



SAINT DOMINIC PARISH

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Issue 09 | Volume 5

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Reverend Ranjan D'Sa OCD

Deacon Dana McCarthy, a retired naval officer who works in the Diocese of Orlando, in one of his blogs, narrates the conversation he had with his Jewish friend. Both were lamenting the increase in secularist ideology and the growing rejection of Judeo-Christian values in the world. Feeling sad about the way people embrace the 'culture of death' ideologies, Deacon asked a rhetorical question to his friend, "How can so many people turn their back on life?"

Without showing many emotions, his Jewish friend responded: "Because for them, this is all there is. For them there is nothing more. For them life is an accident without purpose, and so they have no interest in anything but their own selfish needs. Sad isn't it?"

Lent is a time to take a break from the routines of life and reflect on the meaning and purpose of life. True purpose of life can only come when we believe in God. In Ephesians, Saint Paul tells us that without hope we live in darkness. Only through Christ we come to know God, who is our life and purpose (Eph 2:12).

The Third Sunday of Lent invites all of us to pay attention to God's 'Ten Commandments' (Decalogue). Just prior to giving the

Decalogue to the People of Israel, God reminds them that He is "Yahweh" – their God, who brought them out of Israel. In a way, God is reminding them the terms of the covenant He made with Abraham – "[He is their] God, and they are His people." Therefore, the 'Ten commandments' are not restrictive, but rather a means to enter into a personal relationship with their God.

Fernando Armelini, a prolific preacher, and commentator on scripture, says that the 'Ten Commandments' are not difficult, severe, absurd or incomprehensible laws imposed on people to test their faithfulness. "They can be compared, rather, to road signs that are not placed there to limit our freedom, but to teach and show us the right way". The signs are there to help us have a safe but joyful ride. The Decalogue is meant to create an atmosphere conducive to our personal growth; it is to help us live our lives to the fullest (Jn 10:10).

Later in the scripture passage, Jesus gives a beautiful example of how to apply the Decalogue in our lives. Jesus really lived the spirit of the Decalogue. His love of God, His father, and loving sacrifice of His life on the cross for the sake of His neighbour (all of us), is – in a sense – a perfect way of living the Decalogue.

PARISH LITURGIES

—THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT—

Tuesday, March 05 - St. Kieran

8:30 am + Gerald McGraw

Wednesday, March 06 - St. Collette

8:30 am + Sundeep Khosla

Thursday, March 07 - Sts. Perpetua & Felicity

8:30 am + Mary Nairn

Friday, March 08 - St. John of God

8:30 am + Joseph Steiner
7:00 pm Stations of the Cross & Lenten Reflection

—FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT—

Saturday, March 09 - St. Frances of Rome

4:00 – 4:30 pm **Reconciliation**

5:00 pm **For:**

Int. Maria Gomes, Int. Manuel Pereira,
+ Sundeep Khosla, + Denise Snowdon,
+ Gerry Casey

Sunday, March 10

9:00 am For our
11:00 am Parish



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 church 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!

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 Camacho Family

PARISH LENTEN PENANCE CELEBRATION

Thursday, March 14th 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm

HOLY WEEK 2024 MASS TIMES

HOLY THURSDAY – MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Thursday, March 28	7:00 pm	
		<i>9:00 pm to 10:00 pm Silent Prayer 'at Gethsemane', ending with Evening Prayer at 9:45 pm</i>

GOOD FRIDAY – THE PASSION OF OUR LORD

Friday, March 29	11:00 am	Children's Service
	3:00 pm	Solemn Service

<i>Saturday, March 30</i>	<i>11:00 am</i>	<i>Blessing of the Easter Food</i>
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EASTER – SOLEMNITY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

Saturday, March 30	8:00 pm	The Great Vigil of Easter
Sunday, March 31	8:30 am	Easter Morning Mass
	10:15 am	Easter Morning Mass
	12:00 pm	Easter Morning Mass

"God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life."

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

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS OUR CANDIDATES PREPARING FOR CONFIRMATION

On Tuesday, April 16th at 7:30 pm - St. Nicholas School

On Wednesday, April 17th at 7:30 pm - St Dominic School

We pray that confirmandi may open their hearts and minds for the gifts of the Holy Spirit and make witness to the gospel.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR CHILDREN PREPARING FOR FIRST COMMUNION

The dates for First Communion will be during regular Sunday Masses beginning April 13th – May 12th.

We pray that communicants will open their hearts to receive Jesus with joy and continue to receive Jesus regularly.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE UPDATE

Thank you to our compassionate parishioners for their generous donations of breakfast food for the first of our Lenten Almsgiving Food Drive. Our friends at Fare Share Food Bank were thrilled to receive our 7 grocery carts of food for those in need. Your kindness will go a long way to brighten the lives of those experiencing food insecurity.

The schedule for the remaining collection is as follows:

- Mar 02/03 Lunch Canned Soups, Mac & Cheese, Crackers
- Mar 09/10 Supper Canned Fish, Meat, Rice, Beans
- Mar 16/17 Dessert Packaged Cookies, Snack Bars, Canned Fruit
- Mar 24/25 Self-Care Toothbrush, Tooth Paste, Soap, Shampoo

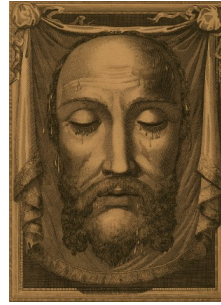
Items may be left in the big red box in the Narthex and will be delivered to Fare Share each week. Many thanks!

“Lord, you have the words of eternal life.”

HAMILTON DIOCESE PRAYER CALENDAR	
Monday, March 04	Rev. George Nowak, C.R.
Tuesday, March 05	Rev. Edward Hinsperger
Wednesday, March 06	Disabled Persons
Thursday, March 07	Rev. Pat Aiello, C.R.
Friday, March 08	Rev. Chris Buda, C.R.
Saturday, March 09	Rev. James Link, C.R.

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MONTHLY HOLY FACE DEVOTION PRAYER EVENING



Starting in March, our St. Dominic Conversatio Christo Choir is leading monthly Holy Face Devotion 'Vespers' – contemplative prayer evenings – in the church at 7:00 every first Sunday of the month. It will include Gregorian Chant hymns and the Rosary. You are all welcome to join us as we pray for reverence, reparation, and a return to Christ.



REMINDER:

Daylight savings Time begins March 10th.

Turn your clocks forward 1 hour on Saturday night.

HOLY WEEK RESOURCES FOR TEENS

The Office of Youth Ministry will be publishing, *Walking the Way*, a Holy Week Journal for Teens. The resource has been developed for youth aged 13-16 in mind. The journal bridges the Gospel reading for each day of Holy Week to practical ways young people can live out the message. The journal also has reflections from Pope Francis' letter, *Christus Vivit* for young people to consider. The Holy Week Journal can be found here: <http://tinyurl.com/yxvxwxyj>

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Deacon: Reverend Mr. Terry Murphy
Parish Accountant: Brian Thornton
Secretary: Mary Evans
Sacristan: Judi Kingry
Custodian: Peter Coffey

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

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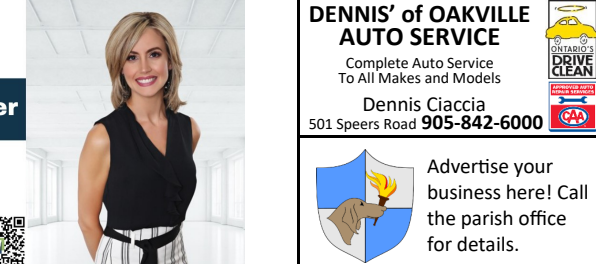

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