



Mass Intentions

Mar. 15 Saturday - Saint Louise de Marillac

5:00 Antonio Rizzo – by wife Maria & family

Mar. 16 Sunday – SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

9:00 Benedetto DiRienzo – by moglie Angelina
 Nick & Rose Grosso – by Mary Mauriello
 Maria Girolamo – by son Rocco & family
 Luigino Maruca – by family
 Francesco LaRosa – by moglie Carmela/family
 In Onore della **Madonna Addolorata** – by
 Maria DiRienzo

11:00 For All the Deceased of the Parish
 For the Needs of All Parishioners

Mar. 17 Monday - Saint Patrick - NO MASS

Mar. 18 Tuesday - Saint Cyril of Jerusalem

8:00 Louis & Philamena Fiorentino – by Lisa & Jim

Mar. 19 Wednesday - Saint Joseph/San Giuseppe

8:00 Giuseppe Gulla – by moglie Gilda & family

Mar. 20 Thursday - Saint Salvator of Horta

8:00 Bert & Lou Barnley – by Michael Simmonds
 Gino Mazzei – by wife Agata & family

Mar. 21 Friday - Blessed John of Parma

9:00 Paul J. Aleo – by friends & family
 Antonio Elia – by Rita Morocco
 Gildo Luvison – by friends & family

9:30 Stations of the Cross – Via Crucis
 7:00pm Stations of the Cross – Via Crucis

Mar. 22 Saturday - Saint Nicholas Owen

5:00 For All the Deceased of the Parish
 For the Needs of All Parishioners

Mar. 23 Sunday – THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

9:00 Lili Martuccio-Custode – by dad Joe & family
 Luigi, Maria, Rosetta Mauriello – by Mary M.
 Antonio, Maria, Emidio Coladonato – by
 Anna & Pasquale DelVecchio
 Stella Casucci - by sister Lina Fazio & family
 Francesco Scialdone – by children Nina,
 Saverio & families

11:00 In Onore della **MADONNA ADDOLORATA** –
 COMITATO

GOSPEL MESSAGE

The Transfiguration (a complete change of form into a more beautiful spiritual state and a radiant glory) offers us hope and guidance. Transfiguration is spiritual renewal and invites us to “Listen to Jesus” through prayer and Scripture and create a deeper relationship with Christ.

MESSAGGIO DEL VANGELO

La Trasfigurazione (una trasformazione completa di forma in uno stato spirituale più bello e una gloria radiosa) ci offre speranza e guida. La Trasfigurazione è un rinnovamento spirituale e ci invita ad “Ascoltare Gesù” attraverso la preghiera e la Scrittura e a creare una relazione più profonda con Cristo.

WEEKLY QUOTE

“...silence the sounds of arms,...overcome division,...tear down walls of division and dispel hatred...”
 (Pope Francis, Urbi et Orbe 2024)

We Christians identify the Cross as a symbol of salvation, grace of God’s love for humanity, not just a sign of hardship and suffering.

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
Embracing Transfiguration

“Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them...”

On this second Sunday of Lent, we move from Jesus’ retreat to the desert and temptation by the devil to the glory shown in Jesus’ Transfiguration.

The Transfiguration occurs on a mountain in the presence of just three of Jesus’ disciples – Peter, James and John, who were sleeping while Jesus prayed. As they awake, Peter and the disciples see Jesus Transfigured and Elijah and Moses present and conversing with Jesus.

The disciples keep secret what they have seen until they also witness his Passion and death when they finally come to an understanding of the Transfiguration.

In his Transfiguration, we see an anticipation of the glory of Jesus’ Resurrection as we prepare to remember Jesus’ Passion and death.

Reflection: On an individual level, Lent is a time of learning to “die” to the habits and patterns that keep us from God so that we can rise with Christ at Easter, renewed and strengthened.

On a societal level, Pope Francis is calling us as a human family to “die” to patterns that reinforce a culture of death and indifference so that our world can be transfigured by love and solidarity.

**MESSAGE OF THE HOLY FATHER -
POPE FRANCIS – Lent 2025
*Let us journey together in hope***

My dear brothers and sisters,

We begin our annual pilgrimage of Lent in faith and hope with the penitential rite of the imposition of ashes. The Church, our mother and teacher, invites us to open our hearts to God's grace, so that we can celebrate with great joy the paschal victory of Christ the Lord over sin and death, which led Saint Paul to exclaim: "Death has been swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" (1 Cor 15:54-55). Indeed, Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is the heart of our faith and the pledge of our hope in the Father's great promise, already fulfilled in his beloved Son: life eternal (cf. Jn 10:28; 17:3).

This Lent as we share in the grace of the Jubilee Year, I would like to propose a few reflections on what it means to *journey together in hope*, and on the summons to conversion that God in his mercy addresses to all of us, as individuals and as a community.

First of all to *journey*. ...Am I really on a journey, or am I standing still, not moving, either immobilized by fear and hopelessness or reluctant to move out of my comfort zone? Am I seeking ways to leave behind the occasions of sin and situations that degrade my dignity?

...Second, to *journey together*. The Church is called to walk together, to be synodal. Christians are called to walk at the side of others, and never as lone travelers. ...It means walking side-by-side, without shoving or stepping on others, without envy or hypocrisy, without letting Anyone e left behind or excluded. Let us all walk in the same direction, tending towards the same goal, attentive to one another in love and patience.

...Third, let us *journey together in hope*, for we have been given a promise. May the hope that does not disappoint (cf. Rom 5:5), the central message of the Jubilee, be the focus of our Lenten journey towards the victory of Easter. This then is the third call to conversion: a call to hope, to trust in God and his great promise of eternal life. Do I concretely experience hope that enables me to interpret the events of history and inspires in me a commitment to justice and fraternity, to care for our common home and in such a way that no one feels excluded?

Sisters and brothers, thanks to God's love in Jesus Christ, we are sustained in the hope that does not disappoint (cf. Rom 5:5). Hope is the "sure and steadfast anchor of the soul. It moves the Church to pray for "everyone to be saved" (1 Tim 2:4) and to look forward to her being united with Christ, her bridegroom in the glory of heaven. This was the prayer of Saint Teresa of Avila: "Hope, O my soul, hope. You know neither the day nor the hour. Watch carefully, for everything passes quickly, even though your impatience makes doubtful what is certain, and turns a very short time into a long one" (*The Exclamations of the Soul to God* 15:3).

May the Virgin Mary, Mother of Hope, intercede for us and accompany us on our Lenten journey.

Rome, Saint John Lateran – 6 February 2025
POPE FRANCIS

LENTEN FRIDAYS – Days of Abstinence – No Meat

In Canada, by decree of the Canadian Bishops, first preference is abstaining from meat but "*on Fridays it is permitted to substitute abstinence or fasting with other forms of penance, especially works of charity.*"(c.1253)

**PILGRIMS OF HOPE – JUBILEE 2025
DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE SITES**

Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria -St.Catharines
St. Vincent de Paul Church – Niagara-on-the-Lake
Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Shrine–Welland, ON
Gethsamane Ministries – Wellandport, ON
Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre-Niagara Falls,ON

MESSAGES OF HOPE – SPEAKER SERIES

March 18th 2025 – Speaker: Nick Ali, Director of Evangelization
April 30th 2025 – Speaker: Fr. Peter Rowe, Pastor-St.V de Paul
Please visit the 'Around the Diocese' page of the diocesan website or Facebook page for more information.

**3-MONTH REPORT
MONTHLY COLLECTION/EXPENSES**

December Collections	\$14,646.40
Christmas Collections	3,060.00
December Expenses	23,963.87
January Collections	\$18,367.76
January Expenses	24,474.37
February Collections	6,772.21
February Expenses	19,454.62

TODAY IS COFFEE SUNDAY

All parishioners and visitors are invited this weekend for Coffee and Refreshments in the Parish Hall. This Coffee Weekend is being sponsored by Gianpaolo, Christine & Marina in loving memory of Claudio Andreis. Please join us after each Mass for a time of fellowship and refreshments.

ST. JOSEPH TABLE – March 16th

Sunday, March 16th after the 9:00am Mass, Fr. Kessete will be blessing a Table dedicated to St. Joseph (Feast Day March 19th). Our bakers have generously donated homemade baked goods which we will be selling as a church fundraiser after the 9am and 11am masses.

**NIAGARA FOUNDATION for CATHOLIC EDUCATION
ANNUAL BENEFIT GALA -27th March 2025
CLUB ROMA – 6:00pm - \$100.pp
Email: linda.marconi@ncdsb.com**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK
& THE HOMEBOUND**

Ronald Bennett, Angelina Cameli, Rita Cameli,
Domenic Calabrese, Angelina DiRienzo,
Maria DiRienzo, Beatriz Disch,
George Ellis, Carmen Fabiani,
Sam Fiore, Jenny Green, Virginia McConnell
Agueda Maria Melo, Patricia Millington,
Vincenzina Pascuzzi,
Don Taddeo, Marianna Weber

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

On Saturday-April 5, 2025 in every parish church across the diocese, a priest will be available from 10am -2pm to hear individual confessions. 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

If possible, please remember St. Ann Church when directing donations in making funeral arrangements for oneself or for a loved one. Your thoughtfulness and consideration during a difficult time is much appreciated.