Fifty Day Easter-time when we all learn what it means to live the new life we experienced in the Triduum. While we'll experience these liturgies chronologically, we will see that the Triduum is one event celebrating Christ's Passion, Death and Resurrection spread over many days with private and public moments. What we do every time we gather to celebrate the Eucharist is spread over three days so that we can truly meditate on the importance of the Eucharist and savour these foundational events in our salvation history. So, the Paschal Triduum is MORE THAN JUST AN HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT of Jesus' last days. We celebrate and enter into what Jesus' self-offering victory over death means for us who follow.

Our Scriptures remind us that we, through our baptism, share in Jesus' life and death so that we can share in his Resurrection (Romans 6:3-11). The Eucharist is more than just an historical re-enactment, but a means of God's grace today. Thus, the Triduum is more than an historical re-enactment. Instead, the Triduum is a celebration of our salvation

today, not just a reminder of what God did long ago.



In the Triduum, Jesus' life-giving victory over death in the Resurrection is a present reality in the church today. What we celebrate has happened to Jesus, we see is also happening in the lives of all the baptized followers of Jesus.

We want time to be ours, to be shaped as we want. As the Church, we recognize that time is not ours, but God's. Being Church means that every year, whether we want it or not, a day called Ash Wednesday rolls around and we must enter a 40 day period called Lent, and that these hard days prepare us to stand on the brink of the Triduum, which acts as a threshold to Easter's 50 days. We spend the 40 days of Lent getting rid of or giving up all that stands between us and our being able to stand with Christ to say: "Into your hands I commend my spirit." (Luke 23:46) As we read in the Letter to the Philippians, we prepare to "let this mind be in us which was in Christ Jesus who emptied himself to the point of death on the cross." (Philippians 2:5-11) We live simply so that others may simply live, not just in Lent but forever - this is life changing stuff!

Lent is a preparation for the Triduum, so that we can go to the cross like Christ and put to death everything that is in us that is not worthy of a child of God. Lent is not an unhappy, gloomy, sad time - but a time of hope, renewal and re-creation! Through prayer, fasting and almsgiving we have a better chance, in the Triduum, of being able to stand obedient before God as Jesus did ready to do God's will. We need these 40 days to prepare! Our giving up things in Lent becomes a sign of the giving up of our selves to God in baptism. In Lent we give up acts of sin, selfishness and over-indulgences so that in Easter, we become like the one who once was blind and now can see God; like the Samaritan woman who was once unknown to God and then knew God; like Lazarus, once dead and now raised to new life.

Lent, is the time of final preparation of catechumens (those who will be baptised at the Easter Vigil) and of the candidates, (those, already baptised, who will be received into full communion in the Catholic Church.) In Lent, our acclamation becomes: "DYING YOU DESTROYED OUR DEATH, RISING YOU RESTORED OUR LIFE, LORD JESUS, COME IN GLORY!"

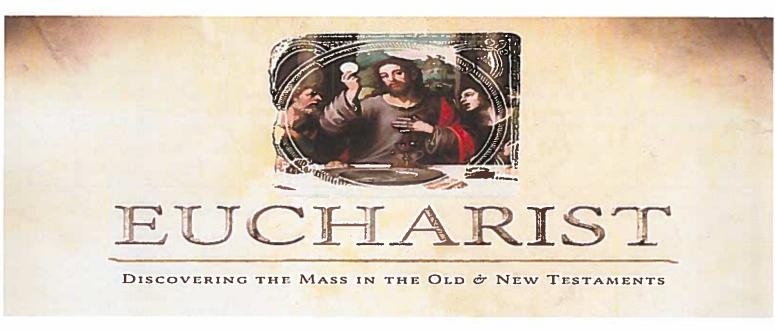
Whereas Lent is 40 days of simplicity, Easter is 50 days celebrating the extravagance of God. Easter is a time to reflect on the mystery of our faith: that which God did in Jesus' suffering, death and Resurrection. God is acting in the lives of God's people (mystagogy). We need to unpack all that we did over the Easter event. The Gospels of Easter help us with this and help us to remember that the season of Easter is not just one day but 7 Sundays (a week of weeks). What we do Easter Day we do all the Sundays of Easter.

As we see then, the 90 days of Lent, Triduum, and Easter time are central to our whole year. It is a time that is pervasive and penetrates every move we make, every word we utter, every breath we take and stays with us all year long. When we forget the importance of the 90 days and how they are central to our whole year, Lent is seen as all other seasons, and in Triduum we only attend the liturgies that fit into our schedule, and Easter is reduced to one Sunday. We must let this time be pervasive, not because we're remembering what God did once, but because God is saving us today as well.

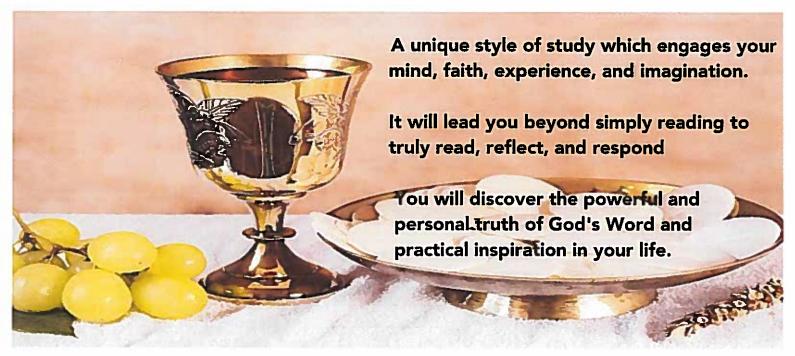
The focus of the 90 days is baptism - baptizing new converts and renewing the baptismal vows of the whole Church. We see how our identification with Christ is made in baptism, and celebrated in the other Sacraments and in our everyday lives. We die in the waters of baptism so that we can be raised with Christ. We see that the Eucharist is a celebration of Christ's passage from death to life, and a celebration of our salvation through God's gracious acts. May God grant each of you a blessed celebration of our Lord's Suffering, Death and Resurrection!



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2018 Holy Week and Easter Mass & Confessions Schedule

Confessions: Sunday, March 18th: 2-4 pm Confessions: Friday, March 23rd: 7-9 pm

Palm Sunday, March 25th: regular Mass schedule:

Confessions: Sat. (March 24th) 4 to 5 pm

Mass: Saturday, March 24th at 5 pm Sunday, March 25th: 8 am, 10:30 am

& 7:30 pm

Monday, March 26th: regular Masses: 7:45 am and 12:10 pm

Confessions: 11:30 to 12:00 noon

Tuesday, March 27th: Mass at 7:45 am, No noon Mass

& Mass of Chrism at 7:30 pm

Wednesday, March 28th: regular Masses: 7:45 am and 12:10 pm

Confessions: 11:30 am to 12 noon & 1-5 pm

Tenebrae: 8 pm

Holy Thursday, March 29th: Confessions: 2-4 pm

Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7 pm – Adoration to 11 pm

Good Friday, March 30th:

9 am - 11 am Confessions

11 am Stations of the Cross

12 pm to 2 pm: The Seven Last Words

2 pm Confessions

3 pm The Passion of the Lord

7 pm Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday, March 31st: The Easter Vigil: 8 pm

Easter Sunday, April 1st: regular Sunday Mass schedule

8 am, 10:30 am & 7:30 pm

With confessions ½ hour before each Mass



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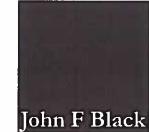
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