

SCRIPTURES FOR NEXT WEEKEND

1ST SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A**First Reading: Genesis 2.7 – 9, 16 – 18, 3.1 – 7***The creation and the sin of our first parents.***Second Reading: Romans 5.12 – 19***Where sin increased grace abounded all the more.***Gospel: Matthew 4.1 – 11***Jesus fasted forty days, and was put to the test.*

This Week

Saturday, February 25 8th Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)

4:15 p.m. Individual Reconciliation

5:00 p.m. Mass for a special intention

Sunday, February 26 8th Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)

9:00 a.m. Mass the People of the Parish

10:00 a.m. Family Brunch

11:00 a.m. Mass for a special intention

Monday, February 27

9:00 a.m. Mass for a special intention

6:00 p.m. OCSB Children's Choir

7:00 p.m. Finance Council Meeting

8:00 p.m. AA – Westboro Step

Tuesday February 28

10:30 a.m. Mass at Medex

7:00 p.m. Bytown Voices

Wednesday March 01 Ash Wednesday

9:00 a.m. Mass

1:00 p.m. Retirees Cards & Games

7:00 p.m. Mass

Thursday, March 02

9:00 a.m. Mass for a special intention

6:30 p.m. Family Reconciliation

7:00 p.m. Youth Group

Friday, March 03

9:00 a.m. Mass for a special intention

8:00 p.m. AA – By the Book

Saturday, March 04 1st Sunday of Lent

9:00 a.m. OCSB Children's Choir

4:15 p.m. Individual Reconciliation

5:00 p.m. Mass for a special intention

Sunday, March 05 1st Sunday of Lent

9:00 a.m. Mass

11:00 a.m. Mass for the People of the Parish

“HENRI NOUWEN AND THE ROAD TO CHARACTER”

This will be a presentation with Fr. Corbin Eddy and parishioner and author Kevin Burns on **Thursday March 16, 2017, 7:00 p.m.** in St. Basil's Parish Hall. Fr. Corbin Eddy will point out some of the timeless landmarks and inspiring examples that we encounter while on “the road to character” – a journey with no express lanes or shortcuts. Then, Kevin Burns will present his new biography of the acclaimed spiritual writer, Henri Nouwen, and the painful twists and turns of his experiences on that road to character as he describes them in his book “Henri Nouwen - His Life and Spirit”. Free Admission and Refreshments.



Parish News

YOUTH GROUP

All youth are welcome from grades 6 to 10. *This Thursday March 2 at 7 pm to 8:30 pm in church hall.* Fun, laughter, treats and friendship!!

CELEBRATE ST. PATRICK'S DAY 2017

The Knights of Columbus will be hosting their annual St. Patrick's Roast Beef Dinner with lively Irish music provided by D.J. 'Peter the Music Man' on **Friday, March 17** in our Parish Hall starting at 6:00 pm. This popular event is the social highlight of our calendar year. *Advance tickets \$22.50 per person are available after all Masses starting this weekend, February 25.* Come and celebrate the Irish spirit on St. Patrick's Day!!

FAMILY PANCAKE BREAKFAST

On **Sunday, February 26** All parishioners are welcome for pancakes and fun, family-friendly activities between the 9 am and 11 am masses to mark the beginning of Lent. Fresh pancakes provided but please bring your favorite toppings to share. Hosted by the Children's Liturgy Team with the help of the Knights of Columbus.

YOU ARE INVITED

We resumed our First Friday Devotions under a new format. We begin with Mass at 9 a.m. Immediately following Mass we have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. All parishioners are invited to join us this **Friday March 3rd** for this very important part of our Catholic Spirituality.

RITE OF ELECTION

On **Sunday, March 5th** Tyler and Lyla Aboualy and Ada Defreitas will celebrate the Rite of Election at Notre Dame Cathedral. With catechumens from other parishes in the diocese they will be invited by Archbishop Prendergast to sign the Book of the Elect as they move into the final period of purification and enlightenment as they prepare for Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. They will be called the elect as they will be elected for baptism at Easter. You are invited to attend this ritual and please pray for Tyler, Lyla and Ada.

MISSION & SOCIAL JUSTICE

Development and Peace, the principal international aid organization for Canadian Catholics, is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. There will be a special Mass and reception at Notre Dame Cathedral on **Saturday March 4th at 5 p.m.** The Mission & Social Justice Committee would like to invite Parishioners to join this celebration.

A Note from Fr. Ross

Wednesday of this week is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of our forty-day journey to our Easter Triduum and the Great Fifty Days which extend the central feast of our faith. During Lent we accompany our catechumens as we prepare for their initiation at Eastertime. Lent, therefore, has two major purposes: it recalls or prepares for baptism, and emphasizes a spirit of penance, of turning from our sin, both individual and communal. Because it helps us to prepare for baptism and to renew our own baptismal belonging, we will not schedule that sacrament during Lent. The Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat, but Catholics may substitute special acts of charity or piety on this day. Plan to participate in our communal Lenten penance service on 05 April at 7:00 pm. Six priests will be available for confessions after we sing Evening Prayer and prepare ourselves together. Those with allergies are advised that we will be using a hypoallergenic incense during Evening Prayer. Individual confessions are also available every Saturday afternoon or by appointment. Ash Wednesday is a universal day of fast and abstinence. The law of 'abstinence from meat' binds those 14 and over; the law of fasting binds those from 18 to 59 years of age. Of course, all who are able may embrace this discipline and those unable to keep it are excused. By fasting, Christians deprive ourselves of food in order to be more open to prayer, to share more in the suffering of those who are starving and to save money to give to the poor.

When asked to assume this ministry at St. Basil I informed the archdiocese that I had already committed to three weeks of cruise ship ministry in March and they were fine with that. I have agreed to take only 1/10 of the salary for March and Fr. Corbin Eddy, my replacement, will receive 9/10, so my absence will incur no additional expense to the parish. I know many parishioners are eager to welcome him back to the parish where he was pastor for 8 years and he is looking forward to reconnecting with you. During my absence I have chosen some selections from *Amoris Lætitia* (The Joy of Love) the post-synodal apostolic exhortation of Pope Francis, for your reflection. I have a great admiration for the crew members who serve on cruise ships and spend up to nine months away from the families and work long hours to support their families, looking for free Wi-Fi at every port so as to connect with them. The crew mass at 11:15 pm is always something to which I look forward. Keep us in your prayers.

J. Ross

RESERVE THE DATE

Wed., 01 Mar. Ash Wednesday, masses at 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 pm

Thur., 02 Mar., 6:30 pm 1st reconciliation service, 2 priests available

Thur., 16 Mar., 7:00 – 9:00 pm Lenten presentation with Fr. Corbin Eddy and Kevin Burns

Fri., 17 Mar., 7:00 pm St. Patrick's Dinner/dance, sponsored by our Knights of Columbus

Sun., 02 Apr., 1:30 pm Renovation Campaign Benefit Concert with the National Capital Concert Band and Tzietel Abrego

Wed., 05 Apr., 7:00 pm Parish Lenten reconciliation service; 6 priests available.

From the Diocese

PERMANENT DIACONATE – INFO

Is the Lord calling you to the Permanent Diaconate? Discover what the diaconate is about. Catholic men in the Archdiocese are invited; married men are encouraged to come with their wives. Next session at St George Parish **Thursday Mar. 2, 7 – 9 p.m.** To attend, contact Deacon Michael Seath; mseath@archottawa.ca. 613-324-0007

PRAYERS FOR VOCATIONS

8TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ FEBRUARY 26TH ~ *That by their example of seeking first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, priests, deacons, sisters and brothers will win many souls to Christ.*

Liturgy Corner

To provide some ongoing formation there will be a brief bulletin entry each Sunday about various topics pertaining to liturgy. If there is a particular topic which you would like to read about, please contact Heather Reid at the 11:00 am Mass.

FOUR PART RITUAL

The Eucharistic liturgy is a four-part ritual action: we **GATHER** (Introductory rites), we **LISTEN** (Liturgy of the Word), we **GIVE THANKS** and **ARE NOURISHED** (Liturgy of the Eucharist), we are **MISSIONED FORTH** – Concluding rites. The Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist are the most important parts of the liturgy.

From the Community

VOCATION FAIR

To inspire men and women discerning a call. **Sat., Mar. 4, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.** at St. Margaret Mary Parish, 5 Fairbairn Ave. Beginning with Mass. Brunch following. Limited parking, consider carpooling. Info: Fr. Pierre Champoux, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Ottawa 613-558-1445; deont33@hotmail.com.

THREE DAY SPRING PILGRIMAGE TO QUEBEC.

On May 9th - May 11th. Includes St. Kateri Tekakwitha Shrine, St. Joseph's Oratory, Cap-de la Madeleine Shrine and much more. Father Daryl Kennedy chaplain. Daily Mass. Contact David at 613-620-1196 or e-mail: david@voyagesterranatura.ca

TOUR TO CHINA & HONG KONG

A 19-day Winter Get-away to China with Fr. Bosco Wong. The journey covers the Great Wall, Terra Cotta Warriors, Yangtze River Cruise, Panda Zoo, Guilin, Hong Kong... Tour price: \$3,875 including airfare & tax. A full itinerary is available at Our Lady of Fatima parish office or online at: <http://jbctravel.ca/upcoming-tours>.

"Whatsoever you do..."

Pope Francis has told us: "On climate change there is a clear, definitive and ineluctable ethical imperative to act." What are we doing?