

# First Sunday of Lent February 18, 2018



And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him

(Mk 1:12-15)

### Last Week's Collection

Sunday Offering - \$ 1323.65  
 Repair & Renovations fund - \$ 52.00  
 'Host a Family..' \$ 45.00  
*Bless you for your continued generous support.*

### Upcoming Events - 2018

**Adoration & Stations of the Cross Lenten Friday's at 6.30PM**

**Host a Family Fund Raising Programs:**  
**Meatball Sale March 24th 5PM to 25th 2PM**

### Family Mass and Luncheon - March 25

*Friends, please join and support that we may help our 2nd Syrian family.*

### Thinking about Separation or Divorce?

Is your marriage or that of a relative or friend heading for divorce?

Retrouvaille is designed to help marriages regain their health. The

Retrouvaille program is highly successful in saving marriages. For confidential information about, or to register for the program beginning with a weekend on March 16, 2018, at the Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre in Niagara Falls, please call 905-664-5212 or email:

hamiltonretrouvaille1@cogeco.ca or visit the web site at [www.retrouvaille.org](http://www.retrouvaille.org)

### Mass Schedule & Intentions from February 17, 2018 to February 25, 2018

#### Honoring Married Couples at all Masses

Saturday	5:00PM	+ Tony Giovinazzo by Cousins Tina, Nancy & Rosa Carmela Agostino by Nancy Fazari Oreste Mazzei by Toni & Maria Grazia Sdao & family
Sunday	9:00AM	+ Lydia Matchett by Marie Chuckry
	11:00AM	For us and for all our dearly deceased ones
Monday	9:00AM	No Mass
Tuesday	9:00AM	+ Giuseppe Giovinazzo by Sister
Wednesday	9:00AM	+ Antonio DeFelice by Frances Cioffi
Thursday	9:00AM	+ Lydia Matchett by Steve & Ann Czinege
Friday	9:00AM	+ Franco Sdao by Tom & Maria Mauro Marshall
	6:30PM	<b>Adoration &amp; Stations of the Cross</b>
Saturday	5:00PM	+ Oreste Mazzei by Nardina Inneo & family Arcangelo & Angela Alviano by Maria Fazzalari Gennaro & Maria Minervini by the Minervini family
Sunday	9:00AM	+ Stella Ramanauskas by Cheryl Maurice Victoire Lukacsy by Roseline & Robert McCombs Carmelo Presti by Rita & Paul D'Amico
	11:00AM	For us and for all our dearly deceased ones



*Thank you for supporting 'Host a Family Program'*



### The liturgical season of Lent

*Rev. Michael Basque—Diocese of St. Catharines*

Reassessment and the desire for self improvement are essential qualities for all Christian disciples, but especially priests and seminarians. We can't help others become their best selves unless we are trying to do the same. When I was in the Seminary, my professors constantly talked about on-going formation. We were encouraged to read to improve ourselves intellectually, go on retreats to become better spiritually, reflect upon our actions and attitudes in ministry to improve ourselves pastorally. It is something from which those in formation need to learn they can really benefit. Each year, Lent gives all of us an opportunity to try to improve ourselves. It is too bad more people did not take advantage of it.



## Saint Andrew the Apostle, pray for us



### Pope Francis - General Audience February 14, 2018

Dear brothers and sisters:

In our catechesis on Holy Mass, we now turn to the Profession of Faith and the Universal Prayer of all the Christian faithful. In the Liturgy of the Word, after the homily and a time of silence, the whole assembly professes its faith: we recite the Creed, which bridges the sacraments of Baptism and the Eucharist. In doing so, we respond to what we have heard and received; this will lead us, in turn, to the Sacrament of the Eucharist. The Apostles' Creed, which is the Church of Rome's Baptismal Creed, may be appropriately taken up especially in Lent and Eastertide. Particularly on Sundays and feast days, we then offer the prayers of all the faithful: "for holy Church, for the civil authorities, for those oppressed by various needs, for all mankind, and for the salvation of the entire world." After each intention, we pray together: "Lord, graciously hear us" (or similar words), confident that God takes care of his sons and daughters.

### 40 DAYS FOR LIFE

Be part of a peaceful campaign by prayer and fasting during Lent, February 14-March 25, 2018. 40 Days for Life asks each church to adopt ONE DAY from 8:00AM-8:00PM with 2 or more people to give public witness for 1-2 hours standing on Portage Road at the Niagara Falls General Hospital, holding a sign, Pray to End Abortion – 40 Days for Life. To enroll in the campaign go to [www.wpcprolife.com](http://www.wpcprolife.com) and follow the link or contact Annette at [loeffenlife@gmail.com](mailto:loeffenlife@gmail.com) or phone 905-931-0363. We have chosen Wednesdays' as our special day for this.

### Fasting

#### A reflection by Bishop Bergie

Fasting is one of the pillars of Lent and it provides a significant means of helping us listen to the Lord. It is a form of self-denial as we grow in our ability to say no to self and yes to God. Fasting provides a spiritual cleansing where we "make room" in our souls for God. This also provides an opportunity to allow the things that are hidden to move to the surface to be exposed to God's grace and mercy. Things move from darkness to the light of Christ. Ultimately, the purpose of fasting is to help us focus on God; to hunger for His presence and to listen to His words. The great St. Augustine provides the merits of fasting, especially for those living a life of celibacy: "Fasting purifies the soul. It lifts up the mind and brings the body into subjection to the spirit. It makes the heart contrite and humble, scatters the clouds of desire, puts out the flames of lust and enkindles the true light of chastity."

### MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR LENT 2018

"Because of the increase of iniquity, the love of many will grow cold" (Mt 24:12)

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Once again, the Pasch of the Lord draws near! In our preparation for Easter, God in his providence offers us each year the season of Lent as a "sacramental sign of our conversion". [1] Lent summons us, and enables us, to come back to the Lord wholeheartedly and in every aspect of our life.

With this message, I would like again this year to help the entire Church experience this time of grace anew, with joy and in truth. I will take my cue from the words of Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew: "Because of the increase of iniquity, the love of many will grow cold" (24:12).

These words appear in Christ's preaching about the end of time. They were spoken in Jerusalem, on the Mount of Olives, where the Lord's passion would begin. In reply to a question of the disciples, Jesus foretells a great tribulation and describes a situation in which the community of believers might well find itself: amid great trials, false prophets would lead people astray and the love that is the core of the Gospel would grow cold in the hearts of many.

Read more: <https://tinyurl.com/ybr3v9mg>

### Choir Practice

*"Grant that what we sing with our lips we may believe in our hearts, and what we believe in our hearts, we may practice in our lives."*

Choir practice on **Tuesday February 20, 2018** at 6PM in the church. Please come and bring your friends and family as we are always open to welcoming new members.

We look forward to a wonderful evening of fellowship in which we practice for the upcoming Masses. Hope to see you there. Thank you.

### Holy Week Schedule March 24 – April 1, 2018

Passion Vigil Saturday March 24th @ 5PM

**Passion /Palm Sunday** March 25th, 2018

@ 9 AM and 10:40AM (Procession from school)

Mon, Tue, Wed - Mass @ 9AM

Tuesday - Chrism Mass at the Cathedral at 7.30PM

**Holy Thursday March 29th @7PM, Adoration till Midnight**

**Good Friday Service at 3PM**

**Confession - Holy Saturday 10:30 AM**

Blessing of Food Baskets 11:45AM

**Easter Vigil** March 31st @ 8:15 PM

**Easter Sunday** April 1, 2018 @ 9 AM and 11AM

**Divine Mercy Celebration** April 08, 2018 @ 2PM

### CWL Diocesan Annual Retreat

**Saturday March 17 or Wednesday March 21**  
 @ Gethsemane Ministries, 84008 Wellandport Rd.

**Please call Maria by Feb. 20, at 905-735-3894**