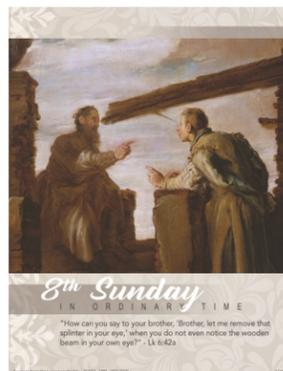


iRev. Chad Grennan, Pastor
 Email: frchadgrennan@gmail.com
 Rev. Deacon Jim McLaughlin
 (phone office for appointment)
 Liliana Haynes
 Office Administrator



Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Emails. Carpools. Shopping lists. Home repairs. It can seem like we move so quickly from one thing to the next. Our news comes in sound bites and headlines. How often do we take time for silence, for prayer, for reflection, for wisdom? Jesus warns us of stumbling through life without an adequate sense of where we're going. "Can a blind person guide a blind person? Will not both fall into a pit?" This Sunday's Gospel isn't about fumbling along but offers a self-check on our own motivations. "Why do you notice the splinter in your brother's eye, but do not perceive the wooden beam in your own?" Without adequate self-reflection, it's easy to become blind to our own faults. We go through life's motions as our bad habits linger or even increase. We may become increasingly impatient, we may avoid important tasks, we may neglect the emotional needs of our spouse. Perhaps, in the process, we find fault with those around us. In the words of Jesus, "remove the wooden beam from your own eye first."



So how do we know? How can we notice the hidden faults in our lives? "A good tree does not bear rotten fruit, nor does a rotten tree bear good fruit. For every tree is known by its own fruit. A good person out of the store of goodness in his heart produces good, but an evil person out of store of evil produces evil." Do you notice certain relationships that have become strained, or situations where you know you don't act your best? Perhaps this is an area where you are acting out of sin, rather than virtue. The truth is, all of us are a mixture of light and dark, vice and virtue. We can't pretend we're perfect! But we also need to take time to pause and prayerfully examine the fruit we're bearing.

Pope's Prayer Intention Month of March:

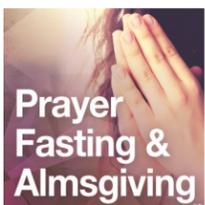
Evangelization: That Christian communities, especially those who are persecuted, feel that they are close to Christ and have their rights respected.

ANNUAL DIOCESAN RESPECT FOR LIFE MASS will be celebrated by **Most Rev. Gerard Paul Bergie**, on **The Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord** Monday, March 25, 2019, 7pm, **The Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria**, 67 Church Street, St. Catharines. **Let us pray together for the protection of life in all its stages; for greater respect for God's gift of life: for those wounded by abortion. Reception to follow.**

Invest ONE HOUR to save a Lifetime!
40Days for Life – Be an active participant in this peaceful campaign through prayer and fasting during Lent, March 6th – April 14th. We ask each church to adopt **ONE DAY (For our Parish – Saturday, April 13th) from 8 am – 8 pm**, with two or more people to give public witness for one or two hours standing on Portage Street at the Niagara Falls General Hospital, holding a sign "Pray to end Abortion." This is a prayerful, silent **VIGIL**. To sign up for **Saturday, April 13th** please register at the [sign up table](http://www.signuptable.com) at the back of the church or contact Karen Jankovich: kjankovich@sympatico.ca

For general inquiries and to sign up for other days during Lent, please contact Annette: loeffenlife@gmail.com, 905-325-1251, or Angela: angelabraun@live.com

Defend the Sanctity of Life! Petition of One Million – Please sign the petition at the back of the church to protect the unborn. For further information: www.petitionofonemillion.ca



Countdown to Lent.....Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 6th, 2019.

Prayer, penance, fasting and almsgiving are the main Lenten works. "Even now, says the Lord, return to me with your whole heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning. Joel 2:12. During this season of Lent, let us reveal our hearts, whole and entire, to God's loving eye. **Masses will be celebrated at 9:30am and 7pm.**

The following is provided from the Code of Canon Law for your information.
Can.1251 Abstinence from meat, or from some other food as determined by the Episcopal Conference, is to be observed on all Fridays, unless a solemnity should fall on a Friday. Abstinence and fasting are to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
Can.1252 The law of abstinence binds those who have completed their fourteenth year. The law of fasting binds those who have attained their majority (age 18) until the beginning of their sixtieth year. Pastors of souls and parents are to ensure that even those who by reason of their age are not bound by the law of fasting and abstinence, are taught the true meaning of penance.

The law of abstinence forbids the use of meat, but not of eggs, the products of milk or condiments made of animal fat.



Everyday Stewardship

The bumper sticker read, "He who dies with the most toys wins!" I am sure you have seen this saying as well and it stands as a humorous reminder of the culture in which we live where we tend to accumulate stuff to provide happiness and meaning to our lives. Storage facilities have sprung up everywhere because we can't seem to part with all our stuff. Even if we have no use for some of our stuff at the present moment, we seem convinced that we might need it in the future. How could we ever handle getting rid of something that we may someday actually need?

Good stewards realize they really don't own anything. It all belongs to God. It is not so much that God owns them, but they are not ours because we are called to offer them to him. The reality is that you and I were born naked and with nothing. We will die naked and with nothing. If we really could possess something material, there would be a way to take it with us. But alas, it all slips through our grasp and passes away. And even though all of us came from dust and to dust we will return, through Jesus Christ we will live forever in a perfect state. Can't say that for any of your stuff! Sorry, Gamestop.



Lenten Prayer: Generous Father, you constantly shower us with your abundant graces. Grant, we pray, that our Lenten sacrifices, prayers and reflection will help us to better recognize the graces of this season. May we share what you have given us with those less fortunate. And help us, Father, to walk confidently on our path, leading us closer to you as we prepare to welcome your Son, our Risen Saviour, this Easter. Amen.

Lenten Food Drive: Baskets have been placed at the church entrance. Donations of nonperishable food items would be appreciated and will be forwarded to Pelham Cares.

Parish Calendar

March.....
March 4th..... CWL meeting following morning Mass
March 6th..... **Ash Wednesday. Masses 9:30am & 7pm.**
March 10th..... First Sunday of Lent
March 10th..... St. Vincent de Paul meeting following 11am Mass
March 12th..... Lenten Day of Recollection for Diocesan priests and deacons. **Mass this day will begin at 8:30am.**

Youth Ministry—Grades 5-8 and high school students are welcome to attend. Wednesday evenings 6:30-8:30pm.

Bingo: Thursday Evenings 7pm in parish hall. All welcome to attend.



How would you feel if you and your family had to flee your home right now? Did you know that every minute, 31 people are forced to flee their homes to seek refuge and

safety in another village, city or country? There are currently more than 68.5 million children, women and men in this situation around the world. From climate change to extreme poverty and armed conflict, there are many different reasons why people flee. This Lenten season, Development and Peace – Caritas Canada invites you to share the journey with people forced to seek refuge, and to reach out and encounter them. **The calendar insert in today's bulletin is designed to help you share the journey by learning, reflecting, praying, and taking action. Together, let's walk on the path of solidarity**

Lent calls us to three actions: praying, fasting, and almsgiving. Praying We pray to grow close to God - the source of our strength and the inspiration for how we live in the world. Fasting We fast from things we enjoy. When we do this, we create space for God. Almsgiving We give alms because we are inspired by God's love for every part of His creation. We respond with charity – helping others in their need – and with justice – being transformed ourselves, in order to bring about the kingdom of God. **Use this calendar to learn, think, pray and act throughout your Lenten journey. Also attached to today's bulletin is a jar sticker to create your own Lenten collection jar!**

Migrant Ministry: Once again, our parish will be welcoming the seasonal agriculture workers as they return to our community during the month of March. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be collecting warm clothing for the men, as they will arrive during the cooler weather and may be unprepared for the colder climate. Items most in need are socks, warm gloves, and toques. We are also accepting donations of gently used men's sweaters and coats, as well as new toiletries. If you have any items to donate, please leave them in the church basement, with a note indicating that they are for the seasonal agriculture workers. Thank you for your continued support.

Volunteer needed to co-ordinate this ministry. Below is a description of the requirements of the volunteer position. If you want more information or the opportunity to discuss the duties of the position, please phone the office soon.

SEPARATED AND DIVORCED HEALING MINISTRY. March topics are 'Understanding Loss' (March 11); and 'Facing Fear' (March 25). Meetings are 7 to 9 pm at Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre, 7020 Stanley Ave, Niagara Falls. Pre-registration is not required. For information call 905-356-4113 or 905-684-0154, or email separatedanddivorced@saintcd.com

Sunday, March 3rd, 2019

8th Sunday IN ORDINARY TIME

"How can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me remove that splinter in your eye,' when you do not even notice the wooden beam in your own eye? You hypocrite! Remove the wooden beam from your eye first; then you will see clearly to remove the splinter in your brother's eye." - Lk 6:42

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

Sat. Mar 2	9-10am	Confession
4	-4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confession
	5:00pm	✠ Harry Atkins (Wendy Atkins)
Sun. Mar 3	9:30am	✠ Carmen Lucchetta (Cargnelli Family)
	11:00am	Missa Pro Populo
Mon. Mar 4	9:30am	✠ David MacDougall (Gwen MacDougall & Family)
	7-8pm	Holy Hour & Confession
Tues. Mar 5	9:30am	Vulcan and Arwen (Teresa Walters)
Wed. Mar 6		Ash Wednesday
	9:30am	Ava Elizabeth Dymphna Wilson (Karen & Michael)
	7:00pm	Intention Available
Thurs. Mar 7	9:30am	✠ Arnold Reece & Jeremiah & Anastasia Manning (Hannah Reece)
Fri. Mar 8	9:30am	Special Intention (Teresa Walters)
Sat. Mar 9	4 -4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confession
	5:00pm	✠ Gerry Berkhout (Larocque Family)
Sun. Mar 10	9:30am	✠ Nicola Colangelo (Rosa Colangelo & Family)
	11:00am	Missa Pro Populo

Reconciliation from 9-9:20am before all weekday Masses.

Offertory February 23rd & 24th, 2019

72 Envelopes	\$1, 540.00
Loose Collection	\$ 55.60
Total Offertory	\$1, 595.60

A reminder- Our website domain name has changed to the following: www.stannfenwick.com

