

*St. Vital Catholic Parish*  
4905-50 St, Beaumont, Ab. T4X 1J9  
780-929-8541  
e-mail: [St.vitalchurch@shaw.ca](mailto:St.vitalchurch@shaw.ca)

Pastor: Fr. Les Drewicki  
Deacon: Dan Ritchie (778-228-3633)  
Secretary: Jeanette Gariepy



**MARCH 24, , 2024**

**Weekend Mass Times**

Saturday, (March 23<sup>rd</sup>) 5:00 p.m. (English)

Sunday (March 24<sup>th</sup>) 9:00 a.m. (bilingual) 11:00 a.m. (English)

**WEEKDAY MASSES**

Tuesday & Wednesday (March 26<sup>th</sup> & March 27<sup>th</sup>) 9:00 a.m.

Check out our website [www.saintvitalparish.com](http://www.saintvitalparish.com) and check it regularly for updates.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> - 11 a.m. – noon or by appointment by contacting Fr. Les

*Please note that the Sacrament of Reconciliation will NOT be available as a scheduled time on Holy Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup>.*

**ADORATION-** Please note that Adoration in St. Vital Church has been cancelled on Good Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup>. Beginning on Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup> the hours of Adoration will return to the full schedule (of Friday's) 9:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

**Loan Balance February 28, 2024 \$429,021.62**

The Parish Office is closed on Good Friday (March 29<sup>th</sup>) and Easter Monday (April 1<sup>st</sup>).

**Palm Sunday** is the final Sunday of Lent, the beginning of Holy Week, and commemorates the triumphant arrival of Christ in Jerusalem, days before he was crucified. Palm Sunday is known as such because the faithful will often receive palm fronds which they use to participate in the reenactment of Christ's arrival in Jerusalem. In the Gospels, Jesus entered Jerusalem riding a young donkey, and to the lavish praise of the townspeople who threw clothes, or possibly palms or small branches, in front of him as a sign of homage. This was a customary practice for people of great respect. Palm branches are widely recognized symbol of peace and victory, hence their preferred use on Palm Sunday. The use of a donkey instead of a horse is highly symbolic, it represents the humble arrival of someone in peace, as opposed to arriving on a steed in war. A week later, Christ would rise from the dead on the first Easter. During Palm Sunday Mass, palms are distributed to parishioners. The palms are blessed, and many people will fashion them into small crosses or other items of personal devotion. These may be returned to the church or kept for the year. Because the palms are blessed, they may not be discarded as trash. Instead, they are appropriately gathered at the church and incinerated to create the ashes that will be used in the follow year's Ash Wednesday observance. The colors of the Mass on Palm Sunday are red and white, symbolizing the redemption in blood that Christ paid for the world.

**Blank schedules for Holy Week Ministries are at the back of the Church.**  
**PLEASE** sign up for the mass you are attending.



**HOLY THURSDAY—March 28th: Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00 pm**

Incense will be used at the end of Mass.

You are invited to visit the Blessed Sacrament until 10:00 p.m.

**GOOD FRIDAY—March 29th: (FASTING AND ABSTAINING FROM EATING MEAT)**

**Celebration of the Lord's Passion - Services at 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.**

Outdoor way of the Cross (weather permitting) **2:00 p.m.** (starts at 50 Ave & 44 St.)

**HOLY SATURDAY—March 30th: EASTER VIGIL - 9:00 p.m.**

**(NO 5:00 p.m. Saturday Mass)**

**EASTER SUNDAY MASSES March 31st - 9:00 am Mass 11:00 am Mass**

**The Triduum (TRIH-du-um) is the time of the Church year when we celebrate the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.**

The Triduum is somewhat like a three-day prayer marathon, and if you are a novice there may be some rituals that are unfamiliar to you. This guide will help you walk and pray through the liturgies of the Triduum. This three-day celebration begins with the Holy Thursday Mass and continues on Good Friday with the Liturgy of the Lord's Passion. At the end of this liturgy, we leave the church in silence, waiting to celebrate the glory of our Lord's resurrection. Then, on Saturday at sundown, the Church re-gathers to celebrate the final, and most grand moment of the Triduum: The Resurrection of our Lord during the Easter Vigil.

**Holy Thursday ~ March 28<sup>th</sup>**

The Mass on Holy Thursday is a time for Catholics to remember the Last Supper where Jesus and his apostles gathered to celebrate Passover. At this celebration, the three oils blessed and consecrated by the Archbishop at the Chrism Mass will be presented to be used in the parish for sacraments over the next year. Two other ritual actions stand out:

**Washing of the Feet** ~ At the Last Supper, Jesus took a basin and a towel, got down on his hands and knees and washed the feet of all of his apostles. After this action, he commanded the apostles, "I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do" (John 13:15). Just as Jesus has been a servant to his apostles, so the apostles must go out into the world and be servants to everyone around them. The action of washing one another's feet at Mass reminds us that God calls us first and foremost to be servants to others in our daily lives.

**The Celebration of the Eucharist and the Eucharistic Procession** ~ At the very first Last Supper, Jesus also instituted the Eucharist for the Church. At the conclusion of the Holy Thursday celebration, there is no concluding prayer. Once the celebration of the Eucharist is completed, there is a Eucharistic Procession, reminding us of Jesus' time in the garden of Gethsemane when he prayed so fervently through the night.

The entire community is invited to join in this procession and then join in the silent prayer and adoration until 10 p.m. At 10:00 p.m. The monstrance will be taken to the Altar of Repose.

**Good Friday ~ March 29<sup>th</sup>**

In this solemn celebration, which is NOT a Mass, we remember the Passion and Death of Our Lord. The service is marked by several important rituals including the proclaiming of the Passion according to John, the Veneration of the Cross, an extended form of General Intercessions, and finally, the distribution of Communion (reserved from the Holy Thursday celebration of the Eucharist). The Veneration of the Cross ~ It seems strange that in the Good Friday liturgy Catholics choose to venerate, or show reverence to, the very instrument that was used to crucify Jesus.

**The Veneration of the Cross** reminds us that through this Cross, the Glory of the resurrection emerges. So, on Good Friday, we come forward to show our great reverence and respect for the Cross. People have various traditions when they approach the Cross. Sometimes they kiss the Cross, kneel before the Cross, or even just touch it in some fashion. As you participate in this ritual, just take in the experience of the gathered community coming so close to such a tragic, but integral, event in our faith.

**The General Intercessions** ~ On Good Friday the entire Church around the world offers the same 10 prayers intentions as a reminder of our universality. These include praying for the unity of all Christians, for the Jewish people, for people who do not believe in Christ or in God, for people in public office, and for people who are suffering or facing difficult times.

### **The Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday ~ March 30th**

Easter actually begins a few hours before the clock strikes midnight on Sunday at Saturday's Vigil service, which is traditionally held after sunset. The celebration of the Easter Vigil tells the whole story of our salvation - from creation to resurrection and beyond. Because of all the ritual moments, this service may last more than 2 hours. But don't let the length of the celebration detract you from participating! The Easter Vigil begins outside the darkened church with the lighting of the Easter Fire and Paschal Candle (the large candle that we will use throughout the year). The service also includes the singing of the *Exsultet* (the Easter Proclamation), the expanded *Liturgy of the Word* that traces time through Salvation History (nine readings and seven responsorial psalms) and the *Liturgy of Initiation* (where new people join the Church through baptism.) As the Church proclaims the resurrection of Christ, all of its normal functions (such as Mass, Communion, music and more) resume. After sunset, the Church explodes in joy and celebration of Jesus' resurrection. "This is the night Jesus rose from the dead!" proclaims the Church. And what a night it is!

Adapted from: Your Essential Guide to the Triduum: Taking you step-by-step through the Three-day Celebration of the Church by Julianne Wallace March 19, 2018

### **NO GIFT CARD SALES EASTER WEEKEND**

**PLEASE NOTE:** There will be no grocery or gift cards sold the Easter weekend, March 30<sup>th</sup>/31<sup>st</sup>. If you will be needing cards, please purchase ahead of time. Buy your grocery cards and support Our Lady of the Hill Knights of Columbus. We thank you for your consideration.

### **Grandparents Gather To Pray**

The first Thursday of each month, (**April 4<sup>th</sup>, May 2<sup>nd</sup> and June 6<sup>th</sup>**) grandparents are invited to meet in the **Conference Room (Parish Office) at 9:45 a.m.** to pray the Rosary for our children and grandchildren and to spend time in fellowship. For more information call Irma Jean Campbell at 780-737-7989

## Scent Free Makes Sense



We would like the parish to be sensitive to folks with allergies and refrain from wearing perfume and aftershave at Mass. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

### **MEANING**

Life has meaning when you recognize God-given gifts and share them with others. Join the Catholic Women's League and celebrate the meaning of life as you share your gifts with others. **CWL General Meeting – Tuesday, March 26<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 p.m.**

### **CALLED TO PROTECT**

The next "Safe Environment and Abuse Prevention" training session, "Called to Protect", is scheduled for: **Sat., April 13, 2024 from 9:30 am - 12:00 pm in person at St. Michael Parish (5105 - 45A St., Leduc).** To register, call St. Michael Parish - 780.986.3253 **This is a requirement for all volunteers and employees in the Archdiocese 18 years and older.**

### **Stewardship Corner Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion Weekend of March 23/24**

This weekend we participate in the proclamation of the passion and death of Jesus according to the Gospel of Mark. In the extended version of this weekend's Gospel reading, Jesus is at Gethsemane, praying to His Father, in much emotional distress. He knows He can save Himself. He can escape over the Mount of Olives in the dead of night and make His way safely into the Judean desert. Instead, Jesus chooses obedience to His Father and waits for His persecutors. As Saint Paul puts it in the second reading, Jesus is "obedient to the point of death." Jesus' obedience is a lesson for those who are good stewards of their life in Christ. Let us reflect on how we might be more obedient to the will of God instead of our own will.

### **THANK YOU FOR GIVING FROM THE HEART TO SHARE LENT 2024!**

Development and Peace - Caritas Canada thanks you for supporting the Reaping our Rights campaign with your Share Lent donation. Thanks for your generosity. The sum collected will help support our sisters and brothers in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Middle East. If you have not yet had a chance to give, you can still place your Share Lent envelope in the offertory or donate online at [devp.org/give](http://devp.org/give) Thank you for continuing to pray for all those who are working to build a world of peace and justice.