

PAROISSE ST. JEAN BAPTISTE PARISH

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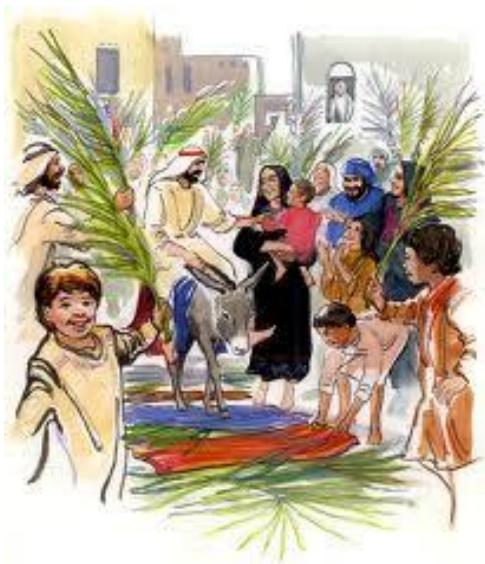
Sandee Blackburn

President

939-5199

Palm Sunday

March 25th, 2018



Welcoming New Parishioners:

We warmly welcome all new members to our parish family. We would like to get to know and serve you. In order to do so please fill out a registration form available in the church foyer or contact the parish office.

Sunday Masses:

Sat. 5:00 pm English

Sun. 9:00 am English

11:00 am Bilingual

Weekday Liturgies:

Please refer to a recent bulletin for updates for the current week.

Sacrament of

Reconciliation:

Sat. 4:30 - 4:50 pm

Sun. 8:30 - 8:50 am

10:30 - 10:50 am

or upon appointment

Baptism:

First Sunday of the month at mass.

Call the parish office for more info and registration.

Marriage/Wedding:

Please call the parish office At least SIX months in advance of your chosen date and before any other arrangement is made.

Sacrament of the Sick:

Please contact the Parish Office After Hours for **Emergencies Only**
780-645-9749.

An Invitation from the Bishop



You are most cordially invited to attend Chrism Mass, Tuesday, March 27, 2018

This diocesan celebration will be held at **7:00 pm at the cathedral in St. Paul.**

Chrism Mass is concelebrated by the Bishop and the priests from all parts of the diocese. It is a sign of unity and communion between the priests and their Bishop and all members of the diocese, Priests, Deacons, Religious and Faithful.

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

The Lord often in his Gospel asks us to “pray to the Master of the harvest to send workers into his harvest.” As we celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday I am happy to write to recall for you that God has been responding to our prayers for vocations in our diocese. Indeed, we have eight young men who are studying for the priesthood for the Diocese of St. Paul in Alberta and also we are awaiting the foundation of a monastic community of contemplative sisters, the poor Clares, in St. Paul. For this we are very grateful for your contributions financially for the education and care of our seminarians. For your information, the average cost per seminarian annually at the seminary is \$33,000.00. So you can see why we also ask for your financial support.

And so it is a tradition that each year on Good Shepherd Sunday throughout the Catholic world, dioceses appeal to your generosity for help with the costs of educating and preparing seminarians and other vocations so that they may ‘enter into the Lord’s harvest’ for us all.

May the Good Shepherd bless you for your generosity!

+ Bishop Paul

Sacrament Preparation Registration

We invite any students who are in **Grade 2 or older** and their parents to join us in beginning the faith journey in the preparation of the sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Eucharist to join us on **Wednesday, April 4, 2018 6:30-8:00 pm** downstairs in the Rectorry.

Please note that this will be the only registration session and will include registration for Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Eucharist. The Parent meeting will be very short and Session 1 will follow the meeting

First Friday Adoration

On the **First Friday of April** we will have a day of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. The church will be open between 9:00 am and 12: pm and everyone will be able to come for longer or shorter period of time to spend with Eucharistic Jesus. We begin with Mass at 8:30 am, then the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for Adoration and prayer.



There is a sign up sheet at the back of the church so that at least 2 people sign for each hour to make sure there is always someone present in the church with Blessed Sacrament exposed.

We invite everyone to come during a day to spend some time with our Lord.



LITURGICAL BITS & BITES FOR



Passion (Passion) Sunday



Today we commemorate Christ's entry into Jerusalem for the completion of the Paschal Mystery. In the old calendar before Vatican II, the Church celebrated Passion Sunday two Sundays before Easter, and then Palm Sunday was the beginning of Holy Week. The Church has combined the two to reinforce the solemnity of Holy Week.

The Palm Sunday procession is formed of Christians who, in the "fullness of faith," make their own the gesture of the Jews and endow it with its full significance. Following the Jews' example we proclaim Christ as a Victor... Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord. But by our faith we know, as they did not, all that His triumph stands for. He is the Messiah, the Son of David and the Son of God. He is the sign of contradiction, acclaimed by some and reviled by others. Sent into this world to wrest us from sin and the power of Satan, He underwent His Passion, the punishment for our sins, but issues forth triumphant from the tomb, the victor over death, making our peace with God and taking us with Him into the kingdom of His Father in heaven.

Triduum



The word Triduum comes from the Latin and means "three days." It is commonly pronounced "TRIH-doo-uhm" and is usually used in reference to the Easter Triduum, the three most sacred days in the church year. The Easter Triduum begins with the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, reaches its high point at the Easter Vigil and concludes with evening prayer on Easter Sunday. Often there is confusion about how that block of time can be counted as three days. The traditional Jewish practice of counting days from sunset to sunset is used during the Triduum. Thus, Holy Thursday evening to Good Friday evening is the first day, Good Friday evening to Holy Saturday evening is the second day and Holy Saturday evening to Sunday evening is the third day. After centuries of neglect, Pope Pius XII in 1955 restored the Triduum liturgies to their rightful place as the culmination of the entire liturgical year.

Although we talk of the three days, our Triduum prayer is best understood as one liturgy in three interlocking movements. The death and resurrection of the Lord cannot be separated. The meaning of these days is distorted when we imagine that the liturgy re-enacts the final events in the life of Jesus in a sort of historical review. We miss the point in that case. The mystery of Jesus' death and resurrection is a present reality; the boundaries of time, and the boundaries of death, have no power here.

Our past, present and future are irrevocably marked by our own immersion into this mystery through baptism. We wash one another's feet, reverence the cross, light fires in the night and proclaim the stories of our salvation with an awed awareness that this is what it means to be baptized. The Easter Vigil then is the premier time to welcome new members into the church through baptism, confirmation and Eucharist.

Ideally, no other parish events are scheduled on these three days; the presence, time and energy of every person in the community are needed for what we do here. Yes, this may be inconvenient, but birth and death are rarely convenient! Our forty days of prayer, fasting and almsgiving lead us to the Triduum—beyond its history, into its mystery.



Chrism Mass

The Mass of Chrism comes once a year to your cathedral. If you've never celebrated it, you're missing one of the most solemn and significant liturgies of our church. During the Mass, your bishop will bless the oil of catechumens, the oil of the sick and the oil of chrism. We use the first for adult catechumens and infants, the second for anointing the sick, and the sacred oil of chrism for baptism, confirmation, the ordination of priests, and the consecration of altars. All three are basically an olive oil; chrism spices the air with the scent of a perfume, traditionally balsam. For pastoral reasons, another vegetable oil and perfume may be used.

Bishops have blessed oil ever since the early church. They baptized catechumens at the Easter Vigil and prepared chrism fresh for the occasion. While they were consecrating chrism, they blessed the other oils as well. Rather than overburdening the Vigil with this ritual, bishops blessed these oils at the previous celebration of the Eucharist, Holy Thursday. This also allowed time to transport vessels of oil from the cathedral to all the churches in the diocese. For more than one thousand years, bishops blessed the oils at the cathedral Holy Thursday liturgy, but in 1955 we added a separate Mass earlier in the day at the cathedral for that purpose, the Mass of Chrism. Today it may be celebrated on a different day shortly before Holy Thursday to give the celebration independence and so that more people like you may attend.

Because the bishop is the only minister in the diocese who may consecrate chrism, this Mass highlights his ministry and our union with him. He will not baptize and confirm everyone in the parishes of the diocese, but he will be symbolically present in the chrism that the priests and deacons will use. In recent years, this Mass has also acknowledged the ministry of priests. It invites them to renew their commitment of service and to receive the prayers and support of the people. The Mass of Chrism gathers the faithful of the diocese at their mother church with their shepherd to prepare for celebrations of Christ in all our churches throughout the year.

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Holy Thursday

On Holy Thursday, at the Last Supper, Jesus established the Eucharist and the Priesthood, two of the most important aspects of the Mass. He asked his followers to continue to celebrate this in memory of Him. In this Year of the Priests we are invited to pray for all priests, especially those, who have served us and ministered sacraments to us over the years.



Washing Feet

“No shirt, no shoes, no service.”

Restaurants often display this sign to show who's not welcome at their table.

A sign at the Last Supper could have read, “No shirt, no shoes = service.” It would have shown who was welcome at the table.

One of the most striking scenes at the Last Supper happens when Jesus pulls off his tunic, has the disciples remove their sandals, and begins a service like none other — washing feet. The episode, which occurs only in John's Gospel, comes where we expect to find Jesus' most famous line from the Last Supper. “This is my body. This is my blood.” Instead of pointing at the bread and wine, he gives an example of service. We begin to see that Eucharist involves more than food and drink — it involves commitment, community, faith and selflessness. Other New Testament writers tell us Jesus said, “Do this,” in reference to the celebration of the Eucharist. John's Jesus says it in reference to the service of washing feet.

For this reason, the liturgy of Holy Thursday invites us to imitate literally the example of Jesus. The presider may wash the feet of members of the community. In this act, the local church witnesses the selfless service of Christ and sees an example of faith in action. If we are believers, if we share in the bread and the cup, then we also share in service.

Sometimes we hear the complaint that the washing of the feet is too old-fashioned, that it doesn't fit our modern culture. Sometimes we search for a more meaningful adaptation washing hands, or shining shoes! But it's hard to beat the shocking humility of the original gesture. It didn't fit Jesus' culture very well either. Peter objected to the whole idea. The service to which Jesus calls us also doesn't fit the culture. Businesses may call it service, but they charge us even if it's self-service. The service of the Gospel is freely given.

Holy Thursday invites us to the table not as guests who dine and run, but as hosts who eat and serve. The meal isn't over till the cleanup.

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Good Friday



Paschal Fast

We are all reminded of the special fast: Good Friday is the day of fasting and of abstinence from meat. Christian fasting obtains its full meaning when we deprive ourselves of food in order to be more open for prayer, to share more in the suffering of those who are starving and to save money to give to the poor. Fasting among Christians is a penitential discipline intended to open our hearts to God and others, a means of purification and spiritual liberation, a witness of the depth of our faith. The law of abstinence from meat binds those who are aged 14 and older; the law of fasting binds those from 18 to 59 years of age. Parents and educators are reminded of their duty to introduce children gradually to the understanding and practice of penance. Adult example will be the greatest influence in this matter.



INRI

Atop a crucifix in a Catholic church or home is sometimes found the inscription INRI. The letters commonly appear on a banner affixed to the uppermost quadrant of the cross above the head of the crucified Christ. Not all crucifixes bear the letters, but many do.

The letters abbreviate the Latin inscription *Iesus Nazarenus Rex Iudaeorum*, or “Jesus the Nazarene, King of the Jews.” According to John’s gospel (19:19-22), Pontius Pilate ordered this inscription to give the name and hometown of the victim and to publicize the grounds for his execution. Soldiers wrote the words in Hebrew, Latin and Greek – the languages of the Old Testament, the Roman government and the New Testament. In Christian art, the words are sometimes completely spelled out, but more commonly the Latin text is rendered as a simple acronym.

The chief priests of the Jews objected that Pilate should have written, “*This man said, I am King of the Jews.*” Pilate refused to change the text. His reply became a chilling aphorism of authority in Latin: “*Quod scripsi scripsi.*” “What I have written, I have written.” Thus Pilate let stand the words intended for condemnation, now transformed as affirmation. Pilate would not acknowledge the kingship of Jesus in the trial, but he proclaimed it publicly – if sarcastically – on the cross.

The inscription appears in the other gospels (Mark 15:26, Matthew 27:37, and Luke 23:38), each time with slightly different wording. These are the only known words written about Jesus during his lifetime. To believers, they affirm the humanity and divine royalty of Jesus.

In Rome, the Church of the Holy Cross in Jerusalem claims to have the relic of the original sign.

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The blessing of the Easter food

It is a Holy week customs that go back at least 1000 years are still being observed by many Catholics around the world, which is also dear to the heart of every Pole. As people of God, we are grateful to God for all His gifts of both nature and grace, and, as a tokens of this gratitude, we have the food of his table sanctified with the hope that spring, the season of the Resurrection, will also be blessed by God's goodness and mercy.



The usual fare on the Easter table includes: meat-usually ham and sausage; cakes of all kinds; eggs-both decorated and plain are a symbol of new life or rebirth. There is usually a Paschal Lamb-can be made from cake; butter; some cheese; horseradish, bitter herbs that signify the bitterness of the suffering of Christ; salt-a sign of hospitality, vinegar and oil. Bread is always in the basket, both a symbol of communion, the bread of the last supper and the traditional sweet breads.

The food is brought to the church and blessed by the parish priest on Holy Saturday. After the blessing, the food is usually set-aside until Easter morning when the head of the house shares the blessed egg, symbol of life, with family and friends. Having exchanged wishes, all continue to enjoy a hearty meal. Today many local parishes still observe this custom. This centuries old custom is indeed richly symbolic and beautiful. It is one in which the whole family can participate and help prepare.



Easter First Readings

At Sunday Mass the first reading usually comes from the Old Testament. This custom changes, however, during the Easter season. For seven weeks from Easter Sunday until Pentecost, the first readings all come from the same book: the Acts of the Apostles. Thus the three readings at Sunday Mass and the two readings at daily Mass all come from the New Testament throughout the Easter season.

Easter makes everything new. The resurrection so changes human history that we immerse ourselves in the New Testament to seek more deeply the meaning of this mystery.

The Acts of the Apostles tells of the beginnings of the church. It opens with the ascension and Pentecost, recounts the spread of the faith in peace and persecution, and concludes with the missionary activity of Paul. This book bridges the gospels with the rest of church history. The Gospels culminate in the resurrection of Jesus, which inspired evangelization. Each Easter our church announces the resurrection through the Scriptures and increases its membership through baptism. We witness evangelization today as we recall its origins in the Acts of the Apostles.

The Old Testament is not completely absent. The Liturgy of the Word throughout the season still includes a responsorial psalm. The Mass for the Pentecost Vigil includes a reading from the Old Testament, foreshadowing the gift of the Spirit.

When planning other liturgies for the Easter season – funerals, weddings, penance services or baptisms, for example – the first readings for those celebrations best come from the New Testament. No matter the occasion, our Scripture readings set this season aside from all others, because it ranks above all others. Easter announces new life in Christ.

Holy Week Minister's List the Volunteer list for the Holy Week celebrations is available at the back bulletin board of the church. Please sign up for the ministries and day you would like to take part of. Thank you!

Food Bank Collection This year during the Holy Thursday Mass we will be taking a collection of non- perishable food items for the poor. Father Trini will announce when the food will be brought up before the altar.

This is a good occasion for our parish to help the poor of our community.

Minister's List

The new Ministers list for April – June 2018 has been e-mailed to you this last week for those who do not receive e-mails there are photocopies for you at the back of the church.

News from MCHS

It's a Garden Party! Come join us for an evening with the multi - talented students of MCHS at their annual Coffee House Talent Show evening. This impressive evening is Wednesday **March 21** at the Cultural Centre. Doors open at 6:30 pm and the 2 hour show starts at 7 pm. Tickets are \$10 in advance at MCHS and \$15 at the door. You are sure to be amazed and impressed!!!

CWL The CWL is organizing a “Bakeless Bake Sale” which will run for the this weekend. Please see the envelope for details! Thank you for your support.

Next CWL meeting is April 5th at 7:00 pm at the Morinville Community High School. Everyone welcome. We will also be discussing our latest book club choice “The Red Tent” by Anita Diamant.

As you ponder your donation to Development and Peace for this year, please remember that **CWL stamps for Development and Peace** is also an option. There is a donation box at the back of the church where you can put the stamps that you've cut off envelopes. They will be forwarded on your behalf to Development and Peace in Montreal where a team of expert volunteers sort and package them for sale. The profits go to Development and Peace. Any stamps from all countries are accepted and will make a difference. Thank you.

KC Breakfast

The Next KC Breakfast is March 25, 2018
from 9:00 am till 12:30 pm at the Rendez -Vous Centre



Word Among us

The new copies of the Word Among us books for April are available at the back of the Church.

Marriage Preparation 2018 New Date



There will be a Marriage Preparation for those who are planning to get married.

April 27th, 28th & 29th at the Morinville Rendez-Vous Centre

There are also registration forms at the back of the Church.

To register, please contact Louise Lavoie at louiselavoie@dioceseofst.ca Tel: 780.645.3277 ext 30

CELEBRATIONS OF THE HOLY WEEK

Day	Time	Mass Intention	Feast
Mar 24 Sat - sam	5:00 pm	RIP Roger Champagne (24 th Anniv) - Lorette	Palm (Passion) Sunday
Mar 25 Sun - dim	9:00 am	RIP Leon Schlacter (10 th Anniv) – Frank & Ellen	
	11:00 am	For Parishioners	
Mar 27 Tues - mar	8:30 am	NO MASS	
	7:00 pm	Chrism Mass at the Cathedral in St. Paul	
Mar 28 Wed - mer	10:00 am	(Lodge) RIP Leonie L'Abbe – Simone Riopel	
	10:00 am	(Aspen) NO MASS	
Mar 29 Thurs - jeu	7:00 pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper For vocations to the priesthood and religious life	Holy Thursday 
	after Mass till 11 pm	Time for prayer and being with Jesus in front to the Blessed Sacrament	
Mar 30 Fri - ven	3:00 pm	Celebration of the Lord's Passion	Good Friday 
	7:00 pm	Way of the Cross	
Mar 31 Sat - sam	2:00 pm	Blessing of the Food	Holy Saturday
	8:30 pm	Special Intention - Friend	Easter Vigil
Apr 1 Sun - dim	9:00 am	For Parishioners	Easter Sunday
	11:00 am	RIP Real Cormier – Alice Wojtkiw	The Resurrection of the Lord

PLEASE PRAY FOR... Irene Dupuis, Emilienne Dostie, Braden Rowland. All those who are sick or struggling and who are going through any medical procedures and treatments.



Please Pray for...

+ Denise Turgeon, who passed away on March 19, 2018
Her Funeral Mass was held at our Parish on Friday March 23, 2018
Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon her.

Collection for March 18th \$ 3793.05

Restoration. \$ 135.00

THANK YOU! MERCI

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dust Angels	- March 26 th , 8:00 am, Monday	- Church
Lectio Divina	- March 28 th , 7:00 pm, Wednesday	- Downstairs Rectory

The Parish Office will be open this week only on Wednesday and Thursday.

Gift Cards Gift Cards will be on sale this weekend after all Masses.

