

# 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 10:45am

Saturday at 4:15pm

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](#)

## Resurrection of the Lord

Easter Sunday

April 8/9 2023



He is risen!

## PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

For Pope Francis, may he continue to serve the Church with the tenderness of Jesus and show the compassion of Jesus to the whole world. We pray to the Lord.

For those baptized at the Easter Vigil and those received into Full Communion in the Catholic Church, may Jesus be in their lives from now onwards, so that they will live in charity. We pray to the Lord.

For peace throughout the world, that the risen Lord will guide the human family away from violence, particularly in Ukraine, and toward new efforts of cooperation and human development. We pray to the Lord.

For all in our Archdiocese, may Archbishop Marcel and all priests, deacons, religious and lay faithful serve in the spirit of the risen Jesus, who brings hope to our world. We pray to the Lord.

For the healing of hearts and relationships, that the risen Lord will open the path to reconciliation and healing for families, communities, and co-workers. We pray to the Lord.

## MASS INTENTIONS

**Tues., April 11** Vic Walker by Ros & Richard Weeks; **Fri., April 14** Marie and Mike Tosti by Florence & 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

## 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](#).

## LENTEN FOOD DRIVE

Canadian Martyrs' target was to collect **500 food or hygiene items for Lent** and we have succeeded! To date, we have collected **678 items** to be given to the Centretown Emergency Food Centre (CEFC) for people in need in our community. The CEFC is truly grateful to the parish for donating so generously. The increase in demand from their clients highlights their ongoing need for support. **If you haven't donated and still wish to, please bring food donations for those in need to Holy Thursday Mass at 7pm.**

## SHARE LENT 2023

Thank you for giving from the heart to Share Lent 2023! Development and Peace-Caritas Canada thanks you for supporting the Stand for the Land campaign with your Share Lent donation. Your donations will help support our sisters and brothers in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Middle East. **If you have not had a chance to donate, there is still time to place your Share Lent envelope in the collection basket or to donate online at [devp.org/give](http://devp.org/give).** Thank you for continuing to pray for and support all those who are working to build a world of peace and justice.

## VOCATION EASTER MESSAGE

"Sharers in His Resurrection"

by Jarek Pachocki, OMI, Vocation Director

Dear young men considering religious life and the priesthood,

Have you considered becoming an Oblate missionary, as a priest or a brother? You will have the opportunity to witness the risen Christ through your missionary commitment in an apostolic community, reaching out to the poor and marginalized of our society, and being an ambassador of the radical hospitality that Christ offers. "Awareness of our own short-comings humbles us, yet God's power makes us confident as we strive to bring all people - especially the poor - to full consciousness of their dignity as human beings and as sons and daughters of God." (OMI Const. 5) Will you consider the calling? Read [the full message here](#).



## Handicraft Holy Land Christians

On the weekend of **April 22/23**, we will welcome our special guest from Sebastien Cardinal's team representing "Handicraft Holy Land Christians", who after Mass on Saturday and Sunday will briefly address the issues and concerns regarding the Christian presence in the Holy Land.

Christians in the Holy Land graciously ask for your support through conscience prayers and by purchasing their unique products.

Purchasing these unique products supports the Christian families in maintaining their presence in the Holy Land as these handmade carvings are their main source of income. May God Bless you for your generosity, for your help and for your prayers.

**Cash, debit, credit cards and cheque will be accepted.**

You can visit and support us at  
[www.HolylandChristians.ca](http://www.HolylandChristians.ca)

## MEETINGS/EVENTS

**April 13:** Parish Pastoral Council, 7pm

**April 16:** Children's Liturgy of the Word, 10am

**April 20:** Faith Formation Committee, 7pm

**April 22:** Truth and Reconciliation Committee, 1pm

**April 30:** Children's Liturgy of the Word, 10am

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK:** Carol Bazinet, Isabella Boles, Devin Burse, 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.

## 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 Damphousse, 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 10am.

## ARCHDIOCESE'S NEW WEBSITE

The Archdiocese of Ottawa-Cornwall has launched its [brand-new site](#) and created a new opportunity for parishes to promote their events. Though the *Friday Facts* will be ending soon, this site will promote events in the diocese to the public. Click the link to visit the Events page to see what is happening in the diocese: <https://ottawacornwall.ca/allevants/>. For national or international groups and movements, visit our Resources page: <https://ottawacornwall.ca/resources/> or Opportunities to Meet Christ: <https://ottawacornwall.ca/opportunities-to-meet-christ/>.

## "BE CLOTHED WITH POWER" CONFERENCE

A spring conference, **April 29** from 8am - 9pm at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, 194 Fourth Avenue, including speakers Ralph Martin and Bishop Scott

McCaig. Be filled with the Lord's power in the season of Easter. Hosted by Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services of Ottawa. For more info: [click here](#) or email: [sullivanbrian9@gmail.com](mailto:sullivanbrian9@gmail.com)

## CONVERSATIONS OF OUR TIMES

Please take note of the next in St. Basil's parish webinar series "Conversations for Our Times" on the topic of *Medical Assistance in Dying through a Catholic Lens*, featuring Dr. Christopher De Bono as the main presenter. We invite all who are interested in this timely and controversial topic to join us by Zoom on Sunday **April 16**, 2:30 - 4pm. The session will not be recorded, and [it is necessary to register](#).

## THE TRUE CANADIAN BOOK LAUNCH

Announcing the release of a new book, *The True Canadians*, co-authored by Métis writer, Patricia Russell, and Ottawa writer and Capital Ward resident, David Wylynko, *The True Canadians* chronicles the challenges and achievements of the Métis people in Canada. For over two centuries, the Métis have fought for recognition as an Indigenous people and as a Nation. This struggle has played out on the battlefield, in the courts, and at the negotiating table, often over issues of governance, land rights, and resources. The title refers to the fact the Métis are a people of this land. The book includes a foreword by former Prime Minister, Paul Martin, and contains many stories of Métis interaction with governments and prime ministers, extending back to the confrontations between Louis Riel and John A. Macdonald. Join the authors for an evening of discussion and readings on **April 12** at 6pm at [Perfect Books](#) at 258A Elgin Street.

## Events at Galilee Centre, Arnprior

**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).

## A Voice That Never Dies by Ron Rolheiser, OMI

Easter is about many things. We celebrate God's power to overcome death, sin, and injustice, but we also celebrate the voices and wounds of the ones who died on Good Friday. To illustrate this, I would like to recount one such voice, that of an anonymous young woman who was brutally raped and murdered by the Salvadoran military in 1981, at a place fittingly called La Cruz. The story was reported by Mark Danner, a journalist.

He describes how, after this particular massacre, some soldiers told how one of their victims haunted them and how they could not get her out of their minds long after her death. They had plundered a village and raped many of the women. One of these was a young woman, an evangelical Christian, whom had been raped many times in a single afternoon and subsequently tortured.

However, throughout this all, this young woman, clinging to her belief in Christ, had sung hymns. Here's how one of the soldiers described it:

She kept on singing, too, even after they had shot her in the chest. She had lain there in La Cruz with the blood flowing from her chest, and had kept on singing—a bit weaker than before, but still singing. And the soldiers, stupefied, had watched and pointed. Then they had grown tired of the game and shot her again, and she sang still, and their wonder began to turn to fear—until finally they unsheathed their machetes and hacked her neck and at last the singing stopped. (*The Massacre at El Mozote*, N.Y., Vintage Books 1994, pp. 78-79)

Gil Bailie, who recounts this story in his monumental book on the cross and non-violence, notes, not just the remarkable similarity between her death and that of Jesus, but also the fact that, in both cases, resurrection means that their voices live on when everything about their deaths suggest that their voices should have died. The task of Easter is to rekindle the creed within ourselves.

In Jesus' case, nobody witnessing his humiliating death on a lonely hillside, with his followers absent, would have predicted that this would be the most remembered death in history. The same is true for this young woman. Her rape and murder occurred in a very remote place and all of those who might have wanted to immortalize her story were also killed. Yet her voice survives and will, no doubt, continue to grow in importance, long after all those who violated and killed her are forgotten.

As both Jesus and this young girl illustrate, powerlessness and anonymity, linked to a heart that can sing the words: "Forgive them for they know not what they do!" while being raped and humiliated, ultimately become their opposite, power and immortality. A death of this kind not only scars morally the conscience of its perpetrators and their sympathizers, it leaves something that can never be forgotten, a permanent echo that nobody will ever silence. What God raises up after Good Friday is also the voice of the one who died. A critic, reviewing Danner's book in the *New York Times*, tells how, after reading this story, he kept "straining" to hear the sound of that singing.

The task of Easter is to rekindle the creed within ourselves. The earliest Christians, immediately upon experiencing the resurrected Jesus, spontaneously voiced a one-line creed: "Jesus is Lord!" That does, in fact, say it all. When we affirm that Jesus has been raised from the dead and is Lord of this world, we are saying everything else within our faith as well. In essence, we are saying that God is ultimately still in charge of this universe, despite any indications to the contrary; that brutality and rape notwithstanding, at the end of the day, violence, injustice, and sin will be silenced and overcome; that graciousness and gentleness, as manifested in Jesus, are ultimately what lies at the root of all reality; that this young woman, so brutally violated, has now been raised and lives, joyfully, in the heart of God; and that her death, like Jesus', is redemptive precisely because, like him, she too, in the face of helplessness before the worst brutality the world could perpetrate, could still say: "Forgive them for they know not what they do!"

To celebrate Easter is to affirm that all of this is true. But that also asks something of us: it asks, as the critic in the *New York Times* so aptly put it, that we strain to hear the sound of that girl's singing, that we struggle to keep her, and her song, in our hearts. She is still alive in God's heart, and we must keep her alive in ours as well. Why? Not for sentimental reasons, nor simply because her story is exceptional. No. We must keep her alive in our hearts because her song is the leaven, the yeast of the resurrection and that, that alone, can raise us up to become exceptional, too.

One of the tasks of Easter is to strain to hear the voices of Good Friday.



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Parishioners can now quickly donate to the church with their mobile devices. Just scan the QR code and donate securely through the parish's Canada Helps page.

**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.