



Third Sunday of Lent
Sunday March 15, 2020
Liturgical Year A



Mass Intentions March 14 to 22

We have lots of week day mass intentions available. Mass intentions can be for celebrating special occasions like a Birthday, Anniversary, Wedding and a Graduation.

Saturday March 14

5:00pm + **Franc Saje**
 (Requested by Marija Mikuh)

Sunday March 15

9:00am + **Mary DeSantis**
 (Requested by Librock Family)

+ **Ann Marie Carr**
 (Requested by McCafferty Family)

11:00am **For the People of St. Mary's Parish both Living & Deceased**

Monday March 16

No Morning Mass

Tuesday March 17 **Will be held in Church not at Extencicare**

9:00am **Special Intention for Father Mathew**
 (Requested by Mary Laughlin)

Wednesday March 18

9:00am + **David Smith**
 (Requested by Pat Smith)

Thursday March 19

9:00am + **Mary Velicevic**
 (Requested by Mary Laughlin)

Friday March 20

6:30pm **Stations of the Cross**

7:00pm **Special Intention Darlene Venditti**
 (Requested by Mary Laughlin)

Saturday March 21

5:00pm + **Anthony Fiore**
 (Requested by Family)

+ **Theresa Barnes**
 (Requested by Gerald & Geraldine Perry)

Sunday March 22

9:00am + **Donald DeSantis**
 (Requested by Librock Family)

11:00am **For the People of St. Mary's Parish both Living & Deceased**

+ **Edward Susa**
 (Requested by Susa Family)

Listening to Jesus

In today's [Gospel](#), Jesus promises the Samaritan woman "living water which shall become a fountain within her, leaping up to provide eternal life." The liturgy on this Lenten Sunday places Jesus' promise within the context of the Exodus account of water coming from the rock of Horeb.

The Responsorial [Psalm 95](#) refers both to the "Rock of our salvation" and also to hardened hearts. On the one hand, there is the Rock from which the water of eternal life flows (God). On the other hand, there are rocks (our hearts) which we seek to soften in Lent by "prayer, fasting and works of mercy."

We believe, with Paul, that "the love of God has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit." That love of God should make us a forgiving people, one that enables the world to "be brought together in unity and peace."

Our goal is to "harden not our hearts:" to be concerned for the poor and suffering, to forgive the criminal, to welcome the stranger, to love our enemies.

"If only you recognized God's gift. ... "

By becoming for people a model of merciful love for others, Christ proclaims by his actions even more than by his words that call to mercy which is one of the essential elements of the gospel ethos.

In this instance it is not just a case of fulfilling a commandment or an obligation of an ethical nature: it is also a case of satisfying a condition of major importance for God to reveal himself in his mercy to man: "The merciful ... shall obtain mercy."

Pope John Paul II, *Dives in Misericordia*, 1980: 3

Gerald Darring

Sacrament of Penance

On Saturday, March 28, 2020 in every Parish Church across the Diocese a Priest will be available from 10:00am – 2:00pm to hear individual Confessions. There will also be Eucharistic Adoration during this time. No matter how long it has been, you are welcome to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance, which assists us in spiritual discipline as we turn away from sin and open our hearts to reconciliation and healing; or you can also simply come to pray before the Lord.



Our prayers and condolences go out to the family of **Gerry Richardson** who passed away on March 8, 2020. St Mary of the Assumption was very fortunate to have Gerry as a parishioner. For many years he was our sacristan, our head altar server or what ever we needed him for, he was there. After when he wasn't able to help anymore he would always call or stop in and see how everything was. May you rest in peace Gerry!



Stations of the Cross

The Stations of the Cross is a Lenten devotion that offers witness to Jesus' Passion and Death. At each station we use our senses and our imagination to reflect prayerfully upon Jesus' Suffering, Death, and Resurrection, and

to simply experience the visual images to reflect on Christ's love for us. **Please join us every Friday during Lent at 6:30pm for Stations of the Cross followed by Mass to deepen your faith.**

Knights of Columbus

The next meeting for the Knights of Columbus is on Tuesday March 17, 2020 at 7:30pm. All men of the Parish are welcome.

First Reconciliation

First Reconciliation will be cancelled due to the closing of the schools for two weeks after the March break. A new date will be set after Easter.

Knitting Group

The next knitting group will be held in the Church Hall at 9:30am on **March 18, 2020.**

Actors Needed

We are looking for children grade four and up to re-enact the Passion on Good Friday at 11:00am. Volunteer hours will be given for this. Please contact Mary Dewein at 905-688-2584 if your child is interested.

This Lent, give from the heart.



The Mura: beset by buffaloes, plagued by potash

For several years now, the Mura people of Brazil's Amazonas state have sought to assert their claim to their ancestral lands. To their frustration however, it has been much easier for cattle herders and a potash mine to occupy and control those lands than it has been for them to have their rights respected. Development and Peace's partner, the Indigenous Missionary Council (CIMI), helps them advocate for, defend and publicize their cause more effectively.

"On behalf of the Mura in my region, I want to thank Canadians. We are very happy to have your support. It helps us in our struggle to have our rights and our land respected." — Jeremias Oliveira, representative of the Mura community, Brazil

Watch the Mura's testimony at devp.org/campaign/mura.

40 Days of Life- annual event where Parishes from across the region are assigned one day from Feb 26 to April 5 to pray silently to end abortion in front of the greater Niagara General Hospital. Our Parish was assigned Friday April 3, 2020. St Thomas of Aquinas shared the same day with us last year and will do so again this year. Parishioners will be asked to sign up for 1 or 2 hours from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm. We need two people to attend each hour. Sign-up sheet will be at the back of the Church. Linda Warkentin will co-ordinate with St Thomas Aquinas to ensure all times on the sign up sheet are filled. Posters "pray to end abortion" and "picture of baby" can be picked up in the Knights of Columbus Hall (2 minute walk from hospital) parking lot in a red box.

Annual Diocesan RESPECT FOR LIFE MASS

Presider
Most Reverend Gerard Bergie, D.D.
Bishop of St. Catharines
 Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria
 Wednesday, March 25 2020 at 7:00 p.m.
Reception to follow in the Parish Hall
Hosted by the Diocesan CWL

Schedule of Ministries

	Saturday March 21 5:00pm	Sunday March 22 9:00am	Sunday March 22 11:00am
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	(A) Dolores Polgrabia (B) Francine Horton	(A) Jennifer Sharron (B) Pat Smith	(A) Sisters of Sacred (B) Michelle Hitchcock
Minister of the Word	(A) Charlotte Chan (B) Rachel White	(A) Jennifer Sharron (B) Mary Ann Tierney	(A) Anne Marie Crocco (B) Miracle DeRaaf
Altar Servers	Carmenmarie Dewein Sara White	Sara Vandervaart Josh Vandervaart Zoe Taraba-Blair	Sara Elder Will Kim
Ministers of Hospitality	John Neely John Bialik	Wayne Bittman Frank Young	Silvio Palumbi
Homebound	Ann Roscoe & Kathleen Clohessy		
Nursing Homes	Jennifer Sharron		

Please be here 15-20 min before the start of Mass to prepare