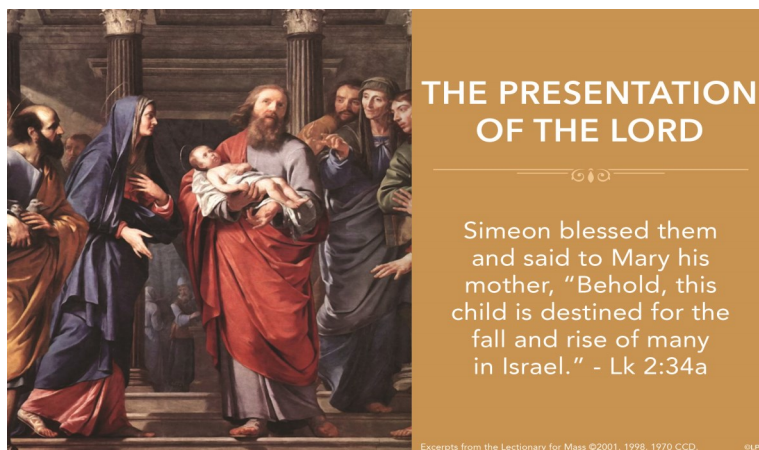


Rev. Chad Grennan, Pastor
 Email: frchadgrennan@gmail.com
 Rev. Deacon Jim McLaughlin
 (phone office for appointment)
 Liliana Haynes
 Office Administrator



Sunday, February 2nd, 2020



THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel." - Lk 2:34a

Presentation of the Lord

"Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel." Very often, having more light is not something we desire as it forces us to confront something we really do not want to see. There can be comfort found in darkness. It has an eerie sense of security to it. We do not have to challenge ourselves or be challenged and can simply exist in some fabricated state of self-fabricated blissfulness. Jesus came to bring light, and it is a light that is resisted by many and hated by some. It is a light that causes us to see things as they really are and not as we would want or need them to be. It is no wonder then that Simeon boldly and honestly proclaims to Mary, "Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted and you yourself a sword will pierce so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed." We have to take the Gospel message as it is and not just use those parts that are useful to us or more palatable. Taking Jesus at face value can and will lead to turmoil and dissension. Hearts will be pierced. Whether we like it, Jesus' proclamation of what the world God created really ought to look like has real and absolute social implications. It has a lot to say about how we treat our brothers and sisters: spiritually, personally, economically, and globally. It has everything to do with the poor, the immigrant, the scared, the unborn, the vulnerable, the sick, and the broken. The light opens us to a challenging, table-turning experience that may not be something we want to see but shows us where we need to be.



Pope's Prayer Intention month of February: Listen to the Migrants' Cries: We pray that the cries of our migrant brothers and sisters, victims of criminal trafficking, may be heard and considered.

Cathedral Appeal Update: Did you know that St. Catherine of Alexandria died around 310 A.D. in one of the persecutions of Christians that were so common in the Roman Empire? She refused to renounce her Christian faith and in her trials she converted many to Christianity. She was tortured on a spiked wheel which broke miraculously when she was placed upon it. Hence the broken Catherine Wheel in church symbolism, and featured in our Diocesan crest. The renovations of our Cathedral of St. Catherine are well underway, and we need the help of all to meet our goal of \$1.2 million. Be sure to visit us on the web at www.saintcd.com/appeal or pick up a brochure and pledge form in your church today to play your part in this amazing restoration project. May God bless you!

World Day for Consecrated Life– February 2nd: The purpose of this day is to "help the entire Church to esteem ever more greatly the witness of those persons who have chosen to follow Christ by means of the practice of the evangelical counsels" as well as to "be a suitable occasion for consecrated persons to renew their commitment and rekindle the fervour which should inspire their offering of themselves to the Lord." (Saint John Paul II, 1997). We are grateful to these consecrated men and women of our Diocese who live out their baptismal vocation by professing the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity and obedience in a religious congregation, a secular institute or through private vows. The World Day for Consecrated Life is a wonderful opportunity for us to show our gratitude to them by praying for God's continued blessing upon them and by praying that many others will hear and respond to the call to Consecrated Life.



The 28th World Day of the Sick will be celebrated on the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, Tuesday, February 11, 2020.

The World Day of the Sick focuses on three themes. It reminds the faithful to pray for the sick; it invites us to reflect upon the meaning of human suffering; finally, it recognizes and honours all persons who work in the health care field. In Pope Francis' Message for the 28th World Day of the Sick, "Come to me, all you who labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest" (Mt 11:28), he urges that "what is needed is a personalized approach to the sick, not just of curing but also of caring, in view of an integral human healing". Pope Francis' Message is available (in several languages) at the Holy See website: http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/sick/documents/papa-francesco_20200103_giornata-malato.html

An invitation is extended to all parishioners who are elderly and/or suffering from a serious illness or disease to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick on SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9th FOLLOWING THE 11AM MASS.

Recipients of the Anointing of the Sick:

Those of the faithful whose health is seriously impaired by sickness or old age may receive this sacrament. The sacrament may be repeated if the sick person recovers after being anointed and then again falls ill or if during the same illness the person's condition becomes more serious. A sick person may be anointed before surgery whenever a serious illness is the reason for the surgery. Elderly people may be anointed if they have become notably weakened even though no serious illness is present. Sick children may be anointed if they have sufficient use of reason to be strengthened by this sacrament.



EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS:

Healing Our Blindness
 The value of stewardship living is difficult to see unless we are experiencing that way of life for ourselves. You can read 100 Everyday Stewardship reflections and go to church every Sunday, but unless you are actively growing in faith and trying to live a life of generous stewardship, you cannot see the power of such a lifestyle. Like most things, we need direct, purposeful experiences to really understand.

I worked in a stewardship parish for over 20 years, but it was only after I started treating all I have as God's, and began to actively offer all I am to Him for His glory, that I really got the message. That doesn't mean I am a perfect steward. Far from it! However, the stress and anxiety that comes with life has greatly diminished because all is in God's hands. I choose to act more generously than before, which provides me with a sense of fulfillment and joy. How I act towards my family, friends, and even people I meet daily has changed. Now I am more mindful of their presence, and I seek to give them a part of me that just might change their day and bring them a little closer to Christ. I am transforming into a disciple who seeks to use all I have been given to transform all that is around me.

It would be a shame to be blind to the important things for an entire life. Today, consider taking a path of life-changing stewardship. Give it all to God. In the midst of all you have been given, you just might find God in a profound way. You may even find the real person God created you to be.

Parish Calendar

February 2020.....

- Feb 1/2..... Feast of St. Blais. Blessing of throats following All weekend Masses
 - Feb 1/2..... Parish Financial report for 2019 available
 - Feb 2nd.... World Day for Consecrated Life
 - Feb 7th.... First Friday Holy Communion to sick and homebound. Phone the office to arrange a visit.
 - Feb 9th..... Anointing of the sick following the 11am Mass
 - Feb 11th World day of the Sick– Our Lady of Lourdes
 - Feb 17th.... Family Day
 - Feb 23rd..... Youth Ministry will host breakfast/brunch following all morning Masses. More to follow.
 - Feb 24th.... CWL meeting after Morning Mass
 - Feb 26th..... Ash Wednesday. Masses 9:30am & 7pm.
- Bingo every Thursday evening 7-9pm in the parish hall.**
Youth Ministry every Wednesday evenings 6:30-8:30pm.
<http://stannfenwick.wixsite.com/youthministry> or email the parish.

Catholic Women's League News

The annual retreat during Lent will be held at Mount Carmel this year on **Wednesday, March 4th from 8:30am to 2:30pm** or **Thursday, March 5th from 5 to 8pm.** The Guest speaker will be Fr. Stuart MacDonald pastor of St. Joseph Parish, Snyder. Cost is \$40 and **deadline to register is February 14th.**

The annual **League Development Workshop** will be held on **Saturday, February 15th from 10am - 2pm.** Brown bag your lunch. **Let Donna know by February 4th** if you wish to attend. The facilitators will be from the Ontario Provincial Council.

Our **Spring Conference** is set for **Saturday, March 14, 2020 from 1 pm - 4 pm** and will be held at St. Therese of Lisieux in Port Colborne. There will be two guest speakers. Lisa Coxon from Northland Point will be speaking about Seniors and programmes specifically designed for them & Sylvia Verde will be speaking about Pope Francis. Our theme is "Loneliness" and both these ladies will be addressing this topic. This is a very serious concern in today's modern world and we need to all do our part to help alleviate loneliness in society. **If you do not have email, copies of these and more CWL events/news can be found on the bulletin board near the hall stairs. Help yourself to a copy.**

Email Addresses: If there has been a change in your email, please let Donna or the office know so that you will be sure to receive all CWL news and info.

Diocesan SEPARATED AND DIVORCED HEALING MINISTRY

support group monthly meetings. Next meeting, February 10, 2020, 7-9pm - **Making Good Decisions, Kathryn Morrow Presenter.** Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre, Niagara Falls. For info call 905-356-4113 or 905-684-0154, or email separatedanddivorced@saintcd.com. No pre-registration required.

Married Singles Lifestyle

–The Married Singles Lifestyle describes couples that may have lost a sense of closeness they once had as marriage partners and are living more like roommates. Retrouvaille has helped thousands of couples experiencing difficulty at all levels. For confidential information about, or to register for the program beginning with a weekend on **March 13, 2020**, at the Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre in Niagara Falls, please call **905-664-5212** or email: hamiltonretrouvaille1@cogeco.ca or visit the web site at www.retrouvaille.org.

Sat. Feb 1	9-10am	Confessions
	4-4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions
	5:00pm	Special Intentions for the Rocca Family (Bianco Family)
Sun. Feb 2	9:30am	Special Intentions of Teresa Walters (Teresa Walters)
	11:00am	Missa Pro Populo
Mon. Feb 3	9:30am	✠ Theo Legace (Racz Family)
	7-8pm	Holy Hour & Confessions
Tues. Feb 4	9:30am	✠ John Roy Buckner (Racz Family)
Wed. Feb 5	9:30am	✠ Kiyoko Suzuki (Mike & Anne Young)
Thurs. Feb 6	9:30am	Bruce Butterworth (Teresa Walters)
Fri. Feb 7	9:30am	✠ Cor & Mary Vanderlee (Tina Vanderlee)
Sat. Feb 8	4-4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions
	5:00pm	✠ Deceased Members of the Csukerda Family (Mary & Bill Podolyak)
		✠ Ethel Della Valle (Jan & Lana)
Sun. Feb 9	9:30am	Missa Pro Populo
	11:00am	✠ Mary Wood (Joan & Tim Crowther)

Confessions from 9-9:20am before all weekday Masses. Offertory January 25th & 26th, 2020

83 Envelopes	\$2, 234.00
Loose Collection	\$ 70.00
Total Offertory	\$2, 304.00
Maintenance	\$ 120.00

Feast of St. Blaise February 3rd– Blessing of Throats: If you would like to participate in this tradition, Fr. Chad & Deacon Jim will bless throats following all Masses **this weekend.**

