

# First Sunday of Lent

## March 1, 2020



### MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS: FEBRUARY 29 TO MARCH 8

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Feb 29</b>	
4:30 pm	Ida D'Souza	Atwell & family
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Mar 1</b>	<b>First Sunday of Lent</b>
9:00 am	Salvatore Battaglia & Provvidenza Infantino Battaglia	Josie & Nancy Battaglia
11:00 am	Our Parishioners	
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Mar 2</b>	
8:30 am	Chris & Alf Kolodnicki	Rina & Mike Callard
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Mar 3</b>	
8:30	Albanese family	
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Mar 4</b>	
8:30 am	Anna & Tony Perugino	The Family
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Mar 5</b>	
8:30 am	Antonio Cizaltina-Cabral	Maria G. Cabral
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Mar 6</b>	
8:30 am	Ludmilla Beucar	Emil Markic
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Mar 7</b>	
4:30 pm	Our Parishioners	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Mar 8</b>	
9:00 am	Pina & Joe Di Stefano	The Family
11:00am	Giovanni & Gabriela Ambrosio	The Family

#### **SANCTUARY LAMP (Week)**

March 1: Alf & Chris Kolodnicki, requested by the Robertson family.

March 8: Frederick & Barbara Kray, requested by Helen & Manfred Adam

#### **THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR FEBRUARY 22/23**

Offerings: \$ 5, 521.85 Building Maintenance Fund: \$1, 972.00

Next special collection: March 8 – Helping Others

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

*Blessed are those who have died in the Lord; let them rest from their labours for their good deeds go with them. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

**H.O.P.E. WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP TEA** Sunday, March 15, 2:00 - 4:00 pm. at St. John Fisher Parish. Peggy Doucette, co-director of the John Paul II Center for Divine Mercy, will share her personal testimony of experiencing God's love and mercy in her life. \$10.00/per person, pay at the door. Info 514-695-0205.

## POPE'S MESSAGE FOR LENT 2020 (excerpted)



“Dear Brothers and Sisters,  
This year the Lord grants us, once again, a favourable time to prepare to celebrate with renewed hearts the great mystery of the death and resurrection of Jesus, the cornerstone of our personal and communal Christian life. . . . Keep your eyes fixed on the outstretched arms of Christ crucified, let yourself be saved over and over again. And when you go to confess your sins, believe firmly in his mercy which frees you of your guilt. Contemplate his blood poured out with such great love, and let

yourself be cleansed by it. In this way, you can be reborn ever anew. . . . Jesus' Pasch is not a past event; rather, through the power of the Holy Spirit it is ever present, enabling us to see and touch with faith the flesh of Christ in those who suffer. The experience of mercy is only possible in a 'face to face' relationship with the crucified and risen Lord 'who loved me and gave himself for me', in a heartfelt dialogue between friends. That is why prayer is so important in Lent. Even more than a duty, prayer is an expression of our need to respond to God's love which always precedes and sustains us. Christians pray in the knowledge that, although unworthy, we are still loved. Prayer can take any number of different forms, but what truly matters in God's eyes is that it penetrates deep within us and chips away at our hardness of heart, in order to convert us ever more fully to God and to his will. ... Despite the sometimes tragic presence of evil in our lives, and in the life of the Church and the world, this opportunity to change our course expresses God's unwavering will not to interrupt his dialogue of salvation with us. . . . Putting the paschal mystery at the center of our lives means feeling compassion towards the wounds of the crucified Christ present in the many innocent victims of wars, in attacks on life, from that of the unborn to that of the elderly, and various forms of violence. They are likewise present in environmental disasters, the unequal distribution of the earth's goods, human trafficking in all its forms, and the unbridled thirst for profit, which is a form of idolatry. . . . Today too, there is a need to appeal to men and women of good will to share, by almsgiving, their goods with those most in need, as a means of personally participating in the building of a better world. Charitable giving makes us more human, whereas hoarding risks making us less human, imprisoned by our own selfishness.

I ask Mary Most Holy to pray that our Lenten celebration will open our hearts to hear God's call to be reconciled to himself, to fix our gaze on the paschal mystery, and to be converted to an open and sincere dialogue with him. In this way, we will become what Christ asks his disciples to be: the salt of the earth and the light of the world."

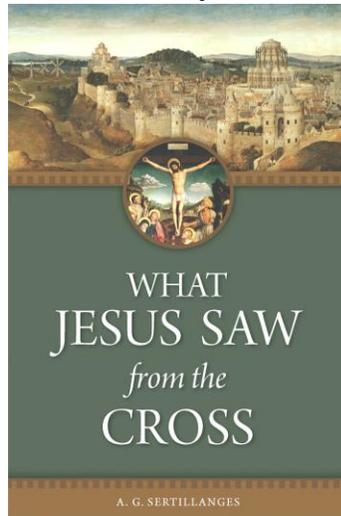
**PLEASE JOIN US** every weekday morning at 8:00 am during Lent for the Stations of the Cross.

## TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF LENT

1. How many days are there in Lent?
2. What was the original meaning of the word "Lent"?
3. What is the first day of Lent called?
4. What do we call the day before Lent begins?
5. What colour vestments does the priest wear during Lent?
6. What prayer of the Mass is omitted during Lent?
7. What word is never said or sung during Lent?
8. What do Catholics abstain from eating on Fridays during Lent?
9. On what days are Catholics required to fast during Lent?
10. What snack originated during Lent because it contains only flour, water & salt?
11. What food was traditionally eaten the day before Lent begins?
12. What Irish saint's feast day takes place during Lent?
13. How do Italians celebrate the feast of St. Joseph on March 19?
14. What important feast day occurs on March 25?
15. On what Sunday during Lent does the priest bless palms?
16. What event in the life of Jesus do the palms recall for us?
17. On what day during Lent does the Bishop bless holy oils for the year?
18. How many Stations of the Cross are there?
19. How many times does Jesus fall in the Stations?
20. Who helped Jesus carry His cross?

## WORTHWHILE READING

*What Jesus Saw from the Cross (Revised)* by A. G. Sertillanges



Never has there been spiritual reading as powerful as *What Jesus Saw from the Cross*, the book that will intensify your love of Jesus by burning the events of His Passion into your memory and imagination.

Written early in the last century by Rev. A. G. Sertillanges, a priest who lived in Jerusalem, this acclaimed devotional classic gives you vivid and dramatic details not included in the Gospel: With Jesus, you'll be jostled by crowds as you enter Jerusalem, choke on the dust of the narrow streets, experience the exotic oriental smells of the city at festival time, share the Last Supper with the disciples, stare into the face of Jesus' accusers, and be there as He dies on the Cross.

Do you remember when Jesus begged His disciples to "watch one hour" with Him in the Garden of Gethsemane? With this book, you can watch not just one but many hours with Jesus.

Read it slowly and prayerfully. The vivid details and the gripping narrative will soon take over: you'll find yourself engaged in a personal retreat, an interior pilgrimage, and a profound meditation on the love and sufferings of Jesus on the Cross.

### Answers:

- |   |                           |                        |
|---|---------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Forty                                      | 2. "Spring"               | 3. Ash Wednesday       |
| 4. Shrove Tuesday, Fat Tuesday, or Mardi Gras | 5. Purple                 |                        |
| 6. The Gloria                                 | 7. Alleluia               | 8. Meat                |
| 9. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday              | 10. Pretzels              |                        |
| 11. Pancakes                                  | 12. St. Patrick           | 13. St. Joseph's Table |
| 14. The Feast of the Annunciation             | 15. Palm Sunday           |                        |
| 16. The entrance into Jerusalem               | 17. Thursday of Holy Week |                        |
| 18. Fourteen                                  | 19. Three                 | 20. Simon of Cyrene    |