



BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH FUNERAL LUNCH VOLUNTEERS' NEWSLETTER

February 2024

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

MARY WIRTH	2
LENTEN QUIZ	2
SILLY SPOT	3
OUR CLOSING THOUGHTS	4

PRAYER CORNER

During this month of February, the month of love, let's try to remember to say a prayer for Families.

"Dear Lord, please be with the parents of our Parish. Help them to raise their children with love, tolerance and patience and just as you accept us unconditionally, help those parents to accept their children with that same kind of love.

"Please be with the children of our families, Lord. Help them to learn from their parents, teachers and elders, with respect and love. Guide them as they journey down some of the treacherous paths of life. Walk with them and lead them to responsible actions and good-living friends.

"Bless the grandparents and great-grands as well, dear Lord. Help them to be loving advisors and shepherds to the children. Thank you for the gift of these young ones, Lord."

Amen.



Hi Everyone,

It was a real treat to have Archbishop LeGatt visit our Parish on the weekend of January 20/21. It's always refreshing to have the Archbishop with us, and this time he said Mass as if he was the Parish Priest, so there wasn't a lot of fuss and pomp!

The message that His Grace brought was that Blessed Sacrament is being very well served by the Parish Pastoral Council, and he especially congratulated the Finance Council for their astute and impressive control of our Finances. The Finance Council is chaired by our own Chris Klassen and she and the Council are working hard to keep the Parish on an even keel. Because of the uncertainty of the collections after Father Kevin left, the Council decided to postpone the planned renovations that had not yet begun, and to pause those in progress but not yet complete. Sure enough, there have been fewer people attending mass, and fewer donations, so it was appropriate to cut back on expenses.

The Archbishop also said that we would be served by Sister Charlotte, who has been appointed Parish Pastoral Life Director, on a month-by-month basis. Sister Charlotte filled this role at St. Joseph's for several years and is a wonderful addition to our Parish. Many folks are still upset that we do not have a Parish Priest, but sometimes - when circumstances change suddenly - we just go with the flow and the events that we questioned turn out to have great conclusions.

January 27/28 was Coffee and Cookie weekend. Wow! Chris and I had such a lovely time! We went to the Parish Centre after 9:30 Mass. It was just fantastic to be in the Parish Centre again. It has been painted and cleaned and it looks wonderful. I know that many, many people are responsible, but the main drivers in getting the hall useable again, were Gord Cummine and Barry Breiter. Thanks to all who painted, scrubbed, set up and made the old place so bright and cheery again! We had so much fun, talking and laughing with some former members of our Funeral Lunches, as well as getting to know new members. Great times! Chris and I are happy to see the hall in use again. If you haven't seen it yet, come to the next Coffee weekend (after Lent)!



We are late with this short tribute to MARY WIRTH, who passed away on 13 December 2023. Mary was one of those hard-working women who loved Blessed Sacrament and never stopped working for the good of our Parishioners. She was one of those selfless women who were instrumental in the Visitation Committee, and she contributed to many other aspects of life in Blessed Sacrament.

Many thanks to Mary for her caring ways and her concern for the Parish!

Rest with the Angels, dear Mary!



LENTEN QUIZ

1. How many days are there in Lent?
2. What prayer of the mass is omitted during Lent?
3. What is never said or sung during Lent?
4. Rather than giving up something for Lent, what three actions are we now encouraged to do during Lent?
5. How is the Ash for Ash Wednesday made?
6. What days are Catholics required to fast during Lent?
7. What snack originated during Lent because it only contains flour, water and salt?
8. What was the original meaning of the word, "Lent"?
9. How many Stations of the Cross are there?
10. What do we call the day before Lent begins?
11. If you think about Good Friday Liturgy, what is different about this day?
12. Which devotion has a special place during Lent?
13. What colour vestments does the Priest wear during Lent?
14. Which day is the Chrism mass celebrated. This is the mass when the oils used in sacraments during the Church Year are blessed and consecrated by the Bishop.
15. What is the Triduum?

Answers on back page

Silly Spot

I walked past a pop-up Farmers' Market last Valentine's Day and noticed that the gal behind the counter had taken the old sign down and was hastily writing a new sign on the back of the old one. "Problem with the old sign?", I asked.

"Yes, my new boyfriend is really annoyed about the sign so I have to change it."
"What did it say?" She turned the sign over and there in big print for all to see:
HONEY DATES NUTS.



I LOVE YOU



mower than you know

Simon, who works in a Lawn Mower Parts Warehouse forgot all about buying a Valentine card for his wife. "She won't care," he protested to a co-worker. "Big mistake," his friend said, shaking his head. Simon panicked and quickly got scissors and the catalogue. He made a card and stopped at the LCBO to grab a bottle of red wine on his way home. The wife was really pleased with the wine but she was absolutely thrilled with the card. Simon had cut out two pictures of lawn mowers and he wrote: "I lawn for you mower and mower every day!"

I had a Grade 12 English teacher who had a wicked sense of humour, and she was a fantastic teacher. She was fair but she was a very hard grader. Paul, a boy in my class, got a B minus on the essay that we wrote in the first week of February. Hoping to improve his mark, Paul left a box of chocolates on her desk. It was a lovely heart-shaped box, and was engraved in Gold, on the top, in large letters. "Be Mine", said the chocolates. The day after he had left the chocolates, Paul received an envelope on his desk. With a big grin on his face, Paul opened the envelope. The Valentine read, "Thanks for the chocolates, but it's still be minus!!"



Amore

*When the moon hits your eye,
Like a big pizza pie,
That's Amore.*

*When the eel bites your hand
And that's not what you planned,
That's a Moray!*

*When our habits are strange
And our customs deranged,
That's our mores.*

*When your horse munches straw
And the bales total four,
That's some more hay!*

*When Othello's poor wife
She gets stabbed with a knife
That's a Moor, Hey?*

*When a Japanese knight
Used a sword in a fight,
That 'Sa Mau rai.*

Answers to the Lenten Quiz

- | | |
|--|--|
| 9. 14 | 9. "Spring" |
| 8. "Spring" | 8. Pretzels |
| 7. Pretzels | 7. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday |
| 6. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday | 6. By burning the palms used in the previous Palm Sunday |
| 5. By burning the palms used in the previous Palm Sunday | 5. Fasting, Praying and Almsgiving |
| 4. Fasting, Praying and Almsgiving | 4. Alleluia |
| 3. Alleluia | 3. The Gloria |
| 2. The Gloria | 2. 40 |
| 1. 40 | |
| 10. Shrove Tuesday or Mardi Gras (Fat Tuesday) | |
| 11. Mass is not celebrated | |
| 12. Stations of the Cross | |
| 13. Purple | |
| 14. Maundy Thursday, the day before Good Friday | |
| 15. Triduum comes from the Latin word for three. The Triduum includes the three holiest days of the Church year—from sundown on Holy Thursday, through Good Friday and Holy Saturday until sundown on Easter Sunday. | |



Our closing thoughts ...

This February is a strange one! First of all, this is a leap year so that February has 29 days. Then there is the fact that February 14 is not only Valentines' Day, but it is also Ash Wednesday! Chris tells me that I can only eat half of my usual treat of chocolate!!! When you are alone, you have to buy your own Valentine goodies, but maybe this year, I'll forgo the chocolate!! Ha ha.

I hadn't even thought about Lent and since we do not "Give Up" things any more, I have to start thinking about what good works I can find to do. I don't know about you, but my prayer life could also use a little more commitment. I like to sit quietly and do my morning prayers but every now and then I realize that I haven't quietly prayed or meditated for a few days. Life seems to get in the way! What are you planning? Lent is the perfect time to step back a little and figure out whether we are where God is leading us.

I've tried to remember to express my Gratitude and saw this a few days ago and thought that it explained Gratitude perfectly.

"Gratitude doesn't change the scenery. It merely washes clean the glass you look through so that you can clearly see the colours."

Chris and I hope that you have a lovely February.

- ◆ We hope that you wake up with a grateful heart every morning!
- ◆ We wish you abundant blessings and peaceful days!
- ◆ We hope that your plans for having a holy and sacred Lent come about.
- ◆ We also wish you love and peace at this tumultuous time in our world.
- ◆ We ask that the Lord will continue to be with us as we journey through this month of February!

Have a safe and blessed month!

Carol and Chris

That's all for now, but let's continue to pray for each other and to keep in touch as much as possible!

Carol Engstrom and Chris Klassen