



## First Sunday of Lent-Year A

Diocesan Theme: **Christ is Everything for Us!** "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life". (John 6.68).

Parish Mission Statement: **Love God, Love Others, Make Disciples!** Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal parish through the liturgy, faith formation and sacramental life, provides opportunities for members to develop their faith and service to others.

Mass Intentions  for the Week

**Saturday, February 29<sup>th</sup>.**

**4:30 pm-**For the repose of the soul of Constance Angelina Moore by Tom & Leslie Joiner

**Sunday, March 1-First Sunday of Lent**

**9:00 am-** For the repose of the soul of David Martins by the Cogan family

**10:45 am-** For the intentions of the Parishioners by the Pastor

**Tuesday, March 3**

**7:00 pm-**For the intentions of Marc Lalonde on the occasion of his birthday by his family

**Wednesday, March 4**

**8:30 am-STA**

**9:30 am-OLMM-**

**Thursday, March 5**

**9:00 am-**For the repose of the souls of George Hendley, family members and friends

**Friday, March 6**

**9:00 am**

**Saturday, March 7**

**4:30 pm-**For the repose of the soul of Donald Potvin by Tom and Leslie Joiner

**Sunday, March 8**

**9:00 am-**For the repose of the soul of Wesley Moss by the Cogan family

**10:45 am-** For the intentions of the Parishioners by the Pastor

~IN OUR PRAYERS~

For the sick among our families and friends especially:

Genny Detillieux, Marie Kirkman, and Alia M.

**YOUR OFFERINGS FOR:**

February 23-\$ 3,298.00

Thank you for your generosity and support

**INTENTIONS OF THE HOLY FATHER FOR MARCH:  
Catholics in China**

We pray that the Church in China may persevere in its faithfulness to the Gospel and grow in unity.

## GOSPEL REFLECTION

As we begin the beautiful and challenging season of Lent, our readings this week remind us why it is that we need these 40 days so much. They also suggest a particular strategy we Christian stewards might take as we make the journey towards Easter, so that we arrive there as better disciples — more focused on Christ and His mission for us.

Our first reading takes us all the way back to Genesis, reminding us of our Creator and the loving care and lavish gifts He gave to our ancestors, Adam and Eve. Out of pure love, He "formed man out of the clay of the ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life." Then He "planted a garden in Eden... [and] made various trees grow that were delightful to look at and good for food." Life was good in the Garden! Until the first couple allowed just a sliver of doubt in the goodness of God to enter their minds.

Our second reading, from St. Paul's letter to the Romans, sums up this ancient story and reminds us that the same all-perfect God who created Adam and Eve and that good Garden has provided a remedy for our sins — the saving love and perfect obedience of Jesus on our behalf. "For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so through the obedience of the one, the many will be made righteous." This is truly Good News!

Our first reading reminds us of our need for this 40-day "reset" to examine our lives and make changes where needed so that we can become stronger in overcoming temptations to sin. Our second reading gives us hope that this reset is truly possible through the mercy and grace of Jesus.

Our Gospel passage, from Matthew, shows us by the example of Jesus Himself one way that we can attain spiritual strength and grow to become more effective disciples and stewards. In this passage we find our Lord in the desert, fasting for 40 days and 40 nights. Like Adam and Eve, He is confronted by the evil one. But unlike our fallen parents, our Lord triumphs definitively over the devil's lies and sends him slithering away. How did He do it? By knowing the Scriptures and by proclaiming them confidently, and by His perfect trust in the Father.

This Lent, let's embrace this 40-day spiritual reset. Let's commit to prayerfully studying the Scriptures. This could take the form of a daily family Gospel reflection, a few moments with the Psalms at the beginning of a lunch break or any other countless ways. If this requires a bit of "fasting" from social media or a favorite TV show in order to find the time, all the better since Jesus Himself fasted for 40 days, too. As faithful stewards, we are called to prioritize our use of time to seek relationship with our loving God. Let's get to know Him better by studying His Word this Lent! Blessings!

**MARCH 1, 2020**

**Are you new to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Parish?  
WELCOME! If you have not yet registered, please complete a registration  
form found in the foyer or in the office.  
You may bring the completed form to the office**

***What's Happening This Week***

- Mon. March 2 -Choir -9:00 am-church
- Mon. March 2- Bible Study-7:00pm- Hall
- Tues. March 3-- CGS-Level three-4:30-6:30pm-hall

**Our Lenten retreat** will begin on the weekend of March 21/22 during the masses. The retreat will resume on Monday, March 23 at 7:00pm, Tuesday, March 24, at 7:00 and Wednesday, March 25 at 6:30 pm followed by reconciliation. More info to follow.

**The New Evangelization Summit:** A conference on Evangelization. Infinity Convention Centre, Ottawa, **April 25.** Webcast to host sites around the world. Catholic speakers: Fr. Robert Spitzer, Michael Dopp, Sherry Weddell, Brett Powell, and Barbara Mason. Register for free at [www.newevangelization.ca](http://www.newevangelization.ca).

**PILGRIMAGE STATUE OF OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL** is available to go home with a family this week. If you wish to take home Our Lady for one week, please sign up on the sheet on the table in the foyer.

**PLEASE JOIN US EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT  
FOR THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS, AT 6:45 PM  
FOLLOWED BY MASS**

- Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> - Led by Deacon Allan
- March 6<sup>th</sup> - Led by Deacon Tom
- March 13<sup>th</sup> - Led by the K of C
- March 20<sup>th</sup> - Led by the CGS
- March 27<sup>th</sup> - Led by Fr. Robert
- April 3<sup>rd</sup> - Led by the CWL

**World Day of Prayer 2020** "Rise! Take your mat and walk" All are welcome to join in this global ecumenical movement which brings Christians of many traditions together to observe a common day of prayer annually. this year the Anglican church will host this prayer service Friday March 6th at 10 am at the Russell Anglican Church. Zimbabwe is the country we will hear the needs and concerns of as we join in solidarity with them in prayer. Following the service there will be a video and lunch will be served.

**Healing the Human Spirit Workshop:** A weekend of teaching on healing prayer led by Henri Lemay. Specific topics include depression and parental inversion. Sponsored by Holy Spirit Healing Clinic. St. Augustine Parish, 1060 Baseline Rd., **Fri., Mar. 27, 7:00 pm & Sat., Mar. 28, 8:45 am - 4:00 pm.** Free will offering. Info: [edna.dubroy@rogers.com](mailto:edna.dubroy@rogers.com).

**Summer Employment Opportunities at Waupoos Farm:** Waupoos Family Farm is now accepting applications from students and youth (ages 16 - 30) for summer employment. Complete details at <http://waupoos.com/employment/>. Application deadline is March 18, 2020. Info: [contact@waupoos.com](mailto:contact@waupoos.com)

**Have you been missing the fellowship from attending coffee Sundays?** If so please feel free to sign up and host an up-coming coffee Sunday. Sign up sheets are posted just outside the kitchen. Thank you all in advance.

**The parish Women's Group Ministry** is inviting all women of the parish to join us on Friday mornings after the 9am mass for formation and fellowship. Moms may bring their children. The format is drop-in. We use the Abiding Together podcast material which covers various Spiritual Life topics under Catholic light.

**CWL Bursary Applications** are available to any student of our parish currently in their graduating year or within one year of graduating from grade 12 for the annual CWL bursary award of \$400.00. For more information and/or to obtain an application form please refer to the parish web site: [olmm.ca/groups/catholicwomensleague/bursary](http://olmm.ca/groups/catholicwomensleague/bursary) info, bursary application or contact Lorraine Barker, Bursary Committee Chairperson at 613-445-5779 or [PL.Barker@Hotmail.com](mailto:PL.Barker@Hotmail.com)  
Completed application forms must be in by April 30, 2020

**CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE** at [www.olmm.ca](http://www.olmm.ca) and our Facebook page  
Email: [admin@olmm.ca](mailto:admin@olmm.ca)