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Sunday, March 26th, 2017
Fourth Sunday of Lent

When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, he found him and said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered and said, "Who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "I do believe, Lord," and he worshiped him. — Jn 9:35-38

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Sat. March 25	9-10am	Reconciliation Cancelled
	4-4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation
Sun. March 26	5:00pm	Missa Pro Populo
	9:30am	✠ Ugo & Antonietta Scurci (Scurci, Devine & Gregoris Fam.)
	11:00am	✠ John Sporbeck (Mary Ann Biggar)
Mon. March 27	9:30am	✠ Wally & Sophie Paterak (Meyo Family)
	7-8pm	Holy Hour & Reconciliation
Tues. March 28	9:30am	Blessings for Margaret Young (Mike & Anne Young)
Wed. March 29	9:30am	✠ Joseph Amero (Voogt & Green Families)
Thurs. March 30	9:30am	✠ Tricia Vaughn (Horton Family)
Fri. March 31	9:30am	✠ Mary Voogt & David Green (Voogt & Green Families)
	7:00pm	Stations of the Cross
Sat. April 1	10am-2pm	Reconciliation
	4-4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation
	5:00pm	✠ Harry Atkins (Wendy Atkins)
Sun. April 2	9:30am	✠ Nicola Colangelo (Rosa Colangelo & Family)
	11:00am	Missa Pro Populo
Reconciliation from 9-9:20am before all weekday Masses. Offertory March 18th & 19th, 2017		
82 Envelopes		\$2, 138.45
Loose Collection		\$ 177.00
Total Offertory		\$2, 315.45

We welcome in Baptism, **Luke Lewis Morissette**, son of Craig Morissette and Michelle Pizzacalla. May the gifts which Baptism bestow, grow unhindered in us all.
2017 Bishop's Gala: April 1, 2017, 5:30pm at Club Roma, 125 Vansickle Rd., St. Catharines. For information contact Linda Marconi, 905-735-0240 Ext 214.

Fourth SUNDAY OF LENT
 "Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him." The prevailing theology of Jesus' time led people to believe that any kind of disability was a punishment from God. So Jesus' disciples assumed that the man born blind suffered that affliction because of someone's sin: either his parents' or his own. But Jesus sets the record straight. Not only did he reject the idea that the blindness was a punishment for sin; he also went so far as to suggest that this very trial was an opportunity for God's glory to be revealed.

And sure enough, it was. Jesus worked a miracle of healing for the man who followed his directions and "came back able to see." So it was that the "works of God" became "visible" through a man who was blind! But, ironically, not everyone had the eyes to see the miracle. The Gospel tells us that "there was a division among them" as they debated whether this remarkable healing was really an act of God.

Jesus stated that he came "so that those who do not see might see." And so, who are we? Are we blinded by our own expectations of how God is supposed to work? Are we so caught up in our own vision of what we wish would happen that we fail to appreciate what is actually unfolding before our very eyes? It is so easy to perceive trials, disabilities, sickness, and misfortune as a curse or the result of being abandoned by God. But today's Gospel suggests another reality. In the midst of these very difficulties, God wants to reveal himself, to show his love and mercy. It may not always be in the exact way we expect, but without a doubt, even in these challenging realms, God is always at work.

Holy Week

Passion Sunday: Saturday, April 8th, 5pm
Passion Sunday: Sunday, April 9th, 9:30 & 11am
Mass of Chrism: Tuesday, April 11th, 7:30pm
 (Location—Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria, Church Street, St. Catharines)

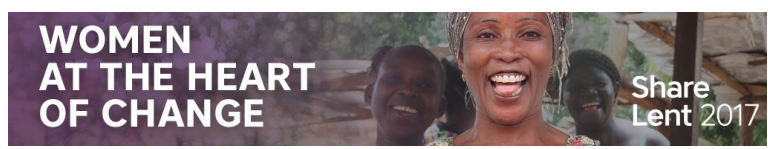
Holy Thursday: April 13th
 Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7pm
 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 10pm

Good Friday: April 14th
 Confessions 9-11am
 Celebration of the Lord's Passion, 3pm
 7pm—Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday: April 15th
 Confessions 9-10am
 Noon -Blessing of Easter Baskets
 Confessions 4-5pm
 Solemn Celebration of the Easter Vigil, **8:30pm**

Easter Sunday: April 16th, Masses 9:30 & 11am
Divine Mercy Sunday: April 23rd, Prayers 3pm

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK
 Today is Laetare Sunday, or Rejoicing Sunday, a time of rejoicing at the midpoint of our Lenten observances. In the midst of our season of penance, today provides an opportunity to express our joy as we journey along to Easter.



Women are creating a future filled with hope in Syria: This week open your heart to the reality of women living in a country at war. Listen to the voice of Hannan, a Syrian woman who tells us how our partners' training centres are helping to change the female workforce and financial autonomy of women in her region. "Through the training course, I personally evolved a lot as a person. Today, I dream of teaching sewing and running a learning centre." Thanks to your support during ShareLent this year, 280 Syrians will have access to an 11-week training course in sewing and psychosocial services!

Next week is Solidarity Sunday and the ShareLent collection will take place. Please be generous! Donation envelopes are in your offertory boxes and you will also find envelopes attached to today's bulletin. Please be sure all contact information is listed.

Did you know that in 1982, Development and Peace—Caritas Canada launched its first three-year mobilization and education campaign entitled "Militarization: Obstacle to Development"?

The Notre Dame Fair Trade Club will be selling fair trade products (Easter chocolate, coffee, tea, chocolate bars, sugar, hot chocolate mix) after each Mass next weekend.

On Saturday April 1, 2017, in every parish across the diocese, a priest will be available from 10am-2pm to hear individual confessions. There will also be Eucharistic Adoration during this time. No matter how long it has been, you are welcome to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance, which assists us in spiritual discipline as we turn away from sin and open our hearts to reconciliation and healing; or you can also simply come to pray before the Lord.

ATTENTION LECTORS: If you have been scheduled to read on **Palm Sunday (April 8/9)** or **Good Friday (April 14)**, your binders are **now available** at the back of the church, with your name on it. Two readers are scheduled. Please contact each other and assign yourselves the parts for the long gospel reading (**Matthew—for Palm Sunday**) as well as the first & second readings and the petitions (petitions for Palm Sunday only). **A reminder that during Mass you are required to use the Passion Narrative Lectionaries which will be placed on both lecterns for you. The binders are for practice reading only.** On your reading date, please bring the binders with you and leave them at the back of the church. **Thank you.**

St Ann's Conference of the Society of St Vincent de Paul
 The food drive will end on **April 9, 2017** and donations will be taken to Pelham Cares in time for Easter. Baskets are at the entrance to the church. Items most in need include canned fruit/vegetables, tea, cereal (hot or cold), canned chili/stew, canned meat, jam, shampoo, and paper towels. At this time, Pelham Cares has an abundance of dried pasta and pasta sauce and does not require these items. Donations of gift cards would be most welcome (Food Basics/Sobeys/Giant Tiger etc). Special envelopes for gift cards are at the back of the church and can be placed in the collection basket. Please consider donating to this worthy cause. Thank you to those who have already made a donation.

Parish Calendar

April.....	Diocesan Day of Reconciliation 10am-2pm
April 1st.....	Solidarity Sunday
April 2nd....	St. Vincent de Paul meeting after 11am Mass
April 2nd.....	Visitation of the sick and homebound
April 7th.....	Palm Sunday
April 9th.....	Bingo cancelled
April 11th.....	Holy Thursday. Mass 7pm
April 13th....	Good Friday. Celebration of the Lord's Passion 3pm
April 14th.....	Easter Vigil 8:30pm
April 15th.....	Easter Sunday, Masses 9:30 & 11am
April 16th.....	St. Ann School Easter Mass 9:30am
April 19th.....	Divine Mercy Sunday, Prayers 3pm
April 23rd....	First Communion, 2pm
April 30th.....	

Youth Ministry for grades 5-8, Wed. evenings 6:30-8:30pm. Registration form is on our website <http://stannfenwick.wixsite.com/youthministry>.

The Way of the Cross: Please join us for the Way of the Cross each Friday during Lent at 7pm.

Join the "Call for Conscience" – February 6 – March 31, 2017
 The Government of Canada passed legislation in June 2016, legalizing euthanasia/assisted suicide. Despite wording in the legislation intended to protect doctors and facilities, the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario is forcing health care workers to participate in ending the lives of their patients. No other country does this. Provinces across Canada do not do this. Yet, Ontario refuses to protect doctors who object to assisted suicide/euthanasia. Please visit www.CanadiansforConscience.ca to learn more, join the "Call for Conscience" and write directly to your elected Member of Provincial Parliament asking them to protect conscience rights.

Syrian Refugee Resettlement Committee: The committee is preparing for the arrival of the families and are in need of some household items. You will find a list on the parish website linked to the "Refugee Project" tab. Any assistance would be appreciated.

Easter Flower Memorial: The beautiful Easter lilies and spring flowers that adorn our altar and sanctuary are a special part of the celebration of Easter in our parish. We invite all parishioners to share in the experience through a memorial or thanksgiving gift by using the **Easter Flowers Memorial Envelopes found in your offertory boxes dated March 26th. If you do not have envelopes but would like to donate, you may use a plain envelope with your contact information listed.** These donations, made in memory or honour of your family members and friends help cover the cost of Easter flowers. This is a wonderful way to remember loved ones, honour friends, and offer thanksgiving to God for prayers answered and blessings received. Please place your envelopes in the collection basket, or bring to the parish office on or before the weekend of April 8/9. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. The names of all those for whom our Easter flowers are in memory of will be printed in the parish bulletin on Easter Sunday.

Thank you! The Catholic Women's League would like to thank everyone who worked so hard helping make pierogis this past week. Many volunteers assisted both days! Your help was very much appreciated! The pierogis are now for sale following all Masses beginning this weekend. Price: \$6 dozen.