

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

Monday, February 27

No Mass

Tuesday, February 28

7:00 p.m. Thomas and Beatrice Langan
Intention of Tim Kreze

Wednesday, March 1 – Ash Wednesday

8:00 a.m. Ferdinand Polanic
7:00 p.m. Paul Kloepfer

Thursday, March 2

8:00 a.m. In Thanksgiving
6:30 p.m. Living and Deceased Members of CWL

Friday, March 3

8:00 a.m. Reverend Bob Walz
Joyce Shewchuk
Special Intention

Saturday, March 4

5:00 p.m. Marie and Waldemar Wagner
Kurt Sommer
Ed Cerant
John and Mary Hare
Benjamin Rothwell

PARISH ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, February 26

10:30 a.m. First Communion Enrolment
12:30 p.m. Baptisms
5:00 p.m. St. Paul Chung Mass

Tuesday, February 28

5:00 p.m. Pancake Supper (Shrove Tuesday)

Wednesday, March 1

7:00 p.m. RCIA
7:00 p.m. Contemporary Choir

Thursday, March 2

7:00 p.m. CWL Mini Lenten Retreat
7:30 p.m. Sunday Choir

Friday, March 3

2:00 p.m. World Day of Prayer

Saturday, March 4

8:00 a.m. Cursillo
5:00 p.m. First Communion Enrolment

Sunday, March 5

Coffee Sunday following 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Masses
10:30 a.m. First Communion Enrolment
5:00 p.m. St. Paul Chung Mass

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

February 25, 26, 2017

Isaiah 49:14-15
6:24-34

1 Corinthians 4:1-5

Matthew

TRUST IN GOD AT ALL TIMES

The pursuit of wealth drives the ups and downs of our economies. We are all affected by stock market speculation, the price of oil, the value of the dollar and interest rates. We can get caught up in a desire for more money and things to improve our lifestyles. Many of us try to keep up with cultural expectation that success, security and fulfillment can be found by pursuing wealth. Today's gospel challenges this narrow focus on wealth. Jesus tells us followers not to worry, as nature's abundance clearly demonstrates how much God loves us. When, as Jesus suggests, I reflect on the splendor of flowers with their breathtaking detail and beauty, I am deeply moved by the wonder of God's generosity and care. I am also humbled by Jesus' insight that if God so clothes the grass of the field, God will surely take care of us even more so.



Jesus' teaching reminds me that all Christians are called to a distinct way of life. We are called to trust in God who knows what we need and to believe that God will give it to us. The challenge is to put our faith in this reality. In the Eucharist today, let us express gratitude for God's amazing love and allow God to be our source of nourishment, security and hope.

LENT!

This Holy Season will soon be with us. Please note that each Tuesday evening in Lent, except the Tuesday of Holy Week, we will celebrate Mass at **7:00 p.m.** followed by the Stations of the Cross. Also, a reminder that both Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. May your Lenten season be blessed!

DIOCESAN PRAYER CALENDAR

This week we especially pray for:

Monday Reverend Duy Van Nguyen
Tuesday Reverend Francis Hubilla
Wednesday Ash Wednesday
Thursday Reverend Peter Meyer
Friday Reverend James Petrie
Saturday Reverend Joe Selvanayagam

Eternal Father, we lift up to you these and all the priests, religious and lay ministers of the world. Sanctify them. Heal them; guide them. Mold them into the likeness and holiness of your Son, Jesus, the Eternal High Priest. May their lives be pleasing to You. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



FORGIVEN SERIES

Our Lenten faith-formation series, *Forgiven*, will begin on Wednesday, March 8th at 7:00 p.m. The series will continue weekly and conclude before Palm Sunday. For those with busy weeknight schedules, there will be an encore presentation of Wednesday's video on Saturday mornings at 10:00 a.m. For those who didn't see the trailer at one of our Sunday Masses, or if you would like to preview an excerpt from the series, visit: www.lighthousecatholicmedia.org/forgiven. Study guides will be available for purchase (\$20) for those who wish to participate in a more in-depth study and some discussion, but you are more than welcome to attend, watch the presentation, and then adjourn for some private prayer and reflection. Please see the outline of dates and topics below:

- **March 8** **Where Are You?**
March 11
- **March 15** **An Encounter with Mercy**
March 18
- **March 22** **The Rite Explained**
March 25
- **March 29** **Biblical Foundations: Sin, Mercy, and Confession**
April 1
- **April 5** **Answering Common Questions about Confession**
April 8
-

DISPOSAL OF BLESSED PALMS

Many parishioners are unaware of the fact that we do not prepare our own ashes on-site by burning palms blessed the previous year on Palm Sunday. While this is a venerable and noble practice of old, the burning of palms for ashes is actually a complicated process, and tends to incur the ire of neighbours (and fire department officials). Ashes prepared perfectly for distribution are, instead, shipped to us by one of our usual liturgical suppliers. Though we should avoid disposing of blessed palms in the garbage, an ideal method would be to simply crumble and scatter them in the garden.



It is our parish's privilege to welcome members of neighboring Christian churches as host of this year's local World Day of Prayer celebration Friday, March 3, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. Our prayer service, "Am I Being Unfair to You?" was prepared by women from the Philippines. Our pastor, Father Allen Varlaki, will preach as we join Christians around the world in prayer. We warmly invite all to join us.



Prayer and action are inseparable. Both have immeasurable influence on the world!

"No one can serve two masters." If God is calling you to serve him as a priest, deacon, brother or sister, contact Father Michael King, Director of Vocations and Priestly Formation, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988 or [email mking@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:mking@hamiltondiocese.com)



CANADIAN FOOD FOR

CHILDREN

Canadian Food for Children is in need of cooking oil to send to the needy around the world. The Catholic Women's League will oversee this collection for the month of February and is asking parishioners to contribute cooking oil. Boxes are clearly signed and at the doors of the church. Thanking you for your generosity in advance.



CWL

On Thursday, March 2nd our Catholic Women's League evening will have a spiritual focus as we begin our Lenten journey. The gathering begins with Mass at 6:30 p.m. followed by our Mini Lenten Retreat. This will include a reflection by Bernadette Furman-Arnott on "Mary: Grace in Suffering". Plan to attend and BRING A FRIEND. No general CWL meeting until April 6th.



ANNUAL CARD PARTY

The annual CWL Card Party will take place in the Parish Life Centre on Wednesday, April 26th. Tickets are available at the parish office for \$15.00 each during office hours or by calling Joan Schurter at 519-893-7429.



Tickets will also be sold after all Masses on February 25th and 26th and March 4th and 5th. This is usually a sell-out event so get your tickets soon. Thank you.

WE ARE HOSTING

THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER – MARCH 3, 2017

CONSCIENCE RIGHTS FOR DOCTORS

The College of Physicians and Surgeons of ON requires physicians to make an “effective referral” for assisted suicide and euthanasia. Many Catholic physicians and other caregivers are unable to do this in good conscience and are being forced to choose between their conscience and their careers. Given the introduction of Bill 84 on medical aid in dying at Queen’s Park in December we have the opportunity to push for amendments to the Bill to include conscience protection for all health care workers. We are asking parishioners to contact their MPPs about this important issue. It is important for the Catholic voice in Ontario to be heard.

There is a suite of materials with step by step instructions that can be used to help you speak to your MPP about this topic. Here are the links to the materials and to a video which explains the situation, or you can visit the website at: <http://www.canadiansforconscience.ca/>

Resources: bit.ly/callforconscience
Video: <http://bit.ly/consciencevideo>

No other country in the world requires this kind of violation of conscience. Let’s help make sure Ontario protects the conscience rights of all.

THINKING ABOUT SEPARATION OR DIVORCE?



Is your marriage or that of a relative or friend heading for divorce? Do you know how to save that marriage? Or do you feel helpless? Retrouvaille is designed to help marriages regain their health. It helps spouses re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. The program is highly successful in saving hurting marriages, even bringing reconciliation to couples that have already separated or divorced. For confidential information about, or to register for the program beginning with a weekend on **March 24, 2017**, please call **905-664-5212** or email: hamiltonretrouvaille1@cogeco.ca or visit the web site at www.retrouvaille.org.



BECOME A WINNER

The Catholic Community Foundation (CCF) conducts The Catholic Charities Lottery to help Catholic causes in our schools, parishes and community. Up to 1000 tickets are available at \$100 each! There are bi-weekly draws for \$1000 from May to September. And you can win more than once! Plus there are early bird draws. Go to www.CCFOWR.org to find the ticket application OR call the CCF office at 519-747-5661 and talk to Julie Hause.

NEWS FROM DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

We now begin
Development and
Peace’s annual Share
Lent campaign to

raise awareness and funds for our partner projects in the global south! Enclosed in the bulletin this week, you will find the Share Lent calendar, which will lead you through “act, learn and pray” by focusing on social justice topics affecting women and children in the global south. You can find additional copies and links to videos and educational content at www.devp.org/en/lentcalendar-2017. We especially encourage you to share these videos and games with your children and other young people in your life. You will find links to graphic novels and short video clips that may inspire you or the young person in your life to learn and do more for the oppressed. Many of the videos are narrated by young children in Syria, Indonesia and other conflict ridden places – they speak the truth, but also bring a message of hope for us. If you would like to get more involved in Development and Peace at the parish level, please contact our parish’s coordinator, Rebecca at gorebgo@hotmail.com. Your D and P committee prays that these materials bring you closer to the spiritual lessons of Lent.

WORTH A SECOND LOOK

"Worth a Second Look" thrift shop, located at the former location of St. Vincent de Paul, is looking for donations. We are a charity that is a project of the Working Centre. Our goal is to provide low cost furniture and housewares to the community and helping to support many of our projects including Saint John's Kitchen.



Items requested are:

- Furniture
- All decorator items
- Small electrical appliances
- Clean household items
- Books and current magazines
- Health and beauty products
- Jewellery
- Crafts and art supplies
- All collectibles
- Music and movies
- Toys
- Gardening and hardware items

Items can be dropped off at 97 Victoria Street North (entrance off of Duke or Weber Sts. at Heit Lane). Pickups are available for larger donations by calling ([519-569-7566 Ext. 1](tel:519-569-7566)) to make an appointment. Thanking you in advance for your help.