

### FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Reverend Ranjan D'Sa OCD

The Gospel for the first Sunday of Lent every year, narrates the story of Jesus' temptation in the desert. This reading ushers us into the Lenten mood. It speaks about: Jesus' fasting and penance for 40 days; His desire to be alone with God, His Father; His success against human temptations; and finally, God's assurance of help. Lent invites us to imitate Jesus in fasting, penance, prayer and to come into the presence of God. It guides us to rise above our limitations by overcoming our temptations.

Lent will help us to reorganize our priorities. As Christians — or as the Second Vatican council calls us, 'the people of God' — our priority is to give God the first place in our lives. Jesus has said, "If you love your father and mother, brother and sister, husband or wife above Me, you are not worthy of Me". Anything, therefore, that takes God away from our life or makes God less important is our temptation.

Then, how do we know what our temptations are? We need to look deeper into our own life for a clear answer. One of the simplest ways to search for our temptations is to see what our intimate attachments are. According to the present-day scenario, the biggest attachment of the present generation is over-dependence on social media which may take away from us, all that we need to give to God: our precious time of prayer; attending the church for Mass and -

doing community service. Feeling sorry for the modern generation, Pope John Paul II in 1996, urged the faithful to abstain from such 'media' for Lent. It is the media, in today's world, that guides us to decide who we are, what we need, and what we should do.

Let us take away from our lives all those elements that keep us away from God. Let God be the centre of our life. –

#### YOUNG VINCENTIANS

An important part of our Lenten practices is almsgiving. If you have any spare change, there will be a glass jar in the narthex for anyone who would like to donate it for Lent. The change collected will be donated to our Young Vincentians Youth Group. Thank you for your generosity!

# WHY DO WE PRACTICE FASTING & ABSTINENCE DURING LENT?

1	Imitating Jesus' temptation in the desert.	X	Salues and a
2	Opportunity to suffer for Christ & His Church!		
3	Numerous scriptural roots of fasting.		
4	The Catechism of the Catholic Church (1434, 1438, 2043)		

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PARISH LITURGIES			
-FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT-			
Tuesday, February 20 - Sts. Jacinta & Francisco			
8:30 am	+ Lorenzo Mariotti		
Wednesday, February 21 - St. Peter Damian			
8:30 am	+ Audrey Cook		
7:00 pm	Holy Hour of Adoration – young professionals & students		
Thursday, February 22 - The Chair of St. Peter			
8:30 am	+ Sundeep Khosla		

Friday, February 23 - St. Polycarp		
8:30 am	+ Myung Sun Lee	
7:00 pm	Stations of the Cross & Lenten Reflection	

#### -SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT-

#### Saturday, February 24 - St. John Theristus

4:00 – 4:30 pm	Reconciliation
5:00 pm	For:

Int. Gregory Paik, + Sundeep Khosla, + Vince Salvia, Int. Annette Reinelt, + Rosita Palencia, + Patti Hebert, + Jason Speers, + Shirley Dubiel, + Paul Halpin, + Andrew Madden

Sunday, February 25		
9:00 am	For our	
11:00 am	Parish	





#### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

We will have Stations of the Cross to prepare ourselves adequately for the celebrations of Easter, which is the Feast of Jesus' Resurrection – the Feast of our Salvation! We prepare for Easter by prayer, fasting, and penance. A traditional form of prayer is the communal celebration of the Way of the Cross. The Way of the Cross helps us to understand and relive, in our own way, the Passion of Christ.

Please come and join us every Friday evening during Lent at 7:00 pm to celebrate the Way of the Cross.



#### PARISH LENTEN REFLECTIONS – FRIDAYS FOLLOWING STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Join us on Friday evenings for a short video reflection with Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT, as she helps you turn away from what wounds you and toward God who heals you and makes you whole. Each week, Sr. Miriam will lead us to meet the tenderness of God's Mercy, the Power of His Love, and the restoration of your heart and life, as you practice prayer, fasting, almsgiving, and sacrifice. Each session will begin at 7:30 pm after Stations of the Cross in the Church for just a few minutes. Participants are then welcome to take home guided reflections for prayer throughout Lent.

## SANCTUARY LAMP

*Our Sanctuary lamp will be lit this week for the Intentions of the O'Donovan Sisters* 

#### PARISH LENTEN PENANCE CELEBRATION

Thursday, March  $14^{th}$  6:30 pm – 7:30 pm



Our parish is viewing Season 2 of the hit series, *The Chosen*. The series allows us to see Christ through the eyes of those who knew him. The Chosen takes the stories of the Gospels and, at the same time, tells us a story that is in between the lines of scripture.

Participants are welcome to join us Fridays in the Parish Hall from 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm (after the Stations of the Cross) for a screening of an episode, followed by group discussions and activities led by our Pastoral Minister, Michael Aguiar; materials will be provided. We will be focusing on season 2 of the series. We will meet on the following remaining dates:

February 23, 2024	March 08, 2024
March 1, 2024	_

To register, please contact Michael at the parish office or email: <u>michael@saintdominic.ca</u>

#### SACRAMENT OF FIRST RECONCILIATION

Wednesday, March 6th at 6:30pm for both St. Dominic and St. Nicholas School. Parents are invited to set a good example by also going to confession

#### CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE LENTEN INITIATIVE

One again, we are inviting our fellow parishioners to join the CWL in our Lenten almsgiving initiative to support Fare Share Food Bank. Beginning next weekend, February 24/25 and continuing over 5 successive weekends (Feb 24/25 – Mar 23/24), we are collecting food donations. Each weekend, we will focus on a different need, based on specific items typically requested by the Food Bank. The five needs are Breakfast, Lunch, Supper, Dessert, and Self-Care. The following is a suggested list of items:

Feb 24/25	Breakfast: Cereal, Oatmeal, Pancakes Mix, Jam,
Mar 2/3	Lunch: Canned Soups, Mac & Cheese, Crackers
Mar 9/10	Supper: Canned Fish or Meat, Rice, Beans
Mar 16/17	Dessert: Packaged Cookies, Snack Bars, Canned
Mar 23/24	Self-Care: Toothbrush, Tooth Paste, Soap,

These are suggestions only. We appreciate the pressures the cost of food is placing on all families, so whatever you may be able to contribute will be gratefully accepted. Items may be left in the big red box in the Narthex and will be delivered to Fare Share each week. Many thanks!

#### "Your paths Lord are love and faithfulness

#### WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

World Day of Prayer will be held this year at Saint Dominic Parish, 2415 Rebecca Street, Oakville, on Friday, March 1, 2024 at 5:00 pm. The World Day of Prayer service offers parishioners the chance to join in meaningful Christian service and afterwards, enjoy a cup of tea/coffee and conversation together. For more information please visit our website: <u>saintdominic.ca</u>

HAMILTON DIOCESE PRAYER CALENDAR			
Monday, February 19	Rev. Robert Bulbrook		
Tuesday, February 20	Rev. Ron Cote		
Wednesday, February 21	Discalced Carmelite Sisters (O.C.D.)		
Thursday, February 22	Rev. William Foote		
Friday, February 23	Rev. Michael Isabelle		
Saturday, February 24	Consecrated Virgin Candidates		

# ST. DOMINIC CHURCH

We are looking for students in <u>grade 7 to grade 12</u> - who will perform the <u>Gospel Passion</u> on **Friday March 29th** at the **11am Good Friday Liturgy**.

Rehearsals are **Saturday** February 17, February 24th and March 2nd from <u>1-4pm</u> and **Friday March 22nd** from <u>4-6pm</u> at St. Dominic Parish (Food will be provided).

Please contact **Colleen Gamble** at <u>colleengamble123@gmail.com</u> or Michael Aguiar at the Parish Office if interested.



# SAINT DOMINIC PARISH2415 Rebecca Street,<br/>Oakville, Ontario, L6L 2B1Phone:905-827-2373Fax:905-827-6055Email:office@saintdominic.caWebsite:saintdominic.caPastor:Reverend Ranjan D'Sa OCD<br/>rdsa@hamiltondiocese.com

Pastoral Associate/Youth Minister: Michael Aguiar

michael@saintdominic.ca

D	eacon:	Reverend Mr. Terry Murphy
P	arish Accountant:	Brian Thornton
S	ecretary: acristan:	Mary Evans
S	acristan:	Judi Kingry
C	ustodian:	Peter Coffey

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday – 9:00 am to 4:00 pm (*Closed from noon to 1:00 pm*).

#### Follow us on social media!

Facebook:	@saintdominicoakville	&	@saintdominicym
Instagram:	@saintdominicym		

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM!

