



Mass Intentions

Feb. 21 Saturday - Saint Peter Damian

4:00 Deceased of Fiorentino & Giagnorio families
- by Mark Fiorentino

Feb. 22 Sunday - FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

9:00 Anna, Rocco, Benny DiRienzo- by Maria Carmine Elia – by Adelina Muraca
Jack & Nancy Golfi - by family
Giovanni Scozzafava – by moglie Grazia & fam
Clementina Scialdone – by children & family

11:00 Savina & Domenic Chiarella – by Calabrese family
Giovanni & Anna Lucia – by Palma Stante

Feb. 23 Monday - N O M A S S

Feb. 24 Tuesday - Blessed Luke Belludi

8:00 Joseph Soriano – by Gladys Mae Nari
In Honour of Saint Joseph – by G.S.G.

Feb. 25 Wednesday - Blessed Sebastian of Aparicio

8:00 Antonio Elia – by family & friends

Feb. 26 Thursday - Saint Maria Bertilla Boscardin

8:00 Louie Valeri– by friends & family
In Honour of Saint Jude – by R.S.D.

Feb. 27 Friday - Saint Gabriel of O. L. of Sorrows

9:00 Marietta Fiocca – by family
Vincenzina Pascuzzi – by Mary Mauriello
Peter Nguyen/Anna Maria Nguyen-by family
Julie Sirianni – by family & friends

9:30 Stations of the Cross – Via Crucis

7:00^{pm} Stations of the Cross – Via Crucis

Feb. 28 Saturday - Blessed Daniel Brottier

4:00 For All the Deceased of the Parish
For the Needs of All Parishioners
William Jenkins – by Flora Kennedy

Mar. 1 Sunday - SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

9:00 Costanza Martuccio – by husband Joe & family
Rocco, Bernarda & Arduino Vacca – by Peter & Angela Belli
Iole Biamonte – by parents Joe & Maria Orsini
Efisia Orsini – by Joe & Maria Orsini
Maria & Nicola Vaccaro – by Florence Nero

11:00 Vincenzina Pascuzzi – by Nina Girolamo
Deceased of Leo family – by Joe Leo

TODAY'S GOSPEL MESSAGE

On this 1st Sunday of Lent, Jesus teaches us how to overcome challenges and temptations. Though we cannot avoid temptations, because of evil, we are encouraged to face temptations with wisdom and faith. We are encouraged to fast from what weakens our soul. We are more than our desires and we belong to God more than to the world. Adam and Eve fell because they doubted and disobeyed God. Strength comes from God not from self-reliance.

MESSAGGIO DEL VANGELO

In questa prima domenica di Quaresima, Gesù ci insegna come superare le sfide e le tentazioni. Sebbene non possiamo evitare le tentazioni a causa del male, siamo incoraggiati ad affrontarle con saggezza e fede. Siamo incoraggiati a digiunare da ciò che indebolisce la nostra anima. Siamo più dei nostri desideri e apparteniamo a Dio più che al mondo. Adamo ed Eva caddero perché dubitarono e disobbedirono a Dio. La forza viene da Dio, non dall'autosufficienza.

Every Friday during Lent

9:30 a.m. – Stations of the Cross – Via Crucis

7:00 p.m. - Stations of the Cross – Via Crucis



1st Sunday of Lent

After his baptism Jesus spent forty days in the desert, fasting and praying. The devil tempts Jesus to use his power to appease his hunger, he offers Jesus all the kingdoms of the world if Jesus will worship him. Jesus resists.

Each temptation that Jesus faces offers insight into the spirituality we hope to develop as we keep the forty days of the Season of Lent. Jesus' rejection of the devil's temptations shows that he will not put God to the test. Jesus rebukes the devil by his confidence in God's protection and faithfulness.

As we start OUR journey through Lent, let us adopt the same confidence that Jesus had in the face of temptation.

LIFE NIAGARA 'PRO-LIFE 101'

The Diocese of St. Catharines in partnership with Choose Life Niagara invite teens to join us for a 'Pro-Life 101' evening with Katie Somers on Sunday 22nd February from 6 – 9pm at St. Alexander Church in Fonthill. We will learn facts and apologetics on abortion, play games, and spend time socializing with other pro-life youth! Holy Mass at 6pm with the rest of the program starting at 7:00pm. Please email: infor@chooselife.ca or youth@saintcd.com.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE LENTEN CAMPAIGN

Began Ash Wednesday 18th February and continues to Palm Sunday 29th March. It is an internationally coordinated 40 day campaign that aims to end abortion locally through prayerful and peaceful witness. Locations, contacts and sign-up information:

<https://www.40daysforlife.com/en/vigil-search.aspx>

BISHOP'S LENTEN MESSAGE – 2026**“I am the Way, the Truth and the Life” (John 14:6)**

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

This year, the Gospel for the three Sundays prior to Lent are from the fifth chapter of the Gospel of Matthew. They are part of what is known as the Sermon on the Mount. The first Sunday, we were presented with the Beatitudes, the second Sunday, we were reminded that we are to be salt and light, and finally, this Sunday, Jesus reminds us that He came not to abolish the law but to fulfill it in love.

...The Beatitudes offer the proper disposition that we should have regarding the world. It is so easy to become too worldly as we are immersed in an ever-increasing secular environment. Jesus reminds us that His values are rooted in being poor in spirit, meek, merciful, humble, and moral. Greatness is found in being the least rather than the most powerful. This way of life certainly runs counter to the culture we live in today. Jesus is the Way.

Jesus also reminds us that we are salt and light; however, we can lose our saltiness and put our light under a bushel basket. Due to sin in our lives, our enthusiasm is diminished and we can become dim. We can forget our baptismal calling to witness as Christ and as the truth that we are salt and light. Jesus is the Truth.

We have the Beatitudes and strive to be salt and light because of love and not because of obligation. We look to Jesus who fulfills the law in His loving sacrifice. We follow his example by ensuring that our lives are inspired by our love of God and neighbour. Jesus is the Life.

... Prayer is a means of drawing us out of the secular and into the sacred. ... The more we pray, the more configured we are in Him.

... Fasting is simply saying no to self and yes to God. We deny ourselves and become less distracted by our desires so that we can focus more on being salt and light. We work at developing passion for our faith and enlightening others with the joy of the Gospel.

Almsgiving focuses on being generous and sharing with those in need. Our motivation should always be love. It is a voluntary act of sacrificial love that models the example of Christ who said in the Gospel of Matthew, “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me” (Matthew 25:40).

It is my hope and prayer that throughout the forty days of Lent, the Beatitudes, salt and light and the mystery of love, will be our inspiration. May we all grow in our desire to love Jesus Christ who not only fulfills the Law but is also our ultimate fulfillment. **He is the Way, the Truth and the Life!**

Yours sincerely in Christ, **Most Rev. Gerard Bergie, D.D.****SEPARATED AND DIVORCED
HEALING MINISTRY****Mount Carmel - 7020 Stanley Avenue, N. Falls****February 23rd 2026****March 9th 2026****What is Forgiveness
Learning to Forgive****LEGACY DONATIONS**

When you or your family are making arrangements for Wills and/or Legacies, we would humbly and kindly ask that you consider including St. Ann Church as one of the beneficiaries. Also, when making funeral arrangements through the various funeral homes in the Niagara Region, as parishioners, please consider directing donations to St. Ann Church. Your generosity is much needed and greatly appreciated.

**SAINT ANN LADIES' AUXILIARY
PRESENTS****WINE TASTING EVENT****Sunday – March 1st 2026 @ 2:00pm****St. Ann Parish Hall – 5731 Desson Avenue****3 Wines & Icewine Tastings****Finger Foods - Cheese & Crackers****Fruit & Desserts- Coffee & Tea****Tickets (\$25) Call: Church Office – 905-358-9333****OR – Maria 905-321-7176***(All monies collected are for the benefit of our church)***MONTHLY PARISH PASTA DINNER
FIRST THURSDAY of the MONTH****Thursday 5th March****St. Ann Parish Hall****doors open 4:30 pm****Pasta & Meatballs -****Salad & Dessert & Coffee****Take-out available – we supply containers****Tickets at the door: Adults \$15.00 Children (till 10 yrs.) \$8.00****Welcome one and all!****Bring your family & friends.****PASTA NIGHT FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL****(because of Holy Week)****WILL BE THURSDAY -APRIL 9th 2026****NIAGARA FOUNDATION FOR
CATHOLIC EDUCATION – BENEFIT GALA
Thursday – March 5th www.niagaracatholic.ca**

Tickets are \$100.00 per person – Tables of eight or ten are available (\$30 tax receipt per ticket available upon request). Purchase on-line at www.niagaracatholic.ca or by cheque payable to Niagara Foundation for Catholic Education.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK
& THE HOMEBOUND**

Vince Anania, Mary Argenta, Giuseppe Armenti,
Leonora Ballena, Angelina Cameli, Rita Cameli,
Domenic & Wilma Calabrese, Iole & Gus Crescenzi,
Estelle Critelli, Angelina DiRienzo,
Maria DiRienzo, Adrianna DiRisio,
Mario DiBiasi, Frank Dorazio, George Ellis,
Carmen Fabiani, Jenny Green,
Nancy Mazzei, Virginia McConnell,
Patricia Millington, Tina Pupo, Bettina Paola,
Teresa Scozzafava, Gregg Serles,
Mary Slovak, Deanna Spaetzl,
Don Taddeo, Marianna Weber