



# SAINT DOMINIC PARISH

February 22, 2026

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Issue 08 | Volume 7

## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

*Lent – Time to Attend to One’s Spiritual Life*

*–Fr. Ranjan D’Sa O.C.D.*

We have just begun our Lent by imposing ashes on our foreheads. In Old Testament times, putting on sackcloth and sprinkling ashes on the head were regarded predominantly as a symbol of grief. Today it stands for repentance and a reminder of our mortality. Lent, therefore, is a time kept aside to pay attention to our spiritual life. It is also a time to contemplate life beyond the horizons of earthly existence, for we know deep down in our hearts that we can find rest only in the presence of our creator, God.

Lent is a time to prepare for the graces of our salvation, given to us in the passion, death, and resurrection of Christ. This is the Paschal Mystery, the mystery of our faith and salvation. The early church used this time as a final preparation to instruct the catechumens in faith. There is no better time to help catechumens to experience this mystery of their redemption than during Lent, as it is a time to prepare for a new life in faith.

The church gives us three classical methods to use during Lent. These three ways of the church are proven effective time and again.

**Prayer** is the first and the most important thing to do in Lent. Prayer brings us into the presence of God. It creates a relationship, a union with God who we know loves us uncondition-

ally.

**Fasting** is a means to discipline our mind and body to focus totally on the love and mercy of God who gave us himself on the cross for our sake.

**Almsgiving** is the best outcome of prayer and fasting. One of the books of the early church (Didache), instructs the faithful regarding almsgiving, telling them, “You will thus deprive yourself of something so that your self-sacrifice may help somebody else to satisfy his/her hunger”.

Today’s liturgy presents Jesus to us as an example and model to fight every temptation we face. Paul in the second reading presents Jesus as a ‘New Man’, who counters every evil which the ‘First man’ (Adam) failed to do. Jesus brings back what was lost by Adam – eternal life.

**Adam → Temptation → Sin → Death**

**Jesus → Temptation → Rejection of sin → Eternal life**

The whole episode, the Temptation of Jesus, is symbolic in nature. This temptation of Jesus was not for a single day but for His whole earthly life until He conquered it on the cross. The temptation from evil is still present for all people who live in Christ (those who are Baptized).

But the one who is in Christ should not find it too difficult to face this temptation. The cross of Christ is the means to conquer every evil. –

## PARISH LITURGIES

—FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT—

**Tuesday February 24 - St. John Theristus**

8:30 am + Aurora

**Wednesday February 25 - St. Tarasius**

8:30 am + Pat Carol

**Thursday February 26 - St. Isabel of France**

8:30 am + Mirelle Aubin

**Friday February 27 - St. Gregory of Narek**

8:30 am + Guido Bardaro

9:00 – 10:00 am Adoration

7:00 pm Stations of the Cross

—SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT—

**Saturday February 28 - Pope St. Hilary**

4:00 pm Reconciliation

5:00 pm For:

+ John Duggan, Int. Todd Lee, + Zanina Krol, + Marislaw Krol, + Gerald McGraw, + Moira Coffey, + George Hutter, + Paul Snowdon

**Sunday March 01**

9:00 am For our

11:00 am Parishioners

For some Lenten Resources, visit [saintdominic.ca/lent](http://saintdominic.ca/lent)



### INCOME TAX RECEIPTS

Income Tax Receipts will be available for pickup in the Narthex after all the Masses this weekend.

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

We will be having Stations of the Cross to prepare ourselves adequately for the celebration of Easter. Please come and join us every Friday evening during Lent at 7:00 pm to celebrate the Way of the Cross.



Following the Stations of the Cross, each Friday during Lent, we invite you to watch a brief reflection from Fr. Agustino Torres, CFR. This Lent, enter the wilderness with Jesus to experience grace, freedom, and transformation with our Lord.

### PARISH PENANCE CELEBRATION

There will be a Parish Penance Celebration on March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026 beginning at 6:30 pm.

### ADVERTISING YOUR BUSINESS IN OUR PARISH NEWSLETTER

If you would like to advertise your business in our parish newsletter, we have a few spaces available. For more information, please contact the parish office at 905-827-2373 or email: [office@saintdominic.ca](mailto:office@saintdominic.ca)

### FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit into the desert for forty days of prayer and fasting. Are you open to being led by the Holy Spirit into the life-commitment God has prepared for you? If God is calling you to serve him as a priest, deacon, brother or sister, contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocation, diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988.

*“Have mercy, O Lord, for we have sinned.”*

### SANCTUARY LAMP



*Our Sanctuary Lamp will be lit this week for the Camacho Family*

### SACRAMENT OF FIRST RECONCILIATION

The Sacrament of First Reconciliation will be held on Thursday, February 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm for the children of St Dominic and St. Nicholas Schools, who will be receiving the Sacrament of First Holy Communion in the Spring of 2026.

### CONFIRMATION PREPARATION MEETING

There is a Confirmation Preparation Meeting this Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the parish centre. We strongly recommend and encourage all parents and children who will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation to attend this meeting.

### UNLOCKING THE SECRETS OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION

You are invited to join Fr. Ranjan D’Sa and Dr. Peter Swirzon in a journey into the timeless and mysterious mystical realm of the Book of Revelation where the secrets of God’s plan of salvation are revealed in symbols and imagery, in mysterious prophesies and allegorical figures. It promises to be a journey filled with intrigue, puzzling paradoxes and enigmas. Please join us on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm in Parish centre. **Please note:** The session this Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, will be held in the church.

### PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR CHILDREN PREPARING FOR THE SACRAMENTS OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION

*We pray that the children preparing for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion will open their hearts to receive Jesus with joy, and continue to receive Him regularly.*

*We pray that those candidates preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation may open their hearts and minds to the gifts of the Holy Spirit.*

## ST. DOMINIC PARISH GOOD FRIDAY PASSION PLAY

We are looking for students in grade 7 to grade 12—who will perform the Gospel Passion on Friday April 3<sup>rd</sup>, at the 11:00 Good Friday Liturgy.

Rehearsals are from 4—6pm Friday, February 27, Friday, March 6, and Friday March 27 at St. Dominic Parish. (Food will be provided) Please contact Colleen & Claire Gamble at colleengamble123@gmail.com or the Parish Office if you are interested or are a School Chaplain. **Volunteer Hours are awarded.**

## PARENTING TIP OF THE MONTH #176

We are constantly teaching our kids by what we choose to make a priority. We encourage schoolwork to be done well, engage in extra-curricular activities for fun and development, pray and attend Mass so faith stays at the forefront of our family values. We are however, also teaching our children when we are not trying to teach them. In those moments we are silently saying, you matter and I love being with you, that family time to relax is vital to good mental health and that undertaking chores together connects us as a family. So, enjoy the non-teaching times because they matter more than you might think!

## LOOKING FOR SUPPORT FOR YOUR MARRIAGE

Does your marriage feel like it is more trouble than joy, does it feel stagnant, or disconnected? It is causing you constant stress? The solution is Retrouvaille - whose one purpose is to help couples restore their marriage and rebuild a loving relationship. This is a practical program, where sharing is not required except between the couple themselves. It is designed to improve communication, build stronger marriages, and help couples reconnect. This is for struggling couples, including those who may be considering separation or divorce. The next Retrouvaille Weekend is March 13-15, 2026. For more information, call 905-664-5212 or email [1013r@helpourmarriage.org](mailto:1013r@helpourmarriage.org)

## HAMILTON DIOCESE PRAYER CALENDAR

Monday, February 24	Rev. Joonbin Lim
Tuesday, February 25	Rev. Ralph Diodati
Wednesday, February 26	Society of the Sacred Heart of Jesus R.S.C.J.
Thursday, February 27	Rev. Saju Oreethaparambil, C.Ss.R.
Friday, February 28	Rev. Kevin Upendran
Saturday, February 29	Rev. Drago Gacnik, S.D.B.

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## ST. GABRIEL'S FUNDRAISING GALA

Parishioners from our neighbouring parish community are warmly invited to join us for an evening of fellowship, fine dining and support of the St. Gabriel's Parish Hall Remodel Project. Your presence and generosity will help create a welcoming space for parish ministries, celebrations and community life. The Fundraising Gala will be on April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026. Purchase your tickets by the early bird deadline to be entered for a chance to win a cottage weekend getaway – a special thank-you-prize for early support. Buy Tickets: [www.saintgabrielgala.com](http://www.saintgabrielgala.com) – and click “BUY YOUR TICKET” to reserve your seat. We look forward to worshipping, celebrating and strengthening our parish community together!

*“Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.”*

## THE DIOCESAN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

Are you celebrating your 25<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup>, or 60+ Wedding Anniversary in the year 2026? You are cordially invited to join Bishop Dabrowski and couples from across the Diocese of Hamilton for a Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, May 31, 2026 at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King in Hamilton at 1:30 pm. (Space allows room for Anniversary couples only – those married 60 years or more may bring one guest if you require assistance.) Registration is found under Upcoming Events on the home page at [hamiltondiocese.com](http://hamiltondiocese.com), or call the Family Ministry Office at 905-528-7988 ext. 2249.

### SAINT DOMINIC PARISH

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Pastor: Reverend Ranjan D'Sa OCD  
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Pastoral Associate/Youth Minister: Michael Aguiar  
[michael@saintdominic.ca](mailto:michael@saintdominic.ca)

Deacon: Reverend Mr. Terry Murphy

Parish Accountant: Brian Thornton

Secretary: Mary Evans

Sacristan: Judi Kingry

Custodian: Peter Coffey

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

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