

251 Glenridge Avenue, St. Catharines, Ontario L2T 3Y7
Telephone: 905-684-5603 | Fax: 905-684-9479
Website: www.stjuliastc.com | Email: stjuliaparishstc@gmail.com

Most Rev. Gerard P. Bergie D.D. Mass Schedule Diocesan Bishop Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 8:30 a.m. **Pastor** Fr. Greg Schmidt frgregoryschmidt@gmail.com Saturday 5:00 p.m. 9:00 a.m. (Children's Liturgy of the Word) Sunday **Deacons** Deacon George Newman 11:00 a.m. **Deacon Brian Jeynes** Confessions **Director of Music** Dr. David Holler 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. or by appointment Saturday Maintenance Jim Salmon Office Hours Administration Christine Buckley Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Cheryl Wood



# March 27, 2022 - Fourth Sunday in Lent

For too many of us, Lent is a season of doom and gloom, a time to feel bad about all the ways we are not "measuring up" in our spiritual lives. But this view could not be further from the truth. Lent is a season of refreshment and love, of awakening and rebirth. The Gospel Reading, the parable of the Prodigal Son, is filled with this theme of awakening and the extravagant, life-changing love that the Father has for each one of us.



We are all familiar with this amazing story — the bratty younger son who has the audacity to ask his dad for his inheritance early, only to squander it sinfully away. It makes us bristle instinctively at his nerve when we read it. But isn't that exactly what we do when we selfishly turn away from God (in big or small ways) in our own lives? We squander away the inheritance of grace He has given us.

In desperation from the mess he had made of his life, the son finally "comes to his senses" — awakening to the truth that he is a beloved son of a loving and merciful father — and decides to return home. His contrition is faltering and imperfect and seems motivated in large part by his growling stomach. But it is enough for the loving father.

In fact, as soon as the father catches sight of his son he is "filled with compassion for him" and immediately sets about preparing a feast and fine clothes for this son. What an extravagance of love! What a beautiful picture Jesus gives us of our Father's love and mercy. Oh, how this should fill us with gratitude for such a Father!

And how it should inspire us — with just the tiniest bit of spiritual "spring cleaning" we can be sure we will be swept up in our Father's loving embrace and find ourselves feasting in His presence. That is what lent is all about.

# Parish Calendar

### Monday, March 28

8:30 a.m. (Livestream) - Howard Burns †
Special Intention for Jagjit Kaur
9:00 a.m. - Rosary with CWL
7:00 p.m. - RCIA

# Tuesday, March 29

8:30 a.m. (Livestream) - Kim Sungsin † | Kim Joachim †

### Wednesday, March 30

8:30 a.m. (Livestream) - Dennis Crow † | Special Intention

Thursday, March 31 - No Mass

## Friday, April 1

8:30 a.m. (Livestream) - Maria Szeideman †
Special Intention for Martin Alzamora
9:00 a.m. (Livestream) - Holy Hour with Stations of the Cross

## Saturday, April 2

**5:00 p.m. (Livestream) -** Maria Szeideman † | Shea Kenny † Paul Nohara †

## Sunday, April 3

9:00 a.m. - Mass for the People 11:00 a.m. - Jacquie Herman-Wing † Kenny & Doreen Wheeler †

Jonathan Nogueria † | Melanie Nogueria † | Dereck Nogueria †

# Are You Being Called?

"I am the light of the world, says the Lord."

Are you called to bring the Light of Christ to the world through a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life?

Call Fr. Greg at the church office, 905 684 5603 or email frgregoryschmidt@gmail.com.



# Faith Formation & Catechesis

We welcome you to join our RCIA session

"Call to Holiness & Living the Virtues"

at 7:00 pm, Monday, March 28th in our Divinity Hall.

# **Ukraine Emergency Relief**

Church Donation \$ 25,000.00 Week of 3/13/22 3,529.00 Week of 3/20/22 14,055.00

Total to date

\$42,584.00



## Standing up to corporate power in Honduras

The People and Planet First campaign is about helping communities stand up to corporate power.



In Honduras, as in much of the Global South, corporations often threaten and criminalize activists who speak up against their abuses.

The Lenca Indigenous leader Víctor Vásquez was imprisoned for fighting the corporate takeover of his people's ancestral territory. Development and Peace's partner, the Honduran Centre for the Promotion of Community Development (CEHPRODEC), helped free him from jail.

Another partner, Caritas Choluteca, trains and accompanies community leaders in advocating for policies that respect human rights and the environment. Recently, they got mayoral election candidates to undertake to declare the municipality of Orocuina a mining-free zone if elected.

Read more about these people's victories in our Mini-magazine at devp.org/lent/resources.

## Special Collection, Sunday, April 3rd - Solidarity Sunday

Next weekend, April 2 & 3, Development and Peace's *People and Planet First* campaign invites you to give from the heart and thanks you warmly for your generosity.



# Our St Julia Catholic Women's League invites you to....

The Sacred Fire: March 28, 2022

Our Lady of Guadalupe Circle is a coalition of Catholic organizations, including both The Catholic Women's League and St. Vincent de Paul of Canada, working to renew and foster relationships with Canada's Indigenous Peoples. The Circle invites us to pray for peace and reconciliation as the delegations from First Nations, Inuit and Metis meet with Pope Francis at the Vatican March 28 to April 1.

Sacred Fires will burn across the county on March 28 from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. as Canadians come together in prayerful solidarity. St. Julia's Fire will burn from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on that day, the hours for fires in Ontario.

Please stop into the church during our Sacred Fire to add your prayers to those of Catholics across our county. Members of our Catholic Women's League will be present to pray with you.

# The Meaning of Lent

PRAY
Is love for GOD

FAST Is love for YOURSELF

GIVE Is love for OTHERS

# Ways to Give to St. Julia Parish

#### Pre-Authorized Debit (PAD)

- The easiest way to give, automatically debited from your bank account monthly
- Set it up once and never forget your offering
- · Sustained offering for the parish through regular and consistent giving
- The debit will take place on the 5th day of each month (or on the next business day)
- · Can be altered or stopped at any time

Click Here to print the form. Don't have a printer? Simply email or call the office and we will be pleased to mail you a form. Once completed drop off at the parish office or mail to:

St. Julia Church 16 Adelene Crescent St. Catharines, ON L2T 3Y7

#### Interac e-Transfer

- Instant offering / transfer of funds from your bank account to St. Julia's account
  - 1. Log in to your online banking
  - 2. Click Interac e-Transfer
  - 3. Add contact name i.e. St. Julia
  - 4. Notify by email
  - 5. Contacts email address
    - Enter in our new stjuliaparishstcgiving@gmail.com email address
    - (you will only have to enter this in for the first time St. Julia will then be a saved contact)
  - 6. Make your donation via your newly set up Interac E-Transfer

**Note**: Please put your envelope number in the message line There is no password required for St. Julia to receive your donation

## The Traditional Envelope

• Tried and true. Offered at the end of Mass or you can mail your envelope to:

St. Julia Church 16 Adelene Crescent St. Catharines, ON L2T 3Y7

### CanadaHelps.org

• Instant donation using your credit card. Click Here to donate now.

Note: Tax receipts are issued directly from CanadaHelps.org

Thank you for your configued generally,
God bless you and those that you love.