

Today we are invited to meditate on this last week of Jesus' life on earth. Lent is itself a journey to the resurrection and it shapes our lives. It is a Passover through the desert of the world to the heaven we cannot imagine.



Today we begin Holy Week, the most solemn week in the Church calendar. We reflect upon the events that brought about our salvation. Jesus triumphantly enters into Jerusalem, the City of Peace, in order to announce the Good News, not just with His words but by His act of loving sacrifice for all people. We journey along with Him as He celebrates the great feast of Passover and becomes the New Paschal Lamb whose blood is poured out so that we, the New Israel, might experience the liberation from sin and the new life of grace. We look on as Jesus suffers His passion and crucifixion. And ultimately, we will experience His glorification from the cross and at the tomb.

During this most holy of weeks – Holy Week – may the time you spend reflecting on the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus bring you a greater awareness of GOD's love for you!

### HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

#### HOLY THURSDAY

March 28 - 6:00 pm Mass of the Last Supper  
(Washing of the Feet)

#### GOOD FRIDAY

March 29 - 2:30 pm Confession  
3:00 pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion  
4:00 pm Meditations on the Way of the Cross

#### HOLY SATURDAY

March 30 - 6:30 pm Easter Vigil

#### EASTER SUNDAY

March 31 - 9:00 am Mass at the St. Patrick's Square  
10:00 am Mass at the Parish

The Gospel is God's "love letter" to the world, written on a cross, sealed in blood and opened in the resurrection. It is a letter to be read to the entire world:

#### Lenten Reflection

If we wish to change the outer aspects of our lives we must first change the inner attitudes of our minds. The miracle of inner change is possible.

Change requires the substituting of new habits for old ones. It calls for self-discipline. You have to command yourself and make yourself do what needs to be done.

The change of heart to which Lent calls us can be accomplished most of all through the power of prayer.

#### Our Father

Give us this day our daily bread  
and forgive us for the times when we take more than  
our share of the bread that belongs to all.  
Let us help You fill the starving with good things,  
not with scraps from our table.  
Teach us how to share what is not ours to keep.  
Clothe us with Your love that we may complete  
each good work you created us to do.  
Place in our hearts Your compassion for each  
starving child and use our little acts of love  
so that they starve no more.

Amen.

Lord, as the Spirit led you into the desert to face temptation,  
so may that same spirit guide us this Lent as we seek  
to follow your way more faithfully.

### Pontifical Collection for the Holy Land on Good Friday

The annual Good Friday Collection was first taken at Pope Paul VI's request fifty years ago. It is the only yearly request asked by the Holy See of dioceses and parishioners throughout the world to assist the Church in the Holy Land. The monies collected support its pastoral, educational, and social works and helps to maintain the Holy Places so important for the faith of Christians everywhere, and also to support the faithful who struggle to survive under political and economic oppression and persecution.

This Pontifical Collection will be taken up during the Good Friday celebration on March 29, 2024. **Envelope for this collection is in your box.** Those who are unable to attend the service, or who prefer to contribute online, may do so by Interac e-transfer to [teresaints@bellnet.ca](mailto:teresaints@bellnet.ca) or online at [Commissariat.ca](http://Commissariat.ca) – For online contributions receipts will be issued.

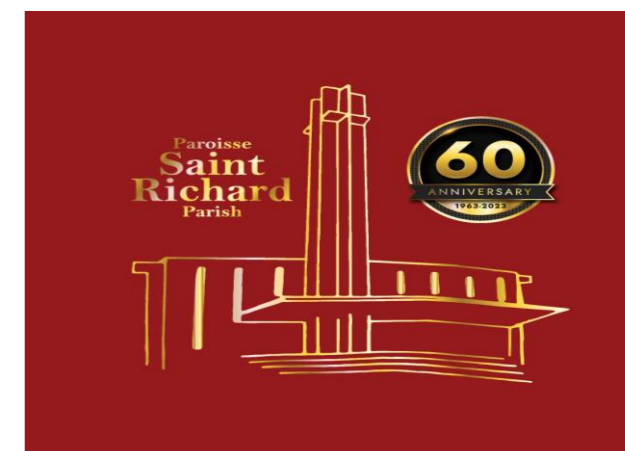
### Mass Intentions (March 23 - 25, 2024)

Sat. Mar 23/4:30 p.m. Living & Deceased members of the Baird, Shanahan, Scott, Ryan, Malone, Faherty, McGarry & Kostner families - Teresa Baird

Sun. Mar 24/10:00 a.m. Nick Baird - Teresa Baird  
Eileen Shanahan - Shanahan & Scott families  
Valentina, Francesco & Carlo Cicchino - Nick Cicchino  
Natividad, Aurelia, Rebecca, Magdalena & Teresita Sumagaysay - Pabillo family



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn this week  
Giving Thanks to The Lord & Special Intentions.



### Parish Survey

In this sixtieth year of celebrating our community as a family at St. Richard, we are launching a Parish Survey to get to know the thoughts and opinion of our parishioners regarding our services and feelings as a community. Your valuable input in this survey will enable us to renew and orient ourselves to serve you better.

The survey is online on our website, (<http://www.strichards.ca>) and link on our Facebook page. Everyone in a family can submit individually. The QR code for the survey is in our online bulletin:



**WE REQUEST YOU SUBMIT ONLY ONE SURVEY PER PERSON.**

Please feel free to complete the survey online or using the hard copy inserted in your bulletin. Extra copies are available at the entrance of the church.

Please complete the survey and drop it in the dedicated Survey Box. **TOTAL CONFIDENTIALITY IS ASSURED.**

The survey launch date: Passion Sunday, March 24, 2024 and will be closed on April 28, 2024.

**Thank you for participating in this important survey to serve you better. God bless you.**