



Canadian Martyrs Church

100 Main Street, Ottawa, ON K1S 1C2
Phone: 613-232-5347 Email: office@canadianmartyrs.org
www.canadianmartyrs.org
Closed for in-person Masses
Office open Tuesday & Wednesday 9am—4pm

Pastor
Fr. Tim Coonen, OMI

Parish Life Coordinator
Maureen Cerroni
Administrative Assistant
Heather Duggan

Pastoral Council
Angela Burton
Meetings: 1st Thurs., 7:00pm
Finance Committee
Joseph Duggan
Development and Peace
Anna Dorner
Christian Meditation
Dorothy Wood
Mondays, 3pm
Evening Prayer
Pierre LaViolette
Thursdays, 6:30pm

Diocesan Centre
1247 Kilborn Pl.
613-738-5025

Schools
Corpus Christi
798 Lyon St. S
613-232-9743
Immaculata HS
140 Main St.
613-237-2001

Cemeteries
Hope Cemetery
613-822-1212
Notre-Dame
613-746-4175

2nd Sunday of Easter April 10/11 2021



PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK: Pat Mavis, John Dorner, Magda Kubasiewicz, Frank Groten, Peter McAllister, Rabbi Bulka, Joyce White, Devin Bursey, Sandy Cano, Fred Miller, Liam Elder, Sheila & Edward Gasnick, Raul Esteban, Chris Smith & family, Leonardo Miseferi, Clare Dashney, Ping Cai, Judette Budden, and Marie Christine Maisog

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

For our Church, that it continues to spread Pope Francis's message of compassion and social justice in every corner of the world. We pray to the Lord.
For world leaders, that they work together for the peaceful resolution to conflict in countries like Libya and Myanmar, and focus on ensuring that all countries obtain supplies to protect their citizens from Covid-19. We pray to the Lord.
For the many unaccompanied children crossing borders to the United States in the hope of reaching a better and safer life, that they be treated with respect and generosity. We pray to the Lord.
For our fellow citizens, who are struggling with the economic and mental effects of the lock-down, that they have faith in their ability to recover. We pray to the Lord.
For the joy of our Easter celebrations that they remain with us in the coming weeks, inspiring us to deepen our confidence in God's love and forgiveness. We pray to the Lord.
For all who have died, especially Leo Colton and Joanne Messina, and for those who mourn them, we pray to the Lord.

MARCH COLLECTION

Envelopes:	\$ 8494.35
Direct Deposit (EFTs):	\$ 7,710.00
Canada Helps:	<u>\$ 2,454.15</u>
Total:	\$18,658.50

Average monthly expenses: \$18,932.98

Thank you!

ZOOM GATHERINGS

3pm Monday: Christian Meditation
8pm Tuesday: Lectio Divina and Meditation
6:30pm Thursday: Evening Prayer
11:15am Sunday: Liturgy of the Word

Please contact the office if you would like to join any of these sessions. The Zoom link for our Liturgy of the Word and Evening Prayer can be found in the body of the Bulletin email.

Parish News

DONATIONS TO THE CHURCH

Our parish still needs funds to cover recurrent expenses such as heat, electricity and salaries of essential staff, If you wish to donate to the church, you can through Canada Helps using a credit card on the secure link at <https://canadianmartyrs.org/donate/> or drop your donation cheque in our mailbox or mail it to us at 100 Main St., Ottawa, ON K1S 1C2.

COVID 3RD WAVE CLOSURE

After listening to the medical experts here in Ottawa, who are adding their voices to others calling for a full stay-at-home order and hearing the concerns of some members of our parish community, we have come to the conclusion that the prudent and most reasonable action we can take is to close the parish for at least the period of the province's current shutdown.

Our Zoom gatherings at 11:15 am on Sundays will continue, as well as scheduled prayer and meditation groups. Heather also intends to continue sending out the parish bulletin via email. As well, we will be monitoring incoming emails and phone calls in case any urgent matters come up.

And again, we eagerly look forward to being able to celebrate and pray together, face to face, when the time is right. May the blessings of this Easter season keep you safe and bring you peace!

Fr. Tim Coonen, OMI

RON ROLHEISER RETREAT

Galilee Centre is presenting a live virtual retreat led by author, lecturer and facilitator, Fr. Ron Rolheiser, OMI. On Fri., **April 16**, Fr. Ron will speak on the topic of "The Real Obstacle to Holiness - Our Pathologically Complex Nature". On Sat., **April 17**, he will lead a retreat entitled "Spiritual Wisdom from the Deep Wells of Christian Mysticism - Principles for Living a Mystically-Driven Life". [Info & registration](#)

EMPOWERING RELATIONSHIP SEMINAR

Learn how to overcome offences and communicate better. Gain tools that you can use on your own. By Zoom, **April**

16, 6:30-10:00 pm & **April 17**, 8:30 am-5:00 pm. Cost: \$99. Earlybird registration before April 9: \$79. Hosted by Lift Jesus Higher. Info: Edna DuBroy 613-523-1377.

CAMPAIGN FOR CONSCIENCE RIGHTS LEGISLATION IN ONTARIO

Archbishop Damphousse encourages all the faithful to engage in a new communications campaign launched by the Bishops of Ontario in support of establishing conscience rights legislation to protect physicians, nurses and other health care workers in Ontario. Please refer to the [Archbishop's letter](#) and [the link](#) for sending automated letters to your local MPPs: <https://en.archoc.ca/current-messages>.

DO SOMETHING AMAZING RETREAT

NET Canada is searching for the next generation of Catholic missionaries. Do you have what it takes to join them? Request an application, fill it out, and send it in to register for the next virtual retreat (**April 10th**) to learn more about NET and how you can grow in your faith and change the lives of youth in Canada. Go to netcanada.ca/apply to start your journey! Info: recruit@netcanada.ca.

VIRTUAL EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Enjoy a wildlife video from [Hinterland's Who's Who](#) to mark National Wildlife Week, April 4-10.

[Discover dinosaurs](#) with a palaeontologist from the Museum of Nature.

Go ahead...**DO try this at home!** You don't need a fancy lab to be a scientist.

Archdiocese's [Easter family newsletter](#)

2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Excerpt from a homily by Fr. Carl Kelly, OMI

One rainy night, a young man was waiting for a bus. Suddenly, out of the darkness came an older man who obviously had had too much to drink. Tapping the young man on the chest with an empty beer bottle, he asked: "Do you believe in God?" The young man thought: what a question to ask. He ignored the old man, hoping he'd move on, but he persisted. Finally, fully expecting verbal abuse or an argument, the younger man said: "Yes, I do believe in God." But the older man did not abuse him. He stood there unsteadily for a moment, looked the young man in the eye, and said very softly: "Man, are you ever lucky!"

What a poignant reminder that faith is, indeed, a gift. And for some reason, the older man who staggered off into the darkness did not receive that gift - or had lost it. That little story fits in with the story of Thomas, and how the crucifixion of Jesus had an impact on his faith. We might expect that Thomas, an apostle who walked with Jesus for three years, would be unshakable in his faith. Not so! Thomas' experience bears out what Jesus said about the road of faith. It is not a six-lane freeway. It's not even a two-lane highway. It's more a narrow dirt road.

I would like to take a closer look at what Jesus meant when he said the road is narrow and difficult. To begin with, faith is a lot like the sun. There are times when the sky is clear and the sun shines bright and beautiful. There are other times when the clouds come and the sun vanishes from sight. Our faith is a lot like that. Times when it is bright and beautiful, and we wonder how we could ever have doubts. But then there are times when it barely glows at all, leaving us in virtual darkness. These times of darkness are usually traceable to one of three sources: our own human nature, ourselves, or even God. From our human nature, they simply reflect the natural mood swings of life. We all know that on some days everything goes right. Everyone is cheerful and pleasant. Life is great. On other days, everything goes wrong and everybody is cranky and impatient. Our faith goes through similar mood swings. It goes with the territory of being human. Sometimes the darkness is due to ourselves. We can bring it on by neglecting our faith. We can let our faith grow weak, whether from sin or lack of spiritual nourishment. In other words, just as our body grows weak from abuse or lack of nourishment, our faith does the same thing. It isn't a simple matter of once you've got it, it's there. And sometimes, faith darkness can be traceable to God. Just as God sometimes seems to use physical suffering somehow to help us grow in faith, so God can use spiritual

darkness to deepen and mature our faith. We've all had those moments when we cannot believe what God seems to be asking of us. We're bewildered by this loving God. We try to figure it out and it makes absolutely no sense whatsoever. And then, it's only when we trust ourselves into God's hands, that our faith is deepened, and matures to a level we never dreamed possible, though the crisis or challenge still remains very real. Regardless of where that darkness comes from, the agony it can cause is great and painful. It can even lead to a temporary eclipse of our faith, which is exactly what seems to have happened to Thomas in today's Gospel.

I'd like to share a poem I ran across that summarizes what we've been considering, and how we should respond:

*The road of life was bright
It stretched before my sight
The Lord was at my side
to be my friend and guide
And so I started out.
But then the sky turned dark
The road grew steep and stark
Rocks and ruts cut my feet
My legs grew sore and weak.
I scarce could travel on.
I turned and cried, "My Lord! Why this pain?
Why this plight? Why these ruts? Why these rocks?
Where's the road? Where's the light? I cannot carry on."
The Lord turned and said:
"My child, where is your faith?
Where is your childlike trust?
Love chose this road for you. Just trust and travel on."*

VOCATION REFLECTION

"God Calls, Using Many Voices"

by Richard Beaudette, OMI

I believe strongly that our parish communities play a vital role in calling and encouraging each member in their vocation – first of all as disciples of the Risen Lord, and then in particular vocations within our Church. Each member of the community, and the community together, is called to listen for the voice of the Spirit and encourage members in their particular vocations.

Read the reflection [here](#).

"Forgive me my nonsense as I also forgive
the nonsense of those who think they talk
sense."

— Robert Frost

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION

BAPTISM PREPARATION: Contact the office a minimum of 3 months before the baptism. Baptismal instructions are required.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION: Contact the office to set up the initial interview. It is recommended that the first contact be a minimum of 6 months before the wedding.

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK: Please call or email the office to inform us of shut-ins or people in hospital so that we can arrange a visit, bring Holy Communion and administer the Sacrament of the Sick if desired.

PARISH REGISTRATION: The registration form is available at the back of the church or can be filled out online at <http://canadianmartyrs.org/register/>.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES: For your information, the minutes are available in a binder at the back of the church and at <http://canadianmartyrs.org/pastoral-council-minutes/>

DIRECT DEPOSIT DONATIONS: The forms are available on the Welcome table if you wish to make donations to the church through direct deposit. Envelopes for special collections will still be provided.

FOOD CUPBOARD: Non-perishable food items for the Centretown Emergency Food Centre are collected on an on-going basis.

MILK BAGS: Milk bags are collected for making into sleeping mats. Please bring in your milk bags and put them in the baskets under the table in the hall near the breezeway.