

# Canadian Martyrs Church

100 Main Street, Ottawa, ON K1S 1C2

613-232-5347, [office@canadianmartyrs.org](mailto:office@canadianmartyrs.org), [www.canadianmartyrs.org](http://www.canadianmartyrs.org)

*Our community respectfully acknowledges that we are situated on the unceded ancestral lands and waters of the Algonquin people, on whose territory we live, pray, work, and grow in faith and understanding.*

## Mass Schedule

Tuesday-Friday at 11:30am

Saturday at 5:00pm

Sunday at 10:00am

## Sacrament of Reconciliation

Tuesday-Friday at 10:30am

Saturday at 4pm

or call the office

## Pastor

Fr. Tim Coonen, OMI

[Administrative Assistant](#)

Heather Duggan

[Pastoral Associate](#)

Sr. Matilda Owolagba

[Director of Religious Ed.](#)

Adele Casuga Lalonde

## Pastoral Council

Sue-Anne Hess

Meetings: 1st Thurs., 7:00pm

[Finance Committee](#)

Joseph Duggan

[Development and Peace](#)

Contact office

## Weekly Gatherings

[Christian Meditation](#)

Dorothy Wood

Mondays, 3pm

[Lectio Divina and Meditation](#)

Maureen Cerroni

Tuesdays, 8pm

[Evening Prayer](#)

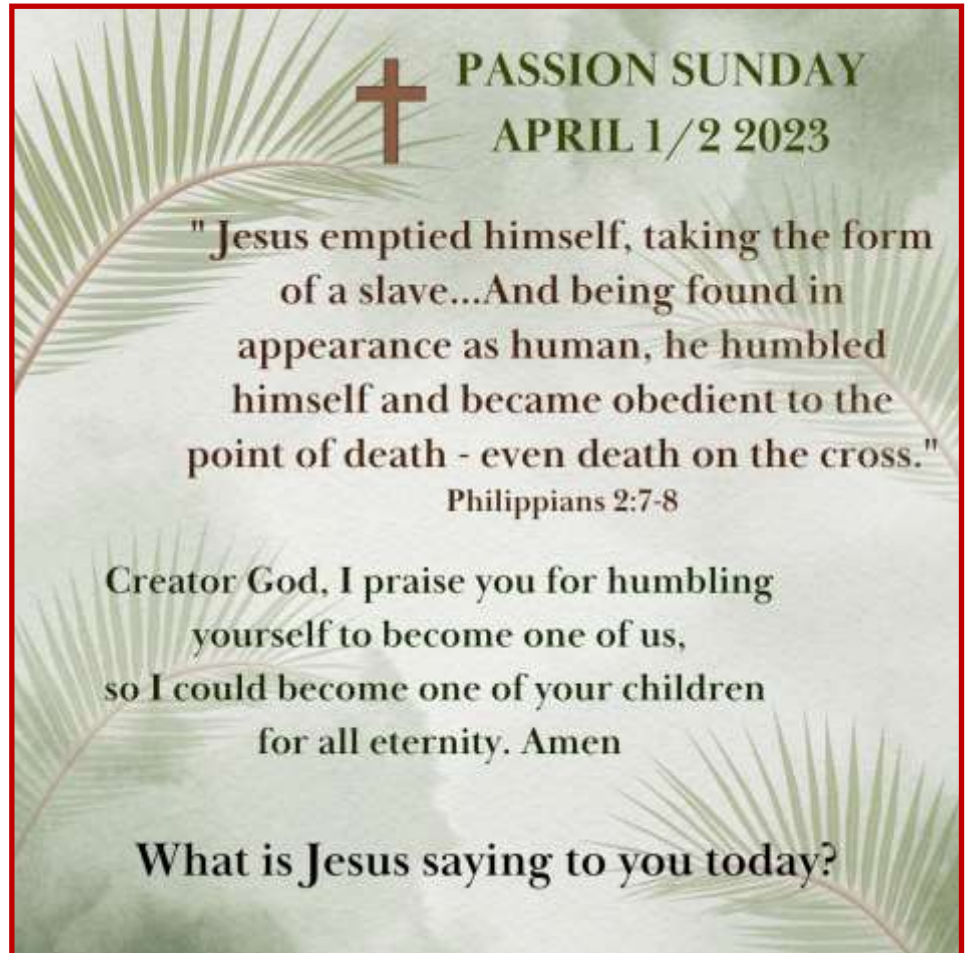
Pierre LaViolette

Thursdays, 6:30pm

[Sunday Liturgy of the Word](#)

Sundays, 11:30am

[Via Zoom](#)



## PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

For the Church in suffering, may those enduring persecution be sustained in grace.

We pray to the Lord.

For our broken world, may wars cease, peace be restored everywhere, and every evil be overcome by good. We pray to the Lord.

For our nation, may those burdened with homelessness, uncertainty and poverty not be forgotten. We pray to the Lord.

For all who are grieving, that God will comfort them, bring supportive people to accompany them, and fill their hearts with peace. We pray to the Lord.

For people everywhere, may despair and pain be lifted from every heart. We pray to the Lord.

## MASS INTENTIONS

**Fri., April 14** Marie and Mike Tosti by Florence and Mike Makhoul; **Sat., April 22** Jim Manion by Nancy MacDonald

Mass intentions are available for weekday Masses and Saturday Mass for a \$15.00 stipend. Please contact the parish office.

# Our Parish News

## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

|                |                  |                    |
|----------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Thurs., Apr. 6 | Holy Thursday    | 7:00 pm            |
| Fri., Apr. 7   | Good Friday      | 3:00 pm            |
| Sat., Apr. 8   | Easter Vigil     | 9:00 pm (new time) |
| Sun., Apr. 9   | Easter Sunday    | 10:00 am           |
|                | Liturgy via Zoom | 11:30am            |

There will be a reception in the parish centre after the Easter Vigil. All are welcome.

## PIZZA SUPPER

Join us for pizza supper after Mass this Saturday, **April 1st**. The pizza supper team is still looking for a couple of volunteers to help with set up and clean up for this monthly supper.

## EASTER VIGIL RECEPTION

Please [email](#) or call the office if you can provide sweet or savoury finger-foods for the Easter Vigil Reception on **Saturday, April 8** or help with set-up or clean-up. The parish will be providing cheese, crackers and wine!

## LUNCH AND LEARN REBOOT!

The Faith Formation Committee is pleased to announce that they will be rebooting the Lunch and Learn and Evening Faith Formation programs. In order to help them plan programs for this year, you are invited to let them know what areas of our faith you would like to learn more about by filling out their survey, [click here](#).

## 507 SANDWICH CLUB

Many thanks to all our dedicated volunteers and also to those who continue to support the 507 Sandwich Club. We are currently in need of donations to keep this outreach program running. You can put your donation for the 507 Sandwich Club in the collection basket, or you can donate through [Canada Helps](#) (please indicate that the donation is for the 507 Sandwich Club).

## MEETINGS/EVENTS

- April 1:** Pizza Night, 6pm
- April 2:** Children's Sunday Liturgy of the Word
- April 13:** Parish Pastoral Council, 7pm
- April 20:** Faith Formation Committee, 7pm

## LENTEN FOOD DRIVE

Canadian Martyrs' target is to collect **500 food or hygiene items for Lent** (we have collected 474 items so far!) to be given to the Centretown Emergency Food Centre for people in need in our community. Bring one can of food or 20 cans! Boxes are in the church foyer. These items are always needed: peanut butter (500ml or less), **canned** tuna, salmon, meat, stews, vegetables, and soups, **canned** beans (including baked beans, kidney beans, black beans), cereals, pasta and pasta sauce (**in cans, no glass jars, please!**), Kraft dinner, toothpaste and toothbrushes, and toilet paper.

## CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Join us on **Sunday, April 2, 16 and 30** for Children's Liturgy of the Word.

## VOCATION REFLECTION

"Peter & Me" by Darcie Lich, Oblate Associate  
And so, on Passion Sunday, I sit next to Peter with my back to the wall, wondering how I ever got into this mess. Far from the action, far from the shouts and the danger, I sit there with him, and think... "Me. He chose me." And I, too, weep bitterly because I chose to run. In moments like these, it's all too easy to see no way out. Peter was left with nothing but despair. There was no hope, as far as he was concerned, for him, for the job he was chosen to do, or for the mission. It was over. Jesus picked him. And he failed. But this is where Peter and I differ. You see, the beautiful part of hearing the Passion story over and over and over again is that I know how it ends. Read the [full reflection here](#).



**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK:** Carol Bazinet, Isabella Boles, Devin Bursey, Sandy Cano, Frank Chauvin, Kevin Dashney, Eileen De Rosayro, John Dorner, Eileen Kearns, Sharon Kelly, and Marigold Kenney

# Diocesan and Community News

## POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR APRIL

For a culture of peace and non-violence:  
We pray for the spread of peace and non-violence, by decreasing the use of weapons by States and citizens.

## CHRISM MASS

At Notre Dame Cathedral, 385 Sussex Dr., on **Tuesday, April 4**, 5:00pm (note change in time). All are welcome.

## DEVELOPMENT & PEACE CREATE HOPE NATIONAL WAY OF THE CROSS

The Way of the Cross is an invitation to bear witness to the suffering, death, resurrection and glory of Jesus Christ. It is by this Paschal Mystery that God chose to Create Hope. Please join D&P to celebrate the hope to be found in the Way of the Cross. Virtual, **Thurs., April 6** at noon. [Zoom link here](#). Info: 613-738-9644 x224 or [kiegan.irish@devp.org](mailto:kiegan.irish@devp.org).

## WAY OF THE CROSS ON GOOD FRIDAY

Communion and Liberation (CL), Ottawa, is organizing its annual Way of the Cross, led by the Most Rev. Marcel Dampousse, Archbishop of Ottawa-Cornwall, through the streets of downtown Ottawa on Good Friday, **April 7**, 9:30am - 12:30pm. From St. Patrick's Basilica to Notre Dame Cathedral. Further info: [clonottawa@gmail.com](mailto:clonottawa@gmail.com).

## GOOD FRIDAY CHILDREN'S SERVICE

There will be a Good Friday Service for children at [St. Joseph's Parish](#), 174 Wilbrod, on **Friday, April 7**, at 10:00am.

## "HEARTS FOR THE MARITIMES" FUNDRAISER

The estimated damage to Atlantic Canada caused by Hurricane Fiona is \$800M. The storm damaged not only homes and infrastructure, but for many it destroyed their livelihood, too. In support of our eastern neighbours, St. Theresa Parish (95 Somerset St W.) is hosting a Ceilidh lunch on **Sunday, April 16** at 12:30pm. This fundraiser will ensure genuine Maritime hospitality with great Maritime-themed food and lively Down-East music and dancing. Tickets are \$40, available at 613-727-5763.

## CHEO GAMES FOR LIFE

St. Joseph's Parish, 151 Laurier Ave. E., is acting as a drop-off point for the [Games for Life Campaign](#). The campaign is a donation in-kind opportunity for those looking to support CHEO by trading in their unused video games, trading cards, or collectibles. If you're interested in donating any unused video games, consoles, or trading cards, please call or email the front desk at St. Joe's: 613-233-4095 x251 or [frontdesk@st-josephs.ca](mailto:frontdesk@st-josephs.ca). Drop off will be at the front desk during regular hours.

## WHAT DOES IT FEEL LIKE TO NOT HAVE CLEAN DRINKING WATER?

Let us consider this question during Lent and support a project that St. George Elementary School in Ottawa is working on with [Project Nibi](#) (empowering Indigenous Peoples with community-owned solutions to access safe drinking water). Check out the website: <https://everylastsip.myshopify.com/> and see if there is a way for you to support this excellent initiative being championed by Ottawa youth. Thank you to St. George Elementary School and Amos Comenius Memorial School in Labrador for being water champions and clean water keepers.

# Events at Galilee Centre, Arnprior

**April 9:** Easter Sunday Brunch, 11:30am - 2pm, sold out

**April 13:** Scrabble Tournament in support of the Arnprior Library

**April 14:** *The Servant at the Supper*: a play & dinner event on April 14 at 6pm, featuring Eleanor Glenn's one woman show, *The Servant at the Supper*. This moving show features the observations of the woman who served at the Last Supper. Tickets are \$45 per person, reservations required. Call 613-623-4242 x21 to make a reservation or [click here](#).

**April 22:** *Women of Faith: Reclaiming Significant Ceremony*, 8:00am - 4:00pm

**May 25-27:** *Opening to Goodness Spring Retreat*

**To register** for events at Galilee Centre, 398 John Street, North, Arnprior ON, call 613-623-4242, ext. 21 or email [info@galileecentre.com](mailto:info@galileecentre.com). For info and cost of programs: [www.galileecentre.com](http://www.galileecentre.com).



## **The Cross as Revealing the Inner Life of God**

**by Ron Rolheiser, OMI**

There's a particularly poignant line in the account of Jesus' death which says that, when he died, "the veil in the sanctuary was torn from top to bottom." I remember, as a boy, hearing that read in church, picturing it literally, and thinking: "Now they'll know what a terrible thing they've done!" On the cross, we see one person, but as being held and empowered by somebody else. But that line doesn't refer to some ominous, dark sign at the moment of the crucifixion, meant to stun the world and prove it made a gross mistake. It refers to something else, not dark and fateful at all. The sanctuary veil was the curtain that hung between the ordinary people and the holy of holies, the most sacred of all places, and prevented them from seeing what was behind. What the Gospel-writers are saying is that, at the moment of Jesus' death, the veil that sits between us and the inner life of God was ripped open so that we can now see what God looks like inside. The cross, then, is the ultimate icon, the real depiction of the Holy. It shows us God's heart, the inner life of the Trinity. How is this so? On the cross, there is not just one person, Jesus. Ultimately all three persons in the Trinity, Father, Son, and Spirit, are on the cross.

On the surface, of course, we see Jesus, the Son. What's he doing? He's suffering and dying, but in a particular way. He hangs on the cross in anguish, dying, alone, humiliated, misunderstood, but he also hangs there in trust and fidelity, giving his life away without resentment, recrimination, and bitter questioning because he knows and trusts someone deeply enough to, literally, believe in the sun even when it isn't shining, in love even when it isn't showing itself, and in God even when God is silent. We see Jesus on the cross, but we see him there clinging to someone else with a trust that turns hatred into love, curses into blessing, bitterness into graciousness, recrimination into understanding, and God's silence into faith. On the cross, we see one person, but as being held and empowered by somebody else.

Less visible, but clearly there as the recipient of this trust, present as the one about whom this drama is ultimately about, is the Father. He is also on the cross, suffering with the son, holding the son in this darkness, showing himself worthy of trust, and trusting the son not to short-circuit the tension so that God's response, the

resurrection, can be what it should be, not an act of vengeance, nor a bullying definition of whose in charge, but an act of unfathomable redemption, understanding, forgiveness, and love, an act that, more than anything else, defines God. The Father is there, too, on the cross, suffering, waiting in patience, empowering another to trust.

Finally, the Holy Spirit is also on the cross, uniquely generated and released by what unfolds there. As the drama of the crucifixion, this deep interplay of giving and receiving in love and trust, is taking place, a forgiving warmth, a healing fire, and an unfathomable patience and understanding are being produced, revealed, and released. That energy, the ultimate oxygen, which the Gospels depict as spilling out of Jesus' pierced side as blood and water, is the Holy Spirit and that Spirit reveals precisely what is going on inside of God.

What is happening there? Inside of God, as we can see from the cross, there is no bitterness, vengeance, loss of patience, or lack of graciousness (not a single trace). When the veil inside the temple is torn, when the side of Jesus is pierced, what we see, what flows out, is only forgiveness, patience, gentleness, understanding, and warm invitation. We have an analogy for this, however inadequate, inside human relationships. Whenever two people love each other so deeply that the power of that love enables them to trust enough that they do not grow embittered, recriminating, and questioning of God in times of pain and darkness, their love becomes an energy, a warm spirit, an oxygen, that empowers everyone who comes into contact with it. You see this in a good marriage, where the love and trust become something akin to a warm fireplace that warms everyone around them. From their side, too, flows "blood and water," a spirit and a baptism. But that only happens when their love for each other is of the kind that enables them both to sweat blood in the garden rather than give into bitterness, recrimination, and the temptation to make God prove himself. A good love empowers both parties to carry the burdens of others as well as the burden of doubt, without resentment. The cross is an icon of this kind of love. It defines God as love and gives us a picture of what that kind of love looks like.

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**Find us on Facebook:**

**[Canadian Martyrs Parish, Ottawa](#)**

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

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

**DONATIONS:** PAD forms are available on the Welcome table if you wish to make donations to the church through direct deposit. If you wish to donate via credit card, you can through Canada Helps on the secure link at <https://canadianmartyrs.org/donate/>. Please call the office if you would like a box of offering envelopes. Thank you!

**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.

**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.

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES:** The minutes of Pastoral Council meetings are available at <http://canadianmartyrs.org/pastoral-council-minutes/>

**FOOD CUPBOARD:** Non-perishable food items for the Centretown Emergency Food Centre are collected on an on-going basis. Please place food items in the crates in the church foyer.

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