

## Fifth Sunday of Lent – Year C

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

**Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup>**

**4:30pm**      **Repose of the soul of Jean Gaede by Jay Dupuis**

**Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup> – Fifth Sunday of Lent**

**9:00am**      **Repose of the soul of Kevin Ash by the Croskery family**

**10:45am**    **Intentions of the parishioners by the Pastor**

**Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup>**

**9:30am**      **Repose of the souls of the deceased members of Gariepy and McLaughlin families**

**Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup>**

**9:00am**      **Repose of the soul of Arturo Nuesca-Lopez by his loving family**

**Friday, April 11<sup>th</sup>**

**9:00am**      **Repose of the souls of George Hendley, family members and friends**

**Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup>**

**4:30pm**      **Healing intentions of Liane (Gambell) Texmo**

**Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup> – Palm Sunday**

**9:00am**      **Intentions of the parishioners by the Pastor**

**10:45am**    **Repose of the soul of Mildred Spencer by Gerri and Bob**

### ***The Fifth Sunday of Lent (Year C)***

“Lazarus, come out!” The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth. So Jesus said to them, “Untie him and let him go.” [John 11:43-44](#)

The death of Lazarus can be seen as a symbolic representation of the soul that has died from mortal sin. This is similar to the fact that leprosy, physical ailments and the like are also symbols of sin. For that reason, Jesus’ initial reactions reveal how we should respond to serious sin in our lives. When Jesus faced the death of Lazarus, “he became perturbed and deeply troubled,” “Jesus wept,” He became “perturbed again” and He “cried out in a loud voice.” Though Jesus was God, He freely chose to assume human nature and to experience human emotions and passions to teach us how we should react. In this case, He chose to become perturbed, deeply troubled, to weep and to cry out to show us how we should react to grave sin. Grave sin kills the spirit. As a result, we must be deeply affected if we commit or witness a grave sin.

One lesson we can take from this passage is that when you or a loved one falls into grave sin, it must not be ignored. Final impenitence is a sin by which a person fails to have appropriate remorse for sin and reacts to it dismissively and casually. This cannot be our reaction. Begin by considering the great value of taking sin seriously, reacting to it with passion and emotion, and crying out to God for forgiveness.

When Jesus cried out, commanding Lazarus to come out of the tomb, the details were added that Lazarus did come forth but was still bound “hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth.” Saint Augustine teaches that, in part, this symbolizes the entire process of confession and the forgiveness of sins. First, no person is capable of confessing their sins by their own effort. It must be that they are moved by grace and the command of our Lord to come forth to show themselves in their bound state to God. Lazarus’ obedience to Jesus’ command symbolizes the Christian’s response to God when called to repentance. When our Lord says, “Untie him and let him go,” this symbolizes the unmerited effect of the Sacrament of Confession and the power it has to release a person from the ongoing effects of those sins.

Our Church teaches that sin has a double consequence. First, it keeps us from eternal salvation. This effect is remedied through Confession and forgiveness. However, there is a second effect called “temporal punishment” (see the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* #1471-1473). This “punishment” is not from God, but from sin. It means that when we sin, even in a less serious way, we become attached to that sin and that the ongoing temptation to return to it is strengthened. Thus, ongoing conversion also means we hear our Lord say, “Untie him and let him go.” This is especially accomplished by ongoing conversion and growth in virtue.

Reflect, today, upon the rich symbolism found in the story of the raising of Lazarus from the dead. As you do, listen for the passionate voice of Jesus who calls to you, “Come out!” What sin is Jesus calling you to be free from? Identify that sin and repent of it with the same passion that our Lord exhibits. From there, consider any ongoing temptation you struggle with and any attachment you still have toward a particular sin. Jesus desires that you be completely unbound and set free. Be open to that grace and do all you can to accept it.

*My merciful and passionate Lord, You command me, in love, to come forth from all sin. And when I respond, You command that the effects of my past sins be removed. Please free me, dear Lord, from all that binds me so that I will be set firmly on the glorious road of virtue that leads to eternal joy. Jesus, I trust in You*

### INTENTIONS OF THE HOLY FATHER FOR APRIL For the use of the new technologies

Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.



**Mass of the Lord’s Supper  
Holy Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 pm**

**Passion of the Lord  
Good Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup> - 3:00 pm**

**Easter Vigil - Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup> - 8:00 pm**

**Resurrection of the Lord  
Sunday April 20<sup>th</sup> - 9:00 am and 10:45 am**

April 6, 2025

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

You may bring the completed form to the office or drop it in the collection basket.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLEASE JOIN US ON FRIDAY, APRIL 11<sup>th</sup> LED BY THE YOUTH GROUP FOR THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS.

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



### Chrism Mass

Join us on April 15<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm at the Notre-Dame Cathedral to celebrate the Chrism Mass. The Chrism Mass is a special annual Mass where our Archdiocese gathers together to receive the new holy oils for the year. Priests renew their vows and the Archbishop blesses three different oils which are then distributed to parishes: the Oil of the Sick, the Oil of Catechumens, and the Sacred Chrism.

**The Annual Good Friday Collection** – The annual Good Friday Collection is the only yearly request asked by the Holy See of dioceses and parishioners throughout the world. The collection helps the Church of the Holy Land to maintain Christian sites, so important for Christians everywhere, and to provide pastoral, educational, and social works among the small Christian population. The Church and our Christian brothers and sisters count on your help to retain a faith-filled Christian presence in this land of our Lord. Please give generously during Good Friday celebrations on April 18, 2025. If you are unable to attend the service, it is possible to contribute online at [Commissariat.ca/supporting-us](http://Commissariat.ca/supporting-us) and donate via CanadaHelps or Interac e-transfer – receipts will be issued.

**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 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 pew and include your donation. The cut-off date is **Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup>**.

### Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass 2025

For those celebrating 60 (or more), 50, 40, 30, 25, 20, 15, 10 & 5 years of marriage in 2025! At Notre Dame Cathedral on Sunday, May 4, at 2:30 pm. The registration form is now available at <https://forms.office.com/r/jpBDLwD0Kg>. Please register before Easter to ensure your place! For questions, please contact Annmarie at [annmarie.brown@ottawacornwall.ca](mailto:annmarie.brown@ottawacornwall.ca).



“**MENTORSHIP**” – Mentorship includes guidance, inspiration, and encouragement. The Catholic Women’s League is a sisterhood of mentors willing to walk with you. Come be part of the journey.

**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 for the annual CWL bursary award of \$500. For more information and/or to obtain an application, please refer to the parish website: [http://www.olmm.ca/groups\\_cwl.html](http://www.olmm.ca/groups_cwl.html) or the parish office. Completed applications and supporting documents must be submitted by April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Applications can be mailed in or dropped off at the office. For any questions, contact Winnie Kerfoot, Bursary Committee Chair, at [wkerfoot@gmail.com](mailto:wkerfoot@gmail.com)



## Handicraft Holy Land Christians

Next weekend, April 12-13, we will welcome our special guest, Vanessa from Sebastien Cardinal’s team representing "Handicraft Holy Land Christians", who, after all the masses, will briefly address the issues and concerns regarding the Christian presence in the Holy Land. Christians in the Holy Land graciously ask your support through conscience prayers and will have many unique hand-carved olive wood religious art pieces made by these families in Bethlehem available for purchase after every mass. Proceeds of the sales generate much-needed employment for our Christian brothers and sisters in Bethlehem. May God bless you for your generosity, for your help and for your prayers." **Cash, debit, credit cards, and cheques will be accepted.** You can visit and support us at [www.HolylandChristians.ca](http://www.HolylandChristians.ca)

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 12401 CORNER

The K of C food drive will continue until Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, due to the poor weather last weekend. If you have not already, please have your donation of non-perishable items at the church before the end of the 10:45 am mass. After the 10:45 am mass, members of the K of C will then deliver the food to the Good Neighbour Food Bank in Embrun. Thank you once again for your generosity. – Council 12401