

People Progress

Sunday Community

Feb 18, 2024

1st Sunday of Lent

E R Whelan

Thank you, Fr Jack Costello, for celebrating with us.

REFLECTION: by Bill and Lindsay

Welcome to the first Sunday of Lent.

When we were kids, Lent was always a challenge-40 days of prayer and sacrifice to cleanse us of our worldly and sinful attachments and bring us closer to Jesus! Starting with Ash Wednesday, the big question for an 8 year old was: What shall I give up? Candies, cake,TV, hockey games? Many hard decisions indeed.

And we spent lots of time in church during Lent. As an altar boy, there were many times each week that we were scheduled to serve liturgical services including masses, benediction, novenas, way of the cross, all the while trying to stay awake and avoid giggling!

In recent years, with our changing times and Zoom masses, things are different, and it can be a challenge to reflect on Jesus's suffering and death during Lent.

We are invited to join with the friends, family and followers of Jesus who remained faithful to Him during the final days of his life on earth. We can find ways to support Jesus through our kindness and compassion toward others, being open to those in need, whether in practical, thoughtful ways and through prayer and spiritual support.

Lent is also a time to reflect on and act on behalf of the earth our earthly home. We are reminded of the importance of the earth and all living beings in the parable of Noah and the ark in our first reading. It gives us hope for the future, as long as we act now.

Our very own Fr. Pat Fitzpatrick did a wonderful series on the "Way of the cross" found on YouTube that we found very helpful as a way to focus on our Lenten journey. To hear Fr. Pat's voice again is a beautiful thing! (see link below)

'We come face to face with Christ in those who suffer'.

Here is the link

Reflections on the way to the cross [with] Fr. Pat Fitzpatrick

<https://youtu.be/xPMaQZLz89c?si=6vuhlodFHnH9N3Ct>

Readings:

Feb 18	Gen 9.8-15	Psalm 25	2 Peter 3.18-22	Mark 1.12-15
Feb 25	Gen 22.1-2, 9-13, 15-18	Psalm 116	Rom 8.31-35, 37	Mark 9.2-10

The Liturgy schedule:

Date	Planner(s)	Priest
Today: Lent 1	Lindsay & Bill Watson	Fr Jack Costello
Feb 25 Lent 2	Mary Lou & Brian Halferty	Fr Ron McDonnell
Mar 3 Lent 3	John & Mary MacMillan	Fr Jack Costello
Mar 10 Lent 4	Sharon McCarthy	Fr Paul McAuley
Mar 17 Lent 5	Maryanne S-J & Roberto J	s Fr Prakash Lohale
Mar 24 Palm Sunday	Elizabeth Whelan	Fr Ron MacDonell
Mar 31 Easter	Volunteer needed	Fr Jack Costello

As you noticed, we now have planners/coordinators for all the Sundays of Lent. Thank you, volunteers!

We still need someone to coordinate Easter.

All Liturgies will be virtual — on Zoom — likely until the end of March.

This schedule, as always, is flexible. Planners, feel free to switch if you cannot do a liturgy on the scheduled date. Just be sure to tell the People Progress Reporter, so that we all know. Also, please notify PP early in the week (by the Tuesday before) if you cannot do a reflection.

People Progress Schedule

February:	Elizabeth Whelan: erwhelan@icloud.com
March:	John MacMillan: met191970@gmail.com
April:	Maryanne: maryannestone.jimenez@gmail.com & Roberto urosma@gmail.com
May:	Mary Lou Jorgensen-Bacher mljb57@yahoo.ca

Please send your submissions to the People Progress Reporter by Thursday evening. People Progress welcomes new reporters. Thanks!

Announcements:

- **Financial Update:** Our new bank balance (after all expenses) is \$1,306.16, up from less than \$10 three weeks ago. Thank you for your generosity! The money we have will take us into early May.

John

- We still need someone **to coordinate/plan Easter**. Please volunteer and email the Convenor, Sharon McCarthy at smdmcc1@gmail.com
- **A reminder: Please continue to save your egg cartons and flats for Elizabeth Stocking.** You can bring them to Elizabeth's Whelan's home, and Elizabeth Stocking will pick them up. Thanks, from both Elizabeths!

February Birthdays: Happy Birthday to

4 Sharon McCarthy	23 Mary Beth MacMillan
4 Lucia Silveira	25 Timothy Watson
18 Rita Shaughnessy	28 Juan Alas

• • •

Online liturgies are quite straight-forward.

Here are the duties, published weekly in People Progress (for reference.)

Duties of liturgy planners for virtual masses:

Early in the week before the liturgy:

- Call or email the priest to confirm Sunday's liturgy (contact info will be provided).
- Prepare or find a Reflection and send it to the People Progress reporter by Thursday. Please notify the People Progress reporter early in the week if you cannot do a Reflection.
- Select readers for the 1st and 2nd readings. Check with Sylvia Skrepichuk re: psalm.

On the Sunday of the virtual mass:

- Greet the group (Ask newcomers to introduce themselves)
- Give a brief introduction to the liturgy.
- Read your passage or be prepared to do a reading (if a volunteer is unable to log-in)
- Thank everyone who 'attended' and those who helped (at Announcements)