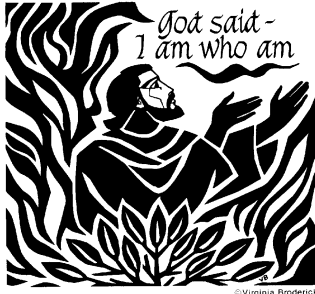


3rd SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 7, 2010



3rd Sunday of Lent, March 7, 2010

by Father Greg Friedman, O.F.M

Lent: It's not like it was in the *"Good Old Days."* It's true, the Lenten fasting rules are not what they were in the memory and experience of many older Catholics. The emphasis today in our Lenten observance has shifted somewhat. We stress the *"baptismal"* character of Lent. It's a time when we re-affirm our Christian identity, and support those preparing for Baptism. Repentance is still a Lenten focus, and today those two themes come together in our Scriptures. Take a cue from St. Paul, who creatively retells the story of the Israelites in the desert, to remind the Corinthians that being baptized means a life of repentance. A Christian is to live differently, to constantly have a spirit of conversion. It's a theme Jesus picks up in the Gospel, correcting popular notions about why bad things happen to good people. All of us, Jesus says, must be *"reform-minded."* God doesn't single out anyone by sending tragedies or natural disasters. We all have opportunities—not unlimited, of course—but opportunities nonetheless, to turn from sin and accept God's love. *It's what Baptism commits us to do.*

SCHEDULE of MASSES

Monday, Mar. 8 th	Prescott	8:00 A.M.	Leo VanDenDam (5 th Anniv.) ++++++++ His Wife, Mary
Tuesday, Mar. 9 th	Prescott	8:00 A.M.	Mildred Clark ++++++++ Vera Bleakney
Wed., Mar. 10 th	Prescott	4:00 - 7:00 P. M. - ADORATION	
	Prescott	7:00 P.M.	Lee de Granville ++++++++ Wayne & Lois Boisvenue
Thursday, Mar. 11 th	Prescott	8:00 A.M.	Michael Morris ++++++++ Glenn & Betty Morris
Friday, Mar. 12 th	Cardinal	8:40 A.M.	"STATIONS of the CROSS"
	Cardinal	9:00 A.M.	Helen Robichaud ++++++++ Charlene & Tom Kennedy
	Prescott	6:40 P.M.	"STATIONS of the CROSS"
	Prescott	7:00 P.M.	Owen Carragher ++++++++ Bill & Vivyan MacAndrew
Saturday, Mar. 13 th	Prescott	5:15 P.M.	Dec'd Carragher Fam. Mbers +++++ Bill & Rosaleen Mallett
Sunday, Mar. 14 th	Cardinal	9:00 A.M.	Intentions of all St. Mark & Sacred Heart Parishioners
	Prescott	11:00 A.M.	Joan Foley (6 th Anniv.) ++++++++ Dennis Foley

Sunday Offertory : FEBRUARY 28 - 10 St. Mark - \$1584.00 Sacred Heart - \$ 415.00

Thank you for your Generosity

PARISH MINISTRIES' SCHEDULE FOR MASSES ON MARCH 13th & 14th, 2010 - (2nd Sunday)




MASS	USHERS	READERS	EUCCHARISTIC	GIFT BEARERS
Sat. 5:15 - Mar. 13 St. Mark	Clayt Paquette, Bob Wardrop Matt Leonard	Sue Daigle	Beth Gallagher John McAuley	Rachel-Hannah Porter & Family
Sun. 9:00 - Mar. 14 Cardinal	"To be determined"	Joanne Esson	Giselle Wright Joan Toupin (C)	"To be determined"
Sun. 11:00- Mar. 14 St. Mark	Tony Jozefowicz, Gerry Botting, Jessica Gillis	Alanna Whelan	Julie Coligan, Klaas deVries, Tom Whelan, (C)	Gavin Sexton & Family
CHILDREN'S LITURGY - FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT			SUNDAY MARCH 14 th - DENISE FRETWELL	

GIFT BEARERS' NOTICE: There will be a **"TEMPORARY"** suspension of **REGULAR GIFT BEARERS** while the candidates for First Holy Communion take over until **May 9th** as part of their preparation for this Sacrament. Thank you for your co-operation and understanding ***we will notify you when it is time to resume regular gift bearing duties.***

CATHOLIC MISSIONS IN CANADA / SCARBORO FOREIGN MISSIONS - This collection closes after this weekend and will be forwarded to the Archdiocese for distribution. Donations

received after this date will be considered individual Parish donations. **Thank you for your generosity.**

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DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME: Just a reminder that **next Saturday, March 13th**, you must **PUT YOUR CLOCKS AHEAD 1 HOUR** or **you'll be late for Mass on Sunday, March 14th.**

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FAITH ENRICHMENT: We continue this coming Wednesday after the evening Mass. All are welcome.

ST. PATRICK'S HAM SUPPER Thursday, March 11th, at Sacred Heart Parish Centre : BUFFET: 4:30 TO 6:00 P.M. - Ham - Casseroles - Desserts Adults: \$12.00 - Children 5-12 yrs. \$ 4.00 - Children under 5 Free. COME ENJOY GOOD FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP.

ST. PATRICK DINNER / ENTERTAINMENT on Sunday, March 14th, at St. Mark Parish Centre. A Social Hour will begin at 4:00 P.M. with a full *Roast Beef Dinner* being served at 5:00 P.M. Entertainment by the "FIDDLERS' PLUS" will follow. The cost is **ADULT: \$ 12.00; Children under 12: \$ 5.00; Children under 5 - FREE. Tickets W will be on sale at every weekend Mass beginning February 14th, at St. Mark Church. There are a limited number of tickets available so get your tickets early to avoid disappointment. PLEASE NOTE: TICKETS ARE BY ADVANCE SALE ONLY.** This Annual Event is sponsored by the **Knights of Columbus, Council 5880.** NOTE: Tables of "8" may be reserved in advance by calling 613-345-6210 or 613-925-2207.

MISSION WORKS AT HOME AND ABROAD - We are now receiving donations for this collection. It will remain open until **Sunday, March 14th.** Please make cheques payable in the name of your Parish. Last year, this collection was used to support *Sisters of Providence in Peru, Holy Childhood Association, World Vision, Catholic Missions in Canada, Spirit of Giving Campaign and the CDSBEO Good Samaritan Trust Fund.* Please be generous.

THE 18TH ANNUAL RON BLACK MEMORIAL CURLING BONSPIEL will be held on **Sunday, March 28th** at the **Prescott Curling Centre** - Henry St. W. - Entry Fee: \$15.00/person - Pot Luck Supper at 5:30 P.M. (2 Draws - 11:30 A.M/1:00 P.M.- 24 Curlers Each) 2 Games Each- Prizes - **NOTE: Experience Is Not Necessary or Required!** This event is sponsored by the K. Of C. in Ron's memory as a family event. **Teenagers are welcome as well . Sign-up in the Main foyer of St. Mark Church or call 613-657-4608 You can bring friends, relatives as well. They do not have to belong to any particular parish or belong to the catholic faith just people looking for a social afternoon to meet other great people.**

ST. PATRICK'S TEA & BAZAAR: Hosted by the CWL on **Sat. March 13th** from 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at **Royal Canadian Legion** in **Morrisburg.** Admission: \$5.00 (includes tea & sandwiches-door prizes). **Salad bar-\$4.00;** Jams & Jellies; Candy; Plants, New to You, Bake Table. **Everyone welcome.**

PENANCE CELEBRATIONS:

Let us get ready for our part in these days of grace and forgiveness: **7:00 pm Start Times**

1. **St. John Bosco:** Thursday, March 11th.
2. **Kemptville,** Sunday, March 21st
3. **Prescott,** Monday, March 22nd .
4. **Cardinal,** Tuesday, March 23rd .
5. **Morrisburg,** Sunday, March 28th.

WEDDINGS: It never rains, it pours. Last year we celebrated only one wedding; this year there is a line up of seven, starting in June; may God bless all the couples planning to make this life-long commitment to each other with the blessing and grace of Our Lord. The names will appear in our bulletins as the weeks come by.

Pastor's Message

March 7, 2010

To begin with a special word of appreciation and congratulations to all who kept our nation spell-bound for 17 days during the Olympic Winter-Games in Vancouver, the athletes from around the world and their organizers in so many ways. It was truly a most wonderful display of all those sport events. And Canada, and that is all of us too, can be proud that the Games came off so exciting and inspiring leaving us with wonder at the performance of those hundreds of athletes. And then to end up with the most Gold medals ever surpassing even other countries with many medals. Canada stands proud in the world after these Games. At the same time we admire the beauty of the BC mountains. And then that final Hockey Game which ended in a nail-biter and then in victory. Praise God for all the joy that millions of people everywhere absorbed throughout these special days.

But then, secondly a word of thanks to all the people who participated in our special Eucharistic Sunday, those who came to the hours of adoration and those who came to the special Holy Hour at the end hearing the inspiring words of our Dean Father Brian Price. A Eucharistic Day like this at the beginning of Lent is a great moment of grace when the Lord invites us and fills us with the right spirit of penance and humility. And of course we will not forget that our prayer always has that fourfold aspect as our Catechism so clearly shows: Prayer is: **ADORATION, THANKSGIVING, SORROW and PETITION.** Sometimes we tend to limit our prayer to petition; that does not seem fair when we are and live in the presence of God our Maker, our Lover and our Saviour. Our first prayer should always be adoration. That is why in so many churches nowadays we see Hours of Adoration offered and even all day and sometimes even day and night, 24-7 as the saying goes.

Have you noticed that in this special Season of Lent we read a lot from the Book of Exodus, the fascinating story of the liberation of the Hebrew people from the Egypt, the land of slavery to the Land of Promise. And the central figure in the whole story is Moses, one of the towering figures in the whole of the Old Testament. It is good to pay attention to some of the details of his story. Moses too is called by God; it begins with the story at the burning bush; and Moses is wondering how such a bush can burn without apparently burning out; in biblical language it is an image of the ever awe-inspiring presence of God; and Moses wants to inspect this kind of mysterious thing before his eyes, but then God speaks from the heart of the bush: Moses, Moses, and God says: Moses do not come closer, take off your shoes; for the ground on which you stand is holy ground, and we hear those famous words that occur several times in our Sacred Scriptures." **Here I am Lord**". It would be a great Lenten act of penance to read the whole "**Moses Story**", beginning with his being saved from the slaughter of the infants in Egypt and Moses being saved in the basket at the edge of the River Nile to the day he died on mount Nebo within sight of the Holy Land.

What strikes me is the line that says: this is holy ground. Do we realize that any time or day we enter our church we too are standing on holy ground in the presence and the very place of God himself. Hence the holy respect and reverence we owe to the sanctuary in our town. More about all this another week.

Father J. Appelman, M.F.M., Your Pastor

St. Mark Catholic Church

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March 7, 2010

Dear Parishioners:

We would like to take this opportunity to update you on the circumstances surrounding Crane House, on the St. Mark Parish campus.

As you know, there was a heating system failure in January, 2009 which resulted in extensive water damage to the building. Emergency work was performed to prevent further damage and possible environmental concerns resulting from saturated plaster and wood in the building. This work resulted in extensive gutting of the building. It also exposed building practices which are not compliant with the current Ontario Building Code, including, but not limited to, substandard electrical, plumbing and insulation. Asbestos was also found in the building which has been subsequently removed. This work exposed the stone walls on the interior and reduced other building materials present to a minimum.

During the asbestos abatement process, some obvious compromises to the structural integrity of the building were discovered. The Parish Finance / Property Committee felt it prudent to engage the services of an engineering firm to perform a structural assessment of the building. The senior structural engineer of an Ottawa engineering firm concluded that extensive work would be required to repair, replace or upgrade the wood framing to restore the structural integrity of the building. Repairs to the exterior stone and stucco walls and replacement of the roof shingles is also anticipated as part of the structural repairs required for the building. The engineer has advised against going up to the second level of the building and also recommended that there be minimal activity on the lower level, for safety reasons.

As a result of these findings, in addition to the financially prohibitive repair estimates, the Parish Finance / Property Committee applied to the Town of Prescott to remove the heritage designation on the building. This would have removed any obstacles to requesting a permit to demolish the entire building. This would have allowed the Parish to eventually develop the vacant land into park land for Parish and community use. This past Monday evening, March 1, 2010, the Council of the Town of Prescott officially denied the Parish's request.

We have been advised by our insurance company that the building must be properly secured in order to reduce any liability. Therefore, you will see that an appropriate warning sign has been erected on the property.

At present, there are other avenues which the Finance / Property Committee is exploring. Please be assured that we will keep you informed, through the Parish bulletin, as events unfold.

Sincerely,

Rev. J. Appelman
Pastor

J. Brent Laton
Financial Administrator

Beverley Currier
Chair, Finance Committee