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Saint Patrick's Church

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Niagara Falls, Ontario L2E 4B8 Served by Carmelites Since 1875 Tel: 905-354-7451 Fax: 905-354-4800

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Rev. Gerard Power, O.Carm., Pastor (Director in Canada, Society of the Little Flower) Rev. Joiezl Fern Piñon, O.Carm., Associate Pastor Rev. Mr. David Scott, Deacon Debbie Herman, Secretary Alice Corfield, Bookkeeper Secretary Brian Kneller, Caretaker

Music Ministry

Carol Martin - Director of Music Sandra DiCienzo - Organist Tim Marrie - Pianist and Soloist Anthony Scaringi - Pianist and Organist Ashley Gallardi-Pietrangelo - Soloist

Office Hours:

Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. - 12:00, 12:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Closed on Weekends & Holidays

Sunday Mass Schedule

Saturday 5:00 p.m. Sunday 8:00, 9:30 and 11:30 a.m.

Weekday Mass Schedule

Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.

Reconciliation

Saturday 4:30 p.m. or by appointment

Baptism

Once monthly at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday Preparation for Parents and Godparents required.

Marriage

Please contact the parish office at least six months in advance. Preparation weekend is required.

Schools

St. Patrick School 905-354-6631 St. Mary School 905-354-7744

Diocese of St. Catharines (est. 1958) Most Rev. Gerard Bergie, D.D., Bishop

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flowat said Parish Established 1858 Church Dedicated 1895

New Parishioners are asked to complete a parish registration form.



Saturday, March 8 St John of God

5:00 Dec'd of the O'Leary Family req by the Besaw Family Marie & Jack Cadman req by the Family

Sunday, March 9 First Sunday of Lent

8:00 People of the Parish

9:30 Marian Abbott req by Stu & Mary Lou Gallardi Concetta & Luigi Canal req by the Family

11:30 Domenic Rondinelli req by Jim & Dora Dr. Vito Forte reg by Tony & Rosa DeAngelis

Monday, March 10

8:00 Tu Caterina Maria *req by the Nguyen Family* Intentions of the Little Flower Society

Tuesday, March 11

8:00 Charlie Ogilvie req by Debbie Ogilvie & Family Hugh, Felicitas & William Hockton req by the Family

Wednesday, March 12

8:00 Intentions of the Little Flower Society Flori Heimbigner *req by her Friends*

Thursday, March 13

8:00 Dariusz Rebisz req by the Rebisz Family
Dec'd of the Bortolin Family req by Anna Bortolin & Family
Friday, March 14

8:00 Nicasio Villamor Rey req by the Navarro-Rey Family John Power & Glenn Power req by Fr. Gerard

Saturday, March 15

5:00 Tony Laslo req by Elaine & Family Eda Martin req by the Family

Sunday, March 16 Second Sunday of Lent

8:00 Giulio Canali req by Anna & John Condotta

In Honour of Libia Casas on her Birthday req by her Dtr: Laura

9:30 People of the Parish

11:30 Sam & Maria Maccarrone req by Rachel Marcon Patrick O'Brien req by the Family



2025 will be a Special Year

The year 2025 is a **Jubilee Year** in the Church. It will be centered on the theme "Pilgrims of Hope." As His Holiness Pope Francis so beautifully expressed it: "We must fan the flame of hope that has been given

us, and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision."

The year 2025 officially marks 150 years of the Carmelites being in



Niagara Falls, Canada (1875-2025). We will have several celebrations during 2025 at St. Patrick Parish, at Our Lady of Peace Parish, and at the Monastery of Mount Carmel. Stay tuned!

St. Patrick's Weekend ----- SAVE THE DATE

Come out and celebrate St. Patrick's Day! On **Saturday, March 15**th we will have a potluck buffet in the parish hall. Doors will open at 6:00. Food will be served at 6:30. Please have your food here by 6:15! You **must call** the parish office in advance (by

March 12th) to let us know how many people will be coming, and **what dish** you will be bringing. We will need salads, hot dishes and desserts! There will be no bar service, so please bring your own spirits (BYOB)! There will be some pop and water available for purchase. We will have Irish Music playing throughout the evening, some dancing, and some accordion music by Fr. Gerard. This event is open to all ages.

Church Envelopes and Income Tax Receipts

Please wear green!!! Watch the bulletin for more details.

Please make sure you pick up your Income Tax Receipts and Offertory Envelopes. They are in the sacristy, to the left of the altar. Many thanks.

Rest in Peace... We pray for the souls of Flori Heimbigner and Mary-Ann Forrester. May they rest in peace. Please remember their families in your prayers.

Please pray for those who are ill. We are currently updating our sick list. This will be limited to parishioners and family members who are hospitalized or chronically ill. Please be advised that only an immediate family member can request a name to be added to this list.

Mary Power, Kenneth Power, Jacquie Power, Carl Lundrigan, Connie Power, Emma Corfield, Norah Marrie, Jeanne Lea, Joe Antonio, Leonardo Gualtieri, Muriel Lafford, Isabell Frost, Robert Orsini, Rick Woram, Enzo Bellon, Kurt Stevens, Barbara Conidi, Lindsey Luby, Norm Scott, Toni Brideau, Charlene Shannon, Scott MacLaren, Jim Crowley, Sherry Wales, Peter Meisenburg Jr., Leila Khan, Maureen Young, Maureen Tustin, Maureen Watson, Anna Hunt, Mary Jo O'Kell, Nancy Waters, David Gallina, John F, John Arnold, Leroy Collee, Andrew Zacharuk, Patrick Macri, Victor Pizzolato, Jeanne S, Christine Pritty, John & Laura Giampa, Jim & Betty Calzonetti, Eric Van Noort, Julian Cassidy, Lorraine Spence, Estelle Critelli, D.D., Missy Bilotta, Rita Ross, Leon French, Tony Cuviello, Kelsey Liles, Sr. Carol Forhan CPPS, JoAnne Biamonte Ely, Samantha Jayne, Laurie Crites-Warner, Norma Zanus, Judy, Jadwiga Wozniak, Kerrie Szuch, William JA DeFoe, Betty Crete, Sister Prem, Bob Marshall, Cameron Boyes, Danielle Barranca, Kelly Laslo, Mahmat, Lori Ann Pizzolato, Teresa Hebb, Rose MacDonald, Karen Bradley, Betty & Mary Ann Quigley, Arlene Collee, John Calder, Maria Guerin, Gregory Roulston, Anna Chayer, Denise Colalillo, Patrick McCarthy, Michelle Price, Francesco Albanese, Julie Nicholson, Emmanuel & Aline Chayer, Carmella Modenti, Bernard Martin, Joyce Weaver, Vicki Lea-Dawson, Margaret Waghorn, Evelyn Rose Baker, Patricia O'Reilly, Fran Smelko, Gloria Smelko, Jackie, Faith Amadio, Vanessa Athoe, Walter Wallace, Marie Brooker, Francois Chayer, Samuel Potapczyk, Jozefa Bilski, Elda Schneider, Susana Flego, Patricia Flego, Cynthia Alegre

Please help us update our list of those who are homebound, infirm, or hospitalized by calling the parish office.

Collections

March 2nd: \$6,108.00 Giving Bowl: \$2,844.35 (to date) Heating Expenses: \$2,301.02 (to date) Donations in Memory of Alessandro Luciano: \$2,075.00 Many thanks for your generosity!

Baptism Schedule for 2025

Baptisms will be celebrated in St. Patrick Church at 1:00 PM on: Sunday March 23 (Infants Only), April 27, May 18 & June 22. A mandatory meeting for Parents and Godparents will be held in the Church on Tuesday, March 18, April 22, May 6 & June 10 at 7:00 pm.

Sacrament of Baptism...Congratulations on the birth of your child! If you wish to have your child baptized, please register in the parish (if you haven't already done so). One of the parents must come into the parish office, meet with the pastor or his designate, so we can complete the proper forms, and gather the necessary information. We encourage parents and Godparents to make an effort to attend liturgies in the parish community. We also have a mandatory evening of preparation for parents and Godparents!

Sacramental Dates for 2025

First Communion: <u>Sunday, May 25, 2025</u> @ 9:30am & 1:30pm Mandatory Preparation Meeting:Wednesday, May 7, 2025 @ 7:00pm (If you are a parishioner at St. Patrick Church, and have a child who does not attend St. Patrick or St. Mary Schools, and would like to celebrate their sacraments here, please contact the parish office for the registration forms.)

New Altar Bell

Many thanks to our Catholic Women's League for donating a new Altar Bell. This bell was blessed during Mass last Saturday evening. It was dedicated to Charlene Shannon, and all our long-serving CWL members. Charlene Shannon has been an active member of the CWL for 64 years! She had the joy of ringing the bell during the blessing.

Check out our website: http://www.stpatricknf.ca





Dear Friends:

We keep our Holy Father, Pope Francis, in prayer as he continues to battle with his health. May God restore him to the fullness of health.

Please remember to call ahead and sign up for the St. Patrick's Potluck Dinner on March 15th. See today's bulletin for details. We need to know the final numbers by **Wednesday**, **March 12**th.

Today is the First Sunday in the Season of Lent. And in today's Gospel,



Jesus is led by the Spirit into the wilderness for 40 days, where he is tempted by Satan. He fasted for 40 days, as his human flesh cried out for food. He was so vulnerable. Satan knew this, took advantage of this, and tempted him three times! *Turn this stone to bread... worship me and this kingdom will be yours... throw yourself down from here!* These temptations were spurned by Jesus, as he

hurled *scriptural grenades* back at Satan! The three temptations offered Jesus a quick fix, an easy way out. But Jesus **resisted** each one. Oh that we could do the same!

What are the **temptations** in our lives? Where do we look for our quick fixes? Lent is a season to look seriously at our response to temptations. We all have them! They're everywhere. Do we give in to the wrong foods, the wrong activities, alcohol, drugs, pornography, peer-pressure, gambling, greed, desires of the flesh? To whom or to what do we give control over our lives... over our decisions? Hopefully we can learn from the Master... and ward off all the little satans out there that keep popping up! And ward off the big Satan who is still prowling about like a roaring lion. Lent is a sacred time to face our temptations and deface them gracefully. May we allow Jesus and his POWER to help us grow in this *'spring-time' of the soul*!!! We pray for each other on this Lenten journey! Blessings!

Fr. Gerard



Three Traditional Lenten Practices

Prayer, fasting and almsgiving are three traditional spiritual exercises to consider during Lent. Properly approached and utilized, they will



indeed facilitate a change of heart and conversion in our lives. As one writer says, "prayer, fasting and almsgiving are not the point of Lent, they are the tools of Lent." They are like three legs of a tripod. Prayer nourishes our spirits; Fasting disciplines our bodies and puts us in solidarity with

those who suffer from hunger; and *almsgiving* enlarges our hearts as we commit ourselves to the good of others.

Weekday Mass Schedule for Lent

Monday- Friday: 8:00 AM

Stations of the Cross

Friday 7:00 PM followed by *Benediction* and *Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament*



The Fast Life

Fast from judging others; Feast on Christ dwelling in them. Fast from fear of illness; Feast on the healing power of God. Fast from words that pollute; Feast on speech that purifies. Fast from discontent; Feast on gratitude. Fast from anger; Feast on patience. Fast from pessimism; Feast on hope. Fast from negatives; Feast on encouragement. Fast from bitterness; Feast on forgiveness. Fast from self-concern: Feast on compassion. Fast from suspicion; Feast on truth. Fast from gossip; Feast on purposeful silence. Fast from problems that overwhelm; Feast on prayer that sustains. Fast from anxiety; Feast on faith.

Prayer During Lent

Something we can do during Lent is commit ourselves to being more reflective! Lent is a good time to start new patterns of prayer. Perhaps we haven't been praying at all. This is a great time to begin.... and begin realistically. Start by simply pausing when we get up and taking a slow, deep breath, and recalling what I have to do this day, and asking for grace to do it as a child of God. We may want to go to bed earlier, and get up earlier, to give ourselves some quiet time to read the scripture for the day, or spiritual writings. We may choose to go to Mass each day during Lent, or celebrate the Stations of the Cross on Friday evenings. Let's all try to increase our prayer lives on this pilgrimage to Easter Joy!!

The Giving Bowl "A Lenten Sacrifice" for St. Pat's!

Once again this Lent, we will have a special container at the front and back of the church. All donations will assist a program in which one of our parishioners, the late Mr. Ken Walsh, helped initiate in Eastern Uganda. Each day *The Giving Bowl* feeds upwards to 1100 children at local Catholic Schools. This is the only hot meal these children get each day! They also assist with medical issues, uniforms and tuition. Please place your donations into these containers during Lent! If you wish to donate by cheque, please use a separate envelope and make the cheque payable to *The Giving Bowl*.

This is a Registered Charity under the CRA, and they issue their own receipts for Income Tax Purposes. Approximately 80% of their funds go directly to the Food Program. The other 20% is used for school fees for the most desperate, a school uniform to replace the most tattered, also notebooks and pencils, medical supplies, and in dire cases, to purchase a goat for very needy families. If you use the parish offertory envelopes, you must write the cheque to *St. Patrick Parish*. Then we issue a cheque to *The Givina Bowl* at the end of each month.

Please refer to the Bulletin Boards at the back and side entrances of the Church for many important notices and events.



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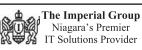
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