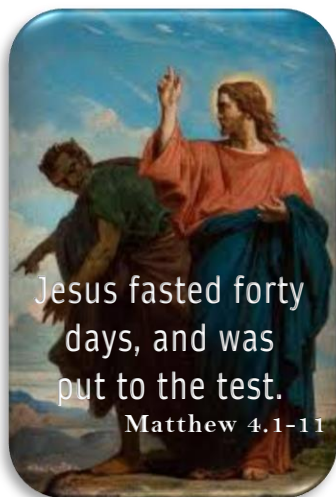


Wednesday Weekly

February 26, 2020

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
MARCH 1, 2020



WHEN APPLICABLE—please ensure that the following items are in your bulletin and/or are also ANNOUNCED.

*For the city **For all parishes in THE DIOCESE.

This will ensure that the same information is being heard across **the diocese**.

THANK YOU

WANT TO SHARE NEWS IN THE WEDNESDAY WEEKLY? – Email Martha Primus @ mprimus@pgdiocese.bc.ca by NOON on Tuesday. Please send in Word format.

TO RECEIVE ALL DIOCESAN NEWS DIRECTLY IN YOUR INBOX OR ON YOUR PHONE email Teresa at reception@pgdiocese.bc.ca OR TEXT “pgd” TO 514-900-0130 to join

Flocknote. This is an email and text messaging tool created for churches, ministries, teams and other community organizations. It helps to communicate with the people by sending a simple text message. Please join us in keeping up with all the diocesan news.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 2020 Lenten Penance Services- for city of Prince George parishes
- Lenten Noon Hour Gospel Reflections- St. Mary’s, PG
- Updated **2019-20 Called Together: Giving, Sharing, Serving** Report
- Women’s Discernment Retreat for vocations poster
- What is Retrouville
 - Poster for upcoming weekend
- 2020 Marriage Prep Poster

The Season of Lent



The season of prayer and penance to prepare for the feast of the Resurrection begins on Ash Wednesday, February 26, 2020. Originally the period of fasting in preparation for Easter did not exceed two or three days, but by the time of the Council of Nicaea in AD 325 forty days were customary. This length of time is associated with Christ’s forty-day fast in the desert before beginning His public life (Matthew 4:1-2) and also recalls the forty years Israel spent in the desert after the Exodus from Egypt (Numbers 14:34).

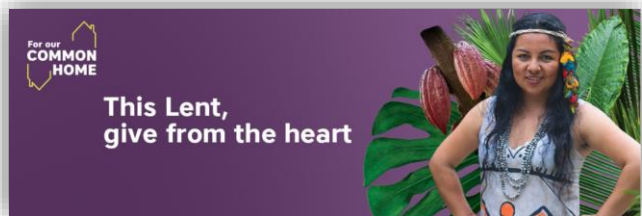
Lent has a twofold purpose: it is the last stage of preparation of Catechumens for Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion at the Easter Vigil and it prepares all of us to renew our baptismal promises at Easter.

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are universal days of penance. On these days those who are 14 years of age and older are bound to abstain from meat and those from 18 to 59 years of age should also fast, limiting their food to not more than one regular meal and two lighter snacks.

Besides fast and abstinence on specified days, the whole Lenten season should be penitential, with stress on prayer, reception of the Sacraments, especially Penance and Reconciliation, almsgiving and the practice of charity.

“What every Christian should always be doing must now be performed more earnestly and devoutly...not simply a reduction in our food, but the elimination of our evil habits”
(St. Leo the Great).

1. ***2020 LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES** for city of Prince George parishes – **See attached poster**. Please print and display on your bulletin board.
2. ***CATECHESIS ON THE SACRAMENT OF PENANCE AND RECONCILIATION:** For four consecutive Fridays during Lent (March 6, 13, 20, and 27) before praying the Stations of the Cross, Fr. Rector will provide Catechesis on the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation at Sacred Heart Cathedral. The catechesis will start at 6:30 PM. The Stations of the Cross will begin at 7:00 PM. Please come and learn more about the Sacrament.
3. ***THE RITE OF ELECTION and Call to Lenten Renewal in the city parishes will be celebrated at Sacred Heart Cathedral on the First Sunday of Lent, March 1, 2020, at 2:00 PM with Bishop Jensen.** There are three Catechumens (*1 from Sacred Heart Cathedral, 1 from St. Mary's Parish and 1 from Immaculate Conception Parish*) and four Candidates (*1 Christ Our Saviour Parish; 2 St. Mary's Parish and 1 Immaculate Conception Parish*) who are preparing for full initiation in the Church this coming Easter. Let's support them and include them in our prayers.
4. ****SHARE LENT COLLECTION 2020** - The Canadian bishops' conference is close to concluding the work of addressing issues with the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace.



In the light of this progress, the annual Share Lent collection is authorized in the diocese this year.

During this year's Lent, navigate the Amazon River to learn, reflect, pray and act throughout Lent, in solidarity with the peoples of the Amazon and the Earth, our common home.

<https://www.devp.org/en/lentcalendar-2020>

This year, follow our Solidarity Calendar on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)!

5. ****MESSAGE FROM D& P DIOCESAN CHAIR, DICK MYNEN:** You are invited to join an online Share Lent workshop for Development and Peace. The meeting will take place via Skype on **Thursday, February 27 from 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM**. During the webinar, there will be discussion on some of the main elements of the *For Our Common Home* campaign focusing on the Amazon rainforest. **If you would like to attend please contact Dick Mynen at dick.mynen@tdb.ca** or your parish contact for connection details.

If you are **unable to attend other opportunities will be available** to join another time or to download this one. Stay tuned for more information.

6. ***CATHOLIC CHRISTIAN OUTREACH FAITH STUDY SERIES** at Sacred Heart Cathedral during Lent 2020. You are invited to grow in faith and love of God through a six-week *Discovery Faith Study* produced by Catholic Christian Outreach (CCO). CCO's faith studies have had a huge impact on university campuses across Canada, including UNBC.

The *Discovery Faith Study* is a simple but personally challenging look at the Gospel message. Participants gather in men's and women's groups of 8-10 to strengthen their relationship with Jesus, grow in fellowship with other parishioners, and learn how to share their faith with others.

The study will begin on **Thursday, February 27, 2020** at 2:00 PM. The commitment is for one hour each week. Please call the cathedral at 250-564-5225 to register.

7. ***LENTEN NOON HOUR GOSPEL REFLECTIONS:** Back by popular demand the sisters of St. Joseph will host a Noon Hour Gospel Reflections on the following **Mondays: March 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 30th**. Sessions will be from Noon to 1:30 PM, in the St. Eugene Room. Refreshments will be provided. **See poster for more details**

MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!

8. ***CHRISM MASS** will be on Tuesday, March 31, 2020, 7:00 PM at Sacred Heart Cathedral. More information to follow next week.

9. ***PARISH MISSION IN THE CITY OF PRINCE GEORGE**

Fr. James Sichko will lead a Parish Mission - 60 Minutes for Jesus at Sacred Heart Cathedral April 1-3, 2020. All sessions are family friendly. More information to follow next week.

Fr. Jim Sichko is a full-time preacher, evangelist and motivational speaker based in the Diocese of Lexington, Kentucky. He is one of the Missionaries of Mercy commissioned by Pope Francis in 2016.

10. **MEDICAL ASSISTANCE IN DYING (MAiD) UPDATE:** Experts tell us that writing and sending petitions to one's Member of Parliament is an effective way to get our message across. We are told that the best we can hope for at this stage is that the Federal Government carry out further consultation. Given time constraints, electronic mail (rather than a written letter sent by regular mail) can also be effective. Deacon Larry Worthen of Halifax has provided a platform to reach one's Member of Parliament and has provided a sample online sample letter-petition:

http://www.canadiansforconscience.ca/federal_government.

11. **MESSAGE FROM PAYROLL DEPARTMENTS TO ALL EMPLOYEES OF THE DIOCESE (PARISHES AND SCHOOLS): 2019 T4s are now available** on the Payworks using your username and password.

Only T4As will be sent by postal mail. If you have any questions, please contact Catherine at (250) 964-4424 ext 2105 or email catherine@pgdiocese.bc.ca

12. ***ST. PATRICK'S MASS:** The annual Mass to anticipate the **Feast of St. Patrick** will be celebrated on Wednesday, March 11th, at Sacred Heart Cathedral. The Mass will begin at 6:00 PM. Bring your singing voice and wear your green. All are welcome!



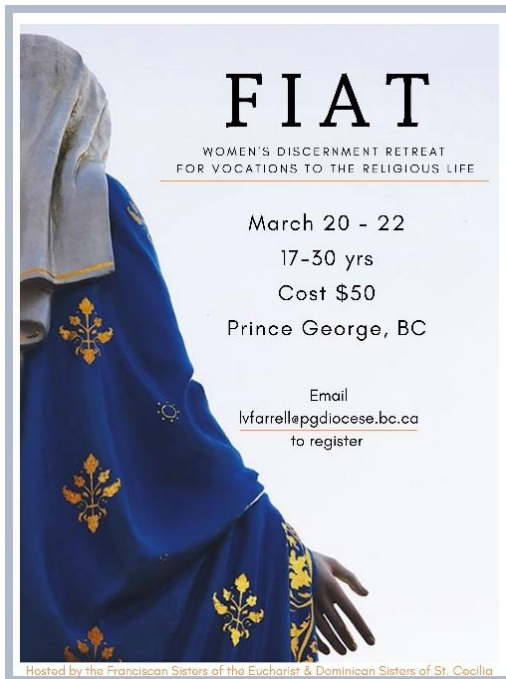
13. **2019-20 CALLED TOGETHER: GIVING, SHARING, SERVING:** St. Mary's Parish, New Hazelton and St. Peter's Parish, Mackenzie recently reached and surpassed their parish goals. Thank you to their pastors, parish leadership teams and parishioners for their effort in the Appeal promotion.

To date, **Called Together** has reached 85.53% or \$342,127 towards its \$400,000 diocesan goal. Seven parishes have met and continue to surpass their parish goals. Please continue to promote the Diocesan Appeal in your respective parishes. As a way of encouragement, the

entire diocese benefits from **Called Together** and any amount raised in excess of your parish goal is returned to your parish 100%.

Please note that the **2019 Appeal Tax receipts** have been sent out. Watch for your receipt in the mail.

14. **FIAT: WOMEN'S DISCERNMENT RETREAT FOR VOCATIONS TO THE RELIGIOUS LIFE**



All women ages 17-30 are invited to a vocations retreat hosted by the Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist and the Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia.

This retreat is for any young woman who is even a little bit interested in religious life and wanting to meet religious sisters, to those who are seriously discerning the call to the consecrated life.

Wherever you are in your discernment, you are welcome to attend Fiat!

The weekend will consist of Mass, the Divine Office, adoration, individual conferences with the sisters, community experience, and talks and discussions about what it means to discern a vocation to consecrated life - the call of the Lord to love Him in a unique way. Register today by emailing Lisa at lvfarrell@pgdiocese.bc.ca

- When:** March 20 at 7:00 PM to March 22 at 1:30pm (these times are still TBD)
Where: Domano Renewal Centre (6500 Southridge Ave, Prince George BC)
Cost: \$50
Contact: Lisa Vaughan-Farrell to register at lvfarrell@pgdiocese.bc.ca or if you have any further questions.

Please print attached poster for display on your bulletin board.



15. **ANNUAL VOCATION DISCERNMENT RETREAT** for Young People will be held on **May 8-10, 2020** at Camp Morice, Fort St. James. **More details to follow.**

16. ****RETROUVAILLE MINISTRY:** Addresses serious marital problems such as disillusionment, boredom, separation, infidelity, etc.; teaching communication and working on forgiveness, healing and the restoration of trust. The next weekend retreat will be held on April 17 – 19, 2020 at the Barnabas Family Ministries Retreat Centre, Keats Island, followed by six follow-up sessions (in person or online) at the Holy Family Parish, Vancouver. **See poster and What is Retrouvaille.** Register at www.retrouvaillevancouver.com- REGISTRATION IS ESSENTIAL

17. **SACRAMENTAL RECORDS FOR 2019 FROM PARISH FRIENDLY:** **A big thank you to those who have submitted these to Teresa.** If you have not yet submitted, please “Download” and email all your sacramental records from Parish Friendly for the 2019 Year to Teresa at reception@pgdiocese.bc.ca **ASAP.** If you require assistance with this process contact Martha.

Make sure you do not open the file before sending it – we cannot upload it if you do.

If you do not have Parish Friendly – please send a hard copy of your parish registers to Teresa via fax or postal mail.

SOME PARISHES ARE A FEW YEARS BEHIND IN SUBMITTING THEIR RECORDS!

If you are not sure if you are up to date, please contact Teresa at 250-964-4424 or email reception@pgdiocese.bc.ca and find out if you are up to date.



18. ****DIOCESAN MARRIAGE PREPARATION WEEKEND – See attached poster**

For details and registration click here: <https://www.pgdiocese.bc.ca/marriage-preparation-retreat>

19. ****EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

- **CATHOLIC INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS- PRINCE GEORGE** is hiring for the 2020-2021 school year.

Openings include a principalship in Smithers, BC as well as teachers at our eight schools in the diocese. If you are interested or know someone who is interested in working in our CISPG schools please head to our website at <http://cispg.ca/cispg/careers/> for details of the postings and to complete the online application.

Evangelization and Formation

YOUTH

1. **** DYC 2020 – MAY 1-3, 2020**

The 25th anniversary of DYC in the Diocese of Prince George:

The Gateway: “I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.” John 10:10

REGISTER NOW AT:

<https://www.pgdiocese.bc.ca/youth/registration-2020-dyc/>

