

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

Our e-mail address is: saintbasil@rogers.com

NEW WEBPAGE: stbasilparish.ca

March 29, 2015

HOLY WEEK

Mass Intentions this week

March 30 to April 5

- Monday 7 pm Mass of Christ at the Cathedral Basilica in Hamilton**
- Tuesday 6:30 pm** Lloyd Edwards
(Followed by Stations of the Cross)
- Wednesday 9:00 am** †Maria & Alvara Medeiros
Followed by Reconciliation until 10:30 am
7 pm Reconciliation with eight priests in attendance
- Thursday 7:00 pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper** +Adoration until 10 pm
- Friday 9:00 am Morning Prayer and Stations of the Cross**
11:00 am The Passion of the Lord (A briefer version for families with young children – but all are welcome.)
3:00 pm Solemn Celebration of the Passion of the Lord
- Saturday 9:00 am Morning Prayer**
11:00 am Blessing of Easter Foods
8:00 pm Easter Vigil
(this replaces the 5 pm Mass)
Social to follow in our Parish Hall
- Easter Sunday 7:30 am 9:30 am and 11:30 am**

MEDITATION

Today's Dramatic Gospel, invites us to reflect on the various players. As we look at their behavior, we may recognize patterns in our own lives and be drawn to walk in deeper faithfulness to Jesus.

Those in the crowd, it seems, are spiritually rootless and easily swayed by the mood of the moment. The chief priests, Mark tells us, are driven by jealousy, and Pilate by his desire to satisfy the crowd. Jesus, in contrast, journeys forward undistracted by the currents swirling around him and faithful to the end. The insightful declaration of the Roman centurion strikes a note of hope. Not inhibited by fear or tainted by self-interest, he recognizes who Jesus is. Then there is the grief-filled act of burial by those whose love for Jesus overcomes whatever fears they had.

Whenever we read the Passion narratives, we do well to recall how they were used murderously in past centuries and still are used sometimes to encourage prejudice and persecution of Jewish people. Thankfully, the Church has taken a clear stand against any such interpretation and encourages us all to do the same.

Today is also World Day of Youth. As young people gather to celebrate and reflect on their faith journey, let us give thanks for them and pray that they, like us, may be deeply inspired by the loving faithfulness of Jesus.

Pontifical Collection of Good Friday on April 3, 2015 for the Benefit of the Holy Land

The Pontifical Collection for the benefit of the Holy Places is scheduled this year on Good Friday April 3, 2015. As we respond to this appeal, the visit of Pope Francis in the Holy Land from May 24 to 26, 2014 vividly comes to mind and we revisit the words of Scripture that marked his prayer at the Holy Sepulcher: "I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has risen, as He said. Come; see the place where the Lord lay." (Matthew 28: 5-6)

The Pontifical Collection of Good Friday is a unique moment of loyalty to the Resurrection of the Christ Jesus and of solidarity with the Christians who are the "living stones" of those consecrated places. We are invited to this gesture of commemoration and unity for the benefit of the Holy Places and Christians so as to give a tangible form to the remembrance of the Christ Jesus and the constant support of our present day brothers and sisters!

With gratitude,  Gilles Bourdeau, OFM
Commissary of the Holy Land in Canada

DIOCESAN PRAYER CALENDAR	
Monday, March 30	Very Rev. John Van Hees
Tuesday, March 31	Rev. Msgr. Roger Formosi
Wednesday, April 1	Our Parish Community
Thursday, April 2	Rev. Peter Coughlin
Friday, April 3	Rev. Mervin Perera
Saturday, April 4	Rev. Msgr. Harvey Roach

OFFERTORY for last weekend was \$3005.00 plus our Electronic Fund Transfer for the month of March \$1,175.00 and our Budget expenses for the week \$5,580.00.

C.W.L. Annual Convention, May 29 – May 31, Delta Guelph Hotel & Conference Centre. Information packages and registration forms are at the back of the church by the C.W.L. bulletin board. Any member planning to attend must complete an individual registration form and return it to D. Kane (519-752-1331) no later than April 12th.

Easter Vigil – There will be a social in the parish hall immediately following the celebration. Anyone willing to share some of his/her Easter baking is asked to drop it off at the hall before the Vigil Mass at (8 p.m.)

CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES:

Looking ahead: Easter is fast approaching. Please participate in as many of our Holy Week Celebrations as possible.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated on Wednesday, April 1st at 7 pm.

Your retreat day is Saturday, April 18th, from 1 – 5pm in our Parish Hall.

There will **not** be an opportunity for Reconciliation on that day so you need to think about coming on any Saturday between 4 – 4:30 pm (except April 4th), or as mentioned above. Thank you. Come Holy Spirit!

WE NEED AN RCIA TEAM!

We have had several enquiries for RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) for the coming year. Joyce Young will meet with the prospective Candidates in the Spring. For the 2015-2016 year we need to form a team to assist in the formation of new Candidates. Please speak with Father Earl or contact the office if you would like to be involved in this ministry. It is very rewarding and you learn a lot! Thank you.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE – Save the date: Communion luncheon will be held on *Sunday, May 3rd after the 11:30 Mass.* Sister Lucy Godfrey will be our guest speaker. Tickets will be available beginning April 12th.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS – Council #13442 Meeting *Tuesday, April 14, 2015* in the rectory at 7:00 pm – following the 6:30 pm Mass.

Time for Two: Growing in Love

Do you ever wish you had more time as a couple? Are you surprised at how fast the days and months fly by? Do you wish you could take some time as a couple?

Then this is the weekend for you!

- 1 *Rediscover the **spark** that was there on your wedding day!*
- 1 *Rediscover the **best friend** you have had since you were married!*
- 1 *Give yourselves a **private** weekend away and discover each other anew.*

This may well be the most valuable two days you will spend together as a couple – enrich your love and knowledge of each other!!

The Marriage Encounter/Enrichment weekend will be held on **April 11/12** at the **St. Ignatius Retreat Centre in Deemerton, Ontario.** Contact the Family Ministry Office: 905-528-7988 ext. 2249 or familyministry@hamiltondiocese.com. Information and on line registration can be found on our website at www.hamiltondiocese.com.

Lay Associates Programme

Have you ever felt called to live out a Charism and Mission of a religious community by becoming its Lay Associate? If you have, the Canadian Province of the Congregation of the Resurrection (Resurrectionists) is inviting all men and women over 18 to consider ministering with us as an “Apostle of the Resurrection” by becoming a member of our Lay Associates Programme. Our initial informative meeting will take place on Saturday, April 11, 10 am – 1 p.m. (lunch included) at Resurrection College in Waterloo, 265 Westmount Rd. N. Please confirm your presence by April 3 at fr.michal.cr@gmail.com or 905-379-8299.

MUSIC TRIVIA FUNDRAISER

Proceeds go to the refurbishing of the 100 year old parish organ. Sat, April 11, tickets are \$5.00 and can be purchased after Masses at the back of church or at the door. Doors and bar will be open at 6:00 pm. A relaxed night of fun and laughter - no singing involved.

BARTENDER for MUSIC TRIVIA?

If you are, or know someone, that is a bartender would you/he/she be willing to volunteer your time for Music Trivia? It would be from 5:30 - 10:30 (tips would be yours). We would really appreciate your assistance as we are doing whatever we can to keep the expenses as low as possible. Call JoAnne at 519-754-4392 or email hoddj@yahoo.com by April 1.

CHRIST the KING SCHOOL PASTA DINNER

–catered by LaBottega, Pasta & Meatballs, Salad & Bun, **Thursday, April 23, 2015**, St. Basil's Hall, 50 Palace St., **First sitting:** Doors Open @ 4:45 pm Dinner 5:00 pm. **Second sitting:** Doors Open @ 6:00 pm dinner at 6:15 pm. Soft Drinks & Ice Cream Sandwiches will be sold for \$1.00. Family Ticket \$30.00 (2 adults & 2 children Grade 8 & under). Adults \$10.00, Children \$7.00.

SPRING BINGO at Blessed Sacrament School, Thursday, April 16, 2015 at Blessed Sacrament Church Hall, 181 King Street, Burford. Doors open @ 6:30 pm Bingo starts @ 7 pm. Snacks and Refreshments available. Must be 18 years of age or older.

An evening for social justice

Mining for Justice & Ethical Investment

: resource extraction with a conscience and putting our money where our beliefs are.

Where: St. George United Church

When: Wednesday, April 8, 2015

What: 6:30 Dessert, coffee and fellowship

7:00 Film: Defensora, a powerful story of Canadian mining interests and violations in Guatemala

7:30 Guests Gary Hawton and Lynn Thordarson from Meritas Ethical Investment Funds. All welcome.

PLEASE be advised **NO Line Dancing Wed. April 22 – NO Zumba Thur. April 23 at St. Mary's.** On **Wednesday, April 29th.** Line Dancing will be at St. Mary's, not St. Basil. Thank you.