



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT – 05 MARCH 2006

“The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

(Today's Readings: Genesis: 9:8-15; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:12-15)

Announced mass intentions...

Sat., Mar. 04	5:00PM Mass – Holy Cross Parishioners
Sun., Mar. 05	First Sunday of Lent 8:00AM Mass – Georgette Danis+ 9:30AM Mass – Francis Bolduc+ Bosko Masanovich+ 11:15AM Mass – Rosie Huzar+ 7:30PM Mass
Mon., Mar. 06	12:15PM NO Mass
Tues., Mar. 07	12:15PM Mass – Mr. & Mrs. Don Cox+
Wed., Mar. 08	12:15PM Mass – Antonio Todesco+
Thurs., Mar. 09	12:15PM Mass – Gregory Kaweck+ Ella Ross+
Fri., Mar. 10	12:15PM Mass
Sat., Mar. 11	5:00PM Mass – Ernesto Lareza+
Sun., Mar. 12	Second Sunday of Lent 8:00AM Mass – Danica Hartman+ 9:30AM Mass – Edward W.J. Kent+ Pauline Forgues+ 11:15AM Mass – Mary Maurice+ Lillian McCarthy+ Edward McCarthy+ 7:30PM Mass – Holy Cross Parishioners

Events Calendar

Sat., Mar. 04	9:30AM Prayer Group – Rm. A 4:30PM Rosary – Church
Sun., Mar. 05	9:30AM Children's Liturgy 10:30AM Children's Choir practice – Rm. A MPD Food Drive at all the Masses
Mon., Mar. 06	7:00PM MPD – Rm. A 7:30PM K of C Executive meeting
Tues., Mar. 07	7:00PM RCIA – Rm. A 7:30PM Rosary – Church 8:00PM A.A. – Hall
Wed., Mar. 08	7:00PM Pastoral Care – Library 7:30PM Choir (7:30) practice – Church
Thurs., Mar. 09	6:30PM Christian Meditation – Rm. A 7:00PM Come Join Us at The Table #3 7:30PM Choir (11:15) practice – Church 7:30PM Hospitality – Library
Fri., Mar. 10	7:00PM Stations of the Cross lead by the Liturgy Committee
Sat., Mar. 11	9:30AM Prayer Group – Rm. A 4:30PM Rosary – Church
Sun., Mar. 12	9:30AM NO Children's Liturgy

We remember in our prayers the sick...

-our parishioners– Laurette Allen, Morris Anderson (husband of Joyce), Allan Brooks (husband of Gloria), Helen Charbonneau, Emile Chartrand, Clare Desjardins (husband of Alicia), Suzanne Desjardins (daughter of Leo), Ron Dexter (husband of Diane), Margaret FitzGerald, Marie Claire Grandbois, Gertrude Kennedy, Alice Haughton (wife of Bob), Frank Laturnus (husband of Edwina), Eveline Lavoie, Reg MacDonald (husband of Joan), Odette MacKinnon (wife of Leo), Deacon Bruce McLeod, Yolanda Miron (mother of Mina), Mary O'Connor (wife of Al), Grace & Bill Reid, Barbara Riggins, Margaret Ross, Ray Valin (husband of Betty), John Whelly

-relatives– Andy Besserer (son of Colin & Eileen), Robert W. Brown (brother of Laurence), Richard Calagoure (brother-in-law of Barbara Riggins), Patricia Esmond (mother of Liz), Sonya Fernandez (granddaughter of Xavier & Brigitta), Guy Gosselin (brother-in-law of Theresa Sarceвич), Anastasia Gorecki (sister of Theresa Sarceвич), Betty Holmes (sister of Edwina Laturnus), Vivian Hunt (brother of Beryl Budzinski), Cathy Jirsch (sister of Aileen Halls), Nikhil Jose (nephew of Fr. James), Ayin & Godwin Lee (parents of Robert), Jerry Lorbetskie (brother of Dorothy Daub), Oswald Luke (father-in-law of Robert Lee), Louise MacAdam (daughter-in-law of Helen Castle), Marie Miele (mother of Christine), Donald Pajot (brother of Marc), Sonia Pereira (cousin of Marlene Braganza), Simon Schmidt (nephew of Rosemary Uren), Jonathan Seepersad (nephew of Robert Lee), Eleanor Spafford (mother of Barb Goski), Paul Sowinski (brother of Theresa Sarceвич)

-the deceased- Patrick Chatelaine (son of Shirley)

We also pray for our RCIA Candidates: Ron Black, Eric Kramers, David Williams and Wanda Sherratt

Pastor's Column...

YOUR SHOES PLEASE

The 3 catchwords during the Lenten season are:

1. Prayer
2. Fasting
3. Alms giving or acts of charity and mercy

Holy Cross Parish has been very active in the acts of charity and mercy. We have a very active committee (MPD) which concentrates on this aspect of Christian virtue.

This week I am delighted to bring to your attention one of the wonderful and humble acts of charity that MPD does through a few of our parishioners.

So far, they have sent nearly 2000 used shoes to children in the Dominican Republic who would otherwise not be able to go to school or work in the fields. To give shoes is like giving a gift of education to these children who cannot afford a pair. We have a parishioner who washes and cleans the collected shoes (making them look like new) and sends them through the students of St. Mark's High School who visit the Dominican Republic every year. We have a family who takes up this activity close to their hearts. It is heartening to note

that these students bring the bare minimum of their personal belongings during the travel so that they can fill their bags with as many shoes as possible. God bless them.

Sometimes, it becomes a habit for us that we 'feast' too much on materialism and 'fast' too little on our works of charity. Let the examples of these parishioners encourage us to be mindful and sensitive to those needs of our own brothers and sisters around us.

Wishing all of you a fruitful Lenten season.

Fr. James Raphael CMF

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: As we await the resurrection of Jesus Christ, we must prepare ourselves for this very holy time of year. While Easter has become an occasion commonly associated with chocolate bunnies etc, it is important that we do not lose the true significance of the special day. All parishioners (young and old) are welcomed to join in celebrating the life and death of Christ through the Stations of the Cross held each Friday through Lent (please see 'event calendar' for times). Come and join us as we walk through the fourteen stations to experience this powerful way to contemplate, and enter into, the mystery of Jesus' gift of himself to us.

HOLY CROSS' LENTEN MISSION—Theme: "**GOD IS LOVE—LESSONS IN CHRISTIAN LIVING FROM POPE BENEDICT XVI**". Preacher: Fr. John Vandenakker of the Companions of the Cross and music by Glen Pereira (Fiat Praise Band). Dates, time and themes: **Monday, April 03:** "*Why Love is stronger than despair*"—Mission talk, Mass with Marian Consecration; **Tuesday, April 04:** "*Parish Lenten Penitential Service*"—Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Mission Talk, Benediction, Sacrament of Reconciliation; **Wednesday, April 05:** "*Receiving Healing for Body, Mind and Soul*"—Mission talk, Mass with Healing Service. From 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. Come and experience the '**DIVINE TOUCH OF GOD**' and refresh your body and soul with this Lenten (RE)TREAT. All are welcome. A free will offering will be taken for Holy Cross Parish.

Parish News and Community Life...

WELCOME IN JESUS' NAME! We extend our hands and hearts in Christian fellowship to you here celebrating with us, whether long-time residents or newly arrived in the parish. We thank God that you are with us. We would like to personally welcome our newest parishioners who registered with us in February: *Mr. & Mrs. Arden & family, Mr. & Mrs. Chiteta & family, Paulina de Gonzague, Mr. & Mrs. Duprey, Rodney Rear & Nancy Vezina, Mr. & Mrs. Ripley & family and Mr. & Mrs. Turcotte.*

PLEASE NOTE—THERE HAS BEEN A CHANGE: FIRST RECONCILIATION for children preparing for the sacraments of First Communion will take place on **ONE** evening **only** at Holy Cross Church on **Tuesday, March 28 at 7:00 p.m.**

2005 TAX RECEIPTS are available at the back of the church.

ST. PATRICK'S HOME—ANNUAL ERIN LUNCHEON will be held on Friday, March 10 from 11:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. There are still a few tickets available for this function. Cost: \$35. For information call George Lavack at 738-0121.

PASTORAL CARE

Our next meeting is on Wednesday, March 08 at 7 p.m.

Our Pastoral Care Team is ready and willing to serve you our Parishioners! If you would like to access our services please call Simonne Larouche at 738-7590 or the parish office.

Social Action...

MISSION, PEACE, AND DEVELOPMENT

The Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace (D&P) has a vision. Inspired by Gospel values, it demands social justice not pity, for our brothers and sisters in the Global South and calls each of us to share in their vision. In Asia, Africa and Latin America over half the people earn less than \$2 a day. Let's be fair. Let's share the wealth we have. Development and Peace is committed to building partnerships with people who are suffering, so that they may live with dignity and control their own destiny. The Catholic Bishops of Canada have asked that this Lent, we educate ourselves about the work of D&P and show our solidarity with our partners through prayer and donations. Last year our parish gave \$5064 to the Share Lent campaign. Can we do as well again? May we suggest using the lifestyle calendar proposals or putting aside \$2 for each day of Lent? Bring your savings to Mass in your D&P envelopes on Solidarity Sunday, April 02. More information about D&P may be found on the MPD table at the back of the church. Lent – let's make it a time for prayer, fasting and just giving. Our MPD committee hosts local D&P representatives and neighbouring parish reps Monday, March 06 at 7:30 p.m. in room A. We would be pleased to have you join us. "Oh everyone who thirsts, come to the waters." (Isaiah 55:1)

OTTAWA FOYERS PARTAGE

Join Foyers Partage for a dance party Saturday, March 25 at Holy Cross from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. Bring your favourite dance CD's. You can buy dessert and coffee or tea

Other items of interest...

Please see **FRIDAY FAX** posted in the entrance of the Church for further information.

DID YOU KNOW?

ALMSGIVING...

Stewardship: The practice of considering and treating all things, the earth and one's own life (time, talent and treasure) as belonging to God, and oneself as the manager, or "steward." (See 1 Corinthians 4:1-2; 1 Peter 4:10)

Tithing: Tithing means giving away a portion of one's income, commonly a tenth. In the Old Testament, it involved paying a tenth part of one's property as a tax to one's superior (Genesis 14), and also giving a tenth of the fruit of the land and increase of the flocks and herds to God. (see especially Malachi 3:10 and also Leviticus 27:30-32; Numbers 18:21-32; Deuteronomy 12:5, 6, 11, 17, 18; 14:23, 28, 26:12; 2 Chronicles 31:5f.)

Sacrificial Giving: A voluntary, proportionate, systematic, sacrificial, and liturgical giving of money that is part of the larger self-giving of time, talent, and treasure. ("Church support" is not the same as sacrificial giving, but is a by-product of it.)

(The Catholic Source Book)