Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 13th **†**Darwin Doloque

Sunday, February 14 **†** Einar Strand

Saturday, February 20 Réal Bérubé

Sunday, February 21 **†**Ivan Vukovic

**† = Repose of the Soul** **SI = Special Intention**

**The Pope’s Monthly Intention February**: Violence Against Women We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.

**Ash Wednesday**, February 17th Masses are scheduled for 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

1. Masks must be worn by all the faithful as they approach to receive the ashes.
2. b. For the imposition of ashes, the faithful are to bow their heads to allow the presiding priest to sprinkle ashes on their heads. Note that the imposition of ashes this year is to be done by sprinkling ashes on the crown of the head, without touching the forehead of the faithful, and in silence as the formula of imposition is said to everyone from the sanctuary. This way of imposing ashes is allowed by the Church as is evidenced in the liturgies of Ash Wednesday presided by the Holy Father.
3. The same protocols that are followed regarding safe social distancing during communion procession must be followed during the procession for the imposition of ashes.
4. Please register ON-LINE to attend.

**ASH WEDNESDAY HISTORY**

Ash Wednesday is one of the most popular and important holy days in the liturgical calendar because it marks the beginning of Lent, a season of fasting and prayer. Ash Wednesday takes place 46 days before Easter Sunday, and is chiefly observed by Latin Catholics (although not necessarily by Easter Catholics, like Ukrainian Catholics, as they have their own rich liturgical traditions for Lent), although many other Christians observe it too. Ash Wednesday comes from the ancient Jewish tradition of penance and fasting. The practice included in ancient times the wearing of ashes on the head. The ashes symbolize the dust from which God made us. As the priest applies the ashes to a person’s forehead, he speaks the words: “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” Writings from the Second-century Church refer to the wearing of ashes as a sign of penance. Priests administer ashes during Mass and all are invited to accept the ashes as a visible symbol of penance. Even non-Christians and the excommunicated are welcome to receive the ashes. The ashes are made from blessed palm branches, taken from the previous year’s Palm Sunday Mass. Ashes are a symbol of penance made sacramental by the blessing of the Church, and they help us develop a spirit of humility and sacrifice.

**Penitential Service – March 16th at 7:00 p.m.**

**Silver Rose Prayer Service**

**March 25, 2021**

The Our Lady of the Hill Beaumont Knights of Columbus is hosting a very special event on Thursday, March 25, the Feast of the Annunciation of Mary. Please see attached file for history and more information.

**LENT 2021**

This year lent is from Wednesday, February 17 to Saturday, April 3. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Easter Vigil. Lent lasts for 40 days. If we count the days between the above dates, we will find that there are 46 days. Even though, Sundays are part of Lent, they are not counted for fasting, because Sundays are celebrations of the death and resurrection of Jesus. They are automatically considered days of joy and so they are not considered days of fasting. The three disciplines of Lent are prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

**PRAYER** – always pray the Rosary. If we search [www.catholic](http://www.catholic).org we will find a lot of information on prayer, such as, the Rosary Mysteries and more.

**FASTING** – do not eat meat during the days of fasting – Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and all Fridays during lent. We may also abstain everyday, from certain foods that might not be necessary for our well being.

**ALMSGIVING** – this discipline is as important as prayer and fasting. During Lent, giving should be exercised as with extra fervour. Not just by making cash donations, but by lightening the load that we all carry, in our homes. Lent should be a time of prayer, reflection and of reorganizing all aspects of our lives: Religious, social, familial, and life in general.

**Registration is available online for Holy Week**

**NO COLLECTION OF OLD PALMS THIS YEAR**

Due to Covid restrictions, we will not be collecting old palms this year. Please DO NOT bring them to the church. You can either store them until 2022 or burn them and throw the ashes in your flowerpots or yard. Thank you for your cooperation.

Mass Registration Registrations take place ONLINE! Monday 8 AM – Friday 8 AM To register visit: St. Vital Parish website • Click on the Mass time of your choice • Enter the information required for sign in • Mark it on your calendar & plan to arrive at least 15 min. prior to the start of Mass. If you registered for mass and have to cancel please cancel your registration which would possibly allow other people to attend.

**K of C Food Drive**

The Knights of Columbus will hold its monthly food drive in support of the Leduc Food Bank the weekend of February 27 & 28TH .  Please drop your donation in the bin in the Church vestibule.  Thanks for your help.

**Baptism Preparation Course**

Are you expecting a child in the near future? Consider taking Baptism Preparation now while you are waiting for the birth of your son or daughter. **The classes are for parents and sponsors (godparents).**

Attending now eliminates the need to find baby-sitters, rearrange feeding schedules etc. plus it adds to the joyful anticipation of your new arrival. Parents wishing to register for the **next courses** which will be held on **Monday Feb. 22nd at 7:00 pm.** Please call the parish office to register**.**

**Stewardship Corner *6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Weekend of February 13/14, 2021***

The fate of a leper is a great tragedy at any time and place. In Jesus’ time, lepers were considered condemned, part of the plagues God sent as punishment. They were cast out of society and abandoned. Saint Mark’s Gospel reveals the unthinkable. Jesus reaches out and touches a leper. He risks catching the contagious disease and heals the man. As the Gospel story teaches, no one is abandoned by Christ. Are there those in our society or in our personal lives for whom we ascribe no hope, who we have abandoned, treated like lepers? Or as Christ’s stewards of our sisters and brothers, do we risk reaching out and touching those who may and touching those who may seem to us to be “unclean” or not worthy of our time or attention?

**Hear the Word of God and Do It**

**Living in the Word** — When we have encountered Jesus Christ and been transformed by his mercy and love, we naturally want to tell others about it and invite them to be one with us in a community of joy!

The making known to others of what God has done for the world in Jesus Christ, and for each of us in our own individual lives, is what is meant by giving witness.

*(Archbishop Smith, Pastoral Letter, September 14, 2017):* [***caedm.ca/letter***](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001kp2K6Tq-VrHta7UziocfHFRAZSe3hQUGz7Xyuv8_LapmibzOp2FL7oulJ95Yu5EN2Nfy7hm6Txa_cwZi6kp8yNInil6yKkKQVyE2kUueogr1ADNzxpne5rI9PbH31fTAVSu3hoQnGEFip9lMvJZ8mw==&c=qQ1M8CyWS6QyTDzOn3J8GAXfBnWjKOvj712vhT_d6W-p7qlDozNJrA==&ch=WCUDz6o1m0TBshBQ1N4PbPkypcIg5k5rTi46RY36TB7T00ip8RT_KA==)

**POPE ESTABLISHES WORLD DAY OF GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY** Pope Francis announced the establishment of a World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly as a reminder of the important role they play as a link between generations. The pope said the day will be celebrated every year on the fourth Sunday of July to coincide with the feast of Sts. Joachim and Anne, Jesus’ grandparents. The first celebration of this day will be on July 25th.

**Lenten video series produced by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops.**

Beginning on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 17, the [Journey through Lent](https://www.cccb.ca/evangelization-catechesis-catholic-education/video-resources/journey-through-lent/#_blank)series offers an introduction to the season and reflections on the Gospel readings of each Sunday. Each Monday, the link for the upcoming Sunday celebration will be released. The video series is available [in English](https://www.cccb.ca/evangelization-catechesis-catholic-education/video-resources/journey-through-lent/#_blank) and [in French](https://www.cccb.ca/fr/evangelisation-catechese-et-education/ressources-video/cheminer-ensemble-durant-le-temps-du-careme/#_blank). It will also be shared on the [Grandin](https://grandinmedia.ca/video-series-stop-look-and-listen-in-your-journey-through-lent/#_blank) and [CAEDM](https://caedm.ca/PastoralScene/entryid/839/video-series-stop-look-and-listen-in-your-journey-through-lent#_blank) websites.

**2020 PARISH STATISTICS**

Baptisms 13

Confirmations 30

Marriages 4

First Communion 57

Deaths 8

