

Lent

Lent has a two-fold nature: it prepares us for Easter, when we recall Christ's saving death and resurrection, and it is also a time when we look at ourselves and strive to overcome our personal struggles that we may become the best person we can be.

The Sunday Scripture readings during Lent reflect this two-fold nature of the Season. The Old Testament readings (first reading) are generally taken from the books of Moses and the prophets and point us towards the life-giving Messiah. The New Testament readings (second reading) are selections from the apostles on the different themes of repentance and new life.

The Gospels for the Sundays of Lent might be a helpful guide for spiritual reading during this season – you may wish to read these passages and use them for prayer prior to the Sunday Mass:

1st Sunday of Lent	<i>Luke 4:1-13</i>
2nd Sunday of Lent	<i>Luke 9:28b-36</i>
3rd Sunday of Lent	<i>Luke 13:1-9</i>
4th Sunday of Lent	<i>Luke 15:1-3, 11-32</i>
5th Sunday of Lent	<i>John 8:1-11</i>
Passion (Palm) Sunday	<i>Luke 19:28-40</i>
Easter Sunday	<i>Luke 24:1-12</i>

Blessing of Easter Foods

On **Holy Saturday March 26th at 1:00 p.m.**, we will be celebrating an ancient tradition of the Church of blessing the foods that our families will be using for our Easter meal. You are invited to bring breads, meats and other items that will enhance our celebration of this great feast. This celebration will take place at Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School.

Celebrations in the Easter Season

Second Sunday of Easter of the Divine Mercy
Weekend of April 2nd/3rd
Regular Weekend Mass Schedule

Good Shepherd Sunday
Fourth Sunday of Easter
Vocation Sunday
Weekend of April 16th/17th

On this Sunday we ponder the love that Jesus has for each one of us and we pray for men and women to answer the call to follow the Lord more intimately as a priest, permanent deacon, religious sister, religious brother or consecrated life.

Solemnity of Pentecost
Weekend of May 14th/15th
Regular Weekend Mass Schedule

Solemnity of the Most Blessed Trinity
Weekend of May 21st/22nd
Regular Weekend Mass Schedule

Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ
Corpus Christi
Weekend of May 28th/29th
Regular Weekend Mass Schedule

Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
Friday June 3rd
*Mass will be celebrated at 9:00 a.m.
in the chapel at Jean Vanier
Catholic Secondary School.*



Seasons of Lent and Easter 2016



*Saint Benedict
Parish Community*

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L9T 2W3
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Mass Location
Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School
709 Bolingbroke Drive
Milton, ON.
L9T 6Z3

Dear friends in Christ:

Lenten Message

Greetings in the Lord! As the joyful celebration of Easter approaches, the Church invites us to enter the Season of Lent. This penitential Season of the Church's year is a time of preparing ourselves for the suffering, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. At this time we affirm our belief in the love that Jesus had for all of us when He died for our sins. This time helps us reflect on the ways in which we are called to bring the Saviour's love and life to our world and to make His presence real among us.

This brochure will highlight our parish's celebration of the Season of Lent and the liturgical celebrations of Holy Week and Easter. If you have any questions about this information please do not hesitate to call our parish office.

I pray that this Season of Lent will be a grace-filled opportunity for you and your family to prepare for the presence of the Risen Lord in our lives.

At Saint Benedict Parish, it is my hope that all Catholics in our parish boundaries will find a place in our parish community. If you have not been in regular practice of Church attendance, know that you are welcome anytime.

Please know that you are remembered weekly in our Sunday celebration of the Eucharist.

Father James S. Petrie
Pastor

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday, February 10th, is the day when the Lenten Season traditionally begins. There will be two Masses on that day. We will have Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School at 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. at Jean Vanier Catholic Secondary School (1145 Bronte Street South in Milton). Liturgical Celebrations will take place throughout the day at each of our parish schools. Please contact your child's school for more details. Ashes will be distributed at all the Masses and School Liturgies.

Penance Celebrations

The Community Penance Celebration for both Milton Parishes will take place on:

Thursday March 10th
7:00 PM

Jean Vanier Catholic Secondary School
1145 Bronte Street South
Milton

This is an excellent opportunity to experience the Sacrament of the Lord's love and forgiveness. There will be a number of priests from the local area. Please take advantage of this wonderful event.

Other Penance Celebrations planned include:

Saint Paul the Apostle Parish (Burlington)
Tuesday March 8th – 7:00 pm

Holy Cross Parish (Georgetown)
Wednesday March 16th – 7:00 pm

Saint Matthew Parish (Oakville)
Wednesday March 23rd – 7:00 pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated each Saturday afternoon from 4:00 pm–4:30 pm at Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School in the Prayer Chapel.

Due to the Easter Season extra opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be provided:

Saturday March 12th
3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Saturday March 19th
3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Holy Saturday March 26th
3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Please do not wait till the last minute to celebrate the Sacrament. Reconciliation is a wonderful way to prepare ourselves for the celebration of Easter.

Schedule of Holy Week Services

Saturday March 19th
Passion (Palm) Sunday
5:00 p.m.

Sunday March 20th
Passion (Palm) Sunday
9:00 a.m.; 10:30 a.m.; 12:00 noon
Palms will be distributed at all Masses

Monday March 21st
Mass of Chrism
7:00 p.m.
*Cathedral of Christ the King
700 King Street West in Hamilton*

Holy Thursday March 24th
Mass of the Lord's Supper
7:00 p.m.

Good Friday March 25th
Commemoration of the Lord's Passion and Death
1:00 p.m.
Liturgical Celebration for Children and Families

3:00 p.m.
Solemn Liturgical Celebration

Holy Saturday March 26th
Easter Vigil
7:00 p.m.
This is the most important liturgical celebration in the Roman Catholic Church. All are invited to be part of this beautiful ceremony.

Easter Sunday March 27th
Solemnity of the Resurrection of Our Lord
9:00 a.m.; 10:30 a.m.; 12 noon

There are no Masses anywhere on Easter Sunday afternoon or evening in the Diocese of Hamilton

