**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place 1st, 2nd & 4th Friday’s during lent from 9:30 am to 6:30 pm. followed by Stations of the Cross.**

**Sign up sheets in Adoration binder**

**DAY OF CONFESSIONS - Tuesday, March 3rd**

**Fr. Arlan will be available to hear confessions in his office from 10:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.**

**Parish Lenten Mission** with Father Joseph Jacobson

Theme: Why Everyone Need Mary

***March 7th & 8th*** at weekend Masses, & retreat at 7:00 p.m.

***March 8th -Mass at 9:00 a.m. talk @ 7:00 p.m.*** “Mary Through the Ages”

***March 9th – Mass @ 9:00 a.m. retreat @ 7:00 p.m.***

“Mary, the Best Evangelist in the World Today”

***March 10th*** @ 7 pm “Mary and Confessions”

**St. Vital Parish Penitential Service:** (part of the Mission), March 10th , 7pm

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Ordinary Collections | Pay Down the Debt | Church Maintenance & Repairs | Together We Serve |  |
|  | **2020 Budget** | **$3,750** | **$1,000** | **$375** | **$270** |  |
| 23 Feb | Actual | 2,620.00 | 400.00 | 255.00 | 50.00 |  |

**POOR MAN’S SUPPER :**

*To bring awareness of the local poverty and proceeds will go to assist those in need.*

Thursday, March 19th, 2020 • 5 pm to 7 pm • Church Basement • $5 per PERSON

Paroisse St. Vital Parish will host a ‘Poor Man’s Supper’, open to everyone and will be held in the church basement. This meal will consist of homemade soup(s), bread, fruit, water, juice, tea & coffee.

The cost for this supper is $5 per person. Babes in arm are free. The meal will be served as a ‘come and go’ event between the hours of 5pm and 7pm on Thursday, March 19th

STAR Catholic takes pride in the work we do to live up to the name of St. Thomas Aquinas — our patron saint and the saint of students and Catholic schools. This work is guided by our vision statement: “Souls seeking Christ on a journey of faith, learning, and love”. Our success would not be possible without you — our wonderful parish community — or without parents, families, local organizations, and — of course — our incredible students and dedicated staff. We sincerely thank you for your continued support, and we are excited to celebrate this very special occasion with you.

**STAR** **Catholic School Division** is marking our **25th anniversary,** and we want to celebrate with you! ***Please join us after the 11:00 a.m. mass on Sunday,*** **March 1** ***for cake and refreshments.***

**Reminder: Daylight Saving Time** begins on March 8. Spring forward. Don’t forget to move your clocks forward an hour before bed on March 7.

**Sacrament Preparation**

Confirmation Class #4 – Monday, March 2nd @ 7:00 p.m.

First Communion Class 1A – Wednesday, March 4th @ 6:00 p.m.

First Communion Class 1B – Wednesday, March 11th @ 7:00 p.m.

**World Day of Prayer — Friday, March 6**

The World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement that brings together Christians of many traditions to observe a common day of prayer on the first Friday of March. The day has its origins in the 19th century, when Christian women in North America started to be involved in missions at home and in other parts of the world. Each year the focus is on a certain country. This year’s focus will be on Zimbabwe. The World Day of Prayer is coordinated by the Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada. Venue

The **Ecumenical World Day of Prayer** service is on **Friday, March 6 at 7 p.m**. at the **Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 4902 66 St.(**west end of 50Ave.).

**Mayor’s Prayer Breakfast – March 21, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. at Coloniale Gold Course**

In partnership with St. Vital Catholic Church, Eaglemont Christian Church, Living Hope Lutheran Brethren Church and Beaumont Community Church.

Tickets ($5.00) can be purchased from the participating churches or City Hall

**Month of March** is a month where the Church calls each one of us through the Season of Lent for the three Pillars: Fasting, Prayer, and Almsgiving; to give ourselves to others and to Christ totally; and to renew our lives to celebrate the Lord’s passion,suffering, death and resurrection. Have a spirit –filled Season of Lent.

**Liturgical Schedule for Lent**

**Way of the Cross** – 7 pm all Fridays during Lent - Feb. 28, March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3

**Archdiocesan Day of Confession**: March 3, 10am - 3pm (Fr. Arlan’s office)

**Parish Lenten Mission** with Father Joseph Jacobson on the topic of “Mary.”

March 7th & 8th at weekend Masses,

March 8th , 9th & 10th @ 7 pm

**Parish Penitential Service:** (part of the Mission), March 10th , 7pm

**Holy Thursday Mass:** April 9, 7 pm

**Good Friday**: Outdoor Way of the Cross 2:00 p.m. & Service at 3pm

**Easter Vigil:** April 11, 9 pm

**Easter Sunday:** April 12, 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

**LENTEN PRAYER OF ST. EPHREM**

O Lord and Master of my life,

Grant that I may not be infected

with the spirit of slothfulness and faintheartedness,

 with the spirit of ambition and vain talking.

 Grant instead to me your servant,

the spirit of purity and humility,

the spirit of patience and love.

 O Lord and King,

Grant me the grace of being aware of my own sins

and of not judging my brother or sister;

For You are blessed forever. Amen.

 **The Meaning of Lent**

Lent is the 40 day period in the church calendar that begins on Ash Wednesday and finishes on Holy Thursday. Lent is about denying yourself of something that you enjoy in order to be reminded that it’s God that you depend on in life, that it’s your heavenly Father that you most need in life - not facebook or your favorite food. Lent mirrors the 40 days Jesus spent fasting in the wilderness. He voluntarily removed himself from the pleasures of life and company of people so that he could draw close to God, hear from Him, and prepare Himself for what was to come - an intense period of public ministry culminating in death and an extraordinary resurrection.

**Pope Francis’ Ash Wednesday Address**,

2020 Lent is a time to remove all distractions and bitterness from one’s life in order to better hear God and those who suffer silently and need help. It is the right time to turn off the television and open the Bible. It is the time to disconnect from cellphones and connect ourselves to the Gospel. It is a time to give up useless words, idle chatter, rumours, gossip and speak intimately with the Lord.

Just as Jesus spent time in the desert, Catholics must spend Lent creating similarly sparse surroundings and a “healthy environment of the heart.” The desert is a place to get away from the racket that surrounds us. It is the absence of words in order to make room for another word, the Word of God, who like a light breeze, caresses the heart.

 For Christians, the desert isn’t a place of death, but of life, because being in silence, in dialogue with the Lord, gives us life again. Lent is a time to draw near to those who are alone, abandoned, poor or elderly and anyone else in need of help.

 Prayer, fasting and acts of mercy — this is the path of the Lenten desert, because it is only in the desert that one finds the way from death to life. Let us follow Jesus into the desert and with him our deserts will bloom. desert is a journey of charity to the weakest. Prayer, fasting, works of mercy: behold the journey in the Lenten desert.

Lenten Book Study

This Lent we will ponder the Universal Call to Holiness

**Come join us to discuss Pope Francis’ Apostolic Exhortation *Gaudete et Exsultate* a meditation on how to respond to Christ’s invitation to be saints: to “Rejoice and be glad”.**Tuesday, March 3 - Chapter 1 The Call to Holiness

Tuesday, March 10 - Chapter 2 Two Subtle Enemies of Holiness

Tuesday, March 17 - Chapter 3 In the Light of the Master

Tuesday, March 24 - Chapter 4 Signs of Holiness in Today’s World

Tuesday, March 31 - Chapter 5 Spiritual Combat, Vigilance and Discernment

We will meet at 1:30 to 3:00 at Belinda Halbac h’s home. For more information contact Belinda 780-236-0057 or beagood68@gmail.com