

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



MASS INTENTIONS March 28 to April 3

Monday 8:30 a.m.	+Georgina Dias & Therese Isaacksz – Miriam Jayasundera
Tuesday 7:00 p.m.	+George D. Hickson – Marlene Hickson & Family
Wednesday 8:30 a.m.	+Jean & Mary Kapron – Maria Smit
Thursday 7:00 p.m.	+Souls in purgatory – Joan Cassidy
Friday 8:30 a.m.	+Doretta Fritz – Pat Usher
Saturday 7:00 p.m.	+Ferenc Wagner – Wagner Family
Sunday 9:00 a.m.	Special Intention
Livestream Mass	11:00 a.m. Living & deceased members of our parish

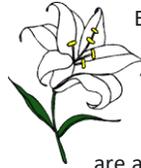
Offertory Collection for Sunday, March 20, 2022: \$7,268.07

(Note: This amount does not include donations received through pre-authorized giving.)

Monthly Budget Review as of March 20, 2022

Cumulative financial objective – 12 weeks @ \$7,500.....	\$90,000
Weekly contributions (year to date)	\$32,731.12
Pre-authorized giving (year to date)	\$35,531.97
Total.....	\$68,263.09
Over (under) objective	(\$21,736.91)

are sections for Sacramental preparation, Bible Study, current topics, and youth resources. Under the movies there are sub-sections for movies, documentaries, apologetics, and youth. The audio section contains talks, audio dramas and audio books. The book section contains nonfiction, fiction, and youth resources. As our parish has purchased a parish wide subscription, that means each family and individual in the parish has access to all these resources.



EASTER FLORAL TRIBUTE: During the Holy Time of Easter, it is a fitting gesture to dedicate floral tributes to be placed in the church in memory of deceased relatives and friends. These tributes are a sign of remembrance and an expression of faith in Christ's promise of eternal life. Forms are available at the church entrances if you wish to make such a tribute. The floral tribute sheets will be placed in the sanctuary in a gift-wrapped box. Those loved ones named will be remembered at all the Masses during the Easter season.



'FORMED' A LENTEN PROGRAM FOR OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISHIONERS:

'FORMED' is a Catholic Online Resource that is presented by Augustine Institute. It is like a **Catholic Netflix** and yet it is much more than that. It is a collection of materials for study, entertainment, spiritual growth, and nourishment. It contains material for study, watching, listening, or reading.

OUR PARISH HAS PURCHASED A PARISH WIDE SUBSCRIPTION. This means each family, everyone in the parish has access to all these resources. To sign up you go to <https://formed.org/> and sign up. Remember to enter our parish postal code N2L 1N5. If you need assistance figuring out how to access or are uncertain about resources, the link:

<https://help.formed.org> has all you need. Once you are registered you use the app or web browser to access the resources.

In 2015 Lighthouse Catholic Media merged with the Augustinian Institute, so many of the lighthouse resources are available through 'FORMED'. EACH WEEK there is a video available with a brief teaching for the upcoming Sunday Mass Readings. There

DIOCESAN PRAYER CALENDAR

This week let us pray for...

Mar 28	Rev. Msgr. Ivan Vuksic
Mar 29	Rev. Pierre Caouette, L.C.
Mar 30	Discalced Carmelite Sisters(O.C.D)
Mar 31	Rev. Louis DeVaugelas, L.C
Apr 1	Rev. Jerek Scherver, L. C
Apr 2	Rev. Adam Zettel, L.C

Prayer for Vocations... God, the source of creation and love, you invite each of us to serve you through the life which is your gift. May your grace encourage men and women to heights through service to the Church as priests, sisters, brothers, and lay ministers. Make me an instrument to encourage others to give themselves and challenge me to do the same. Amen.



THE POPE'S MARCH INTENTIONS FOR 2022

A Christian Response to Bioethical Challenges We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action.

Volunteers are needed for parish hall events

- to set up tables and chairs
- to prepare tables
- to serve refreshments
- to wash dishes
- to launder tablecloths

If you are able to help, please call the office 519-886-0342 ext 3

Gospel Reading

Luke 15:1-3,11-32

Jesus teaches about forgiveness in the parable of the Prodigal Son.

Background on the Gospel Reading



The parable Jesus tells in today's Gospel is unique to the Gospel of Luke. Jesus has been teaching the crowds as he journeys to Jerusalem. As he teaches, the Pharisees and scribes complain and challenge Jesus because he is welcoming sinners at his table. Today we hear the third of three parables that Jesus tells in response to his critics. These three familiar parables—the lost sheep, the lost coin, and today's parable of the prodigal son—invite us to

consider the depth of God's mercy and love.

The Pharisees taught a scrupulous observance of Jewish Law. In their interpretation and practice, observant Jews who shared table fellowship with sinners would be made unclean. Like Jesus, the Pharisees hoped to lead sinners back to God. The Pharisees, however, required that sinners first become ritually clean—observant of the Pharisees' interpretation of Jewish Law—before sharing table fellowship. This appears to be one of the major differences between the Pharisees and Jesus. Jesus reaches out to sinners while they are still sinners, inviting them to conversion through fellowship with him. Jesus is God acting among us; by befriending us, he is inviting us to return to friendship with God. Through friendship with Jesus, our sins are forgiven and we, in turn, bear fruit for God. Recall last Sunday's Gospel and the barren fig tree.

Our familiarity with today's parable risks dulling us to its tremendously powerful message. We call this the parable of the lost son or the prodigal son. Any focus on the younger son, however, must also be balanced by an examination of the unusual behavior of the father.

First, we must imagine our first response to the audacity of a son who asks for his inheritance before his father has died. Indignation would certainly be a justifiable response to such a request. Yet the father in this parable agrees to honor the son's request and divides his property among his two sons. How might we describe such a father? Foolish comes to mind, but so does trusting. Without property of his own, the father must rely upon his sons to provide for his well-being.

The younger son takes his inheritance and leaves home. The older son remains, continuing to provide for the father and the household. Having been disgraced by the younger son, the father spends some time watching the road for the return of the lost son. When he eventually sees his wayward son returning, the father not only welcomes him but also runs out to greet him and then honors him with a party. We say that this father is loving and forgiving. Yet these adjectives only begin to describe the depth of love and mercy that characterize the father.

We find no surprise in the anger of the older son. Yet the father appears sad and even confused by the older son's indignation. He says in reply that they should celebrate because the lost son had returned. The father is filled with gratitude and love for the older son's faithfulness. This love is in no way diminished by the father's rejoicing at the return of the younger son. Yet the older son's jealousy reveals his limited understanding of the depth of his father's love.

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is traditionally called Laetare Sunday. Laetare is a Latin word that means "rejoice." Today's Gospel describes the reason for our joy: God's great love for us has been revealed in Jesus. Through his Passion, Death, and Resurrection, Christ has reconciled us with God and one another.

<https://www.loyolapress.com/>

Lent 2022 – 40 Days of Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving

Daily Lenten Mass & Confession Times & Holy Hour

Mass: Monday, Wednesday & Friday at 8:30 a.m.; Tuesday & Thursday at 7:00 p.m.
Confession Times: Saturday, 11:00 a.m. to noon, and Twenty minutes before each weekday Mass
Holy Hour: each Saturday's during Lent at 6:00 p.m. with Rosary & Divine Mercy Chaplet

Stations of the Cross

Every Friday in Lent at 7:00 p.m. Each week a different meditation of the Stations will be used. Everyone is encouraged to make an effort to attend the Stations at least one of the six Friday evenings during Lent, starting March 4

Daily Reflection

With Your Whole Heart: Lent invites us to "return to the Lord" with our "whole heart." This daily devotional is designed for families to put their faith into practice. Parents and families are encouraged to grow together during the important season of Lent.

Fast & Abstinence

Catholics aged 14 and older abstain from meat on **Ash Wednesday** and **Good Friday**. In addition, Catholics from age 18-59 fast on those days, limiting themselves to one full meal and two smaller meals each day.

Almsgiving Share Lent Sunday April 10



TOGETHER FOR PEACE
 During Lent, Development and Peace – Caritas Canada invites you to take part in their Share Lent campaign: Together for Peace. This campaign calls on us to reflect on the profound meaning of peace by discovering the importance of dialogue as a means for reconciliation and for the construction of peace. Together, let us continue to believe that peace, human dignity and justice can triumph.

Suggestion: consider putting aside at least one dollar a day to help Development and Peace. May the long-standing support of our parish and its concern for the poor continue to grow stronger in our community. Scripture reminds us that our good deeds go with us into eternity.



Canadian Food for Children



This year we are collecting **skim milk powder and rice**. Milk holds huge potential to improve nutrition for hundreds of millions of poor people around the world. It is too expensive, however, for the poorest families to buy. This year we will be collecting POWDER MILK and RICE for Canadian Food for Children throughout the season of Lent. These particular food items were suggested in the recent newsletter from Canadian Food for Children. Please bring your items to the church in a reusable cloth bag. Your donations can be placed by the baptismal font up to and including Palm Sunday (April 10).

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