

The Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 26, 2017



MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS: MARCH 25 TO APRIL 02

(L) indicates a living intention

Saturday	March 25	The Annunciation of the Lord
11:00 am		Protection of the unborn
Saturday	March 25	Fourth Sunday of Lent
4:30 pm		Our Parishioners
Sunday	March 26	
9:00 am	Tibor Legath	Shirley Legath & family
11:00 am	Jack Scimone	Mary Scimone
Monday	March 27	
8:30 am	Mark Pogue	Keith Pogue
Tuesday	March 28	
8:30 am	Jack Scimone	Yolanda Ricci
Wednesday	March 29	
8:30 am	Katherina Rill	Anne Prihoda & Barbara Koester
Thursday	March 30	
8:30 am	Anna Gallo	family
Friday	March 31	
8:30 am	Terry Hayes	Becket Parish
Saturday	April 01	Fifth Sunday of Lent
4:30 pm	Terry Hayes	Betty & Andy Quinn
Sunday	April 02	
9:00 am	Our Parishioners	
11:00 am	Jean Mack	Angie Argentin

LORD, GRANT MERCY AND LASTING PEACE to those who have died recently and strength and comfort to those who mourn them:

Gerard Holloran, cousin of Marie Foggo

Cindy Cameron, wife of Evans Cameron

Audrey Erenyi, sister -in-law of Kirsty Robertson

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR MAR. 25/26

Offerings: \$ 4, 961.00

Next special collection: **April 02** (Development and Peace)

SANCTUARY LAMP:

Week of:

March 26: *Joseph Bastone*, requested by Frank Perri

April 02: *Georges Abud*, requested by his sister

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: During Lent, we pray the Stations of the Cross every weekday morning at Becket at 8:00 am (before morning Mass.) All are welcome to join us.

REFLECTIONS ON FORGIVENESS & MERCY (Part 2)



Why do I need to indict myself to get ready for Easter? Isn't Easter the season of new life? Where's the joy in spending Lent as the prosecutor at my own trial?

We owe ourselves exactly the same mercy we owe to others. Vilifying ourselves isn't the point of Lent. *Purifying our hearts is.* Lent is the time when we learn the language of **repentance** and **forgiveness** by disciplining our mind, our spirit and our appetites, so that nothing prevents us from hearing **God's voice** and seeking him out. The joy in

Lent comes from our confidence in the resurrection of a Saviour who will deliver us from sin and **restore us to life**.

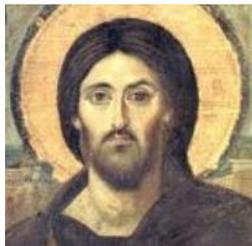
Of course, unless we understand our own sinfulness, unless we understand the urgency of **repentance and reconciliation**, the Cross makes no sense; the Resurrection makes no sense. Easter joy is the joy of *deliverance and new life*. If we don't believe in our bones that we really do desperately need these things, Easter is just another excuse for a holiday sale; and the Sacrament of Penance, and our fasting and almsgiving, are a waste of time.

But in the silence of our own hearts, if we're honest, we know we hunger for something more than our own selfishness and mistakes. We were made for glory, and we're empty of that glory until God fills us with his presence. *All things are made new in the victory of Jesus Christ*—even sinners like you and me. The blood of the Cross washes away death. It purifies us as vessels for God's new life. The Resurrection fills us with God's own life.

Lent is an opportunity and a grace, not a burden. May we use the weeks of Lent this year to clean and ready our hearts so we can receive Jesus Christ this Easter, and share his life throughout 2015.

~ *Archbishop Charles Chaput of Philadelphia*

A LENTEN PRAYER



Heavenly Father, I am called to walk by the light of Christ, your Son, and to trust in his wisdom. During Lent, I submit myself to him more and more and am striving to believe in him with all my heart. I enter on this path of repentance so that in dying to self I might rise to new life.

Lord Jesus, you spoke peace to a sinful world and brought mankind the gift of reconciliation by the suffering and death you endured. I love you and joyfully

bear the name 'Christian.' Teach me to follow your example. Increase my faith, hope and charity so that I may struggle to turn hatred to love and conflict to peace.

Loving Redeemer, through your passion, teach me self-denial, strengthen me against evil and adversity and so make me ready to celebrate your Resurrection. Healer of body and soul, cure the sickness in my spirit so that I may grow in holiness through your constant care. Forgive my sins against the unity of your family; make me love as you loved me.

Good Master, make me mindful of the dignity you gave me in Baptism, may I live for you at every moment. Give me a perfect heart to receive your work, that I may bring forth fruit in patience. Renew my eagerness to work with you in building a better world and the Kingdom of God.

A DAY OF RECOLLECTION AT ST. JOSEPH'S ORATORY: Theme: "Get up and Go" with Fr. Jomon Kalladanthiyil, CSC. Saturday, April 01, 9:30 am to 4:30 pm. Contribution: \$25 per person, lunch & parking included. For info: jkalladanthiyil@osj.qc.ca.

EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS: We invite you to make a donation toward our Easter Flower Fund for your personal intentions. Donations may be sent to the parish office or dropped in the Easter flower box. Please include on the envelope: name of your intention or loved one (memorial) along with your name (donor). Please include your parish envelope number if you have one. Names of loved ones and intentions will be included in upcoming Easter bulletins.

BECKET'S PARISH HALL PURGE: The Parish Hall Preparedness Committee will be spring cleaning the parish hall and kitchen on **April 1, 9:00 am to 12 noon**. Please remove any kitchenware or belongings particularly from the back storage room or **before April 1**. Thank you.

FAITH FIRST UPCOMING GATHERINGS:

Confirmation Gathering #5: **Tuesday, March 28**

Level 3 (SP3, SP4) #3: **Tuesday, April 4**

Level 5 (SP5, SP6) #3: **Thursday, April 6**

PIANO TO GIVE AWAY: Because of a gift of a beautiful piano for the sanctuary from an anonymous donor, the piano in the hall is available **FREE** to anyone who will remove it.

BECKET'S 2017 MARRIAGE JUBILEE: Is your wedding anniversary this year divisible by five? Join us at our 26th Annual Marriage Jubilee on April 28 & 29. Sign up after all Masses or call Rina at 514-915-7586.

IN LENT, DO WE FAST OR FEAST ON SUNDAYS? ...IT DEPENDS!

The season of Lent includes a total of 46 days, but the six Sundays within the season are not considered by the Church days of the "Lenten Fast." This is on account of Sundays being recognized as a day in the Church calendar that commemorates the Resurrection of Jesus. Sundays, in the eyes of the Church, are a "feast" day, a day to celebrate the Resurrection. This is why, even before Vatican II, Sundays in the Roman Rite are exempt from the rigors of fasting and abstinence. Does this mean I can binge watch my favorite Netflix shows or eat chocolate on Sundays? Catholics have always been encouraged to take on additional penitential practices during Lent, such as giving up chocolate or a favorite activity, or making some other type of sacrifice, but these practices are not regulated by the Catholic Church. Each person is asked to discern what sacrifice they are able to make and to do so according to their state in life. This type of sacrifice is entirely personal in nature and often chosen with the help of a spiritual director. A person must also make the intentional choice whether or not to continue their penitential practice on Sundays during Lent. In some cases, it may be advisable to continue that practice even on Sundays. For example, if a person is hoping to establish a discipline against a specific bad habit during Lent, "taking a break" on Sundays could be so detrimental to that effort that it can tempt one away from the Lenten effort altogether. On the other hand, if one has given up bread or desserts and is attending a 50th wedding anniversary during a Sunday in Lent, it might be a good and festive thing to fully participate in the celebratory meal, both in remembrance of the resurrection, and the happy occasion before one. So to get back to the question, "in Lent, do we fast or feast on Sundays?," the correct answer would be "it depends." We are not obligated to fast on Sundays during Lent and are generally encouraged to celebrate the joy of the Resurrection, but for our own personal benefit, it may be a good idea to extend our penitential practice on Sundays as well. If you are ever in doubt, consult a trusted priest or spiritual director.

~ By Philip Kosloski