

First Sunday of Lent

February 22nd, 2026 ~ Liturgical Year A

Mass Intentions

✠ February 23rd, 2026, to March 1st, 2026

As we gather, let us remember and pray for . . .

Monday.....NO MASS..... February 23rd

Tuesday..... February 24th

8:00 am ✠ Angelina Corrado (by Rosa Rondinone)

✠ Holy Souls in Purgatory (by Anne Marie Smyth)

Wednesday.....February 25th

8:00 am ✠ Giuseppe DelGobo, Assunta Ricciuto (by Family)

✠ Saint Anneh Joiceus (by Family)

7:00pm Sung Evening Prayer with the Niagara Men's Schola

Thursday.....February 26th

8:00 am ✠ Ralph Biancaniello (by Vince Addario)

✠ Gerard Gosselin (by Vince Addario)

Friday.....February 27th

8:00 am ✠ Giulio Nardangelli (by Domenica Nardangelli)

✠ Luigi Rondinone (by Rosa Rondinone)

7:00pm Stations of the Cross (in English)

Saturday.....February 28th

8:00 am ✠ Rina & Franco Zecchini (by Pasquale Zecchini)

✠ Carmelo Zappavigna (by Lisa Nigro & Grace Cuffaro)

5:00 pm ✠ Mary Jelbert (by Carmine & Norma Ciolfi)

✠ Johnny Biancaniello (by Vince Addario)

✠ Domenico Bussi (by Wife Rosa Bussi)

✠ Rannie Harrison (by Jackie & Family)

✠ Evangelina Carpio (by Ylagan & DiFruscio Families)

✠ Holy Souls in Purgatory (by Isabel & Joseph Schackmann)

✠ Alan Stuttard (by Daphne Gallagher)

Sunday..... Second Sunday of Lent.....March 1st

8:00 am ♥✠The People of Holy Rosary Parish

9:30 am ✠ Tonino DeTiberiis (by Nancy DeTiberiis & Family)

✠ Fathers Agostino and Benedetto (by Ginette)

11:00 am ✠ Federico Lagmay (by Clerissa Morales)

✠ Lorna Peterson (by Hunt Family)

SANCTUARY LAMP:

This week's Sanctuary Lamp is donated in memory of **Mary Jelbert**. The Sanctuary lamp is lit to remind us of Christ's presence in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar.

Pope s' Prayer Intention for the Month of February

For children with incurable diseases:

Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

➤ We welcome, with great joy, our newly baptized, **Luca Alexander Biagi Pasquale** who joined our Parish family. May God bless this new member and his family as he lives as follower of Jesus Christ.

Cattedra di S. Pietro, S. Pascasio,

S. Margherita da C. – 22 febbraio 2026

Gesù vince il male con la Parola. La resistenza e la vittoria sulle tentazioni del potere e dell'avere iniziano nel totale affidamento a Dio.

HAPPENNING IN OUR PARISH

Date	Time	Activities
Wednesday Feb. 25 th , Weds. March 4 th , 11 th & 18 th , 2026 All Weds. during Lent	7:00pm	Niagara Men's Schola Holden Evening Prayer composed by Marty Haugen
Thurs. Mar 19 th , Mass Feast of St. Joseph	7:00pm	Niagara Men's Schola- Mass with Latin
Sat. March 28 th	2 pm	Taizé Service for the weekend of Passion Sunday
March 21st–24th, 2026 Sat. and Sun. Masses also at 7:00pm on Monday & Tuesday		Lenten retreat and confession with Fr. Paul MacDonald Theme: "GIVE ME A HUMBLE AND CONTRITE HEART"



Thursday, March 11, 4 pm to 7 pm, Holy Rosary Hall. Enjoy a hearty meal including a fresh bun stuffed with slices of beef and gravy, coleslaw and roasted potatoes for only \$14. The Beef-on-a-bun is held on the second Thursday of each month. The format is takeout only. Cash payments only.



Our brothers and sisters who serve the parish community in the capacity of ushers and greeters are much more than collection takers and distributors of the weekly bulletin. They are representative of our overall community. In addition to welcoming visitors, they assist new parishioners and help with the elevator to help all parishioners experience an accessible environment. If you would like to join our Hospitality Ministry Team, you are invited to participate in our Hospitality Workshop on **Saturday, February 28th at 9:00 am in the Church.** Call the Parish Office for more information.

EMMAUS YOUTH ADULT MINISTRY

(Tuesdays, 7-9pm, St. Denis Church)

This Tuesday, February 24th, 2026, the young adults of the diocese invite you to **join us for prayer, formation, and fellowship at St. Denis Church, 230 Lake Street, St. Catharines.** For more information, contact Fr. Daniel at corso.danielanthony@gmail.com or follow us on [Instagram@emmaus.ya](https://www.instagram.com/emmaus.ya)

SACRAMENT PREPARATION: There will be a Learning and Prayer session for **Confirmation Candidates** this Wednesday, February 25th, 2026 from 6:30pm-7:45pm at the Parish Hall.

Lent and the Lion King

"If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread."

My dear family in Christ,

One of the most powerful scenes of all time (in my not-so-humble opinion) is 'Mufasa's Ghost' from the 1994 Disney film 'The Lion King'. If you haven't seen it, or if it's been too long, I give you permission to temporarily break whatever Lenten media fast you have made to remedy this as soon as possible. There is no need to send me a thank-you card after, just pay it forward and remember me in your prayers.

Simba is supposed to be the King of Pride Rock, but ran away as a young cub after he was blamed for his father's death by his evil, usurping uncle, Scar. In Simba's absence, under the tyranny of Scar, everything and everyone has suffered. In the meantime, Simba has found friends and has been living a life of 'no worries'. But, one day, guided by the wise baboon, Rafiki, Simba encounters the ghost of his father:

"Simba, you have forgotten me. You have forgotten who you are, and so have forgotten me. Look inside yourself, Simba. You are more than what you have become. You must take your place in the Circle of Life. Remember who you are. You are my Son, and the one true King. Remember who you are. Remember."

I didn't know why that made me cry at 4 years old, but I know exactly why it makes me weep at 34. The readings for the first Sunday of Lent capture this so perfectly, and I'm going to try and unpack this more thoroughly in the homily.

In the first reading from Genesis 2, Satan tempts Eve and then Adam by convincing them that God is *not* their father, someone they can trust, but rather, that He is a tyrant, in competition with them, withholding good things from them- and they Fall for it. The second reading from Romans 5 points to the New Adam, Jesus, who undoes Adam's disobedience by His own humble obedience *because He remembers who He is*. The Masterpiece in Matthew's shows Satan once again tempting a son of God: Jesus has *just* been baptized by John in the Jordan, and He has *just* heard the voice of the Father, "*You are my son, the beloved. With you I am well pleased.*" TWICE, Satan attacks Jesus precisely there, at His identity: "**IF YOU ARE THE SON OF GOD...**" If. If. What a cunning temptation.

My brothers and sisters, I dare say that every temptation we face is in some way the temptation to doubt God's goodness and love for us, to doubt our dignity and identity as His beloved son or daughter, and to grasp at whatever we might replace Him with. This is Satan's chief aim- to separate us from our Father.

But you, too, were baptized. (If not, please contact the office and we will make it happen) At that moment,

you were ransomed back from the tyranny of Satan, and claimed for Christ. Like Jesus, the Father has declared over you, "You are my son, my daughter, my beloved, with whom I am well pleased." And it is the vows of your Baptism that we will all renew together at Easter.

All of our sinfulness comes from forgetting that we are children of God. May this Lent be a time to break through the lies of Satan, and listen to the voice of Our Father: *Remember who you are.*

God love you,



Father Daniel



Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Catholic Women's League

**Exciting Advancement! CWL E-Transfers are now set up!
Need to pay your membership? Do you use E-Transfers?
Here it is: hrcwl100@gmail.com**

**(Membership (\$40.00) is still accepted by cash or cheque
please ensure you don't miss 2026)**

**Coming Soon: AMM April 21, 2026!
(Annual Meeting of Members)**

Sacrament of Penance

Saturday March 21, 2026 - 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

On Saturday, March 21, 2026 in every parish church across the diocese a priest will be available from 10:00am – 2:00pm to hear individual confessions. There will also be Eucharistic Adoration during this time. No matter how long it has been, you are welcome to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance, which assists us in spiritual discipline as we turn away from sin and open our hearts to reconciliation and healing; or you can also simply come to pray before the Lord.



Join Bishop Bergie to cheer on the Niagara Ice Dogs against Ottawa 67s on Saturday, March 15, 2026, at 2:00pm. Tickets are \$20 each. A limited number of tickets are available.

We extend sincere condolences and prayers to the families and friends who mourn the recent loss of **Mario Joseph Girotti and Raymond Devine**. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen!