THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

He made a whip out of cords and drove them all out of the temple area, with the sheep and oxen.

Mass Schedule and Intentions

Saturday, March 2, 5:00 p.m. Mass - For world peace, the poor and the Parishioners of St. Peter's Sunday, March 3, 9:30 a.m. Mass - For world peace, the poor and the Parishioners of St. Peter's 11:00 a.m. Mass - For world peace, the poor and the Parishioners of St. Peter's Monday, March 4, No Mass
Tuesday, March 5, No Mass
Wednesday, March 6, 8:30 a.m. Mass
Thursday, March 7, 8:30 a.m. Mass
Friday, March 8, 8:30 a.m. Mass
Stations of the Cross, 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, March 9, 5:00 p.m. Mass - For world peace, the poor and the Parishioners of St. Peter's Sunday, March 10, 9:30 a.m. Mass - Fourth Sunday of Lent
For world peace, the poor and the Parishioners of St. Peter's 11:00 a.m. Mass - For world peace, the poor and the Parishioners of St. Peter's

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT REFLECTION: One of the features of the Gospel of John is that Jesus is frequently to be found in Jerusalem. The story about the 'cleansing of the temple' is placed by this evangelist at the start of Jesus' ministry, while in the other gospels it comes as a trigger for Jesus' arrest. The dialogue with the Jews about 'the sanctuary that was his body' is only found in John's gospel. Jesus comes to bring a new age, a new time, a new form of worship. He is the Word among us. He reveals the way to God. It is not therefore surprising that when Jesus causes disruption in the temple the conversation shifts to the significance of the temple, and to the significance of his coming. Jesus speaks in terms which are not immediately clear. Later, after his death and resurrection, the full import of his words will be apparent. Just as the temple is soon to be destroyed, so too the body of Jesus will be brought to death. But the future lies in the new life of the resurrection. Despite this enigma the evangelist tells us that many in Jerusalem came to believe in Jesus' name. From the start his words and person attracted those with the courage to see and understand. What does the cleansing of the temple symbolise? Is it helpful to see Jesus as the 'new temple'? Let us pray that our Lenten journey will be richly blessed. Let us pray for the Jewish people, our elder brothers and sisters in the faith.

QUO VADIS? Where are you going? Is the Lord calling you to serve him as a priest? Join other men discerning the priesthood for monthly formation, fellowship, and Eucharistic Adoration. The next session will be held on March 21st, 2024, 7:00 p.m. at the new Café des Tours, located in the basement of Notre Dame Cathedral in Ottawa. To join the Quo Vadis email list or for more information, contact Fr. Connor O'Hara, the Vocations Director for the diocese, at vocations@ottawacornwall.ca

<u>Collection – February 24 – 25, 2024:</u> Envelopes: \$955.00, Loose: \$360.75, St. Vincent de Paul: \$180.00; Vigil Lights: \$46.05; Grand Total: \$1,541.80. THANK YOU for your generosity and support.

Sunday Morning Smile: A man asks a farmer near a field, "Sorry sir, would you mind if I cut across your field instead of going around it on the road? You see, I have to catch the 4:30 train." The farmer says, "Sure, go right ahead. And if my bull sees you, you'll probably catch the 4:20 one."

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Every Friday evening during Lent at 6:30 pm. Come and join Father Jonathan here at the parish, as we walk through the fourteen stations to experience this powerful way to contemplate, and enter into, the mystery of Jesus' gift of himself to us.

"40 Items for 40 Days" Food Drive: During Lent, we invite parishioners to collect one non-perishable food item each day for our neighbors in need. International foods and baby foods/formulae welcome. Thank you for filling our Feed the Poor Grocery Cart! Food donations go to the Heron Road Emergency Food Centre. St Vincent de Paul for the Poor envelopes are available in the church entrance for money donations. We are all God's instruments; through Christ, may we continue to serve the poor with open and loving hearts.

2023 INCOME TAX RECEIPTS: The income tax receipts for 2023 are available for pick up today in the main entrance area of the church. Please note they are in alphabetical order for your convenience. God bless you for your continued support of our Parish.

2024 REGISTRATION PREPARATION FOR THE SACRAMENTS OF FIRST RECONCILIATION, FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION IS NOW

OPEN. Parents who wish to have their child(ren) prepare for any of these Sacraments are asked to visit the parish office to pick up a registration form after Mass or call the parish. Please note that your child must be a Baptised Catholic in order to receive the sacrament of First Holy Communion, Reconciliation and Confirmation. Classes will start soon.

ST. PETER'S PARISH EASTER SCHEDULE

Holy Thursday Mass	March 28	7:30 p.m.
Friday Solemn Liturgy	March 29	3:00 p.m.
Easter Vigil	March 30	8:00 p.m.
Easter Sunday Masses	March 31	9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass — Registration Form: For couples of the Archdiocese who are celebrating 20, 25, 30, 40, 50, 60 and 60+ years of marriage in 2024. Mass will be celebrated at Notre Dame Cathedral Basilica on Sunday, April 14, 2:30 pm. Info & link to the online registration form: https://en.archoc.ca/anniversary-mass. Please register before April on the diocese website.

OUT OF BUSINESS: When Jesus chased the merchants and money changers out of the Temple, He was sending a message to the church today. It isn't an indictment of rummage sales and bake sales as much as a warning not to allow our places of worship to become commercialized. Jesus is talking about how we function as a church. The important message is for the church not to accept business as its model for how we operate. We are not primarily about money, we are about God – God's word, the worship of God, and God's people. Anything that interferes with that mission, we want to avoid. Our church is a faith community where we gather to worship, to learn.

CHRISM MASS: ALL Parishioners are invited to attend the Archdiocese – Ottawa Cornwall Chrism Mass on Tuesday, March 26, 2024, at 5:00p.m., Notre Dame Basilica.

AN EVENING OF BEAUTIFUL MUSIC: Join the Archdiocese of Ottawa-Cornwall for an unforgettable evening of music and community support as they welcome Deantha Edmunds, recent Order of Canada recipient who has performed for both Pope Francis and King Charles. The concert will be on April 19, 7:30 p.m. at the beautiful Notre Dame Cathedral Basilica, 385 Sussex. The proceeds of the concert are to benefit the Indigenous Reconciliation Fund. Tickets can be purchased online at IRFconcert.eventbrite.com or by contacting 613- 933-1138, ext. 22. Tickets are \$50, \$35* and \$25. Purchase today to benefit from *early bird pricing. Your attendance at this concert helps support reconciliation efforts, fostering understanding, and unity.

SHARE LENT CAMPAIGNE 2024 - DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE: DENOUNCING OIL POLLUTION IN NIGERIA Nigeria is Africa's largest economy and biggest oil producer. Despite oil exports worth billions of dollars, millions of Nigerians remain in poverty and face food insecurity. In the south, pollution and contamination by the oil industry are causing great hardship. Development and Peace-Caritas Canada's partner, Health of Mother Earth Foundation (HOMEF), defends farmers' rights and helps protect their lands. To learn more about the work of HOMEF, read our mini-magazine and watch the video at devp.org/lent. This Solidarity Sunday (March 17), Development and Peace-Caritas Canada's Reaping our Rights campaign invites you to give generously and thanks you warmly for your generosity. Thank you for your solidarity!

SYNODAL SHARING: "The Church of God is convoked in synod." "We recall that the purpose of the Synod is not to produce documents, but to plant dreams, draw forth prophecies and visions, allow hope to flourish, inspire trust, bind up wounds, weave together relationships, awaken a dawn of hope, learn from one another and create a bright resourcefulness that will enlighten minds, warm hearts, give strength to our hands." - Pope Francis, 2018.

