

## SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022

The First Reading tells of God's promise to Abraham that he would have numerous descendants, and that those descendants would possess the land of Canaan. As a pledge of his fidelity God made a solemn covenant with him. Our passage describes an ancient rite of covenant or treaty making. To ratify a covenant the contracting parties cut an animal (or animals) in two and walked between the divided parts, invoking the fate of the animals on themselves should they fail to observe the terms of the covenant. Since God's covenant with Abraham is unilateral, only God (symbolised by the furnace and the torch) passes between the pieces. The birds of prey symbolise the forces hostile to Israel. This covenant led to the covenant at Mount Sinai, and culminated in the new and eternal covenant which Jesus sealed in His own blood on Calvary. The chief significance of the Tabor experience was for Jesus Himself, and this is what St. Luke emphasises. The incident was meant to confirm Him in the course He had taken. It comforted Him to know that the road He was travelling was marked by the feet of prophets such as Moses and Elijah. The transfiguration also benefited the apostles. It prepared them for the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus, the Messiah.

### MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday, March 13 <sup>th</sup> <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent</i>	9 am 11 am	<i>Missa Pro Populo</i> <i>Missa Pro Populo (Linwood)</i>	
Monday, March 14 <sup>st</sup> <i>Lent</i>	-	-	-
Tuesday, March 15 <sup>th</sup> <i>Lent</i>	12 pm	+ <i>Clarence Comfort</i>	By S & G Steuernol
Wednesday, March 16 <sup>th</sup> <i>Lent</i>	12 pm 4 pm	+ <i>Cap Ventura</i> + <i>Harold, Dorothy, Jeff Schill</i> <i>(Linwood)</i>	By... By Bryan & Donna Schill
Thursday, March 17 <sup>th</sup> <i>St. Patrick</i>	8 am	+ <i>Betty Gravelle</i>	By Kathleen Kirby, Susan Good & Deleana Robles
Friday, March 18 <sup>th</sup> <i>St. Cyril of Jerusalem</i>	8 am 7 pm	+ <i>William Haffner</i> <i>Stations of the Cross</i>	By Mary Haffner & family
Saturday, March 19 <sup>th</sup> <i>St. Joseph</i>	5 pm	+ <i>Silvana &amp; Marino Rebellato</i>	By Peter & Ornella Miller & family
Sunday, March 20 <sup>th</sup> <i>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent</i>	9 am 11 am	<i>Missa Pro Populo</i> <i>Missa Pro Populo (Linwood)</i>	

**Our Saint of the Week: St. Joseph** – the Bible pays St. Joseph the highest compliment: he was a “just” man. The quality meant a lot more than faithfulness in paying debts. When the Bible speaks of God “justifying” someone, it means that God, the all-holy or “righteous” one, so transforms a person that the individual shares somehow in God's own holiness, and hence it is really “right” for God to love him or her. In other words, God is not playing games, acting as if we were lovable when we are not. By saying St. Joseph was “just,” the Bible means that he was one who was completely open to all that God wanted to do for him. He became holy by opening himself totally to God. The rest we can easily surmise. Think of the kind of love with which he wooed and won Mary, and the depth of the love they shared during their marriage. It is no contradiction of St. Joseph's manly holiness that he decided to divorce Mary when she was found to be with child. The important words of the Bible are that he planned to do this

“quietly” because he was “a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame”. The just man was simply, joyfully, wholeheartedly obedient to God—in marrying Mary, in naming Jesus, in shepherding the precious pair to Egypt, in bringing them to Nazareth, in the undetermined number of years of quiet faith and courage. The Bible tells us nothing of St. Joseph in the years after the return to Nazareth except the incident of finding Jesus in the Temple. Perhaps this can be taken to mean that God wants us to realize that the holiest family was like every other family, that the circumstances of life for the holiest family were like those of every family, so that when Jesus' mysterious nature began to appear, people couldn't believe that he came from such humble beginnings: “Is he not the carpenter's son? Is not his mother named Mary...?”. It was almost as indignant as “Can anything good come from Nazareth?”. St. Joseph pray us! St. Joseph pray for Canada!

**PENITENTIAL SERVICE & STATIONS OF THE CROSS** – Please mark your calendar for the Lenten penitential service on Tuesday, April 12th at 7pm and join your fellow parishioners for Stations of the Cross at 7pm on Fridays during Lent.

**UKRAINE HUMANITARIAN CRISIS** - Parishioners wishing to make a donation to the Ukraine Humanitarian Crisis can do online through Development & Peace at [https://www.dev.org/en/wp\\_press\\_release/solidarity-prayers-and-support-for-ukraine-development-and-peace-joins-relief-efforts/](https://www.dev.org/en/wp_press_release/solidarity-prayers-and-support-for-ukraine-development-and-peace-joins-relief-efforts/) or by calling 1-888-664-3387.

**FIRST COMMUNION MEETING FOR PARENTS** – There will be a meeting on Wednesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm in the church for parents of Grade 2 children who wish to receive their First Communion this year.

**EVENINGS WITH HIS EXCELLENCY, BISHOP LOBSINGER** – Join Auxiliary Bishop, Wayne Lobsinger, for Evenings with His Excellency, an opportunity to learn more and ask questions about our Catholic Faith. You may attend online or in person at Canadian Martyrs Parish, Hamilton, on the 2nd Friday of every month from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. For more information, visit <https://www.canadianmartyrshamilton.com/upcoming/2021/9/10/evenings-with-his-excellency>

**MARRIAGE SUPPORT** - Retrouvaille has one purpose: to help couples restore their marriage and rebuild a loving relationship. This is a practical program, where sharing is not required except between the couple themselves, designed to improve communication, build stronger marriages, and help couples reconnect. The next Retrouvaille weekend begins March 13, 2022. For more information call 905-664-5212 or email [teamrecine@gmail.com](mailto:teamrecine@gmail.com).

**VOCATION SEEDS** – Peter, John and James had a mountaintop experience with Jesus by witnessing His transfiguration. We too can have a mountaintop experience when we open our minds and hearts to following God's Will for our lives. If God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, contact Bishop Wayne Lobsinger, Director of Vocations and Priestly Formation, Diocese of Hamilton (905-528-7988). Email: [vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com) Website: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/>

**DIOCESE OF HAMILTON PRAYER CALENDAR** – Please remember the following in your prayers: Rev. Francis Hubilla, Rev. Gregory Merkley, Lay Parish Ministers, Rev. Joseph Okoko, i.v.Dei., Rev. Robert Bulbrook, & Rev. Christopher Tracey.

**LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION** – St. Clements \$2,890.00. Thank you for your generosity!