



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT – 18 FEBRUARY 2018

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., Feb. 17 5:00PM Mass – Ralph Gardner+
- Sun., Feb. 18 **FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**
 8:00AM Mass – Holy Cross Parishioners
 9 :30AM Mass – Roger Patry+
 Beulah Aubin+
 Frank McDonald+
 11:15AM Mass – Gene Levasseur+
- Mon., Feb. 19 **NO MASS**
- Tues., Feb. 20 9:30AM Mass– Gerta Patry+
- Wed., Feb. 21 12:15PM Mass – Marc Gardner+
 Apie Lucie Adje+
- Thurs., Feb. 22 10:00AM Communion Service held at Windsor Park Manor
 12:15PM Mass – Marc Gardner+
 Michael & Ena Chisholm (lvg)
- Fri., Feb. 23 12:15PM Mass – Barbara Costanza (lvg)
- Sat., Feb. 24 5:00PM **Youth Mass**
 Mathew+ (father of Fr. Lukose)
 Chatelaine Family (lvg)
- Sun., Feb. 25 **SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**
 8:00AM Mass – Holy Cross Parishioners
 9:30AM Mass – Betty Mahon+
 Vincent & Connie Melford+
 Marybeth & Andre Pion (lvg)
 11:15AM Mass – Cecile Schmidt+
 Tilije Family (lvg)

Events Calendar ...

- Sat., Feb. 17 9:30AM Prayer Group – Rm. A
- Sun., Feb. 18 9:30AM Children's Liturgy
 Rite of Election at the 9:30 a.m. Mass
Food Drive at all Masses
- Mon., Feb. 19 **OFFICE CLOSED**
 6:30PM R.C.I.A. & Bible Study – Hall
- Tues., Feb. 20 7:00PM Finance – Rm. A
 8:00PM A.A. - Hall
- Wed., Feb. 21 7:30PM Choir (9:30) practice – Church
 7:30PM K of C general meeting – Hall
- Thurs., Feb. 22 7:00PM K of C 2nd Degree – Hall
 7:00PM Choir (11:15) practice - Church
- Fri., Feb. 23 7:00PM **Stations of the Cross** – Church
- Sat., Feb. 24 9:30AM Prayer Group – Rm. A
 10:00AM **CONFIRMATION RETREAT / PRACTICE & RECONCILIATION** – Church
- Sun., Feb. 25 9:30AM Children's Liturgy
 12:30PM Baptism – Church
Coffee Sunday after the 8 & 9:30 a.m. Masses

Pastor's Message...

TRUE SPIRIT OF LENT

The call of Lent is go forth: Rend your hearts, not your garments. Fast, return to God who is gracious and compassionate. Our God relents—it is time for us to relent from evil, fast from injustice and superficial religion practices for show or our own self glory and good impression of others. There is to be no outward show of pious behaviors, fasting, long prayers in public, even others knowing of our charity. So what is the core message of Lent? It is about purity of intention and practice. Where do my charity and fasting lead me if it is not based on justice and concern for the less fortunate? Where does my prayer lead me if I don't have the goodwill to build community and family values? We people fast to reduce weight and abstain from chocolates and sweets. How does it help others? Do my pious activities inspire any of my family members to question their attitudes towards God and others? Remember, we also need to fast from what comes out of our hearts and mouth. Abstain from negative criticism and judgments. Take steps to foster unity, love, charity, kindness in our relationships. This is the time of secrets between our God and us, in love. At the end of our 40 days of Lenten observances, may we have the experience that we have been crucified with Christ so that we can rejoice at Easter.

God bless,
Fr. Lukose

Food For Thought†

If you do not live what you believe, you will end up believing what you live. – Archbishop Fulton Sheen

ATTENTION PARISHIONERS

HOLY CROSS PARISH LENTEN RETREAT 2018 will be held on **March 19, 20 & 21** from **7 – 9 p.m.** Theme: *the Gospel of the Family: Joy for the World.* Our Preachers will be Fr. Thomas Thennedy CMF and Fr. Eslin Pereira CMF. We will conclude our Lenten Retreat with the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation on the final day, Wednesday, March 21. A free will offering will be gratefully accepted. Be sure to mark your calendars.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS on Lenten Friday's at 7 p.m.



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. All are welcome. **NOTE: On Good Friday (March 30)** Stations of the Cross will begin at **7:30 p.m.**

Parish News and Community Life...

CONFIRMATION: RETREAT / RECONCILIATION / PRACTICE will be held on **Saturday, February 24 at 10:00 a.m. sharp** in the Church. Parents and Sponsors are also asked to attend.

FEBRUARY 18 SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR DIOCESAN & MISSIONARY WORKS: At this time, this special collection has become even more important. In recent years, the Canadian dioceses in the South have undertaken to help the dioceses in Northern Canada financially in carrying out their pastoral work. The Archdiocese of Ottawa has been twinned with the dioceses of Hearst and Moosonee. It has become quite urgent to assist these 'missionary dioceses' which we are called to draw near to our hearts. Special envelopes for this purpose are in the pews as well as in the Church Offertory envelope boxes.

HOLY CROSS JUBILEE CELEBRATION MARCH 2018 - MARCH 2019: In March 2019, Holy Cross will mark the Jubilee Anniversary of the first Mass celebrated in the church on March 23, 1969. **Next month, Bishop Christian Riesbeck will preside at a Mass on Sunday, March 18.** We will celebrate this important milestone throughout the coming year with a series of religious and parish community events, culminating on the weekend of March 24, 2019. Further details will be provided throughout the year as specific activities take place. A **suggestion box** has been provided at the entrance of the Church. We invite you to provide us with any ideas you may have on how to celebrate our Jubilee year. We look forward to your participation in the coming year and invite you to help out in some way.

CAN YOU HELP? To highlight the past 50 years of our Catholic community, we would like to create an installation of pictures to capture the many special events and moments that have taken place in the parish. Should you have any 'old photographs', such as the ground breaking, the first Mass, the 25th anniversary year, ministry activities, etc., and would be willing to donate or loan the picture(s) for the installation, that would be much appreciated. If you can help in this regard, please send an email using the parish Contact Form to: <http://www.holycrossparish.com/contact> or by calling the office at 613-731-7834.

PASTORAL CARE/BEREAVEMENT presents the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit. We would appreciate your feedback as to what the Gifts mean to you starting with the Gift of WISDOM. Look for our table at the back of the Church. We will be setting up the display for the weekend of Feb. 25/26.

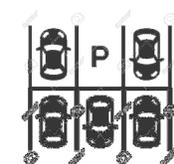
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Following the Knights of Columbus regular meeting on Wednesday, February 21, at 8:30 p.m., Bob and Geri Laird will give a presentation regarding the Debra Dynes Family House. All Parishioners are welcomed.

YOUTH

ATTENTION ALL YOUTH AGES 12-25: There will be a **YOUTH MASS** on **Saturday, February 24.** We look forward to seeing you there.

2017 TAX RECEIPTS are available for pick up at the back of the Church. We would like to thank all our Parishioners for their generosity throughout 2017.



ATTENTION PARISHIONERS: We are pleased to inform you the **there are 10 extra parking spots for your convenience next to the St. Vincent de Paul boxes** which were originally reserved for the CCC585 Condominium. Please take advantage of these extra spots.



NOTICE: Please check the lost and found box near the elevator within the next couple of weeks. We have found glasses, keys, gloves, hats, and scarves etc. Those items that are not picked up by the **end of February**, we will be donating to St. Vincent de Paul.

Social Justice...

FOOD DRIVE: Your generous donations of groceries this first Lenten weekend are an important message to families burdened by poverty and other challenges that they are not alone, but have caring neighbours nearby.

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE: February 20 is the annual UN World Day of Social Justice, promoting gender equity and the rights of indigenous peoples and migrants. Please join Holy Cross' Social Justice Committee as we help to bring justice to our own city, to our country, and to the global south. Contact Bob Laird (boblaird@rogers.com) if you are interested in being a part of these efforts.

PROTECTION OF CONSCIENCE RIGHTS IN ONTARIO: If you don't have Internet access and are using the form letters at Church entrances, please place the completed letter(s) in the designated box at the Walkley entrance by the weekend of Feb 24/25.

Other interests...

Journey of Hope – A Program for Separated and Divorced Catholics: Six week sessions for women (Tuesdays, March 20 – April 24 from 7 – 9 p.m.) and men (Thursdays, March. 22 – May 03 from 7 – 9: p.m.). Fee: \$25. At Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Parish Hall, 20 Grant St. Register by March 16: www.journeyofhopeottawa.com; Mary Jane Manley at 613-294-1308.

STEBENVILLE TORONTO 2018 REGISTRATION: Registration is now open for youth Grades 9-12, chaperones, and clergy interested in attending Steubenville Toronto with the Archdiocese of Ottawa, **July 13-15.** This is Canada's largest conference for Catholic Youth. Cost including bus: \$390. **Registration and non-refundable deposit of \$100 is due by February 28.** Priests only pay bus fee. For more information, go to www.fymottawa.com/youth or contact Sophia Korban at skorban@archottawa.ca.

**Have you considered a gift in your WILL to provide for the faith life of future generations?
IN YOUR GENEROSITY, please consider a donation or bequest to Holy Cross Parish.**