

St. Vital Catholic Parish
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Pastor: Fr. Les Drewicki
Deacon: Dan Ritchie (778-228-3633)
Secretary: Jeanette Gariepy

MARCH 31, 2024
EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday, (March 30th) 9:00 p.m. (English)

Sunday (March 31st) 9:00 a.m. (bilingual) 11:00 a.m. (English)

Weekday Masses

Tuesday, April 2nd & Wednesday, April 3rd @ 9:00 a.m.

Thursday, April 4th – Mass St. St. Andres School @ 9:00 a.m.

Friday, April 5th @ 9:00 a.m.



HOLY THURSDAY—March 28th: Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00 pm

Incense will be used at the end of Mass.

You are invited to visit the Blessed Sacrament until 10:00 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY—March 29th: (FASTING AND ABSTAINING FROM EATING MEAT)

Celebration of the Lord's Passion - Services at 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Outdoor way of the Cross (weather permitting) **2:00 p.m.** (starts at 50 Ave & 44 St.)

HOLY SATURDAY—March 30th: EASTER VIGIL - 9:00 p.m.

(NO 5:00 p.m. Saturday Mass)

Fr. Les will be in St. Vital Church to bless the Easter bread for our families on Saturday, March 30th @ 1:30 p.m.

EASTER SUNDAY MASSES March 31st - 9:00 am Mass 11:00 am Mass

Check out our website www.saintvitalparish.com and check it regularly for updates.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

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Please note that the Sacrament of Reconciliation will NOT be available as a scheduled time on Holy Saturday, March 30th.

Loan Balance February 28, 2024 \$429,021.62

The Parish Office is closed on Good Friday (March 29th) and Easter Monday (April 1st)

The Triduum (TRIH-du-um) is the time of the Church year when we celebrate the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The Triduum is somewhat like a three-day prayer marathon, and if you are a novice there may be some rituals that are unfamiliar to you. This guide will help you walk and pray through the liturgies of the Triduum. This three-day celebration begins with the Holy Thursday Mass and continues on Good Friday with the Liturgy of the Lord's Passion. At the end of this liturgy, we leave the church in silence, waiting to celebrate the glory of our Lord's resurrection. Then, on Saturday at sundown, the Church re-gathers to celebrate the final, and most grand moment of the Triduum: The Resurrection of our Lord during the Easter Vigil.

Holy Thursday ~ March 28th

The Mass on Holy Thursday is a time for Catholics to remember the Last Supper where Jesus and his apostles gathered to celebrate Passover. At this celebration, the three oils blessed and consecrated by the Archbishop at the Chrism Mass will be presented to be used in the parish for sacraments over the next year. Two other ritual actions stand out:

Washing of the Feet ~ At the Last Supper, Jesus took a basin and a towel, got down on his hands and knees and washed the feet of all of his apostles. After this action, he commanded the apostles, "I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do" (John 13:15). Just as Jesus has been a servant to his apostles, so the apostles must go out into the world and be servants to everyone around them. The action of washing one another's feet at Mass reminds us that God calls us first and foremost to be servants to others in our daily lives.

The Celebration of the Eucharist and the Eucharistic Procession ~ At the very first Last Supper, Jesus also instituted the Eucharist for the Church. At the conclusion of the Holy Thursday celebration, there is no concluding prayer. Once the celebration of the Eucharist is completed, there is a Eucharistic Procession, reminding us of Jesus' time in the garden of Gethsemane when he prayed so fervently through the night. The entire community is invited to join in this procession and then join in the silent prayer and adoration until 10 p.m. At 10:00 p.m. The monstrance will be taken to the Altar of Repose.

Good Friday ~ March 29th

In this solemn celebration, which is NOT a Mass, we remember the Passion and Death of Our Lord. The service is marked by several important rituals including the proclaiming of the Passion according to John, the Veneration of the Cross, an extended form of General Intercessions, and finally, the distribution of Communion (reserved from the Holy Thursday celebration of the Eucharist). The Veneration of the Cross ~ It seems strange that in the Good Friday liturgy Catholics choose to venerate, or show reverence to, the very instrument that was used to crucify Jesus.

The Veneration of the Cross reminds us that through this Cross, the Glory of the resurrection emerges. So, on Good Friday, we come forward to show our great reverence and respect for the Cross. People have various

traditions when they approach the Cross. Sometimes they kiss the Cross, kneel before the Cross, or even just touch it in some fashion. As you participate in this ritual, just take in the experience of the gathered community coming so close to such a tragic, but integral, event in our faith.

The General Intercessions ~ On Good Friday the entire Church around the world offers the same 10 prayers intentions as a reminder of our universality. These include praying for the unity of all Christians, for the Jewish people, for people who do not believe in Christ or in God, for people in public office, and for people who are suffering or facing difficult times.

The Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday ~ March 30th

Easter actually begins a few hours before the clock strikes midnight on Sunday at Saturday's Vigil service, which is traditionally held after sunset. The celebration of the Easter Vigil tells the whole story of our salvation - from creation to resurrection and beyond. Because of all the ritual moments, this service may last more than 2 hours. But don't let the length of the celebration detract you from participating! The Easter Vigil begins outside the darkened church with the lighting of the Easter Fire and Paschal Candle (the large candle that we will use throughout the year). The service also includes the singing of the *Exsultet* (the Easter Proclamation), the expanded *Liturgy of the Word* that traces time through Salvation History (nine readings and seven responsorial psalms) and the *Liturgy of Initiation* (where new people join the Church through baptism.) As the Church proclaims the resurrection of Christ, all of its normal functions (such as Mass, Communion, music and more) resume. After sunset, the Church explodes in joy and celebration of Jesus' resurrection. "This is the night Jesus rose from the dead!" proclaims the Church. And what a night it is!

Adapted from: Your Essential Guide to the Triduum: Taking you step-by-step through the Three-day Celebration of the Church by Julianne Wallace March 19, 2018

Divine Mercy Sunday ~ April 7th, 2024

"You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen Me, says the Lord; Blessed are those who have not seen Me, but still believe!" ~ Gospel of John

Divine Mercy Chaplet – 3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Prayed on ordinary rosary beads, The Chaplet of The Divine Mercy is an intercessory prayer that extends the offering of the Eucharist, so it is especially appropriate to use it after having received Holy Communion at Holy Mass. It may be said at any time, but our Lord specifically told St. Faustina to recite it during the nine days before the Feast of Mercy (the first Sunday after Easter). He then added: "By this Novena, (of Chaplets) I will grant every possible grace to souls." The eighth and final day of the Octave of Easter is celebrated as Divine Mercy Sunday. Though every second is filled with the mercy of God, this day is especially observed to recollect and acknowledge the mercy we receive from God. According to Saint Faustina, it is a day when the floodgates of mercy are opened wide and God lavishes us with more than we could hope for. Pope Saint Paul II put this celebration on the church's calendar in the year 2000 when he raised Sister Faustina to sainthood. In his message the Pope said, "Today my joy is truly great in presenting the life and witness of Sr. Faustina Kowalska to the whole Church as a gift of God for our time. By Divine Providence, the life of this humble daughter of Poland was completely linked with the history of the 20th century, the century we have just left behind." Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His steadfast love endures forever; reads this Sunday's responsorial Psalm. God never fails to shower his love and mercy on all those who turn to Him. We get a glimpse of Divine Mercy in action in this Sunday's first reading. The early Christians believed in Divine Mercy and were so filled with the Holy Spirit that, "no one claimed private ownership" rather, "everything they owned was held in common." In the Gospel, the apostle Thomas says that he must have some proof before he can believe this incredible truth of Jesus' resurrection. Perhaps he wanted to claim to the world during his apostolic journeys, that he had seen the risen Lord and testified himself, and that his preaching was authentic. On this Divine Mercy Sunday, let us thank God for the abundance of His gift that He bestows upon us. Let us turn our eyes toward our merciful Lord and be open to all that He wishes to bequeath on us.

NO GIFT CARD SALES EASTER WEEKEND

PLEASE NOTE: There will be no grocery or gift cards sold the Easter weekend, March 30th/31st. If you will be needing cards, please purchase ahead of time. Buy your grocery cards and support Our Lady of the Hill Knights of Columbus. We thank you for your consideration.

Grandparents Gather To Pray

The first Thursday of each month, (**April 4th, May 2nd and June 6th**) grandparents are invited to meet in the **Conference Room (Parish Office) at 9:45 a.m.** to pray the Rosary for our children and grandchildren and to spend time in fellowship. For more information call Irma Jean Campbell at 780-737-7989

COR - Gathering for Men in the Parish, COR is a gathering of men to engage in prayer, faith formation and fellowship. The next gathering will take place Sunday, April 7th, beginning at 7 p.m. Participants will need to bring a bible and a rosary. (If you don't have one, one will be provided.) The gathering will be held at the home of Louis Kloster, four miles due east of St. Vital Church (100, 50511 Range Road 234). Just drive four miles due east of the church on 50 Avenue (Township Road 505). When you reach the T intersection at Range Road 234, turn left and drive north for 400 meters. The first subdivision on the right is Arbor Estates. (Look for the sign.) Turn into Arbor Estates. Lot 100. Come and see what COR is all about

Scent Free Makes Sense



We would like the parish to be sensitive to folks with allergies and refrain from wearing perfume and aftershave at Mass. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

We are blessed that you have chosen to join us in worship and ministry here at St. Vital's. If you are new or have not registered, please complete a Registration Form available at entrance of the church, and drop it off at the office or in the collection basket during the weekend Masses. God bless you.

CALLED TO PROTECT

The next "Safe Environment and Abuse Prevention" training session, "Called to Protect", is scheduled for: **Sat., April 13, 2024 from 9:30 am - 12:00 pm in person at St. Michael Parish (5105 - 45A St., Leduc).** To register, call St. Michael Parish - 780.986.3253 **This is a requirement for all volunteers and employees in the Archdiocese 18 years and older.**

ST. VITAL CWL BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN- REMINDER: Please remember to return your baby bottles in support our pro-life cause this year: the OUR LADY OF GRACE program, which is offered by Edmonton Catholic Schools, to support pregnant and parenting teens, both female and male, while they are completing school. There is a box to receive the bottles under the table as you enter the church. Thank you so much to those who have already returned their baby bottles! Any questions, please message Megan Testa at 780-278-6253 or meganmtesta@gmail.com



