

MAR
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The
VINEYARD



BULLETIN
BOARD

Happenings around the
diocese
Page 11

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NEXT ISSUE
SPRING
2020

Where
Faith
Lives



And he said to them all: "If any want
to become my followers, let them deny
themselves, and take up their cross
daily, and follow me." Luke 9:23

VOLUME 33 NO. 1

THE JOURNAL OF THE DIOCESE OF ST. CATHARINES

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GO TO GOD WITH CONTRITE HEARTS SEEKING FORGIVENESS



Most Reverend Gerard Bergie

Photo by Denis Cahill

My dear brothers and sisters in
Christ,

Once again the Church offers
us this sacred time of forty days
to enter the wilderness with Jesus.
Lent should be seen as a time
of spiritual renewal as we take
the time out of our busy lives to
focus on our relationship with
Jesus and others. It also provides
an opportunity to grow in self-
knowledge and holiness.

In many ways the Season

of Lent embodies the great
paradox of our faith: it is only
in giving that we receive. We
see this most clearly in what
we often call the three pillars
of Lent—prayer, fasting and
almsgiving. These practices
help us to give rather than
receive as we focus on God,
self and others.

When we pray, we give
our attention to God, offering
our humble worship and
adoration. During Lent we
should make a concerted
effort to give up some of our
time for prayer. It may be a
Holy Hour before the Blessed
Sacrament, praying a devotion
like the Rosary or Stations of
the Cross or meditating with
Sacred Scripture. One may
even attend daily Mass during
Lent. Prayer always helps us
to focus on God, who can so
easily be forgotten in our busy
lives.

When we fast, we are
practising self-denial so that
we can grow in self-discipline
and self-knowledge. To be
able to say no to ourselves
with some regularity helps us

to say yes to God more often.
Here we do not just 'give up
something'. We may choose
to be more generous, more
loving, a better son, daughter,
mother, father, deacon, priest,
bishop. The Sacrament of
Penance helps us to gain self-
knowledge as we strive to
'fast' from our sins. We go to
God with humble and contrite
hearts, seeking mercy and
forgiveness. Once again we
will be having a Day of Penance
throughout our diocese on
Saturday March 28, 2020. In
many ways fasting helps us
to remove the distractions of
life so that we can focus on
growing in holiness.

When we give alms, we
think of others, especially
those most in need. We know
that poverty and homelessness
are growing in the Niagara
Region and beyond. We cannot
be complacent about this need.
Pope Francis reminds us that
our faith in Christ means we
must care for the poor and
outcast. He states, "Each
individual Christian and
every community is called to

be an instrument of God for
the liberation and promotion
of the poor, and for enabling
them to be fully a part of
society" (EG. 187). Almsgiving
helps us to be more generous
and to work for justice and
peace in our world.

Just as Jesus was tempted
in the wilderness, we too will
be tempted. The devil may try
to convince us that we do not
need to do anything for Lent
or he may encourage us to do
too much and then we will feel
overwhelmed. What is most
important is that we allow
ourselves to be led by the
Spirit just like Jesus. During
these forty days ask for divine
assistance, especially during
moments of weakness and
uncertainty. Our faithful God
will always respond to our
need.

Let us never forget that
whatever we may 'give'
during the Season of Lent, we
will 'receive' far more because
God can never be outdone in
generosity. May this truly be a
time of spiritual renewal for all
within our diocese.

POPE FRANCIS ON LENT 2020

"We implore you on behalf of Christ, be
reconciled to God." (2 Cor 5:20)



This year the Lord grants us, once
again, a favourable time to prepare to
celebrate with renewed hearts the great
mystery of the death and resurrection of
Jesus, the cornerstone of our personal
and communal Christian life. We will
continually return to this mystery in mind and heart, for it will
continue to grow within us in the measure that we are open to its
spiritual power and respond with freedom and generosity.

In this Lent of 2020, I would like to share with every Christian
what I wrote to young people in the Apostolic Exhortation
Christus Vivit: "Keep your eyes fixed on the outstretched arms
of Christ crucified, let yourself be saved over and over again. And
when you go to confess your sins, believe firmly in his mercy,
which frees you of your guilt. Contemplate his blood poured out
with such great love and let yourself be cleansed by it. In this
way, you can be reborn ever anew." (No. 123) Jesus' Pasch is not
a past event; rather, through the power of the Holy Spirit it is ever
present, enabling us to see and touch with faith the flesh of Christ
in those who suffer.

Excerpts from the message of Pope Francis for Lent 2020



Where Faith Lives

The Diocese of
St. Catharines

invites Catholics
to celebrate the

Sacrament of
Penance

Saturday March 28, 2020

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

In every parish across the diocese a priest will
be available to hear individual Confessions.
No matter how long it has been, you are
welcome to celebrate this wonderful sacrament
of reconciliation and healing.

"Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out,
that times of refreshing may come from the Lord."

Acts 3:19



PRAY FOR MERCY AND HEALING

Lent is a time to reflect on healing wounded relationships and the pain we may have caused our brothers and sisters in body, mind and spirit. Pray that the Holy Spirit, comforter of hearts, may heal our wounds and transform our brokenness.

Pray that we may have the courage, wisdom, humility and grace to act with justice.

Prayer for Healing

God of endless love, ever caring, ever strong, always present, always just:
You gave your only Son to save us by the blood of his cross.

Gentle Jesus, shepherd of peace, join to your own suffering the pain of all who have been hurt in body, mind, and spirit by those who betrayed the trust placed in them.

Hear our cries as we agonize over the harm done to our brothers and sisters.

Breathe wisdom into our prayers, soothe restless hearts with hope, steady shaken spirits with faith:
Show us the way to justice and wholeness, enlightened by truth and enfolded in your mercy.

Holy Spirit, comforter of hearts, heal your people's wounds and transform our brokenness. Grant us courage and wisdom, humility and grace, so that we may act with justice and find peace in you.
We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

Amen.



"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Matthew 11:28-30

THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS



RCIA

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

A journey of Faith

The elect then went through an intense period of purification and enlightenment leading up to the Easter Vigil at which time they receive the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist. This is the same practice we follow today.

While RCIA is meant for the unbaptized, in our modern world the majority of those wishing to come into the Church are already baptized in another Christian denomination. The Church accepts all Trinitarian Baptisms as valid and those persons are already considered to be members of the Body of Christ. They are generally referred to as "our separated brothers and sisters" and are seeking to come into full communion with the Church. These inquirers are called candidates and, after making a profession of faith, receive two sacraments of initiation at the Easter Vigil, Confirmation and the Eucharist.

As you can see we have returned to our roots, but that is not merely an historical fact, it should also be a spiritual renewal. RCIA is a spiritual journey that calls for a radical conversion of not only the catechumens and candidates, but also the whole Christian community.

In the midst of our increasingly materialistic and secular society it is a call to say, "YES" to God with all that it implies. RCIA calls us all to a commitment of both time and talent to help bring about God's kingdom here on earth.

It is not easy. For many it means a radical change in priorities and lifestyle. To answer God's call is to enter by the narrow gate as scripture tells us.

RCIA is a lay ministry. Catechists and sponsors are drawn from the congregation with the pastor acting as spiritual advisor.

It is imperative that we, the laity, get involved in the life of our respective parishes. Say, "YES" to God's call. Ask your pastor about RCIA. Let us offer our God-given gifts to our parish, not like the servant with one talent who buried it against his master's return.

by BOB FOLEY

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults has been seen by many Catholics as one of those new-fangled things that are a legacy of Vatican II. Before that the priest would instruct the convert for twelve sessions one on one and then the individual was quietly received into the Church.

In reality, as with many of the "new" things that came out of that great council, RCIA is a recovery of an ancient rite that goes back to the very roots of our Christian faith. For the first 800 years the journey from inquiry to the sacraments of initiation was a long and arduous one sometimes taking years to complete. As Christianity spread and second and subsequent generations of Christians were baptized as infants the process fell out of use and finally was lost altogether.

Let's follow briefly the journey of a first century convert. First came a period of evangelization, what today we refer to as a time of inquiry. This was a time of no fixed duration for inquiry and an introduction to the gospel.

Upon expressing a desire to follow Christ the individual was accepted into the order of catechumens. Today we bring people into this order at the Rite of Acceptance, which is held in the parish. The time spent in the catechumenate would have depended on the progress of the individual.

When he or she was ready they went through a liturgical ceremony called the Rite of Election or the Enrollment of Names. Today this rite takes place at the cathedral on the first Sunday of Lent. The catechumens sign their names in the Book of the Elect and are called, from that time on, the elect.

During Perpetual Adoration, a specific person is present for a period of one hour or more, so there is always at least one worshipper who is with the Blessed Sacrament.



Perpetual Adoration is 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Come and pray before the Blessed Sacrament, read the bible, or just sit and spend time listening as Jesus speaks to your heart.

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BISHOP KIRKPATRICK INSTALLED AS SHEPHERD OF ANTIGONISH, NS

On February 3, 2020, Bishop Wayne Joseph Kirkpatrick was installed as the 10th Bishop of the Diocese of Antigonish. St. Ninian Cathedral in Antigonish was filled with Catholics from northeastern Nova Scotia and Cape Breton, as well as fellow bishops, clergy, colleagues and friends from across Canada. The Diocese of St. Catharines was well represented.

Bishop Kirkpatrick received a tremendously warm welcome from the priests and laity of his new diocese. In his homily at the installation Mass, he thanked the organizers and commented on their thoughtful attention to detail, even adorning the cathedral with flowers in the colours of his coat of arms. He also expressed his gratitude to Archbishop Brian Dunn, his predecessor who is now Coadjutor Archbishop of Halifax-Yarmouth.

Bishop Kirkpatrick was ordained to the priesthood in St. Catharines in 1984 and served in numerous pastoral and administrative roles in the diocese prior to being ordained as Auxiliary Bishop



Guests from the Diocese of St. Catharines who attended the installation of Bishop Wayne Kirkpatrick in Antigonish, Nova Scotia, were: (l-r) Bishop Gerard Bergie, Diocese of St. Catharines; Sr. Louise Dillon, RHSJ, Hotel Dieu Shaver Hospital; Bishop Wayne Kirkpatrick; Margaret Jong, vice chancellor, Diocese of St. Catharines; Fr. Raymond Fenech Gonzi, pastor, St. Mary, Welland; Fr. Paul MacNeil, pastor, Our Lady of the Scapular, Niagara Falls.



Bishop Wayne Kirkpatrick

Photo by Ashley Pettipas

of Toronto in 2012. In Toronto he was responsible for the pastoral care of the Northern Region of the archdiocese, was Vicar for Religious, Vicar for Francophones, and in 2015, was given the additional responsibility of serving as president of St. Augustine

Seminary.

Cardinal Thomas Collins, Archbishop of Toronto, who spoke at the installation ceremony, noted that Bishop Kirkpatrick is continuing in the great spirit of Archbishop Neil McNeil, a native of Antigonish, who was

ordained there in 1879 and became one of Toronto's most influential and long-serving archbishops.

The Diocese of Antigonish has 73 parishes, 21 missions and 7 chapels served by 80 priests (diocesan and religious, retired and inactive)

and 18 permanent deacons. Five religious communities of women also minister in the diocese.

We extend our best wishes to Bishop Kirkpatrick and pray that he will be abundantly blessed in his new ministry.

BISHOP WAYNE KIRKPATRICK'S COAT OF ARMS

The external heraldic symbols of dignity for a bishop of the Roman Catholic Church are those assigned by the Special Instruction of Pope Paul VI on March 31, 1969. These are a simple gold-coloured processional cross (placed behind the shield) and above it the bishop's green ecclesiastical hat with cords and 12 tassels, six per side, arranged in three rows also all coloured green.

The Celtic cross above and behind the shield call to mind Bishop Kirkpatrick's Irish heritage with his mother's maiden name being Phelan and his surname Kirkpatrick, meaning Church of Patrick.

The main colours are red and blue from the shield of the Diocese of St. Catharines in Ontario, red being the colour associated with divine love, compassion and sacrifice and blue the colour associated with the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The blue also calls to mind the waters of baptism. Both the Celtic cross and the triangular shape symbolize a church with a steeple. The blue triangle is also reminiscent of Niagara Falls, the most notable geographical feature of the Diocese of St. Catharines where he has lived and exercised his priestly ministry. Bishop Kirkpatrick is a canon lawyer and the upper part of the shield bears a traditional depiction of the Tablets of Law or Ten Commandments. Grape vines are also a feature of the upper part of the shield and along with the wheat stalks in the lower part of the shield. They give us the elements of the Eucharist, bread and wine, a symbol of Jesus Christ who is the bread of life. Vineyards are also a notable feature of the Niagara area. The vines are a reference to *John 15:4-5*, the source of Bishop Kirkpatrick's motto: "Abide in me as I abide



in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches."

Given that one of Bishop Kirkpatrick's baptismal

names is Joseph, the lower part of the shield bears a carpenter's square, an emblem of St. Joseph the Worker. It is inscribed with the letters 'JMJ' signifying Jesus, Mary and Joseph, but here also a reference to his parents, James and Margaret, as well as his own middle name. His episcopal ordination date is July 25, the Feast of James the Apostle. St. Mary of the Assumption, his home parish in St. Catharines from birth to ordination is symbolized by the lily, emblematic of the Blessed Virgin Mary and here placed within the protective arms of St. Joseph's carpenter square. Centrally placed is the broken wheel of St. Catherine

of Alexandria, the patroness of the diocese and cathedral that bears her name, places where Bishop Kirkpatrick has lived and ministered. The wheel can also be seen as a reference to Bishop Kirkpatrick's first baptismal name, Wayne, as a wainwright is a tradesperson who is skilled in the making and repairing of wagons, one who may also fix damaged wheels; a fitting emblem for pastoral ministry. The placing of the charges on the shield creates the effect or shape of a heart and to quote Bishop Kirkpatrick, "The law of life is supreme."

Rev. Canon D.G. Bowyer designed Bishop Kirkpatrick's Coat of Arms.

"Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, I will let you find me, says the Lord."
 Jeremiah 29:12-14



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RESTORATION WORK CONTINUES AT CATHEDRAL



Carlos Nunes, Director, Fine Painting Design restoration, works on the mural, The Road to Emmaus, on the ceiling of the Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria as restoration continues toward the 175th anniversary of the Cathedral. All ceiling paintings were newly created by Carlos Nunes.

The mural of the Road to Emmaus has been completed on the ceiling of the Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria. Work has begun on the mural of the Trinity and the images of the four evangelists to be located in the sanctuary.

Carlos Nunez of Fine Painting Design Restoration Limited says that the work is progressing as expected as we journey toward the 175th anniversary of the building of what is now the Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria.

Work also continues on the cleaning

and restoration of the paintings that adorn the back wall of the sanctuary.

Not only is the interior being renovated, but the exterior is seeing extensive repairs to the stone work, eaves and roof.

We encourage you to go to the Cathedral and see what wonders are being worked both inside and outside our Mother Church.

If you wish to see the work Mass times are: Saturday at 4:30 p.m., Sunday 8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.. Weekday Masses are at 12:10 p.m. Monday to Friday.

GALA SUPPORTS FOUNDATION FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION

The Niagara Foundation for Catholic Education's annual Benefit Gala will be held on April 17, 2020, at Club Roma, St. Catharines, with all proceeds going to the Foundation.

The Niagara Foundation for Catholic Education is a charitable foundation that supports the Niagara Catholic District School Board in its mission to provide excellence in Catholic education to all its students. The Foundation supports scholarships and assistance with a variety of needs.

NIAGARA FOUNDATION FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION




Annual Benefit Gala

with honorary guest,
Most Reverend Gerard Bergie, D.D.
Bishop of St. Catharines

Supporting students in need and providing scholarships

Friday, April 17, 2020
Club Roma Event & Conference Centre
5:30 p.m. Antipasto Bar ~ 7:00 p.m. Dinner

\$80.00/person

The **CATHEDRAL APPEAL** needs the support of many to reach its target of \$1.2 million.

You can make an outright gift donation, participate in a parish fundraising event, or fund a specific element of the restoration.

Interested: Contact the Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria at 905-684-3964 or e-mail: appeal@saintcd.com

Please pray for the successful completion of this restoration project.

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March 27-28, 2020

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SOUP'SON! AIDS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

by JOE BARKOVIC

Another sell-out was recorded for the annual Soup'sOn! fund-raising luncheon held January 31, 2020, at St. Kevin, Welland.

Eight soups were prepared by teams representing four local secondary schools, Niagara College's Canadian Food and Wine Institute and Stephanie the Lunch Lady, a Welland small business. The event raises funds for the St. Kevin Social Justice Scholarship.

The menu offered a selection of soups that appealed to the diverse tastes of soup lovers. Eastdale Secondary School, Welland, served up Vegetable Beef, which could also be enjoyed with barley. Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary School, Grimsby, soup prep team came with Spicy Carrot, Coconut and Ginger. The team from Canadian Food and Wine Institute brought two offerings to the luncheon—Scottish Butter, Bean and Bacon Soup and French-Canadian Tourtiere Soup, as did Welland's École Franco-Niagara, Traditional French Pea Soup and French Onion Soup. Notre Dame College School, Welland, team offered up Straciatella.

There were three seatings at Soup'sOn! —11 a.m., 12 noon

the seniors who have difficulty getting out and enjoying camaraderie in the winter. Lastly it is a very inexpensive donation to the Social Justice Scholarship Fund."

Simunic, a retired teacher, also said: "I still have children in my heart and am willing to help and encourage them become outstanding citizens. Keep up the great work."

Grant Mitchell said he was at his first-ever Soup'sOn! He was impressed with the 'smorgasbord' of soups, the casual and easy-going atmosphere during the luncheon and the great conversations at his table. A visitor to St. Kevin, he said there was no shortage of comments from other diners about the soups they were enjoying. He found himself going to the serving table for his second trip and purposely selecting soups others were talking about. "This has been a great experience," he said.

Wellander Claire Masswohl, is a Soup'sOn! fan because the soups "...are great on the taste-buds and because it showcases the talents of the participating soup-makers. It's also a place to meet old friends and make new ones," she said.

St. Kevin pastor, Fr. Vijai Amirtharaj, CSC, said



Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary School, Grimsby, soup prep team members (l-r) Lexia Poitras, Emma Poitras and Alex Phillips at their soup station. Chef instructor, Ray Poitras, brought ingredients used in their soup, Spicy Carrot, Ginger and Coconut, and displayed them on the serving table much to the delight of many diners.

and 1 p.m. Diners can return to the serving table for repeated samplings during their 1-hour stay. Popular with the soups is a hot pepper bread from Spinosa's Welland Bakery, along with two varieties of rolls—crusty white and whole wheat. Apple juice, water and coffee, the latter from Welland's Black Sheep Lounge and Coffee Roasters, were also provided.

Many of the guests have been attending Soup'sOn! for years. One is Ann Simunic of Welland who has been to every luncheon.

"I am proud of the teachers and the students who put in the effort to serve the public with their accomplishments," she said. "It gives the youth a chance to interact with adults and receive compliments for their efforts. It is also a great lunch for

the variety of soups served makes the annual luncheon popular with diners. He also said the event is an important community-building experience for the parish, one that has a large following, not just in Welland, but from other nearby communities.

Almost \$50,000 in scholarship funding has been awarded to graduating Grade 12 students over the years. In March applications will be available in secondary school guidance offices. Following the applicants interview process, the 2020 scholarships will be presented at school graduation ceremonies in June.

Tickets for Soup'sOn! go on sale every November and are available at the parish office weekdays and in the church foyer before and after weekend Masses.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION: IGNITING HOPE

Catholic Education Week is held each year in May in the 29 Catholic school boards across Ontario. For 2020 it will occur from May 3 – May 8.

The theme, **Catholic Education: Igniting Hope**, was inspired from three sources—the recent Exhortation, **Christus Vivit**, by Pope Francis, following the 2018 Synod of Bishops on Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment; the recent Ontario Bishops' pastoral letter, **Renewing the Promise** (2018); and the **Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations** by the Institute for Catholic Education (2011).

Celebrating the good work and hope of Catholic education now and in the future, the sub-themes chosen for Catholic Education Week are:

- Monday: **Our Hope in Christ**
- Tuesday: **The Hope Within Us**
- Wednesday: **The Hope Among Us**
- Thursday: **Hope for the World**
- Friday: **A Future Full of Hope**



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Nurturing Souls and Building Minds

Catholic Education Week Prayer

Loving God,
You sent your Son, Jesus, to be our hope.
We feel his promised Spirit at work within us;
We recognize his risen presence among us
as we gather in his name in prayer,
and celebrate the Eucharist.

He is the hope,
which inspires us to share as members of the
Catholic educational community,
in your Church's mission to announce
the Good News to the whole world.

We thank you for the gift of Catholic education.
May it continue to be a place where Christ ignites within us,
an abiding confidence, in a future filled with hope.

We make this prayer through Christ, our Lord.

Amen.



WHY SUPPORT THE SHARE LENT COLLECTION?



Leone Strilec

by **LEONE STRILEC**

For more than 50 years the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace – Caritas Canada, has been working in solidarity with the poor of the global south. In order to continue to do this unique and effective work, the success of the **Share Lent** campaign is essential.

At the heart of the international solidarity efforts of CCODP are the partners, who organize to help their fellow citizens. In the Amazon, partners are helping Indigenous communities learn and

affirm their rights and empowering them to choose the terms of their development. All the work we support is culturally appropriate, effective and rooted in local knowledge.

Part of the mandate of CCODP is to sensitize Canadians to global injustices and empower us to act for change. It is important to acknowledge our shared responsibility for global injustices. Catholic social teaching, especially the preferential option for the poor and solidarity, directly inspire this work.

Created by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, CCODP is tasked with being the Church to the world and bringing the world into our Church. Pope Francis urges everyone to be engaged and informed from the light of faith. In his letter to parishes, Bishop Gerard Bergie encourages all to participate in Solidarity Sunday's **Share Lent** collection for CCODP.

Ultimately, it is each one of us, with our thirst for social justice that will open our hearts to the **Share Lent** campaign. We all have our own stories to tell as we have grown to understand our responsibility to the global south. Please give generously.

Leone is diocesan chair of CCODP.



ENHANCE YOUR LENTEN DEVOTIONS WITH D & P

by **FRANK FOHR**

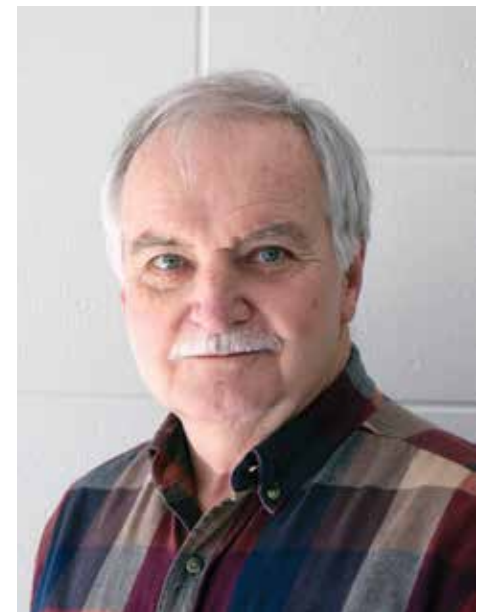
How have you been preparing for Easter during this Lenten Season? Lent is a time for personal growth in faith and also a time for group reflection with friends and/or family. Many excellent resources for Lent are available from parish CCODP groups as well at the website www.devp.org

One of the more popular resources for families and children is the Lenten calendar. It identifies and recommends daily Lenten activities involving quizzes, prayers, reflections and almsgiving. It is designed as a pathway representing a journey or pilgrimage through Lent culminating in Easter Sunday.

Another valuable resource is the Solidarity Way of the Cross. It reflects on ways that Christ's suffering is profoundly experienced by the less fortunate members of the world today. The 2020 edition focuses on the Amazon and includes quotes from church documents such as the encyclical **Laudato Si'** (Pope Francis, 2015) and **Populorum Progressio** (Pope Paul VI, 1968). A power-point presentation can be downloaded to enhance communal celebrations.

A new 2020 resource is the Family Bulletin. It provides reflections on the readings for the Sundays in Lent, as well as some questions to ponder as a family and a picture for children to colour. Also available is the prayer card featuring the **Prayer for Our Earth** from **Laudato Si'** (Pope Francis, 2015). The website moreover contains short inspirational videos which can be downloaded.

The **Campaign Guide and Liturgical Resources** booklet describes other inspirational recommendations for



Frank Fohr

enriching your spiritual life this season such as Prayers of the Faithful for each Sunday in Lent. As a sacramental church, we recognize the power of physical objects to focus our prayer. The resource booklet has suggestions for symbols that can be used for each week during Lent. The **Lenten Mini Magazine** provides the latest information about some of the projects Development and Peace supports through its partners in the Global South.

Of course your Lenten devotions would not be complete without a donation to the Share Lent collection in your parish. Share Lent, the major source of funds for Development and Peace, enables the official development agency of the Canadian Catholic Church to fulfill its mandate of building a more just world. *Frank Fohr, National Council of Development and Peace*

FALL CAMPAIGN SETS STAGE FOR SHARE LENT 2020



Rebecca Rathbone

by **REBECCA RATHBONE**

Last fall, Catholics from the Diocese of St. Catharines and across the country successfully took action to preserve the Amazon Rainforest and to help its defenders. Thanks to the great leadership of CCODP parish and school representatives, over 34,500 signatures were collected on a Solidarity Letter addressed to two communities in Brazil who are fighting to defend the Amazon.

The campaign, titled **For Our Common Home**, educated Canadians about the importance of the Amazon Rainforest for both the health of the planet and for the survival of humanity. Stories were told of the Mura Indigenous people and the traditional Seringueiros people—both of whose lands are being stolen by large corporations who are illegally exploiting the riches of the Amazon for profit—and yet both are bravely taking a stand to protect the Amazon from these

injustices. The signatures of solidarity with the Mura and the Seringueiros amplify their voices, strengthen their resistance, and bring their case to the attention of authorities that have the power to uphold justice.

Thanks to the generous donations made to CCODP over the past year, the partners of D & P were able to accept the invitation to take part in the Amazonian Synod October 2019 at the Vatican. They, along with representatives of the communities they serve, played active roles in the synod by giving testimonies of the realities of life in the Amazon and recommendations about how the Church can effectively minister to and protect this precious piece of creation. This is a wonderful example of what the generous donations of Catholics here in Canada can accomplish for the Church's mission in the world.

With the synod over, it is up to Catholics around the world to bring the spirit of it to life in home dioceses. This means taking action to defend the Amazon by signing the solidarity letter at www.devp.org/act, and participating generously in the 2020 Share Lent Campaign to support partners in the Amazon.

The Amazon is critically important not only to those who call it home, but also for Canada. Even though we live thousands of kilometres away, we breathe Amazonian air and drink its waters. The survival of the Amazon is synonymous with the survival of the human race. It is up to all of us to continue to protect it. *Rebecca Rathbone is CCODP animator for southwest Ontario.*



D & P HOLDS SHARE LENT WORKSHOP

THOUGHTS ON THE APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION: QUERIDA AMAZONIA, BELOVED AMAZON

What is the heart of the message of the exhortation?

The title of the exhortation is *Querida Amazonia*, **Beloved Amazon**, and its heart is Pope Francis' love for the Amazon and the consequences of that love: a reversal of the common way of thinking about the relationship between wealth and poverty, between development and custody, between defending cultural roots and openness to the other. The pope describes for us the 'resonances' that the synodal process provoked in him. He does so in the form of four 'great dreams'. Pope Francis dreams that in the Amazon region there might be a commitment on the part of everyone to defend the rights of the poorest, of the original peoples, of the least. He dreams of an Amazon that preserves its cultural wealth. His ecological dream is of an Amazon that takes care of its abundance of life. Finally, he dreams of Christian communities capable of incarnating themselves in the Amazon and of building a church with an Amazonian face.



Pope Francis

Concretely speaking, what does 'promoting' the Amazon mean, as we read in the text of the exhortation?

As Pope Francis explains, promoting the Amazon means making sure that what flows from it is the very best. It means not to colonize it, not to plunder it with massive mining projects and destroy the environment and threaten the indigenous peoples. At the same time, however, it also means to avoid mythologizing the native cultures, excluding any intermingling, or falling into an environmentalism "...that is concerned for the biome but ignores the Amazonian peoples." Identity and dialogue are two key words and Pope Francis explains that they are not at all opposed. Caring about the cultural values of the indigenous peoples concerns us all: we must feel co-responsible for the diversity of their cultures.

From the pages of the exhortation, the Christian commitment also clearly emerges, which is far from either a closed nativism or an environmentalism that despises human beings as the ruin of the planet. In addition, it proposes a bold missionary spirit—to speak of Jesus and to bring his offer of new life to others—life to the full for each one and for everyone, taking care of creation, in relationship with God the Creator and with all our brothers and sisters.

Why should the destiny of a particular region on earth touch us so deeply?

The fate of the Amazon affects us all, because everything is interconnected

and the care of this precious 'biome', which acts as a filter and helps us to avoid raising the earth's temperature, is fundamental to the health of the global climate. The Amazon, therefore, concerns us all directly. In that region of the world, we see the importance of an integral ecology, which combines respect for nature with care for human dignity. The Amazon's future and the future of its peoples are decisive for maintaining the balance of the planet. In this perspective, it is important to allow indigenous peoples to remain on their territories and to take care of their lands. The educational aspect is also of primary importance: to promote new behaviours and new attitudes in people. Many people living in that area have assumed the typical customs of the big cities where consumerism and a throw-away culture reign.

Excerpts from an interview by Vatican Media with Cardinal Michael Czerny, special secretary of the Synod for the Amazon.

Twice each year, CCODP invites parishes to a workshop to raise awareness about the work of the official international development organization of the Catholic Church in Canada. In September, the fall workshop introduced the annual theme, which this year focused on the Amazon.

These workshops are typically modelled on small group community education as practised by many of the partner organizations in the global south. Sometimes called 'Train the Trainer' workshops, the purpose is to train participants with knowledge and skills so when they return to parishes they can share what they have learnt.

The format of each workshop is see, judge, act. The first need is to look at or see what is happening in terms of the theme, in this case the Amazon rainforest and its people. The second step is to judge the situation by analyzing it with eyes of faith. How do the bible and Catholic social teachings speak to the situation? The third step is to act. What are we called

to do about the situation as Catholic Christians?

In February, the second workshop was held to launch the Share Lent campaign and update those present about the current campaign. Other articles in this edition of *Vineyard* provide some of those details. It was led by Rebecca Rathbone, animator for St. Catharines, Hamilton and London dioceses. Previously she was the animator for the Maritime Provinces, as well as working in Rome helping to develop the youth program for Caritas Internationalis.

Important elements of the workshops are prayer and fellowship. Occasionally workshops start with the celebration of Mass; the February workshop started with Pope Francis' Prayer For Our Earth from *Laudato Si'*. Bishop Gerard Bergie offered words of support and led us in grace.

A complimentary lunch of soup, sandwiches, fruit and beverages was provided at each workshop as a thank you to those present for the work they do in parishes.

Week 5: March 29—Solidarity Sunday

This Lent, give from the heart for our Common Home. This Lent, Development and Peace—Caritas Canada invites us to be in solidarity with the guardians of the Amazon rainforest and to care for our common home. On this Solidarity Sunday, we extend warm thanks for your generosity. Your donation will help our sisters and brothers across the world. Thank you for helping us build a world of peace and justice. Give to your Share Lent parish collection or at devp.org/give

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life."

John 3:16

This Lent, let's give from the heart

"...charity has its origin and its essence in God himself..."

— Pope Francis, May 27, 2019

Thank you for giving generously.

Share Lent 2020  Development and Peace CARITAS CANADA



devp.org/give | 1 888 234-8533



A FAMILY LENT, WELL SPENT

by TERRI PAUCO

As the liturgical season of Lent begins and our church décor becomes simpler, bathed in purple, with messages of repentance and renewal, our families are asked to embrace the pillars of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. How can this be accomplished in a focused and meaningful way? How can this tie into the rhythm of daily family life and the glamour of housework and homework, and the to and fro of shuttling kids from play-dates and practices? It is with intention and planning.



Terri Pauco

PRAYER

Over the next weeks, really commit to attending a weekend Mass. Say grace before family meals and as parents and grandparents openly discuss with children how you pray and what personal prayer means to you. Locate some Lenten prayer resources—either on-line or distributed at your parish—that can be read together daily, perhaps just before the bedtime routine begins. Make plans to attend the Stations of the Cross and celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation together, perhaps on March 28, the day individual confessions will be available in every parish across the diocese.

FASTING

Identify what every family member has decided to fast from and help each other be accountable for these small sacrifices. Together, discuss if a family fast is possible; perhaps it is reducing TV and screen time, or scaling back the amount of money spent on entertainment or food. This type of action will free up time that

can be spent together in conversations about what is important in your little domestic church.



ALMSGIVING

The easiest way to give is to set up a collection jar for spare change that will be donated to the Share Lent campaign or another charity of your choice. A more challenging plan would be to find ways to reach out in actual service to the marginalized, the poor and the elderly of your own neighbourhoods and become instruments of God's mercy and light to others.

A family Lent well spent needs commitment from each member of your little church.

DIOCESE OF ST. CATHARINES
YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY HOSTS

God & Science: A Study Series

Using the video resource,
From Nothing to Cosmos,
by **Fr. Robert Spitzer, S.J. PH.D**
as its catalyst for discussion
and faith reflection

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MAY 7
MAY 14
MAY 21
MAY 28

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3 ways to register before April 24, 2020
Call: 905-684-0154
Email: familyandyouth@saintcd.com
Online: <https://forms.gle/irfBUESFCL4gj3Pp9t>



Founded in 1997, Gethsemane Ministries is a Lay Catholic Movement consisting of families dedicated to evangelization and seeking to live their life according to their vocation, thereby witnessing to the gospel. The Gethsemane Centre located in Wellandport is God's gift to the Ministry to continue its work of evangelization. The Centre meets the needs of the Catholic community by offering a dedicated Chapel, Grotto of our Lady of Fatima and conference rooms of various sizes. Our fully equipped in-house dining facility and religious gift store is available on an event basis. We offer a quiet setting for prayer and reflection, perfect for retreats, seminars and conferences.

Every 13th of the month from May to October, Devotion to Our Lady of Fatima (6:30pm-8:30pm)
Every Wednesday, Mass, Adoration and Liturgy of the Hours (10:30am - 5:00pm)
Confessions are available daily by appointment.

www.gethsemaneministries.com Phone: 905-386-1111
Gethsemane Centre
84008 Wellandport Road
Wellandport ON L0R 2J0
Email: info@gethsemaneministries.com

DIOCESE OF ST. CATHARINES
CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

FEED YOUR FAITH FRIDAY

Special Guest: Agnes Richard
Coordinator, WCCM Canada
Laudato Si Animator

FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 2020
6 - 9 PM
CATHOLIC CENTRE
3400 MERRITTVILLE HIGHWAY
THOROLD

Come together to share a meal, learn about our call to environmental stewardship and pray for action.
RSVP 905-684-0154, #209

Refugee Centres

within the
Diocese of St. Catharines

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Fort Erie, Ont
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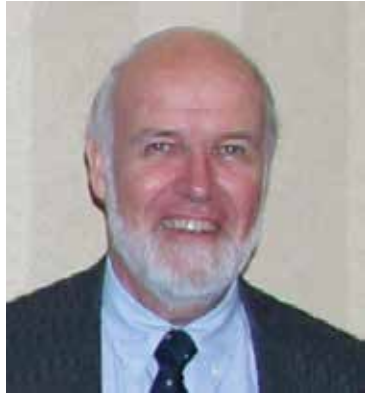
Chez Marie Refuge
16 Pelham Road
St. Catharines, Ont
905-682-5795



THE ENVIRONMENT

CLIMATE CHANGE THREATENS FOOD PRODUCTION

by DENNIS MALONE



Dennis Malone

Not a day goes by without some news item about climate change and the threat it presents to food production, coastal flooding, extreme weather events and mass migration. It's hard to ignore the seriousness of the threat and the need to take wide-ranging action both on a national scale and on a personal level.

Some of the projections are almost too overwhelming to comprehend: the melting of polar ice caps will result in a sea level rise of up to 1.6' rendering cities like New York uninhabitable; coral reefs will be irreparably damaged; half of all animal species will face extinction; and 400 million people will suffer from water scarcity. It leaves us wondering if there is any hope and what can we possibly do to reverse CO2 emissions and the resultant global warming.

General estimates of the source of greenhouse gas emissions suggest that 25% come from electricity generation, 24% from animal agriculture (though some studies suggest this figure to be as high as 51%), 24% from manufacturing, 14% from transportation and the balance from buildings and other miscellaneous sources.

In his book, **We Are the Weather**, Jonathan Safran Foer, presents the moral dilemma we all face. Although

it can be rightly argued that the fight to reduce climate change must be fought on a global level with all countries committed to reducing the level of greenhouse gases they produce, this does not mean that individuals are powerless to make a difference with their own lifestyles choices. Those choices are simple and obvious though not always easy to make—eat less meat and more plant based food (this would have the greatest positive effect), limit discretionary airline flights, drive an energy efficient vehicle, make energy saving changes around the home and buy locally made products whenever possible to avoid long distance shipping.

We can be part of the change. We can all make small but important contributions towards mitigating the effects of climate change. We can't simply throw up our hands and say we are powerless to do anything as individuals.

A Prayer For Our Earth

All-powerful God,
 you are present in the whole universe
 and in the smallest of your creatures.
 You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.
 Pour out upon us the power of your love,
 that we may protect life and beauty.
 Fill us with peace, that we may live
 as brothers and sisters, harming no one.
 O God of the poor,
 help us to rescue the abandoned
 and forgotten of this earth,
 so precious in your eyes.
 Bring healing to our lives,
 that we may protect the world
 and not prey on it,
 that we may sow beauty,
 not pollution and destruction.
 Touch the hearts
 of those who look only for gain
 at the expense of the poor and the earth.
 Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,
 to be filled with awe and contemplation,
 to recognize that we are profoundly united
 with every creature
 as we journey towards your infinite light.
 We thank you for being with us each day.
 Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle
 for justice, love and peace.

Pope Francis
 Encyclical Letter **Laudato Si'**

SENIOR MATTERS

THE EVOLUTION OF IN MEMORIAM CARDS



Patricia Waters

by PATRICIA WATERS

On my bedside table I have a stack of In Memoriam cards collected over the years, during the visitation at the passing of a family member, friend or parishioner, as well as those found in old family prayer books.

Piled in chronological order they remind me to say a prayer for the deceased on the anniversary of their death. Over the years, while following this custom, I became aware of the change in format, both in the picture chosen as well as the prayer or verse, especially from the older memoriam cards up to the more contemporary ones. This so intrigued me that I decided to do a little research into the custom and evolution of these cards and what I found may surprise you.

The printing of memoriam cards began with the invention of lithography in the 1700s. Mourning cards, as they were originally called, became popular in the 1800s and were part of the strict rules of etiquette that were carefully observed during this era.

The cards began as

invitations to notify family and friends when the funeral was to be held and may have been used as a ticket to gain admittance to the funeral especially if the deceased was a person of stature. The invitation usually had a black border and the usual symbols of death—the hourglass, grim reaper, father time—plus details of the departed along with the time, date and location of the funeral.

By the mid to late 1800s the funeral invitation was replaced by a small mourning or memorial card that was sent out after the funeral usually to those who were not able to attend. Most measured 3"x 4.5" and were constructed of heavy card stock. They were made up of intricate and formal designs that were cut and embossed using the symbolism very popular during the Victorian Era. A heavy black border framed the card of pertinent information about the deceased along with a prayer, poem or sentimental words of remembrance. The cards were meant to be saved and placed in an album or framed as a keepsake often with a lock of hair or a button from a uniform.

By the 20th century the cards were folded with a scene on the front and the deceased's name and information printed inside. As this card grew in popularity it contained more information including poems, photos and artwork.

The Catholic Church began printing holy cards at the same time (that is in the 1700's) and as the volume grew the imagery varied drawing from a list of 10,000 recognized saints. Holy

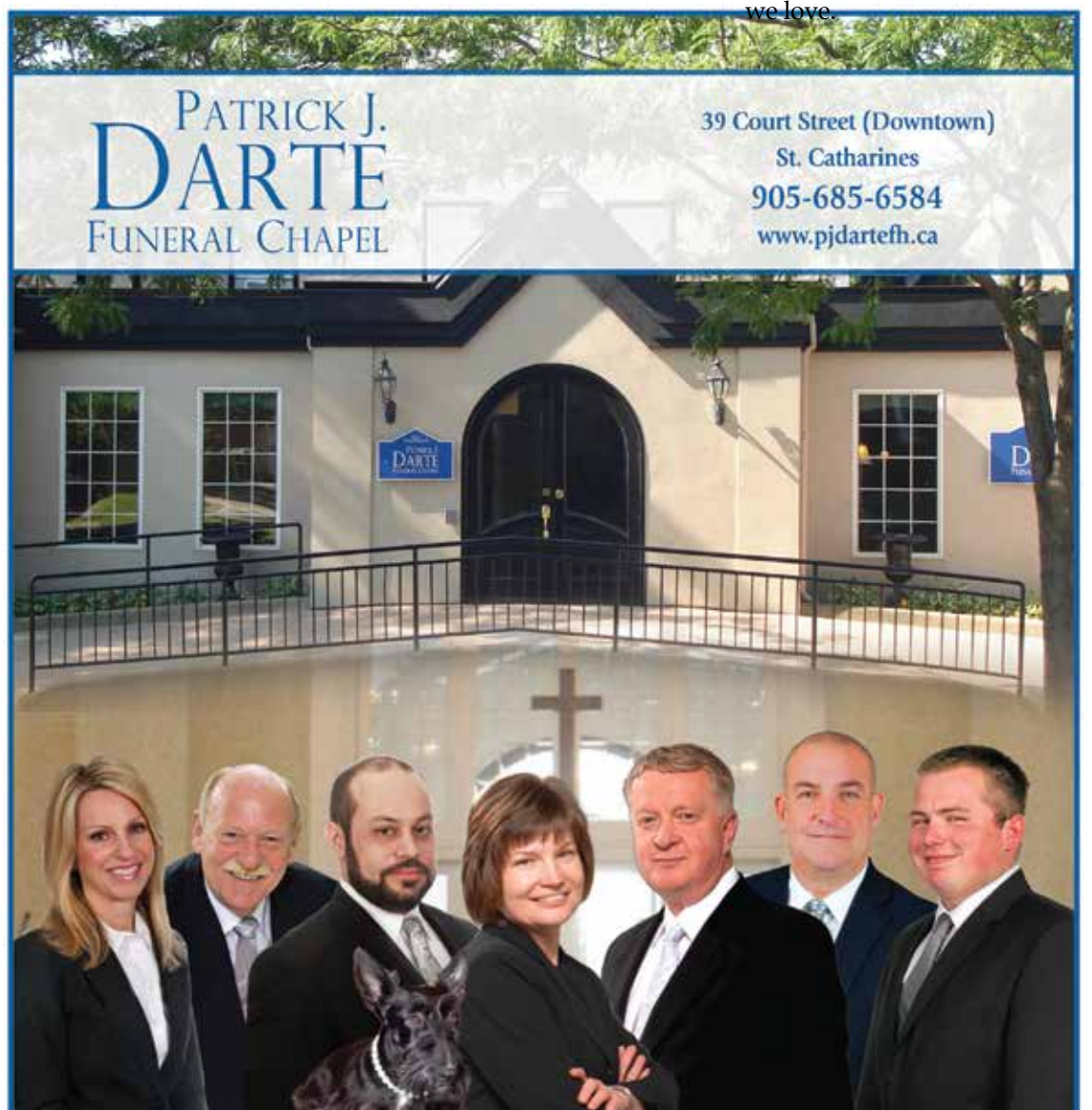
cards became highly collectible and older Catholics remember swapping these cards just as kids today swap baseball and hockey cards. After Vatican II the use of holy cards was relegated more to use as In Memoriam cards.

Many of my older In Memoriam cards go back to the earlier era when the imagery was either a picture of the Blessed Virgin, Sacred Heart, Holy Family or one of a select few saints. On the reverse was a similar format, name of the deceased, dates of birth and death and a prayer.

These cards also mentioned indulgences and/or quarantines. Indulgences are prayers to be offered for the deceased, by the holder of the card, for the number of days specified, asking for forgiveness of any sins the deceased may have committed while on earth. A quarantine is for a specified time of 40 days of prayer by the cardholder.

Contemporary cards come in a vast array of choices: religious, landscapes, hobbies, sport. Today, prayers have been replaced for the most part by poems and remembrances selected from a variety of sources. The cards are usually distributed at the visitation, wake, funeral or memorial service or they may be sent to those who were unable to attend the services.

Call them mourning cards or memorial cards, these keepsake remembrances are part of a funeral custom we continue to practice—a traditional way in which we offer a lasting tribute to those we love.





OUT OF THE COLD

Assistance for those in need in the Niagara area
November 2019 – March 2020

Out of the Cold – St. Catharines

November 2019 – March 2020
Hot meal 6 p.m.

- Meals**
- Sunday:** Knights of Columbus Hall
235 Church Street
 - Monday:** Silver Spire United Church
366 St. Paul Street
 - Tuesday:** Cathedral of St. Catherine Catholic Church
67 Church Street
 - Wednesday:** St. George Anglican Church
83 Church Street
 - Thursday:** St. Alfred Roman Catholic Church
272 Vine Street
 - Friday:** Knox Presbyterian Church
53 Church Street
 - Saturday:** Queen St. Baptist Church
57 Queen Street

All Overnights at:
Westminster United Church
180 Queenston St., St. Catharines

Out of the Cold: 905-984-5310 ext. 103

Niagara Falls Community Outreach

(Soup Kitchen & Emergency Shelter)
November 2019 – March 2020
Lawrence Avenue Christ Church
Dinner 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

- 1st Sunday:** St. John Anglican
- 2nd Sunday:** Fallsview Brethren in Christ
- 3rd Sunday:** Holy Trinity Anglican
- 4th Sunday:** Church of Christ of Latter Day Saints
- 5th Sunday:** Ecumenical Partners

- Monday:** Glengate Alliance Church
- Tuesday:** Our Lady of the Scapular Catholic Church
- Wednesday:** Saint Paul Catholic High School
- Thursday:** Dutch Reform Church & Stamford Lane United
- Friday:** Saint Michael Catholic & Stamford High Schs.
- Saturday:** St. Andrew United Church

Out of the Cold: 905-354-1640

Harvest Kitchen – Welland

November 2019 – March 2020
Hot meal (no overnight)
905-788-0744

Sunday: 5 p.m. Central United Church 12 Young Street
Thursday: 5 p.m. 1st & 2nd Thursday – Hope Centre 570 King St

Monday: 5:30 p.m. 3rd Thursday – Holy Trinity Anglican
Sacré-Coeur Catholic Church Market Square (use back door)
72 Empire Street

Tuesday: 5:30 p.m. 4th & 5th Thursday
Hope Centre Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church
570 King Street 259 Beatrice Street

Wednesday: 5 p.m. St. Kevin Catholic Church 307 Niagara Street
Friday: 5 p.m. Southridge Church 414 River Road

Christmas Day: Holy Trinity Anglican Church 1 p.m.

Emergency Shelter – 905-714-5007



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www.carmelniagara.com

- April 8 Seder Meal
Presenter: Fr. Craig Morrison
- April 8-12 Holy Week Retreat and Triduum
Presenters: Ministerial Team
- May 15-17 Seasons of Grief Retreat
Presenter: Anna Racine
- June 5-7 Soul Care Retreat for Women
Presenter: Cathy Hardy
- June 14-20 Icon Writing Workshop
Presenter: Phil Zimmerman



Coming Events

THE BULLETIN BOARD

CWL Convention: The 2020 diocesan CWL convention will begin May 12 with Mass at St. Thomas More, Niagara Falls, 6:30 p.m. followed by a reception. It continues May 13 at the Americana Conference Resort, 8444 Lundy's Lane, Niagara Falls. To register contact a council president.

Holy Land Pilgrimage: Join Fr. Greg Schmidt, St. Julia, St. Catharines, on pilgrimage to the Holy Land February 4-15, 2021. Capernaum, Nazareth, Jericho, Bethlehem, Jerusalem and Tel Aviv as well as other points of interest will be visited. For registration and information contact Ineke Brinkman, 905-684-0888.

Quebec Pilgrimage: The Italian Association at Our Lady of the Holy Rosary, Thorold, will be hosting a 4-day pilgrimage to Quebec July 24-27, 2020. Destinations will include St. Joseph Oratory, Montreal; Cap-de-la-Madeleine, Trois Rivières; Lourdes, Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Basilica of St. Anne de Beaupré, Quebec City. Package includes bus, lodging and meals. Contact Margaret Cosentini 905-227-9236 for information.

On-Going

Bingo: St. Helen, Beamsville, hosts a bingo every Thursday at the Royal Canadian Legion, 5545 King St. West (Hwy #8) at 11 a.m. There will be \$10 strip book packages and other special games available, a licensed bar and a \$1,000 cash prize each week. This is one of many fundraising activities planned to assist in reducing the debt incurred building the

new St. Helen church.

Emotions Anonymous (EA): A support group for anyone with the desire to become well emotionally. EA is a 12-step organization that meets weekly with the purpose of working towards recovery from emotional difficulties. Meetings are held Tuesdays at Mt. Carmel Spiritual Centre, Niagara Falls, 7-8 p.m. For information contact Fr. Chris 905-356-4113 or www.emotionsanonymous.org

Franciscan Third Order Fraternity (ofs): Are you called to a Franciscan vocation? Attend a meeting for information. In the Welland area, meetings are held 1st Sunday of each month, St. Kevin, 2 p.m. Contact Louise Cowan, ofs, 905-732-4063; in the St. Catharines area, meetings are held 3rd Sunday of each month. Contact Leona Watson, ofs, 905-937-0227.

Hotel Dieu Shaver Gift Shop: The Hotel Dieu Shaver Rehab Auxiliary Gift Shop (905-685-1381 x 84361) offers spiritual items and unique giftware that includes jewelry, purses, seasonal gifts, pashmina scarves, photo frames, framed wall art, china pieces, vases, jewelry boxes, stuffed animals, etc. The stock changes regularly making it a wonderful place to shop for any family member. Open Monday-Friday 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.; Saturday, Sunday, Holidays 1-4 p.m.

Hotel Dieu Shaver Volunteers: The Hotel Dieu Shaver Health and Rehabilitation Centre has openings available for

volunteers at the coffee shop, gift shop, Nevada ticket sales, bingo and Eucharistic ministry. Contact 905-685-1381 ext. 85302 or volunteer@hoteldieushaver.org

Jericho House: Located in Wainfleet, Jericho House is an ecumenical and inter-faith youth leadership, justice (social and ecological) and spirituality centre rooted in the Catholic tradition. It provides programs and experiences in a respectful, supportive and inclusive environment. It also provides hospitality to individuals and groups who wish to facilitate their own programs. It is ideal for retreats, conferences, workshops, seminars, luncheons and other occasions. For information contact 905-834-0553 or www.jerichohouse.org

Marriage Encounter: For married couples looking to restore communication and rekindle romance, this program is designed to help share concerns, feelings and expectations in a non-confrontational way. A very private experience called a weekend of discovery, leading to a lifetime of love. Visit www.wwme.org for information and registration.

Marriage Preparation: Engaged couples planning to be married in the Catholic Church are expected to take a marriage preparation course or an Engaged Encounter weekend. Parishes have the 2020 schedule with information about dates and places or look online at www.saintcd.com

Marriage Tribunal: If you are considering remarriage in the Catholic Church at some point, or hoping to enter a marriage with someone previously married, you should speak to a priest or contact the diocesan Catholic Marriage Tribunal in St. Catharines, 905-687-8817 or tribunal@saintcd.com

Natural Family Planning: For information contact Chris & Lena Turner (Serena) 905-643-3375 or Joan Kenny (Billings) 905-680-4154.

Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Shrine: Open year-round, 4706 Miller Road, Port Colborne, situated in a rustic wooded area providing a special place where people can gather to reflect or enjoy solitary prayer. From May-October the rosary is recited Thursday at 7 p.m. followed by Mass. The shrine has large grounds, a meeting room and gift shop; donations of gently used religious articles are gratefully appreciated. The facilities are available for retreats and gatherings. For information call Cathy Kruger 905-732-7479, Carmelle Dube 905-788-9982 or visit www.rosaryshrine Niagara.com

Pasta Dinner: St. Alfred, St. Catharines, hosts a pasta dinner the 4th Wednesday of every month 4:30 - 7:00 p.m. Enjoy penne, meatballs, sausage, salad and roll; cost—adults \$11; children 10 years and under \$7. Eat in or take out. Tickets available at the door.

Prayer Group: The Padre Pio prayer group meets the 4th Friday of the month, January-August, at Our Lady of the

Holy Rosary, Thorold. The celebration begins at 6 p.m. with the rosary followed by Mass. Everyone welcome.

Retrouvaille: If your marriage needs help, Retrouvaille could be a lifeline. This is a process designed to heal and renew troubled marriages. The focus is on communication and provides couples with an opportunity to rediscover themselves and their marriage relationship. For information, in strictest confidence, contact 905-664-5212 or retrouvaille.hamilton@cogeco.ca

Sacrament of Penance: Confessions available 8 - 9 p.m. every Monday - Friday at St. Denis, 230 Lake Street, St. Catharines.

Salt + Light TV: Salt + Light is available in Ontario on Rogers Digital Cable (395), Cogeco Digital Cable (185 in specific areas) and Mountain Digital Cable (387). For information visit www.saltandlighttv.org or call 1-888-302-7181.

Spanish Mass: Held at St. Alfred, St. Catharines, 7:30 p.m. Saturday. For information call 905-934-9703.

Vineyard on-line: Go to *Vineyard* on-line through the diocesan website—saintcd.com

Warehouse of Hope: Wanted—a few good men, for a couple hours a month or so, to help fill containers of relief goods, mostly school desks, chairs, mattresses, or boxes and bags of small items. A tow motor assists with the heavy material and takes 2-3 hours to load a 40' container (about 12 containers a year). No long-term or regular commitment required—just a few hours, once in a while. Please consider volunteering. The perks? Nice people to work with, generous coffee breaks, and the satisfaction of helping the poorest of the poor. For information call 905-646-7237. If no one answers leave a name and number to get a call back.

Warehouse of Hope Recycling: The Niagara Warehouse of Hope is able to recycle used electronics, small appliances, stereos, TVs, computers and accessories (working or not). Bring items Monday-Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. and place them in the drop-off house at the back of the warehouse building, 46 Broadway Ave, St. Catharines.

**Annual Diocesan
Respect For Life
Mass**

Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord
Wednesday March 25, 2020, 7 p.m.
Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria

Presider: Bishop Gerard Bergie

Reception to follow in the parish hall
hosted by the diocesan CWL
Information: St. Catharines Right to Life
905-684-7505

March for Life

May 14- 15, 2020
Ottawa, Ontario

For information:
St. Catharines Right to Life
905-684-7505
Welland / Port Colborne Pro-Life
905-714-0547
or visit ChooseLife.ca

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Ed & Ruth-Ann Nieuwesteeg



HOLY WEEK APRIL 6 – 11, 2020

National Catholic Mission 2020



PART 1: The Sacrament of Baptism
PART 2: The Anointing of the Sick

TOUCHING GOD'S COMPASSION

OUR MISSION LEADER:

Most Reverend Gerard Bergie – Bishop of St. Catharines

Bishop Gerard Paul Bergie was installed as Bishop of the Diocese of St. Catharines on November 9, 2010. He received a master's degree in Divinity from the University of Western Ontario in 1983 and a licentiate in Canon Law from the University of Saint Thomas Aquinas (the Angelicum) in Rome in 1991.



BROADCAST DATES: April 6 – 11, 2020 (Check your local listings as times are subject to change)

VisionTV

(Broadcast Nationally)

Part 1: Monday, April 6
8:00 PM & 11:00 PM (Eastern Time)

Part 2: Tuesday, April 7
8:00 PM & 11:00 PM (Eastern Time)

Salt + Light Catholic TV:

(Broadcast Nationally)

Part 1: Tuesday, April 7
8:00 PM & Midnight (Eastern Time)

Part 2: Wednesday, April 8
8:00 PM & Midnight (Eastern Time)

REBROADCAST

The Mission will be shown during regular Daily TV Mass times.

Good Friday – Part 1: The Sacrament of Baptism
Holy Saturday – Part 2: The Anointing of the Sick



Call Toll Free: 1-888-383-6277
www.dailytvmass.com

>> WATCH ONLINE (from Monday, April 6, 2020)
www.dailytvmass.com youtube.com/dailytvmass



Holy Cross Cemetery



Operated by the Diocese of St. Catharines
50 Woodlawn Road, Welland.

We offer a comforting atmosphere in which our Catholic faith is celebrated and love for family and friends is remembered. A selection of burial services is available including ground burial, cremation and above ground cremation placement. For further information call: 905-734-4172