

Catholic Parishes of Onaping Falls and Cartier

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Newsletter for the week of April 5th , 2020

In compliance with the shutdown ordered by Premier Doug Ford, all parish properties, including the church itself, the parish hall and the office will be closed for a minimum of two weeks.

If there is anything you need, please leave a message at the office. If it is of an urgent matter, please contact Fr. Joseph at 705-920-1514

The following masses will be celebrated **privately** by Fr. Joseph as they were previously requested for these dates. If you would prefer to have them celebrated after the churches open, this can be arranged with no extra stipend required.

St. Bartholomew :

Tues. April 7 – Happy 80th Birthday Marie Gaulin by Michelle & Arnet
Wednesday April 8 – Happy 89th Birthday Carmel Beauvais by Marie Gaulin
Saturday April 11 – Mass for the People
Sunday April 12 – Irene Laroche by Danny & Louise Besserer

St. Francis Xavier :

Sunday April 5 – Mass for the People

St-Étienne/ St. Stephen the Martyr :

Thursday April 9 – Suzanne Beauvais by Marie Gaulin
Sunday April 12 - Marguerite Groulx by Marie Gaulin

The Parish 50/50 Draw will proceed as planned. If you have not yet purchased your ticket and wish to do so, please call the parish office or contact us by e-mail. Our contact information can be found at the top of this newsletter.

The Catholic Parishes would like to thank the parishioners who have continued to make their weekly donations. Your continued support and generosity at this very difficult time is truly appreciated!

If any gifting imposes a level of hardship of any kind whatsoever, please do not donate.

If you are able to donate during this time, please consider one of the suggested gifting methods for your current weekly donation:

- 1) dropping your envelope into the parish mail slot
- 2) forwarding to the parish, by local mail, a series of post-dated cheques and Sunday envelopes.
- 3) Signing up for a pre-authorized donation program (contact office for the form)

Please Note:

The Knights of Columbus #11565 Levack have cancelled their Sausage Drive. Also, all meetings have been cancelled till further notice.

The Living Faith booklets are in (April/ May/ June). There will be a large tin in the corner of the closed entrance to the basement at St. Bartholomew Church. Please feel free to pick up a copy and place the cover back on the tin. We hope to find a way to place some copies outside the Dowling and Cartier Churches in the next few weeks. These booklets are provided by the Knights of Columbus and the Chevaliers de Colomb.

Reflection for Palm Sunday adopted from the Homily by the Association of Catholic Priests

The most solemn week of the liturgical year was once called the 'Great Week' but nowadays we call it Holy Week. In it we witness the total self-giving of Jesus. St. Paul describes it as his kenosis, the act of self-emptying by which Jesus made himself entirely receptive to the divine will. ("He emptied himself, taking the form of a slave.") Paul goes on to affirm the total vindication of Jesus: "God highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name."

This week we will try to follow Jesus every step of the way, beginning with his triumphant entry into Jerusalem. There he was welcomed, applauded and acclaimed by a crowd of admirers. On Thursday we will join him at table, to receive his gift of himself in the Eucharistic bread and wine. After dining with him we will, in our reflections, go with him along the trail from the Upper Room to the Garden of Olives. There we will see him struggling with fear and anxiety about the cruel death that awaits him. On Good Friday we will be standing in spirit beside his mother at the foot of the cross, while he hands his spirit back to the Father who sent him.

On Saturday we will be quiet and silent around his tomb, as we remember the injustice and cruelty of humanity, for which he died. Then, late on Saturday, we will move from the darkness of our Passion journey to the place of the bright Easter fire. There we will join the procession of the great Paschal Candle, representing the risen Christ, as he lights up the darkness of our church and lives.

The pain of our compassion with Jesus to Calvary will give way to the hope and joy of Easter. Jesus Christ is not dead and gone. No, he is risen, strong and powerful, alive in himself and alive in us. Then we can hold in our hearts those assuring words that Juliana of Norwich in her vision of Christ Crucified. From his own lips she heard this promise: 'All will be well, all will be well, all manner of things will be well..'

Cette semaine commence la semaine la plus solennelle de l'année liturgique : la semaine sainte. Durant cette semaine nous témoignons le don total de soi de Jésus, un acte par lequel il devient entièrement réceptif à la volonté divine. Comme le dit Saint-Paul : ' Il se vide, prenant la forme de l'esclave.'

Cette semaine, nous suivons les pas Jésus, commençant par son entrée triomphale à Jérusalem. Là, nous le voyons accueilli, applaudit et acclamé par une foule d'admirateurs. Jeudi, nous le rejoignons à la table, pour recevoir son don de lui-même dans le pain et le vin eucharistiques. Après ce repas, nous le suivons au jardin des Oliviers où nous le voyons engoissé face à la mort cruelle qui l'attend. Le jour suivant, vendredi saint, nous sommes debout au pied la croix avec Marie, alors qu'il remet son esprit au Père qui l'a envoyé.

Le samedi, nous sommes calmes et silencieux devant la tombe de Jésus, se souvenant de l'injustice et de la cruauté de l'humanité, pour laquelle il est mort. Finalement, samedi, soir, nous passons de l'obscurité à la lumière du feu pascal. Nous nous joignons à la procession du cierge pascal qui représente le Christ ressuscité, éclairant l'obscurité de notre Église et de nos vies.

La douleur que nous avons ressentie au pied du Calvaire, cède place à l'espoir et à la joie de Pâques. Jésus est maintenant ressuscité, fort et puissant, vivant en lui-même et vivant en nous. Ainsi nous pouvons chérir les mots réassurants que le Christ a confié à Julienne de Norwich, 'Tout finira bien. Toutes choses, quelles qu'elles soient, finiront bien.'

Wishing you all a wonderful week ahead!.....Father Joseph