

From Bishop Daniel Miehm

ASH WEDNESDAY WAS BUSY in churches across our diocese, as many of the faithful observed the solemn celebration of the beginning of Lent. It was wonderful to return to full capacity in our churches the day before and to see an easing of some of the other pandemic restrictions under which we have laboured. Let us pray that this holy season may be a time of prayer, penance and works of charity for all of us. Pope Francis' letter for Lent 2022 is entitled "Let us not grow tired of doing good," taken from a verse in the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN UKRAINE, and the many Ukrainian Canadians who are our friends and neighbours. A devastating humanitarian crisis is unfolding in Ukraine as many flee the violence caused by the Russian invasion. The United Nations reports that in the past week some 1.2 million Ukrainians (about 2% of the population) have fled the country. Let us pray for a diplomatic solution to this tragedy and an end to the violence and loss of life. There are several ways in which people could contribute to humanitarian relief efforts. The Catholic Near East Welfare Association is one that various Ukrainian Catholic Bishops in Canada are recommending. There are also good relief efforts underway through Development and Peace – Caritas Canada and Aid to the Church in Need.

IN 2020, POPE FRANCIS issued his encyclical Fratelli Tutti, encouraging us to build the bonds of solidarity in the midst of the pandemic. The Holy Father observed that "a worldwide tragedy like the Covid-19 pandemic momentarily revived the sense that we are a global community, all in the same boat, where one person's problems are the problems of all. Once more we realized that no one is saved alone; we can only be saved together." And yet, how easy it is for us to forget this feeling of global community. In the Global South, the pandemic has been made worse by a lack of medical resources and long histories of underdevelopment, even as communities face other challenges, like the impacts of climate change. I am grateful, therefore, for the People and Planet First campaign of Development and Peace – Caritas Canada, the global solidarity organization of our Church in Canada, which reminds us of Pope Francis's call to be a global community. This annual Share Lent campaign is a practical means for us to walk with our brothers and sisters in the Global South, seeking to build a more just and equitable world. We can practice the Lenten tradition of almsgiving by donating to a special Development and Peace collection to be taken up on Solidarity Sunday (3 April 2022). The funds that are gathered will allow Development and Peace to fulfill its mission and to help transform lives in almost 30 countries around the world. I encourage all parishes in the diocese of Peterborough to support this collection and the People and Planet First campaign by spreading its message in your communities, exploring the resources of Development and Peace, and encouraging this special fundraising effort. Lent is a season of conversion when Christians enter into Christ's journey to the cross. Development and Peace invites us into a conversion of solidarity, knowing that we can only be saved together.

OUR PARISH BULLETIN



Our Lady of Mercy Church
Honey Harbour



St. John the Baptist Church
Port Severn

Address:

Our Lady of Mercy Parish
P.O. Box 126
2596 Honey Harbour Rd.
Honey Harbour, On P0E1E0

Fr. Martin Dalida – Parish Priest

Tel. 705 756 2311

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Weekend Masses

Sunday 9 A.M. - Port Severn
Sunday 11 A.M. - Honey Harbour

Weekday Masses

(See inside bulletin)

Confession: 20 minutes before weekend Masses

Wedding and Baptism: Call the office

FIRST WEEK OF LENT

March 6, 2022

GOSPEL TODAY: Luke 4:1-13 – “Jesus' temptation in the desert ends with the devil departs for a time. The implication is that the devil will return. The depth of Jesus' trust in God is shown most fully when Jesus rejects the temptation to turn away from the task God has given to him. Jesus' responses to the temptations of the devil teach us how we can respond to temptation. As we start our journey through Lent, this Sunday's Gospel calls us to adopt the same confidence that Jesus had in the face of temptation: God's word alone will suffice, God's promise of protection can be trusted, and God alone is God.”

COLLECTIONS Last Sunday, February 27, 2022

 \$405 - Regular Sunday Offerings

WEEKDAY MASSES (Honey Harbour Chapel)

Wed March 9, 11am - For end of pandemic

Thurs March 10, 11am – For end of Ukraine-Russia war

Fri March 11, 11am – For sick & elderly members of the parish

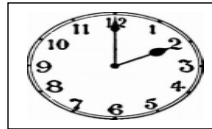
WEEKEND MASSES (2nd Sunday of Lent)

Sunday March 13, 9am @ Port Severn – For +Frank Dupuis by Joan Dupuis & family.

Sunday March 13, 11am @ Honey Harbour – For the people of the parish.

DAY LIGHT SAVING TIME - Next change - 1 Hour Forward

Mar 13, 2022, Sunday 2:00 am



POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR MARCH (For a Christian response to bioethical challenges) – “We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action.”

POPE FRANCIS – “The ashes remind us that worldliness is like the dust that is carried away by a slight gust of wind. Sisters and brothers, we are not in this world to chase the wind; our hearts thirst for eternity.”

“Today we enter the time of Lent. Our prayer and fasting will be a plea for peace in Ukraine, bearing in mind that peace in the world always begins with our personal conversion, following Christ.”



LENT ACCORDING TO CATECHISM – “Lent, according to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, “is a time during which the Church unites herself ... to the mystery of Jesus in the desert.” Jesus was driven by the spirit into the desert after his baptism in the Jordan, and he remained there for 40 days in solitude, without eating. The 40 days were really a preparation for what came next—the temptations in the desert. Jesus did not succumb to the temptations of Satan in the desert, which the Catechism says “anticipates victory at the Passion.” The Catechism suggests various specific practices for lent: “spiritual exercises, penitential liturgies, pilgrimages as signs of penance, voluntary self-denial such as fasting and almsgiving, and fraternal sharing (charitable and missionary works).”

VATICAN ON RUSSIA-UKRAINE CONFLICT - The Prefect of the Congregation for the Oriental Churches tells the Ukrainian community that they are not alone in this tragic moment and to confide in the power of prayer: “We have no words. We don't have missiles, we don't have guns, we don't have tanks, we don't have the force of violence that wants to impose itself at any price. We have the strength of humility of those who receive the contempt of the world and of the powerful of the earth. Our only weapon - in the face of so much shame for humanity and so much suffering is what we have done today: to pray. Be strong because God, the crucified Lord Jesus, his Most Holy Mother are with us and with you.”

MARTYRS FOR CHRISTIAN FAITH – “In history, hundreds of early Christians have faced persecution for their faith. It is believed that the Roman Catholic Church was born out of the martyrdom of its members. A Christian martyr is someone willing to face death rather than deny Jesus Christ or his Gospel. Beheading, stoning, crucifixion, throwing to lion's dens, and burning at stake were some of the horrific ways they were punished for their beliefs.”

St. Lawrence, Grilled To Death – “The Roman Emperor Valerian persecuted St. Lawrence in 258 AD. It was a difficult beginning for the First Christian Millennium because hostility against the early followers of God was growing. Roman authorities charged Christians of that era with “hatred of the human race.” St. Lawrence was among the seven deacons tasked with helping the less privileged under Pope Sixtus II who was also persecuted by Valerian. The soldiers of the emperor arrested Sixtus and beheaded him along with his deacons. Following the death of the pope, Lawrence started distributing the money and possessions of the Church to the poorest people in the city. Valerian heard the news about this, so he offered St. Lawrence clemency in exchange for bringing him the fortune hidden away by the church in three days. However, the saint went through the city, and instead of money or gold, he gathered all the poor and sick people the Catholic Church was supporting and presented them to Valerian. The emperor was furious and condemned St. Lawrence to a slow and brutal death by grilling him on a gridiron. Today, St. Lawrence is hailed as the patron saint of the poor due to his legacy of helping the less privileged during his life.”