

Second Sunday of Lent

Parish Update: March 1st, 2026



*“From the bright cloud the Father’s voice is heard:
This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him”
(Luke 9.35)*

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK MARCH 2ND TO MARCH 8TH

Monday, 2nd	<i>Ferial</i>	
Office Closed		No Mass
Tuesday, 3rd	<i>Ferial</i>	
9:00 a.m.	+Basil Adili	(A Vankralingen)
Wednesday, 4th	<i>Ferial</i>	
9:00 a.m.	Holy Souls	(N Vendittelli)
	+Joseph Vendittelli	(N Vendittelli)
9:30-10:30 a.m.	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
Thursday, 5th	<i>Ferial</i>	
9:00 a.m.	+Alan Holody	(Dn M&F Prindiville)
6:45-8:15 p.m.	Choir Practice, Church	
Friday, 6th	<i>Ferial</i>	
9:00 a.m.	+Brian Armstong	(C Kanas)
9:30-10:30 a.m.	Adoration & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament	
4:15 p.m.	Stations of the Cross	
5:00 p.m.	+Nancy Palone (Dn M&F Prindiville)	
Saturday, 7th		
3:30-4:30 p.m.	Confession	
5:00 p.m.	CWL Mass	
Sunday, 8th	<i>3rd Sunday of Lent</i>	
9:00 a.m.	+Teresa Montana (Menchella Family)	
11:00 a.m.	+Catherine & +Ron Winterbottom (Serwatiak Family)	

From the Pastor’s Desk:

Dear Friends: I hope you are enjoying these reflections on the topic of giving. Besides the fact that the diocese is asking all parishes to do an examination of this matter, I have no other agenda. As you know, Star of the Sea Parish does well financially, I am very pleased to report. However, when we were asked at a recent stewardship workshop to offer a prayer, mine was that the level of ownership each of us takes in our faith and the mission of the Church, would reach even greater heights. One of the most direct ways for that to happen is through our wallet.

You will recall the words of our Lord in Matthew’s Gospel (6:21), Jesus says, *“Where your treasure is, there will be your heart also.”* By this is meant that our true values and priorities are reflected in what we treasure most in life. This became clearer to me over the years as people with only a loose affiliation to the Church and their parish would come in for Christmas, Easter, First Holy Communion, etc. I used to think that, since these fellow believers have not been regularly contributing to the parish, that they would seek in some way to “make up” for it during these moments. After all, those who appear on an annual or semi-annual basis would surely consider that the clean, ready, sacred environment in which they have entered does not simply happen on its own at no cost. That turned out not to be the case and it took me awhile to grasp the reason why. Little connection or investment in something translates into little if any monetary investment. The necessity of gaining a share in the limited resources of earth to meet our daily needs is at the heart of human (and animal) existence. Your job is the thing that often gets you to rise from bed in the morning. Said job may have taken you years of investment of your time, money and mental and physical faculties to prepare you to enter it. And, because of the centrality of money and possessions in order to live, one would expect the matter to be given ample treatment in the Scriptures. And it is. 16 out of 34 parables are dedicated to the topic of money and possessions. This topic is second only to Jesus’ teachings on the Kingdom of God! In other words, the matter is of great importance. He tells us that money will be the greatest competition for our heart and our priorities.

Last week, I referenced the tithe of 10% found in Old Testament writings. This was the standard which my Protestant coworker had brought to my attention. Now, you are likely wanting to remind me of the fact that giving the first tenth of one’s yield is an Old Testament norm. Indeed, this is correct. As I looked at some writings from the earliest days of the Church, it quickly became apparent that the 10% tithe was no longer being presented as the expected standard. The destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem meant that the Jewish priesthood which presided over the Temple sacrifices was gone and the early Christians (known as the followers of The Way), had no overhead, meeting primarily in peoples’ homes to celebrate the Eucharist. The main concern at that point was ensuring that the most vulnerable were being cared for. More next week.

Fr. Richard

The 2026 Message of Pope Leo XIV for Lent is titled “Listening and Fasting: Lent as a Time of Conversion.” In his message, the Holy Father writes: “Lent is a time in which the Church, guided by a sense of maternal care, invites us to place the mystery of God back in the center of our lives, in order to find renewal in our faith and keep our hearts from being consumed by the anxieties and distractions of daily life.”

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Diocesan Day of Reconciliation On Saturday, March 21, 2026 in every parish church across the diocese a priest will be available from 10:00am – 2:00pm to hear individual confessions. There will also be Eucharistic Adoration during this time. No matter how long it has been, you are welcome to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance, which assists us in spiritual discipline as we turn away from sin and open our hearts to reconciliation and healing; or you can also simply come to pray before the Lord.

Development and Peace — Caritas Canada’s work



in a nutshell Dignity, participation, solidarity, the preferential option for the poor and integrity. These are the values at the heart of the work of Development and Peace — Caritas Canada, the official international development organization of the Catholic Church in Canada. Since 1967, we’ve been walking hand in hand with communities in the Global South to promote justice, peace and dignity. Guided by Catholic Social Teaching, we support partner-led projects that reach over 7 million people in more than 30 countries around the world.

40 Days for Life, a campaign of peaceful prayer and fasting to end abortion, runs from Feb. 18 to Mar. 29. **Star of the Sea Parish** has been designated to keep vigil on Thursday March 12 from 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. Please sign up with a friend for an hour outside the hospital or, make plans to offer an hour in adoration right here in the church! It is prayer that can change hearts! Can you spare an hour to help save a life? Volunteers with sign-up sheets will be at the back of the Church next Sunday. You can also visit 40daysforlife.com and click on “Niagara Falls” to sign up online

Annual Diocesan: Respect for Life Mass at the Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria, 67 Church St. St. Catharines, ON. Rosary for Life & Confessions at 6:15 pm, Mass with Bishop Bergie at 7 pm on Wednesday, March 25, The Annunciation of the Lord. A collection will support the diocesan Family & Life Office. Reception to follow in the parish hall.

Students for Life is a pro-life club starting at Niagara College (Niagara-on-the-Lake campus). This club is dedicated to upholding the value of all human life. We will meet several times a month to discuss pro-life topics, take part in fun activities, and educate others on this cause! If you are interested in joining or have questions, please register here or email studentsforlife1@gmail.com.

FORMED.org Join Taylor & Ben each week as they walk you through amazing content on FORMED! You’ll discover all kinds of videos & audio to accompany you during the weekly liturgical calendar, Saint feast days & world events taking

place. Sign up at no charge, as a parishioner, using the parish postal code L2N 5G5.

PRAYER ANGELS Our ministry is set up to pray for the parish’s intentions. Please send by email or phone your concerns or cares and they will be passed on to the members of this group who will daily offer up your intentions to the Lord. Prayer is powerful. Let us help ease your troubles or shower the Lord with praises. Please call or email Marg 289-214-6679 mgmartin113@gmail.com

*‘He who prays most receives most.’
St. Alphonsus Maria de Liguori*



CWL CORNER
(Catholic Women's League)
“Blessed are the Poor”

E-transfer payments for CWL may be made to cwlstarofthesea@gmail.com. Please remember to indicate which event in the subject line.

Smile! Say Cheese! Soon you will be asked to do this for our **Parish Photo Directory!!!** Our CWL is organizing this project so that our parishioners can have their portraits taken. These photos will then become part of our Parish Photo Directory. Each participating individual or family will receive their own copy of the book! Photo shoots will be scheduled for late April and May. **Stay tuned for more information!**

Please be reminded that our next **CWL General Meeting** is this Tuesday, March 3 at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome!

Our next **CWL Mass** is Saturday, March 7 at 5:00 p.m.

CWL Lenten Prayer

Lord, give us the courage to act for the good of others.



March 7/8	5 P.M.	9 A.M.	11 A.M.
Ministers of Holy Communion	CWL	Dn. Maurice	R Eckstein
Lector	CWL	C Prendergast	C Purcer
Hospitality Ministers	CWL	Zacharchuk Family	G LaRoche H Green M Mouradikin

WEEKLY COLLECTION CONTRIBUTIONS:

February 22nd, 2026

Parishioner Envelopes	\$ 3,373.00
Loose Collection: CAD	\$ 366.00
Loose Collection: USD	\$ 0.00
Initial Offering	\$ 20.00
Total Offertory Collection:	\$ 3,759.00
Our Special Needs	\$ 30.00

*Thank you
MAY GOD BLESS YOU*