



# Holy Canadian Martyrs Church

A parish of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate  
100 Main Street, Ottawa, ON K1S 1C2

613-232-5347, office@canadianmartyrs.org, www.canadianmartyrs.org

*We gather on the traditional and unceded territory of the Algonquin Nation. We offer our time, our attention, and our support, listening and learning together, knowing that respect grows strongest when it is shared.*

## Mass Schedule

Tuesday at 7:00pm

Wednesday-Friday at 12:15pm

Saturday at 5:00pm

Sunday at 10:00am

## Sacrament of Reconciliation

Before Mass Tuesday-Saturday  
or call the office

## Pastor

Fr. Frank Kuczera, OMI

## Administrative Assistant

Heather Duggan

## Pastoral Associate

Sr. Matilda Owolagba

## Director of Religious Ed.

Adele Casuga Lalonde

## Pastoral Council

John Richardson

Meetings: 1st Thurs., 7pm

## Finance Council

Joseph Duggan

## Development and Peace

Anna Dorner

## Laudato Si' Team

Agnes Richard

Meetings: 2nd Wed., 7pm

## Christian Meditation

Dorothy Wood

Mondays, 3pm, via Zoom

except last Monday of the  
month, 2:30pm in the church

## Lectio Divina & Meditation

Maureen Cerroni

Tuesdays, 8pm, via Zoom

## Evening Prayer

Brian Cano

Thurs., 6:30pm, via Zoom

## RCIA

Sundays, 8:45am, Parish Centre

## SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

FEBRUARY 28/MARCH 1, 2026

### The Transfiguration

The disciples are transformed by prayer and  
then sent back down the mountain.

St. Eugene reminds us,

"One must first be a saint."

True prayer always prepares us for mission,  
especially among the most abandoned.

How is prayer shaping my readiness  
for mission this Lent?

canadianmartyrs.org

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** All who are ill, including: Debbie Artman, Carol Bazinet, Devin Bursey, Brian Cano, Sandy Cano, Austin DeCoste, Fr. Jim Fiori, John H., Nick H., Eileen Kearns, Marigold Kenney, Sandra LaPointe, Sr. Gwen Legault, OLM, Tony Lim, Fr. Peter Monty, Marg Anne Morrison, Janna Petrunik, Michael Petrunik, Eleanor Rabnett, Br. Len Rego, Fr. Ollie Rich, Caroline Samson, Jeff Stadtmueller, Beatriz Vercosa Leal

**MASS INTENTIONS:** **Fri., March 6** Paul Marcella by Rosemarie Hoey; **Sat., March 7** Jim Chambers by his family; **Wed., March 11** Intentions of Julian & Sandra Bennett by Yvonne Bennett; **Thurs., March 12** Sarina Cotroneo and family by Lidia Cotroneo; **Sat., March 14** Jorma Nieminen by Theresa Nieminen; **Wed., March 18** Paul Marcella by Maureen Anderson; **Thurs., March 19** Pat & Fern Denny by Margaret Denny; **Tues., March 24** Prayer basket intentions

## EVENTS/MEETINGS

**Sun., Mar. 1:** Oblate Mission in Kenya presentation, after Mass

**Tues., Mar. 3:** Stations of the Cross: Youth, after 7pm Mass

**Fri., Mar. 6:** Youth Group, 7pm

**Sat., Mar. 7:** Altar Servers workshop, 2pm

**Sat., Mar. 7:** Pizza night with St. Paddy's Day music, after Mass

**Sat., Mar 7:** Young Adults Group, 7pm

**Tues., Mar. 10:** Stations of the Cross: Laudato Si' committee, after 7pm Mass

**Fri., Mar. 13:** Lenten Reconciliation Service, 7pm

**Sat., Mar. 14:** Lenten Retreat: Of Crosses, Conversion & Community, 2pm

## **HOLY WEEK & TRIDUUM SERIES**

**In the weeks ahead, as we journey toward Holy Week and enter into the sacred days of the Triduum, we pause with reverence and expectation. May these reflections be more than words. May they become a pathway for our hearts.**

### **PASSION OF THE LORD WEEKEND**

**Today we begin with palms in our hands and the word “Hosanna” on our lips. But we know where this week is heading. The same crowd that welcomes Jesus will soon reject Him. The same voices that praise will shout, “Crucify Him.” It’s easy to judge that crowd — until we realize how often we stand among them.**

**We welcome Jesus when He comforts us. We struggle with Him when He challenges us. We praise Him when faith feels good. We grow quiet when discipleship costs something. The people wanted a powerful Messiah — one who would fix their problems immediately. But Jesus enters Jerusalem not on a war horse, but on a donkey. He comes not to conquer Rome, but to conquer sin. He comes not to take power, but to give Himself away. And that is the kind of King we often resist.**

**Passion of the Lord weekend asks us one simple question: Do we want a Saviour on our terms — or are we willing to follow Him to the cross? Because there is no Easter without Good Friday. No resurrection without surrender. No crown without a cross.**

**Yet here is the hope: Jesus knows exactly what awaits Him — betrayal, suffering, death — and He walks forward anyway. That is love.**

**This week invites us not just to wave palms, but to walk with Him. To stay faithful when it is uncomfortable. To trust when it is dark. To love when it costs.**

**May we not only cry “Hosanna” today — but remain with Him all the way to Calvary. And beyond it.**

**Next week: Holy Thursday**

# Our Parish News

## LENTEN FOOD DRIVE

This Lent, help us collect **750 non-perishable food and hygiene items** for the Centretown Community Food Centre to support people in need in our community. Bring one item or twenty—collection bins are in the church foyer. Most needed items: peanut butter (500 ml or less), canned fish & meats, stews, vegetables and soups, canned beans, cereal, pasta and canned sauce (no glass jars), Kraft Dinner, toothpaste, toothbrushes, & toilet paper.

## KENYA: AN ADVENTURE IN MISSION AWARENESS PRESENTATION

On Sunday, **March 1** after Mass, join Arnie Francis, a local traveler, Oblate Associate, and Galilee Board Director, and parishioner, McE Galbreath, on a journey through rural and urban Kenya, to explore Oblate missionary work among the most marginalized citizens of the country and “shilling-for-shilling” shared development. Free-will offerings to Oblate Kenyan projects are welcome.

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT

During Lent, the Stations of the Cross will be presented by various parish groups **on Tuesdays after the 7pm Mass.**

**March 3:** led by the Youth Group

**March 10:** led by the *Laudato Si'* Committee: an Ecological Stations of the Cross

**March 17:** led by Mass Coordinators

**March 24:** Development and Peace: the Solidarity Way of the Cross.

## YOUTH GROUP

Our next Youth Group meeting will take place on Friday, **March 6** at 7pm. Join us for activities, our faith development discussions focusing on “healing the blind”, and snacks!

## ALTAR SERVERS TRAINING

Altar servers, get ready for Holy Week! Join us on Saturday, **March 7** at 2 pm for a fun afternoon together—photo booth fun, learning, and a hands-on look at our Holy Week liturgies. Don't miss it!

## PIZZA SUPPER & ST. PADDY'S SING-ALONG!

Join us after the 5pm Mass on Saturday, **March 7** for our monthly parish pizza dinner! Stay for great food, fellowship, and a festive St. Paddy's Day sing-along featuring your favourite Irish tunes. All are welcome—bring your family, your friends, and your singing voice!

## YOUNG ADULTS GROUP

Join us after Mass and pizza supper on Saturday, March 7 at 7pm. The theme for the evening is “I Have Called You by Name” and we will be watching an episode of the TV series, *The Chosen*.

## PARISH WALK, SUNDAY, MARCH 8

The new parish Social Committee invites you to its kick-off event—a parish walk with a fun activity and snacks along the way! Join us Sunday, **March 8**, departing from the church parking lot at 11:15 am. The route is a 3km square: we'll head down to the Rideau River, along the river, up to the Rideau Canal, and back over to the church. A great chance to reconnect and meet new friends. Sign up at the Welcome Table or [online](#) by Monday, **March 2**.

## LENTEN MISSION

Join us this Lent as we reflect on the Cross, renew our call to conversion, and rediscover the strength of community for mission, allowing Christ's mercy to set our hearts ablaze once again. Our retreat leader will be Sandra (Sandy) Prather, an Oblate Associate and Honorary Oblate, dedicated to helping others grow in faith. A joyful and down-to-earth retreat leader, she has led retreats, parish missions, and workshops locally and internationally.

**Friday, March 13**, 7pm, Liturgy of Reconciliation: The Gaze from the Cross – Meeting Mercy

**Saturday, March 14**, 2pm, Mission: Of Crosses, Conversion, and Community

**Weekend Masses, March 14/15**, Gospel Reflection: The Man Born Blind

## THANK YOU FROM ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Our Saint Vincent de Paul Ottawa Central Council Multifaith Housing committee thanks all parishioners of Holy Canadian Martyrs Parish who donated to our Affordable Housing project for Indigenous and homeless families. Your donations of \$5,095.00 dollars will go a long way in helping us to achieve our goal to raise \$300,000. Thank you for your generosity. The Mission Values of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul implies that as Vincentians, we see Christ in anyone who suffers, come together as a family, have personal contact with the poor, and help in all possible ways.

# Diocesan and Community News

## DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE'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. Watch this [one-minute video](#) for a glimpse of what this work of solidarity looks like. Share it widely; and join our efforts!

## WORLD YOUTH DAY 2027 INFO NIGHT

The Diocese is having an information night for those interested in attending World Youth Day 2027 in South Korea on Tuesday, **March 3** from 7-9:30pm in the St. Sebastian parish hall, 1000 Frances St.

## INDIGENOUS JUSTICE EVENT

Co-sponsored by Kateri Native Ministry (KNM) and St. Joseph's Parish, the first annual Fr. Jim Bleackley, OMI Memorial Lecture on Indigenous Justice is an opportunity for learning, respectful dialogue, and relationship-building in support of Call to Action 61 of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC). On Thursday, **March 5** (new date) at 7pm at St. Joseph's Parish, 151 Laurier Avenue East, Anishinaabe author, professor, editor and activist, Niigaan Sinclair, will inaugurate [this series](#) with a reflection on where Canada stands in its reconciliation journey in the decade since the TRC was released. A free-will offering for KNM will be collected. All are welcome, please share the event with your friends and neighbours! For more information, contact Mikayla at [info@st-josephs.ca](mailto:info@st-josephs.ca) or 613-233-4095 x 251.

## ECOLOGICAL FAIR

St. Paul University (233 Main) [Eco Fair](#), Wednesday, **March 11**, 10am to 4:30pm: Local booths, panels & green action. The Ecological Fair 2026 is a community-driven initiative of Saint Paul University that brings together students, researchers, local organizations, activists, artists, and community members to explore sustainability, ecological justice, and collective action. This full-day event creates a space for dialogue, learning, creativity, and connection, highlighting local efforts that are actively shaping more just and sustainable futures.

## FEAST OF ST. JOSEPH BAKE SALE

The Oblate Associates invite you to a Feast of St. Joseph Bake Sale on Sunday, **March 22** after the 10:30am Mass at St. Joseph's Parish, 151 Laurier. Proceeds will be shared between St. Joseph's Parish and the Oblate Kenyan Missions. All are welcome to contribute and purchase baking.

## THE MESSAGE OF POPE LEO XIV FOR LENT

Dear brothers and sisters,  
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. Every path towards conversion begins by allowing the word of God to touch our hearts and welcoming it with a docile spirit. Read the [full message here](#).

## ARCHDIOCESE LENT PAGE

You can find many resources on the Archdiocese's Lent page on their website: <https://ottawacornwall.ca/len/>

## SONGS FOR THE SUPPER TABLE

[Songs for the Supper Table](#) is an annual fundraising concert supporting St. Joe's Supper Table, a community meal ministry of St. Joseph's Parish in the Archdiocese of Ottawa-Cornwall. Hosted by the Ottawa Regional Youth Choir, this inspiring evening of music brings the community together to support those in need. Come support this worthy cause on Sunday, **March 8** at 3pm, St. Joseph's parish hall, 174 Wilbrod Ave. Tickets by donation.

## BUILDING BRIDGES BY LISTENING TO THE SPIRIT

Can faith still guide our deepest decisions — especially when the road is unclear? At a time when many search for meaning beyond material success, Edwina MacDonald, executive director of the Anishinabe Spiritual Centre and member of the Michipicoten First Nation, offers a living answer. Her choices don't follow prestige or convenience. She follows the Spirit — trusting its movement. "I've always looked for a way to bridge that divide between the Indigenous and Catholic worlds," she explains. "I feel it is my vocation." Read [the full article here](#).

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**Contact us today!**

## Holy Canadian Martyrs Parish

### Volunteer with us!

Canadian Martyrs is proud of its vibrant and active community, with many different committees and ministries currently serving the needs of our parish and neighbourhood.

Volunteers come from many backgrounds, all ages, and interests. All we ask is that you have a positive attitude and a willingness to learn.

If you are interested in learning more, or would like to be connected with a particular group, you can:

- Browse the volunteer binder on the Welcome Table in the church foyer
- Check out "Our Ministries and Committees" page at [www.canadianmartyrs.org](http://www.canadianmartyrs.org)
- Reach out to the church office: [office@canadianmartyrs.org](mailto:office@canadianmartyrs.org)



## Parish Committees and Ministries

Altar Servers	Liturgy Committee
Children's Liturgy	Mass Coordinators
Communications	Music Ministry
Development and Peace	Parish Pastoral Council
Eucharistic Ministers	Pastoral Care Team
Faith Formation	Prayer of the Faithful
Finance Council	RCIA Team
507 Sandwich Club	Refugee Settlement Committee
Greeters	Sacramental Preparation
Hospitality Team	Synod Committee
Laudato Si' Team	Truth & Reconciliation Committee
Lectors	Ushers
Liturgical Environment	Youth Group

*Which ministry is calling you?*



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.

**PARISH REGISTRATION:** The registration form is available on the Welcome Table in the church foyer or can be accessed at <http://canadianmartyrs.org/register/>.

**DONATIONS:** Forms are available on the Welcome Table in the church foyer if you wish to make donations through direct deposit. If you wish to donate via credit card through Canada Helps, [please click here](#). Please call or email the office if you would like a box of offering envelopes. Thank you!

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

**BAPTISM PREPARATION:** Please contact the office to schedule a baptism.

**MARRIAGE PREPARATION:** Please contact the office to set up an interview with our pastor. It is recommended that the first contact be a minimum of 6 months before the wedding.

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES:** The minutes of Parish Pastoral Council meetings can be [found here](#). The Pastoral Plan 2025-2030 can be [found here](#). These documents are also on the Welcome Table in the church foyer.

**FOOD DONATIONS:** Non-perishable food items for the Centretown Community 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 the outer coloured bags and put them in the baskets under the table in the hall near the breezeway.

**507 SANDWICH CLUB:** If you would like to donate towards the sandwich ingredients, [please click here](#) (choose 507 Sandwich Club fund). If you would like to volunteer, please contact the office.