**February 20, 2022**

[Sidebar Title]

**SEVENTH Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Sign-up schedule for proclaimers for the month of March weekends is at the back of the church. Please sign up for a mass you will be attending.**

**Weekday masses**

**Weekday Masses March 1st-4th at 9:00 a.m.**

**Weekend Mass Times**

Saturday 5:00 p.m. (English) Sunday 9:00 a.m. (bilingual) 11:00 a.m. (English)

Reconciliation – Saturday 4:15 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

**ADORATION on Friday, March 4th (9:30 a.m.-4:15 p.m.)**

Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 26th – **†**Leonard & Evaline Labonte

Sunday, February 27th – **†**Dr. Ron Breault

Tuesday, March 1st – **†**Dr. Ron Breault

Thursday, March 3rd –**†** Paul Baker

Friday, March 4th –**†**Dollard Gobeil

Saturday, March 5th – **SI** Madeleine Berube

Sunday, March 6th – **SI** Students & Staff of Black Gold Schools in our Community

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

***Please pray for the people of Ukraine as they suffer an unprovoked and unjustified attack by Russian military forces.***

**YOUR OLD PALMS:** Because old palms are ‘sacramentals’, they cannot be thrown away. They must either be burned or buried to be disposed of correctly. Please return your palms to the church at your earliest convenience— they can be left in the basket at the back of the church to be burned and used for ashes on Ash Wednesday, March 2

**ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES**

This year, Ash Wednesday is on March 2, 2022 and marks the beginning of Lent.

**Ashes will be distributed on Wednesday Masses at 9:00 a.m. & 7:000 p.m.**

It is a day of **Fasting and Abstinence**. Fasting (one full meal and two smaller meals) applies to those 18-59. This does not apply to those who are pregnant, sick or elderly. Abstinence from meat applies to those 14 and older.

Lent is a time for penance and repentance, for almsgiving and prayer, for working to change attitudes that are not pleasing to God.

**PENITENTIAL SERVICE – TUESDAY, MARCH 22 AT 6:30 P.M.**

**Check out our website and check it regularly!**[**www.saintvitalparish.com**](http://www.saintvitalparish.com/)

**ARCHDIOCESE PLEDGES SUPPORT FOR UKRAINIAN PEOPLE**

Dear Brother and Sisters in Christ, I am sharing this information with you on behalf of The Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Edmonton, and in prayerful support for the Ukrainian people. The Ukrainian Catholic Church in Canada has partnered with the Canadian branch of the Papal charity, The Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA), to provide immediate humanitarian support for the people of Ukraine. Donations to CNEWA will help equip local Caritas centres to assist struggling families, including those who are displaced and in desperate need for food, shelter, medical attention, and more. Please pray. Stay informed. And if you are able, please consider donating. Online: http://eeparchy.com/donate and select “Aid to Humanitarian Crisis” or Mail: The Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Edmonton, 9645 -108 Avenue NW, Edmonton, Alberta, T5H 1A3. Payable to: Eparchy of Edmonton Memo Line: Aid to Humanitarian Crisis Let us pray for peace in Ukraine.

God bless,

On behalf of Archbishop Richard Smith and Bishop David Motiuk, Rev. Jim Corrigan, Vicar General

On **March 5, 2022 at 1pm** we will be holding a **Called to Protect**.  This is a requirement for all volunteers.   The workshop will take place over Zoom.  It will be approximately 2.5 hours long.

Below is a link to the registration form.

Please fill it out as soon as possible.  <https://forms.gle/tiNcfzA2d9n6p4Ht7>

If you have any questions, please contact Jeanne McKay Rowan, MDiv.

St. Michael Parish 780-994-1663.

**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,** **March 14th at 7:00 pm** please call the parish office**.**

**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 26/27**.  Please drop your donation in the bin in the Church vestibule.

Thanks to all the Parishioners who have been supporting this effort over the months.  The needy of Leduc County thank you as well.

Our Lady of the Hill Knights of Columbus will be selling Sobey and No Frills gift cards after all masses on the weekend.

People are asked to exercise respect, charity, and kindness in respecting people's comfort level, especially during these steps of transition.

**Step 1** came to effect on **February 9, 2022.** If hospitalization numbers continue to trend downwards, the government anticipates **Step 2** to begin on **March 1, 2022.** You can access the complete details on the 3-step implementation of the government from <https://www.alberta.ca/covid-19-public-health-actions.asp>

**Places of Worship**

Effective February 9

Capacity limits on places of worship removed.

**Physical Distancing**

Physical distancing of 2 metres between households is encouraged. patrons where possible.

 • With physical distancing encouraged and not mandated, people will have to determine for themselves proper physical distancing.

**Masks**

Mandatory restriction - Effective February 9

**Masking are mandatory in all indoor public spaces, workplaces, and places of worship.**

 However, masking requirements will be removed for:

* + children 12 and under in all settings as of February 14
	+ children and youth in schools for any age as of February 14
* For fully vaccinated people who have just completed the 5-day isolation and no longer have symptoms, masks must be worn at all times outside of home for an additional 5 days.
* Employees must mask in all indoor work settings, except while alone in work stations.
* Masks should fit well and be of high quality. People at risk of severe outcomes should wear medical masks when in settings with people outside of their household.

**Weddings and funerals**

* No capacity limit if the ceremony is at a place of worship. • While there is no capacity limit in place, physical distancing of 2 metres between households is encouraged..

**Indoor and Outdoor Social Gatherings**

In Step 1, the parish hall is not to be used for social events.

**Livestreamed Sunday Mass**

We invite the faithful to join celebrations of the Mass ‘virtually,’ via video livestreaming from St. Joseph’s Basilica with Archbishop Smith. Sunday Mass at the Basilica is livestreamed at 10:30 a.m. each week.

Find it on: YouTube at: youtube.com/channel/UCtU5UvOSyT2ZK5PivdhojSw, or on Facebook at: facebook.com/yegbasilica/live, or on Telus Optik TV: Channel 877

The church will be open every ***Wednesday evening from 8 - 9 PM*** for anyone to come spend an hour in prayer, the Blessed Sacrament is not exposed during this time. The evening opens with a ***group rosary***, followed by ***private prayer*** for the remainder of the time. A wonderful opportunity to pray in unison, with a special focus on all marriages, all children and all families. All are welcome!

**Are you registered at St. Vital’s?**

Being a registered member of the parish makes it much easier for us to help you, we are better equipped to serve you & respond to your needs. Please do not assume that you are automatically registered if your child has completed Sacramental Preparation here. To register please fill out a registration available on our website.

**Help keep our Parish database up to date! Let us know if:**

-you moved or you are planning a move

-you cancelled your landline phone and have a cell phone

-you changed your email

-you have a new addition to your family

 **K of C Keep Christ In Christmas Coloring Contest Winner**

Age Group winners of our local Knights of Columbus "Keep Christ In Christmas" coloring contest were submitted to our Alberta/NWT State Council for further competition.  We are pleased to announce that David Urda's artwork (Ages 11 - 14 years) won the State competition for which he received a $100.00 prize.  David is the son of parishioners Lubo and Katarina Urda.  His artwork has now been forwarded to our Supreme Council in New Haven, Connecticut for judging North America-wide.  Congratulations, David!!

The Catholic Bishops of Canada have announced an **Indigenous Reconciliation Fund** to advance healing and reconciliation initiatives. The Archdiocese is committed to working with the bishops of Canada to meet the goal of securing $30 million over a five year period.

We have entered an era of reconciliation with the Indigenous peoples and this is an important step in our journey. Funds raised locally will remain in the area and will support culture and language revitalization, education and community building and healing and reconciliation for communities and families.

For the faithful who wish to contribute to the Indigenous **Reconciliation Fund**, there will be two **special collections** across the Archdiocese on **March 5/6 and March 12/13** weekends. There will be envelopes for this purpose at the parish or through the on-line donation link found at <https://caedm.ca/IndigenousRelations>.

We are committed to continue the journey with the First Nations, Métis and Inuit Peoples of this land. For more information, please contact the Archdiocese website caedm.ca or visit [www.cccb.ca](http://www.cccb.ca).

**RETROUVAILLE - REDISCOVER YOUR MARRIAGE COMMITMENT**

It is for couples with marriages that are struggling, not communicating well, and those who are considering marriage separation or divorce. It is also for those who are already separated or divorced that want marriage help. Some couples come to Retrouvaille during the initial signs of a marriage problem. Other couples are in a state of despair and hopelessness when they attend the program. Some couples have been married for many years, while others have been married only a short time and encountered trouble.

The next Retrouvaille program is **March 18 - 20, 2022.** Call 587.598.4357, email info@helpourmarriage.ca or check the Retrouvaille website at retrouvaille.org

**Stewardship Corner 8 th Sunday in Ordinary Time Weekend of February 26/27, 2022 “**For every tree is known by its own fruit.” Jesus states this principle in today’s Gospel reading to illustrate a parallel stewardship principle in our spiritual lives. Just as a good tree bears good fruit and a bad tree bears bad fruit, so also the good steward produces good and an evil person evil. This is no coincidence. Our words and actions are outward expressions of what lies in our hearts. It is out of the “store of goodness in his heart” that the good person produces good and out of the “store of evil in his heart” that the evil person produces evil. A reflection for the week: How are our words and actions accurately reflecting what lies deep in our hearts?

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYERS – MARCH 4TH**

The World Day of Prayer is observed annually on the first Friday in March. It is an invitation for Christians to pause and prayer together ecumenically. This recalls our Christian responsibility to be sensitive to the signs of the times so that we might bring a more authentically Christian dimension to the concerns of or world, our country, our community. Sponsored by the Women’s Inter-church Council of Canada and its national counterparts around the world, it is celebrated in approximately 165 countries.

**Star of the North Retreat Centre,** [**www.starofthenorth.ca**](http://www.starofthenorth.ca)**, 780-459-551**
**The Story of Ruth: Twelve Moments in Every Woman’s Life** with artist and author Gisele Bauche. Six Wednesday evening sessions from 7:00 – 9:00 pm starting March 2. Online or in-house cost: $120. [www.starofthenorth.ca/ruth](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CJeanette%5CDownloads%5Cwww.starofthenorth.ca%5Cruth)

**Aurora Living: Formation Through Word & Creation.** Our upcoming spring module is ***Leadership: Empowered for Service***and will feature contributions from Graydon Nicholas (former Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick), Ron Rolheiser, Joan Chittister, Dr. Ray Aldred, Becky Bonham and others. Join a community at the intersection of faith & contemporary issues: creation care, social justice & reconciliation. Opening retreat: April 1-3, 2022. [www.starofthenorth.ca/leadership](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CJeanette%5CDownloads%5Cwww.starofthenorth.ca%5Cleadership)

**YOUTH/YOUNG ADULTS RETREAT**

“But when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on earth?” - Luke 18:8

**St. Theresa’s Parish Youth Ministry** is hosting a **1 day-retreat on Saturday, March 5, 2022** from **9:00 am to 6:00 pm.** Theme: Why God is asking FAITH from us? What are the indulgences and why do we need them? Why will we have a 2nd Judgment at the end of time, when we have already been judged at our death?

Speaker: Fr. Matthew Hysell

Location: Providence Renewal Centre

Cost: $15 (includes a pizza at the end)

Please bring your lunch, Bible & journal.

Welcome: 16-35 y/o

Registration: Please email Santo at santo@strcp.com

**Prayer for Synod**

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name.

With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts;

Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder.

Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life

 and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.

All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time,

in communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever.

Amen.

The local news station was interviewing an 80-year-old lady because she had just gotten married for the fourth time. The interviewer asked her questions about her life, about what it felt like to be marrying again at age 80, and then about her new husband’s occupation. “He’s a funeral director,” she answered. “Interesting,” the newsman thought. He then asked her if she wouldn’t mind telling him a little about her first three husbands and what they did for a living. She paused for a few moments, needing time to reflect on all those years. After a short time, a smile came to her face and she answered proudly, explaining that she had first married a banker when she was in her early 20s, then a circus ringmaster when in her 40s, and a preacher when in her 60s, and now, in her 80s, a funeral director. The interviewer looked at her, quite astonished, and asked why she had married four men with such diverse careers. She smiled and explained, “I married one for the money, two for the show, three to get ready and four to go!”

Wife texts husband on a cold winter morning: “Windows frozen, won’t open.” Husband texts back: “Gently pour some lukewarm water over it and then lightly tap edges with hammer.” Wife texts back 10 minutes later: “Computer really messed up now.”

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