



Christ the Redeemer Catholic Church

Pastor - Monsignor Gregory Smith

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Assistant Pastor - Father Giovanni Schiesari

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1st Sunday of Lent—February 18, 2018

The three traditional disciplines of Lent are Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving



*Excerpted from Ralph Martin's
February 2018 Letter*

I'm not a good "faster," but several years ago, I realized there was no reason for me not to fast—apart from the weakness of my flesh—no medical reasons, health concerns, etc.

(I know people with medical conditions or other needs may not be able to fast from food and drink, but everybody has something they can renounce to add some intensity to their prayer, whether it be entertainment, social media, desert, some non-essential comfort, etc.)

So I started trying to fast two days a week. For me, fasting on bread and water was too distracting—I was eating way too much bread! And thinking about it too much! So, except for a morning cup of coffee, I only consume water, from after dinner one day until dinner the next day. There have been some weeks in which I've only been able to fast one day a week because of travel circumstances, etc., but most weeks I have been able to fast two days a week. My spiritual director at the seminary, who is an expert on the early Church, told me that all the early Christians fasted two days a week, somewhat similarly to what I do. So what may seem special to us today was actually fairly standard for those in the early Church.

Another factor motivating me to take up fasting again—I had attempted it with varying degrees of success in the past—was my sense that some people I was praying for needed more than my prayer; they needed fasting as well. As Jesus said in Mark 9:29, some things that have a bad grip on people are only released by prayer and fasting. I must say, while I had

been praying for some people for years, I saw very visible results after adding fasting to my prayers for them. I don't know exactly what it is, maybe the Lord wants to see that we have "some skin in the game," or are willing to pay a little price—virtually nothing compared to the price He was willing to pay—to join our fasting and self-denial to His for the salvation of souls. When I'm fasting, there seems to be a little more depth to my crying out to God for others.

Consider giving it a try this Lent!

Renowned lay evangelist Ralph Martin will be giving our parish mission May 29-31. He is the president of Renewal Ministries, an organization devoted to Catholic renewal and evangelization. He also hosts The Choices We Face, a widely viewed weekly Catholic television and radio program distributed throughout the world.

Ralph Martin holds a doctorate in theology from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas (Angelicum) in Rome and is a professor and the director of Graduate Theology Programs in the New Evangelization at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in the Archdiocese of Detroit. He was named by Pope Benedict XVI as a Consultor to the Pontifical Council for the New Evangelization.

Ralph is the author of a number of books, the most recent of which are The Urgency of the New Evangelization, The Fulfillment of All Desire, and Will Many Be Saved? He and his wife Anne have six children and sixteen grandchildren and reside in Ann Arbor, Michigan.



A Glance at Our Parish Calendar

Sunday	February 18	6:00 p.m.	Youth Alpha	Mallon Room
Monday	February 19	7:00 p.m.	Ladies' Evening of Recollection	McCarthy Room
		7:30 p.m.	Word of God Bible Study	Mallon Room
Tuesday	February 20	7:00 p.m.	R.C.I.A.	Mallon Room
Wednesday	February 21	10:00 a.m.	Knitting for Charity	Mallon Room
		4:15 p.m.	P.R.E.P.	McCarthy Room
		6:30 p.m.	CWL Member's Appreciation Mass and Dinner	Church, Mallon
Thursday	February 22	9:00 a.m.	Adult Faith Formation (St. James)	Mallon Room
Friday	February 23	6:00 p.m.	Soup and Silence	Mallon Room
		7:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross	Church

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Sun Feb 18	9:00 a.m.	Mary O'Connor (int)	<i>1st Sunday of Lent</i>
	11:00 a.m.		
	5:00 p.m.		
Mon Feb 19	8:15 a.m.	Anna Razny †	
Tues Feb 20	8:15 a.m.	Fred Donatiello †	
Wed Feb 21	9:15 a.m.	Zofia & Tadeusz Pason † <i>St. Peter Damian</i>	
Thu Feb 22	8:15 a.m.	Harry White † <i>Chair of St. Peter</i>	
Fri Feb 23	8:15 a.m.	Fr. Xavier Royappan † <i>St. Polycarp</i>	
Sat Feb 24	9:00 a.m.	Gina Bosco †	
Sun Feb 25	9:00 a.m.	Mary Liston †	<i>2nd Sunday of Lent</i>
	11:00 a.m.		
	5:00 p.m.		

Men: An Idea for Lent



Why not join fellow parishioners and friends Friday mornings in prayer, at least during Lent? We meet Friday at 6:00 a.m. and you're on your way by 7:00 a.m., having prayed together and listened to a short talk afterwards.

Our Commuter Club helps to deepen faith and provides an opportunity to pray for your needs and those of your family.

We're skipping breakfast in Lent, so between that and the earliness of the hour you get your prayer and penance in one package! For more information, contact Msgr. Smith at gsmith@ctrwestvan.ca.



Confession Times

Saturdays 9:30-10:00 a.m.
Sundays 4:15-4:55 p.m.

Priests are also available for confessions by appointment.

Please Pray for

Margaret McCormick (*wife of Norman McCormick*)
Matt Radosevic (*father of Chris Radosevic*)



We Continue to Pray for

Kenneth Beesley, Carlos Bolbrugge, Timothy Buckley, Kacey Caldarella, Gerald Carrol, Veronica Chan, John Choi, Elias Chong, Robert Coles, Rose Cullen, Sofia Curalli, Barry Cutler, Cecilia Donahoe, Dana Donelson, Margaret Fry, Jeannine Gillis, Eric Greenwood, Nicholas Havemann, Maria Helbig, Patrick Hickey, Patricia Keough, Benita Lameo, Young-pyo Lee, Marcos Lopes, Lawrence Marchant, Tom McCusker, Michael O'Brien, George & Nadine O'Leary, Ethan Price, Erich Puchinger, Natalia Pyk, Plunkett Quinn, Emma Grace Radziminski, Gordon Ridgedale, Derek Ridsdale, Tammy Rodriguez, Leonie Roemuss, Margaret Ryan, Breda Sheehan, Theresa Sheehan, Milan Sikich, Alix Smith, Linwood Trask, Maria Magdalena Velázquez, Rolly Waechter, Lucienne Watson, Joseph Wein, Amy Wheeler, Joseph Willgot, and Simon Wong



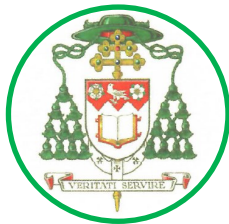
Pray for the Repose of the Soul of

Herbert Storch (*husband of Amina Lang*)



2017 Tax Receipts

Tax receipts for donations made to the church and to Project Advance in 2017 are now available for pickup in the church foyer. Note that receipts are consolidated into one envelope for each donor. Please retrieve them at your earliest convenience.



Archbishop Miller's Letter for Project Advance 2017

Dear Msgr. Smith:

I would like to express my gratitude to you and your parishioners for a very successful Project Advance 2017 appeal. I am grateful to you and your parish leadership team for your support and for encouraging such a community of generosity towards the Church.

Your parish met its share of the Archdiocesan goal of \$3,000,000 which helps to meet the capital needs and the charitable works of our local Church. As well, over \$3.9 million was returned to parishes. Your parish received a total of \$160,550.37, which I hope helped meet your specific needs. For 2018 the goal for Christ the Redeemer Parish is \$69,000.

The Archdiocesan goal for 2018 is \$3,250,000. The increase of \$250,000 is designated for our Secondary School Construction Fund. While this amount is not significant in today's world of construction, it will help support the ongoing renovation of our regional high schools.

You and your parishioners are in my prayers, and I ask that you include me in yours.

Fraternally yours in Christ,

+ J. Michael Miller CSB

+ J. Michael Miller, CSB
Archbishop of Vancouver



Soup and Silence

You are invited to grow this Lent as we gather around a table in silent reflection and gratitude with a simple but nourishing meal every Lenten Friday evening. We begin at 6:00 p.m. in the Mallon Room, with Stations of the Cross following at 7 p.m. All are welcome, including families.



FORMED

Our parish has renewed our subscription to FORMED, an online Catholic service full of faith formation resources. To register, visit formed.org and use our parish Access Code: **T86P8N**. Enjoy!

Catholic Women's League News



Our Members Appreciation Dinner and the Installation of the New Executive will take place this **Wednesday, February 21**, beginning with Mass at 6:30 p.m. All members are welcome. Donations of either appetizers or desserts are appreciated.

St. Thomas Aquinas



St. Thomas Aquinas High School's Drama Department is proud to present its brand new and original production of *Hoedown* - a romping two-act "dramedy" with a western flair! Performances are on March 1-3 at 7:00 p.m. at The Kay Meek Centre for the Performing Arts. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$8 for students. Please contact STA at 604-987-4431 for more information or for tickets.

Formation Corner



Excerpted from the Pastoral Constitution Gaudium et Spes from Vatican II: The Church in the Modern World, no. 21

Humankind is constituted in society intelligent and free by God the creator, but above all we are called as daughters and sons to communion with God and to a share in the divine happiness. The church also teaches that the importance of earthly tasks is not diminished by eschatological hope but that on the contrary their fulfillment is strengthened by additional motives. But when the divine foundation and the hope of eternal life are missing, human dignity is seriously impaired, as frequently occurs today, and the mysteries of life and death, and of guilt and grief, remain unsolved, often resulting in people's sinking into despair. Meantime each individual remains to himself or herself an unsolved question which is dimly perceived. For nobody can entirely escape such questioning at some time, particularly in the major events of life. To this question only God, who calls us to a higher level of thought and humbler search, can provide the answer completely and with full certainty.



40 Days for Life

This year's campaign runs from February 14 to March 25. A big part of the campaign is an around-the-clock prayer vigil outside B.C. Women's Health Centre—the largest abortion facility in B.C. We invite all parishioners to take part in this campaign by committing to an hour of prayer at the Hospital. If you would like to be involved in another capacity or to learn more information about the Vancouver campaign, please visit <https://40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/vancouver-2/>.

Second Collection—Today



Please note that there will be a second collection **today** for the **St. Joseph's Society**, who has been providing for retired priests' needs for years. The St. Joseph's Society also provides assistance to priests who are sick as well as priests who are semi-retired to supplement their income. Please be generous in your support of our Archdiocese's priests. For more information about this collection, please visit rcav.org/st-josephs-society.



Redemptoris Mater Seminary Spring Gala

Join Fr. Giovanni for the third annual Spring Gala of Redemptoris Mater Seminary, which he attended, at the Italian Cultural Centre on April 27. It will be a packed evening of dinner, dancing, door prizes, live entertainment, and more! Tickets are \$100 per person, and proceeds go to assist the seminary and their seminarians. For more information contact the seminary at 604-709-8509 or talk with Fr. Giovanni after Mass.

Power of Attorney and Representation Agreements Workshop



Learn about their differences and how they can impact your well-being and financial wellness. The workshop is followed by a short Q&A session as well as light refreshments, tea, and coffee. The workshop will take place on Thursday, February 22 at 7 p.m. in the Mallon Room. Please register for the event at rcav.org/epg.

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