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Bishop of the Diocese
Most Reverend Gerard P Bergie, D.D.

Pastor
Father Wieslaw Woloszyn

Sunday Masses
Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday 9:00 and 11:00 am
Children's Liturgy: September - June

Weekday Masses
Tuesday 6:00 pm
Wednesday through Friday 8:30 am
Rosary/Adoration before Weekday Masses

Confessions
Sat 4 - 4:45 pm or before weekday Masses

Baptism
Sunday 12:00 pm by appointment

Marriage
Arrangements should be made at least 6 months in advance.
Marriage preparation course required

Sacrament of the Sick
Communion for the Sick and Shut-ins
Please call the office.

Secretary
Sandy Johnson
Office hours: Wednesday and Friday
8:00 am to 3:00 pm
Enter on Victoria St.

Schools
St. Patrick Elementary School
905-835-1091
Lakeshore Catholic High School
905-835-2451

Cemetery
Mount St. Joseph's, 712 Lakeshore Rd E
289-213-2509

Diocesan Website: www.sainted.com

Min. Schedule - Apr 5/6

Hospitality:
5:00 pm - Fred Tonnos
9:00 am - Sandy MacIntyre
11:00 am - Karen Schroeder

Organist:
5:00 pm - Dino Sicoli
9:00 am - Dino Sicoli
11:00 am - Dino Sicoli

Diocese of St. Catharines St. Patrick Catholic Church



Parish Established 1859 Church Dedicated 1880

123 King Street
Port Colborne, Ontario L3K 4G3
Telephone: 905-834-6426
Email: parish.stpatrick@gmail.com
Etransfer Email: st.patrickpcdonations@gmail.com
Website: www.stpatrickcatholic.ca

The 4th Sunday of
Lent - Year C
Do you believe
in the
Son of Man?

Lectors:
5:00 pm - Tom Lannan
9:00 am - Cathy Sneek
11:00 am - Mark Morasse

Video:
5:00 pm - Fred Tonnos
9:00 am - Sandy MacIntyre
11:00 am - Albert DeLaat

March 30, 2025 A.D. The 4th Sunday of Lent - Year C



*Lord may the request of our
people rise before you like a fragrant offering*

Tues Apr 1 6:00 pm +For the repose of the soul of Jack Cunninham
Wed Apr 2 8:30 am +For the repose of the soul of Joe Healey
Thurs Apr 3 8:30 am +For the repose of the soul of Richard Rossi
11:00 am Mass at Portal Village
7:00 pm RCIA Class
Fri Apr 4 8:30 am +For the repose of the soul of Maria Cassar
9:00am Holy Hour with Adoration, Exposition and Benediction
7:00 pm Stations of the Cross
Sat Apr 5 10:00 am - 2:00 pm Diocesan Wide Day of Reconciliation
The 5th Sunday of Lent
Sat Apr 5 5:00 pm +For the repose of the soul of Liberato Pinelli
Sun Apr 6 9:00 am +For the repose of the soul of Samantha Zuvic
11:00 am +For the living and deceased members of St. Patrick's Parish

by 4th Degree KOC
by Jackie & Victor Gatt
by Gloria & Tony Marchionda

by Tom & Carmen Lannan

by Flora Armenti & family
by Sam & Geraldine Zuvic

TIME FOR SPIRITUAL SPRING CLEANING

For too many of us, Lent is a season of doom and gloom, a time to feel bad about all the ways we are not "measuring up" in our spiritual lives. But this view could not be further from the truth. Lent is a season of refreshment and love, of awakening and rebirth. Lent is intended to be a springtime for us in our spiritual lives where all can become new again.

St. Paul tells us, "Whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come. And all this is from God, who has reconciled us to himself through Christ." The Gospel, too, is filled with this theme of awakening and the extravagant, life-changing love that the Father has for each one of us; it is the well-known parable of the Prodigal Son.

We are all familiar with this amazing story - the bratty younger son who has the audacity to ask his dad for his inheritance early, only to squander it sinfully away. It makes us bristle instinctively at his nerve when we read it. But isn't that exactly what we do when we selfishly turn away from God in our own lives? We squander away the inheritance of grace He has given us.

In desperation from the mess he had made of his life, the son finally "comes to his senses" - awakening to the truth that he is a beloved son of a loving and merciful father and decides to return home. His contrition is faltering and imperfect and seems motivated in large part by his growling

stomach.

But it was enough for the loving father. "While still a long way off, the father caught sight of him." The son was still a long way off from a deep understanding of what he had lost and what he was about to gain. But that small and imperfect openness to the father's love was enough. In fact, the father is "filled with compassion for him" and immediately sets about preparing

feast and fine clothes for this son. What an extravagance of love! What a beautiful picture Jesus gives us of our Father's love and mercy. Oh, how this should fill us with gratitude for such a Father! Be refreshed in this love. We are new creations thanks to this reconciling love.

And what comfort this passage gives to those of us who watch with sorrowful hearts for a return to faith for own "prodigal" loved ones. Our Father is watching and waiting for their return to Him even more eagerly and patiently than we are.

We owe God everything! But let's start by giving him one little thing. Take even a faltering step closer to Him - go to confession, join in the Stations of the Cross, call a family member or friend you are at odds with and try to reconcile. With just the tiniest bit of spiritual "spring cleaning" we can be sure we will be swept up in our Father's loving embrace and find ourselves feasting in His presence. That is what lent is all about.



PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT

If you are still unable to attend Mass for health reason, and would like to assist us financially:

Please use our donation e-transfer email:

st.patrickpcdonations@gmail.com

Do not enter a security password as the funds will be directly deposited into the bank.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

For Roman Catholics throughout the world, the Stations of the Cross are synonymous with Lent, Holy Week and, especially, Good Friday. This devotion is also known as the "Way of the Cross".



Join us as we walk with Jesus through the Stations of the Cross every **Friday at 7pm** during Lent. Please come and spend some time with Jesus on his way to Calvary.

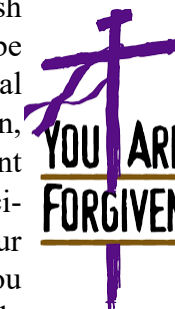
SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

On Sat, Apr 5, 2025, in every parish church across the diocese a priest will be available from 10am – 2pm to hear individual confessions. No matter how long it has been, you are welcome to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance, which assists us in spiritual discipline as we turn away from sin and open our hearts to reconciliation and healing; or you can also simply come to pray before the Lord.

FASTING, PRAYERS AND ALMSGIVING

As we begin this Lenten Season, let us contemplate what this time means and how the three pillars of Lent lead us to a closer relationship with God.

In **prayer**, we draw closer in relationship with God. Pray now especially for peace in our world. Prayer is essential for fasting and almsgiving because prayer gives us the strength to fast. **Fasting and abstinence** makes sense if it really chips away at our security and, as a consequence, benefits someone else. In addition to the above traditional forms, try fasting from social media, technology, gossip, and excessive screen time. Fasting reminds us of our hunger for God. Fasting and abstinence is observed every Friday during Lent and on Ash Wednesday. **Almsgiving** (giving) is a response to God, one that we can come to through prayer and fasting. It is a way to live out our gratitude for all that God has given us. Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving lead us to the heart of what Lent is about - a deeper conversion.



KOC TURKEY PIE FUNDRAISER

The Knights of Columbus are preparing and selling six inch turkey pies for \$8.00 each! Please pre-order by April 1 by contacting:

Tom Lannan 905-835-1841

or Tim Grawey 905-834-6791

Orders are to be picked up at St. Therese Hall on Apr 5 at a designated time.

INSPIRATION

Our Parishioner (Gino Arcaro) has been inspired by Bishop Bergie's desire to "Setting hearts on Fire". Please go to our website:

www.stpatrickcatholic.ca

and read the "Blog" section. Gino Arcaro has posted 7 articles about attendance at Mass, in hopes of inspiring discussion amongst parishioners. He hopes this discussion will lead to insights as to how to help the situation.

DIOCESAN INITIATIVES IN OUR JUBILEE YEAR

The MESSAGES OF HOPE Speaker Series continues. Messages of Hope sessions are free;

Everyone is welcome!

Register using this QR Code

or <https://forms.office.com/r/rehnH9PdnB>

Upcoming sessions in the Series:

April 30, 2025 Speaker: Father Peter Rowe, Pastor,
St. Vincent de Paul Parish

May 24, 2025 Speaker: Dr. Joseph Lombardi,
Place: Our Lady of the Rosary Shrine, Port Colborne

June 14, 2025 Speaker: Cardinal Thomas Collins,
Place: Gethsemane Ministries, Wellandport

NEW CREATION PRAYER

Loving God, as you have said,

"if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation,"

I humbly ask for your grace to be renewed in your love and to walk in a newness of life.

Forgive my old ways

and help me to embrace the newness you offer.

May my heart be filled with your love,
and may I reflect your light to the world.

In the name of Jesus, Amen.

