



HOLY THURSDAY & GOOD FRIDAY
April 9 & 10, 2009

A WARM WELCOME TO
ST. PETER'S PARISH
ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Rev. Jessimar Cavan Tapia,
the Pastor of St. Peter's Parish, and
Mr. Bob Birch, Deacon, welcome all
newcomers and visitors to our parish
community.

On behalf of all our parish ministry
leaders, Father Jessi encourages your
active participation in our community
worship.

OUR PARISH MISSION STATEMENT:

To promote the love and compassion that
Jesus Christ showed to all people, of every
creed, with a special emphasis on the needs
of the poor and the underprivileged.

PARISH ADDRESS: 1640 Heatherington Road
Ottawa, ON K1V 9P5 Canada

PARISH WEBSITE: www.stpetersparish.ca

E-MAIL: stpeters@inbox.com

PHONE: (613) 733-1553 **FAX:** (613) 733-7183

SCHOOL: Prince of Peace School (613) 731-4733
(Elementary School – Kindergarten to Grade 6)

MASS SCHEDULE: Saturday at **5:00 p.m.** --- fulfills
Sunday Obligation
Sunday at **9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.**

Last Sunday of every month: Sunday Mass at 10:30 a.m.

No Mass on Mondays.

No Mass on a Tuesday after a long weekend holiday.

Regular Weekday Mass on **Tuesdays, Thursdays &
Fridays at 8:30 a.m. and on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m.**

FIRST FRIDAY MASS: 8:30 a.m.

FIRST SATURDAY MASS: 9:00 a.m.

LEGION OF MARY PRAYER MEETING:

- MONDAYS at 7:00 p.m.

CENACLE PRAYER:

- THURSDAYS at 9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

ADORATION: 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. on Fridays

CONFESSIONS: by appointment before Masses

BAPTISMS: 4:15 p.m. on Saturdays

10:30 a.m. on Sundays

For info. kindly call our office at 613-733-1553.

No Baptisms on last weekend of the month as it is our parish
monthly socials: **October to June.**

MARRIAGE: Kindly give us at least 6 months notice.

A Marriage Preparation Course is required
after the Pastor's approval.



Prayer for Vocations

Loving God,
you call all who believe in you
to grow perfect in love
by following in the footsteps
of Christ your Son.
Call from among us more men
and women who will serve you
as priests, deacons and religious.
By their way of life,
may they provide a convincing sign
of your Kingdom for the Church
and the whole world.
We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

In the general audience, held on April 8, 2009 (Wednesday of this Holy Week) at St. Peter's Square in Rome, Pope Benedict XVI dedicated his remarks to Holy Week. "For us as Christians", he said, "this is the most important week of the year, offering us the chance to immerse ourselves in the central events of Redemption, to relive the Easter Mystery, the great Mystery of the faith".

The Holy Father explained how Jesus "did not wish to use the fact of His being God, His glorious dignity and His power, as an instrument of triumph and a sign of distance" between Him and us.

"For love", the Pope continued, "He wished to 'empty Himself' and become our brother. For love He shared our condition, the condition of all men and women".

Benedict XVI then went on to explain that the Chrism Mass is "a prelude to the Easter Triduum which begins tomorrow". At that Mass "priestly vows pronounced on the day of Ordination are renewed". The ceremony "has particular significance this year because it comes as a kind of preparation for the Year for Priests, which I have called to mark the 150th anniversary of the death of the saintly 'Cure of Ars' and which will begin on 19 June. Also in the Chrism Mass the oil used for the sick and for catechumens will be blessed and the Chrism consecrated", he said.

During Holy Thursday Mass "in Coena Domini", the Church "commemorates the institution of the Eucharist, the priestly ministry and the new commandment ('mandatum novum') of charity which Jesus left to His disciples", the Pope explained. Holy Thursday, then, "is a renewed invitation to give thanks unto God for the supreme gift of the Eucharist, which must be welcomed with devotion and adored with living faith".

Good Friday, the Pope proceeded, is "the day of the passion and crucifixion of the Lord. ... Christ's death recalls the mass of pain and evil weighing upon humanity in every epoch: the crushing weight of our own mortality, the hatred and violence which still bloody the earth today. The Lord's passion continues in the suffering of mankind".

Yet, "if Good Friday is a day full of sadness, it is at the same time the best day on which to reawaken our faith, to strengthen our hope and the courage to carry our cross with humility and trust, abandoning ourselves to God in the certainty of His support and His victory".

Pope Benedict XVI then highlighted how "this hope is nourished in the great silence of Easter Saturday as we await the resurrection of Jesus". On that day "the Church keeps prayerful vigil, like Mary and with Mary, sharing her feelings of pain and of trust in God. Rightly we are advised to spend the whole day in an atmosphere of prayer, one favorable to meditation and reconciliation. The faithful are encouraged to avail themselves of the Sacrament of Penance so that, thus renewed, they can participate in the Easter celebrations".

Referring then to the Easter vigil, "mother of all vigils", Pope Benedict reminded people that "once again the victory of light over darkness, of life over death, will be proclaimed, and the Church will joy at the meeting with her Lord. Thus will we enter the atmosphere of Easter Day".

The Holy Father concluded by inviting the faithful "to enter into the Cenacle with the Virgin Mary, to stand with her at the foot of the cross, to watch over the dead Christ, hopefully awaiting the bright dawn day of resurrection".

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OUR PARISH EASTER WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturday, April 11, 2009 Easter Vigil: Mass at 7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 12, 2009: Mass at 9:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.

(no weekday Masses on April 14 until 17)

The Easter Triduum: Holy Thursday, Good Friday, the Easter Vigil

The Easter Triduum, marking the days of Jesus' passion and resurrection, is the most important time of the church year. It begins with the evening Mass of Holy Thursday, reaches its high point in the Easter Vigil, and closes on Easter Sunday evening. Prepared by the days of Lent, Christians celebrate on these holiest of days the saving work God has accomplished in Christ. From the events remembered these days, so sorrowful and so joyful, the church learns the deepest lessons. In rites and words the mysteries of Jesus' final hours are with us again, his passion, his cruel suffering, his rising from the dead. And we discover the answer to age old questions: Does God love us? Is God merciful? Does God care for us?

We have only to look and learn from Jesus Christ. These are days for fixing our eyes on the holy mystery of his cross and filling our ears with the words of his gospel. Nowhere else does God's love appear so vividly. In the love Christ showed for a sinful world we find the beginning of our church, the source of our sacraments, the key to understanding the human story, and our hope for eternal life.

Holy Thursday

The Easter Triduum begins with Mass on Holy Thursday evening, when Jesus sacramentally anticipated the gift he would make of himself on the cross. His command to serve others is dramatically recalled this night in the ceremony of the washing of the feet, which he performed in the supper room for his disciples. Like the Paschal lamb, killed and eaten by the people, according to the Old Testament account read from Exodus this evening, he is a sign of God's salvation.

Good Friday

The Good Friday rites center around the reading of the Passion of Jesus. With simple dignity that story is retold, followed by prayers for the entire world, for this powerful mystery brings blessings to the world. According to ancient tradition, an image or relic of the cross is venerated this day, and the sacrament of Christ's love for his church is received. It is a day of fasting, abstinence from eating meat, and quiet mourning.

The Easter Vigil

The Easter Vigil is the high point of the Easter Triduum celebrating the passion and resurrection of Jesus. With a rich display of symbols, rites and readings, the church in worship expresses her faith in the mystery that brings her into being. The vigil opens with a service of light. Like the Jewish Passover, our Easter celebration coincides with the beginning of spring, when the sun offers new warmth and earth is ready to flower again. Our words "lent" (from the Middle-English word for spring, "lengthening days") and "Easter" (possibly Germanic or Anglo-Saxon in origin, signifying "the east", "the rising sun") point to the long tradition of seeing this holy mystery through signs of the natural world.

The lighting of the fire and the Easter candle go back to rites that long preceded Christianity. The candle, carried with loving reverence and lyrically praised in word and song, is a sign of Christ, "the light of the world," and celebrates the victory of light over darkness that humanity has ever longed for.

God's love endures forever:

A series of readings recalls the great interventions of God in history, from creation to the redemption of Israel from Egypt, and ends with the story of Jesus' resurrection. The great "alleluia" proclaims with quiet joy the triumph of God's Son. Those preparing for Baptism then receive the sacraments of initiation. The blessed water sprinkled over others signifies the blessing of new life.

Prayer For Good Friday

Lord, you know I am weeping inside because of your suffering.

You know, Lord, of all the days of the year, Good Friday is the day I dread the most. Maybe I should not be so focused on your suffering but you and I know each other too well for me to ignore what you went through on that day.

People have missed what you died for.

Our world is at the brink of war and this time it may be a war to truly end all wars...at least until future generations forget and try and make war again...or until you come back.

We need you.

We need you but we crucified you.

Forgive us Lord.

We still do not know what we do.

If we knew what it is we are doing we would not do it...or would we?

You know I pray to you every day.

I talk. You listen.

Occasionally, I shut up long enough to listen.

According to your will, wrap your arms around the world.

For there are so many who will suffer who do not deserve to suffer.

For there are so many now who suffer who do not deserve to suffer.

And the very worst of times has not yet come.

If we are plunged into a cataclysm, give all those I pray for a special protection.

Give all those who read these words a special protection.

For I know you can. I trust that you will.

Thank you, Lord Jesus.

Thank you for all you did, all you are, and all that you will do.

In the name of Christ Jesus who suffered beyond measure, in the name of God who had to witness the suffering, and in the Name of the Holy Spirit who may still surely carry the pain of the Cross this day.

Amen

New Parishioner's Registration form:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

Postal Code:

Phone: () _____

**Please cut this portion and you may drop this off
at the parish office. We welcome you to our parish!**

BEQUESTS AND WILLS:

In your kindness,
please remember St. Peter's Parish
in your bequests and wills. If anyone
wishes to make such a bequest in their
Will, the following clause may be included
or added to a will or added by codicil:

***"I give devise and bequeath the sum
of \$..... to St. Peter's Parish,
Ottawa, to be used for the benefit of
the Parish and its pastoral works."***

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY.