

The Third to Fourth Sunday of Lent – Year B

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 members to develop their faith and service to others.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 2nd

4:30pm Repose of the soul of Mary Jarzab by the CWL

Sunday, March 3rd – Third Sunday of Lent

9:00am Intentions of the parishioners by the Pastor

10:45am Intentions of Bruce Helliker by Winnie Kerfoot

Tuesday, March 5th

7:00pm CANCELLED

Wednesday, March 6th

9:30am Healing intentions of Erika Barten by Diane Ceponkus

Thursday, March 7th

9:00am For the family of Mariette Brault

Friday, March 8th

9:00am Repose of the soul of Dolores Major by the Joiner family

Saturday, March 9th

4:30pm Repose of the souls of George Hendley, family members and friends

Sunday, March 10th – Fourth Sunday of Lent

9:00am Repose of the soul of Mary Alice Doyle by the KOC Council 12401

10:45am Intentions of the parishioners by the Pastor

Tuesday, March 12th

7:00pm Intentions of Deacon Tom Stephenson by the CWL

Wednesday, March 13th

9:30am Intentions of Nicole Desmarais by Cathy Gambell

Thursday, March 14th

9:00am For the family of Mariette Brault

Friday, March 15th

9:00am Intentions and well-being of all seniors

Saturday, March 16th

4:30pm Repose of the soul of Dick and Sally James By Ken and Heather Sisk

Sunday, March 17th – Fifth Sunday of Lent

9:00am Intentions of the parishioners by the Pastor

10:45am Repose of the soul of Bev Cote by the KOC Council 12401

The Third Sunday of Lent (Year B)

He made a whip out of cords and drove them all out of the temple area, with the sheep and oxen, and spilled the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables, and to those who sold doves he said, “Take these out of here, and stop making My Father’s house a marketplace.” [John 2:15–16](#)

All four Gospels speak of Jesus’ cleansing of the Temple. However, there is a difference between the way this event is portrayed in the Synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark and Luke) and in the way it is portrayed in John’s Gospel. John’s Gospel places this event at the very beginning of Jesus’ public ministry during the first of His three annual trips to Jerusalem for the Passover. This was His first attempt at cleansing the Temple. Jesus was also less severe in John’s version of the story, stating only that the moneychangers had turned His Father’s House into a “marketplace.” In the three Synoptic Gospels, this event takes place at the very end of Jesus’ public ministry, less than a week before Jesus’ death when He returned to Jerusalem for the last time. In those versions, Jesus was more severe, stating that the moneychangers had turned His Father’s House into a “den of thieves” and not just a “marketplace.” In commenting upon the differences between John’s version and the Synoptics, Saint Augustine and Saint Thomas Aquinas believe that they are two different occasions when a similar act of cleansing of the Temple took place.

The Jewish Temple, at the time of Jesus’ public ministry, was the place people traveled to each year for Passover to offer the sacrifice of a spotless male lamb in commemoration of the first Passover in Egypt when God set the Jews free from slavery. During this annual celebration, Jewish families who traveled to Jerusalem would purchase a lamb for sacrifice. At the appointed time, they slaughtered the animal in the courtyard of the Temple and then presented it to the priest who gathered some of the blood and sprinkled it on the altar, and then removed the skin, organs and fat to be burned in sacrifice. The meat was returned to the family and roasted on a pomegranate branch so that they could feast on it as they recalled the saving action God granted their ancestors in Egypt.

Today, we see the Jewish Temple as a symbol and prefiguration of Christ, the New Temple Who is also the Priest and the Lamb of Sacrifice. Recall, also, that at Jesus’ death, the veil of the Temple was torn in two, opening it up to the whole world so that all may share in the Sacrifice of the Lamb of God. We are now invited into this Holy of Holies to share in the new life of grace accomplished by His Sacrifice. Since the grace of this Sacrifice of our Lord enters into each and every heart that believes, to cleanse and purify, then every person receiving this grace becomes a new dwelling place of God, a member of His new Temple, the Body of Christ.

When Jesus came to the Passover feast and witnessed the buying and selling of these animals in the Temple, He drove them out with much zeal. It was clear that this holy celebration of the Passover had become less of a celebration of faith and more of a marketplace for profit. Jesus’ action is also a symbol of the zeal with which He now seeks to cleanse the temple of your soul. At first, when sin and disorder pervade our souls, our Lord may take the approach of a gentle rebuke, as He did in His first cleansing of the Temple in John’s Gospel. If we persist in our sins, then our Lord will become more zealous in His cleansing as He was in His final attempt to cleanse the Temple the week before He died.

Reflect, today, upon this twofold cleansing of the Temple in Jerusalem by our Lord and apply Jesus’ sacred actions today to your own soul. Are there new sins that you have fallen into recently that require a gentle rebuke from our Lord? Are there sins that Jesus has been revealing to you for years now that you obstinately persist in? Allow Him to rebuke you in love and to cleanse you so that His saving Sacrifice as the Lamb of God will indeed purify you, and allow His judgment and wrath to “Passover” you this Lent.

My cleansing Lord, You cleansed the Temple of Jerusalem not once, but twice. Your zeal for its purity of worship was clear. Please come and make my soul Your dwelling place today and cleanse me of all sin. Please help me to especially see any ways that I have remained obstinate in my sin, and please cleanse those sins with much vigor. Jesus, I trust in You.

Intentions of the Holy Father for March, 2024

FOR THE NEW MARTYRS

We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.

March 3rd – 10th, 2024

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 or drop in the collection basket.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLEASE JOIN US EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT FOR THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

March 8th – Led by K of C

March 15th – Led by CWL

March 22nd – Led by Fr. Anthony



STATIONS WILL START AT 7:00PM. THERE WILL NOT BE A MASS AFTER THEM.

There will be a teaching Mass for SMTCS-Grades 3 to 6 on Tuesday, March 5th at 10:00am. Hence, the Mass at 7:00pm is cancelled.

Our next dedicated seniors mass will be on Friday, March 15th at 9:00am with a prayer for seniors and a special blessing. There will be light refreshments after the mass.

CWL Bursary Applications are available to any student of our parish currently in their graduating year or within 1 year post graduation from Grade 12. The annual bursary award has been raised to **\$500** this year. For more information and/or to obtain an application please refer to the parish website: http://www.olmm.ca/groups_cwl.html or the parish office.

Completed applications and supporting documents must be submitted by April 30th, 2024. Applications can be mailed in or dropped off at the office. Any questions contact Heather Sisk, Bursary Committee Chair, at 613-443-2870 or email heatherasisk@gmail.com

"Be still, and know that I am God" (Ps. 46:10). Are you interested in experiencing contemplative prayer? Christian Meditation meeting at Our Lady of Fatima, 153 Woodroffe Avenue: Saturdays @ 9:45am. Info: Theresa Ziebell 613-722-1693.

Legion of Mary

Annual Acies which is our consecration To the Blessed Virgin Mary

Date: Saturday March 23, 2024

Time : 10am to 1pm

Place: St. Maurice Catholic Church
4 Perry St., Ottawa, Ont.

All members both active and auxiliary
Light refreshment afterwards

MEANING

Life has meaning when you recognize your God-given gifts and share them with others. Join the Catholic Women's League and celebrate the meaning of Life as you share your gifts.

OLMM Spiritual Library

Come and browse through the OLMM Spiritual Library. Look for the section now devoted to books and DVDs for Sacramental preparation – First Communion, Confession, Confirmation. Many books on the lives of the Saints are available also.

NEW BATHROOMS

All three bathrooms have been backed-up previously because of hand towels, flushable wipes and diapers being flushed down the toilets. This is an unnecessary expense to the church. Please be mindful that even if the diapers and wipes are flushable, they can still cause blockage to our bathrooms. Thank you for your cooperation.

EASTER FLOWERS: Parishioners can help beautify the church for Easter by making a donation for church flowers in the name of a departed loved one. The names of the donors and the names of their departed loved ones will be published in the church bulletin at Easter. If you have a loved one you would like to honour in this way, please fill out the envelope found in the pews including your donation. Cut-off date is **Sunday, March 24th**.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 12401 CORNER

i) Council 12401 would like to thank all parishioners who came out to support our parish breakfast. It was a huge success and we look forward to seeing everyone at our next breakfast once we have a date confirmed.

ii) Please don't forget to get your Knights of Columbus 50 / 50 tickets. The next draw is set for April 28, 2024. You can purchase your ticket by finding the link on our parish web site. By purchasing a 50/50 ticket you are supporting our council and our charitable causes.