

1st Sunday of Lent – March 1, 2020

Saturday, Feb. 29	5:00 pm	St. Carthagh's	Owen Durkin
Sunday, Mar. 1 (1 st Sunday of Lent)	9:00 am 11:00 am	St. Edmund's St. Carthagh's	Members of the Parish Margaret Mundy
Monday, Mar. 2	9:00 am	St. Carthagh's	Leonard Kehoe
Tuesday, Mar. 3	9:00 am	St. Carthagh's	No Intention
Wednesday, Mar. 4	9:00 am	St. Carthagh's	No Intention
Thursday, Mar. 5 (Eucharistic Adoration)	9:00 am 6:40 pm 7:00 pm	St. Carthagh's	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed by scheduled adoration. Sacred Heart Prayers and Benediction. Mass
Friday, Mar. 6	9:00 am 1:00 pm	St. Carthagh's St. Edmund's	St. Edmund's Weekly Mass in St. Carthagh's World Day of Prayer
Saturday, Mar. 7	5:00 pm	St. Carthagh's	Members of the Parish
Sunday, Mar. 8 (2 nd Sunday of Lent)	9:00 am 11:00 am	St. Edmund's St. Carthagh's	Anne Feeney Patrick Cassidy

Please Remember in Your Prayers: All those who are sick, including: F. Boomhour, Paul Hulsman, Neive Alderson, Norene Ruffilli, Amanda Lake, Ginger Kehoe, Margaret Dupuis-Ives, Terry Horrigan, Elinor McKenzie, Catherine Liggon, Debbie LaCroix, Presley Noble, Rob Montgomery, Germaine Wannamaker, Margaret-Rose Wood, Jack Tweedy, Janice Tracey, Michelle Fobert, Mary Stafford Cassidy, Ben Paul, Sharon Butler, Karen Kiefer, and Marilyn Sherrow.

Please let us know at the office if you would like to add to or remove a name from the list of the sick.

Offertory Collections:

St. Carthagh's	February 22 & 23	Regular Sunday	\$1,188
St. Edmund's	February 23	Regular Sunday	\$846

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS OFFERING TO OUR CHURCHES

	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION</u>	<u>CHILDREN'S LITURGY</u>
St. Carthagh's	W = WELCOME		
Saturday, Mar. 7	W – Karen LaVallée Sheila Toner	Carol Genereaux, Greg Donohue, Maria Cockburn	
Sunday, Mar. 8	W – Olivia Dafoe Dan Dafoe	Bob & Sharon Eros, Carol Badluk, Dan Dafoe	Maria Cockburn
St. Edmund's	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>USHERS</u>	
Sunday, Mar. 8	Marian Dolan Arthur Allore	Bill Marlin Gerard Whalen	

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

There will be Bible Study on **Tuesday, March 2** from 3:00 to 4:00 pm.

Knights of Columbus Meeting: Tuesday, March 3. Mass at 6:30 pm, at St. Charles Church, in Read, followed by the meeting in the home of Ron Durkin, 1149 Read Rd.

The World Day of Prayer is scheduled to take place on **March 6**, 2020 at St. Edmund's at 1:00 pm. The theme is: *"Rise! Take Your Mat and Walk"* (Jn 5:2-9a). The materials have been prepared by the women of Zimbabwe. Theirs is a fearless call to act decisively in love for peace and reconciliation. Refreshments will follow after the service in St. Edmund's Hall. All are cordially welcome!

The next meeting of the St. Carthagh's CWL will be **Monday, March 16**, at 7:00 pm in the rectory.

New Lector Lists for St. Carthagh's are now available to be picked up at the entrance of the church.

As a Brother, a Father and the Chief Shepherd over all Catholic Christians, each year, the Pope gives us a message at the beginning of Lent. Below is a summary and some applications of his 2020 Lenten Message. The theme of his message is, *"We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God"* (2 Cor. 5:20). The theme reflects an invitation to return to God through constant conversion and reconciliation, and experience new life in Christ.

What is Lent? What is its objective? How should we live it? What is its principal focus? In an executive summary, the Holy Father answers all these questions by giving us a good orientation to Lent. He writes, "This year the Lord grants us, once again, a favourable time to prepare to celebrate with renewed hearts the great mystery of the death and resurrection of Jesus, the cornerstone of our personal and communal Christian life. We must continually return to this mystery in mind and heart, for it will continue to grow within us in the measure that we are open to its spiritual power and respond with freedom and generosity." The paschal mystery is so fundamental because it is the basis of our conversion. "Christian joy flows from listening to, and accepting, the Good News of the death and resurrection of Jesus."

Our Lenten exercise, the Stations of the Cross, is one way by which we contemplate more deeply the paschal mystery through which God's mercy has been bestowed upon us. It is a form of prayer and we know that prayer is important in Lent. "Even more than a duty, prayer is an expression of our need to respond to God's love which always precedes and sustains us. Christians pray in the knowledge that, although unworthy, we are still loved. Prayer can take any number of different forms, but what truly matters in God's eyes is that it penetrates deep within us and chips away at our hardness of heart, in order to convert us ever more fully to God and to his will." The Pope continues, "In this Lent of 2020, I would like to share with every Christian what I wrote to young people in the Apostolic Exhortation *Christus Vivit*: "Keep your eyes fixed on the outstretched arms of Christ crucified, let yourself be saved over and over again. And when you go to confess your sins, believe firmly in his mercy which frees you of your guilt. Contemplate his blood poured out with such great love, and let yourself be cleansed by it. In this way, you can be reborn ever anew" (No. 123). Jesus' Pasch is not a past event; rather, through the power of the Holy Spirit it is ever present, enabling us to see and touch with faith the flesh of Christ in those who suffer."

"In this favourable season, then, may we allow ourselves to be led like Israel into the desert (cf. *Hos* 2:14), so that we can at last hear our Spouse's voice and allow it to resound ever more deeply within us. The more fully we are engaged with his word, the more we will experience the mercy he freely gives us."

"Putting the paschal mystery at the centre of our lives means feeling compassion towards the wounds of the crucified Christ present in the many innocent victims of wars, in attacks on life, from that of the unborn to that of the elderly, and various forms of violence. They are likewise present in environmental disasters, the unequal distribution of the earth's goods, human trafficking in all its forms, and the unbridled thirst for profit, which is a form of idolatry." "Today too, there is a need to appeal to men and women of good will to share, by almsgiving, their goods with those most in need, as a means of personally participating in the building of a better world. Charitable giving makes us more human, whereas hoarding risks making us less human, imprisoned by our own selfishness."

Pope Francis desires that his Lenten Message leads people to open their hearts to hear God's call to be reconciled to himself, to fix their gaze on the paschal mystery, and to be converted to open and sincere dialogue with him so that everyone becomes what Christ asks his disciples to be; the salt of the earth and the light of the world.

Our Parish Mission is scheduled for Saturday March 21 - Monday March 23, 2020. Patrick Sullivan will be the preacher. Patrick is a lay person, an author and founder of *Evango* ("Go Evangelize"). As a Catholic Lay Evangelist, he and his team have been actively evangelizing in diverse ways, including preaching, in the Archdiocese of Ottawa and elsewhere. He has been recognized by the Canadian Catholic Conference of Bishops. His website is media@evango.net. You'll recall that in praying for vocations, we ask God to choose from among our people many priests, deacons, religious brothers and sisters and lay people who will gladly devote their entire lives in making God known and loved. Well, Patrick is one fruit of this prayer. His zeal as a lay person and commitment to a radical living of his faith in today's world might just be the inspiration some of us need.

As part of our Lenten exercises, as a community we shall resume *the Stations of the Cross* in each church on Sundays of Lent, 30 minutes prior to Mass time. Regarding Lenten resources, you will find some excellent ones on our website, notably, Lenten reflections by Bishop Barron and Lenten video series by the Knights of Columbus (*"Into the Breach"*). There is also a handy booklet, *"Daily Reflections for Lent,"* available at the entrance of the church. Lent as you know is built on three pillars, namely, prayer, penance and almsgiving. Please, pay attention to these three.

First Friday Eucharistic adoration for March will take place on **Thursday, March 5**, and not on Friday March 6. This is to express love and solidarity with the World Day of Prayer taking place on **Friday, March 6** in St Edmund's, our own Parish church. Apologies to all who may have to do a bit of adjustments.