

5TH SUNDAY OF
LENT (C)
13 MARCH, 2016

*I am about to do a
new thing; now it
springs forth, do you
not perceive it?*

St. Columban Parish

36 Fourth St. West, Cornwall, ON K6J 2R6

Masses: Sat Vigil: 5:30 p.m., Sun: 7:30, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.
Lent weekdays except Mondays: 7:30 a.m., 12:10 p.m.

THE GREAT STORY OF SALVATION

How do the pieces come together to tell the story

The Great Story can be divided into three major parts.

1.) CREATION - God is not in need of us, but out of His love and goodness, He created us to share in His love and goodness. He made us in His image to live like Him - to live self-giving love. Our first parents originally lived that, in great unity with God and that unity spilled over into their relationship with each other, resulting in great unity in the human family - the united family of God.

2.) THE FALL - But then Adam and Eve sinned, disobeying God, refusing to give themselves as a gift of love. As a result, they hurt their relationship with God, turning away from the presence of the Lord God. Their sin also hurt their relationship with each other. The nature of sin is that it hurts our relationship with God and with each other. We therefore inherited a broken human family.

3.) SALVATION - Nevertheless, God has a plan. We see Him in salvation history gradually gathering His people back. He works with key leaders in the Bible and this plan reaches its climax when God sends His own Son, Jesus Christ, to die for our sins and offer that perfect gift of love that restores us to the Father. And the Son sends the Holy Spirit to fill us with His very life. But, Jesus doesn't want to save us individually, separate from each other. He wants to draw us humans together. Thus He established one worldwide Church that gathers all humanity back into the one family of God.

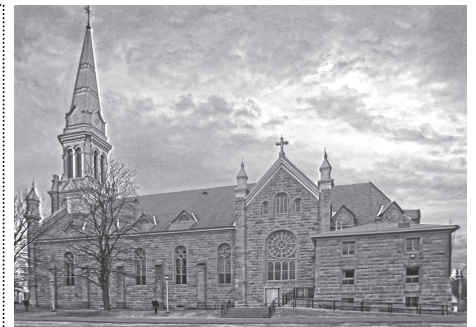
For 2,000 years the Catholic (universal) Church has been faithfully handing on the teaching of Jesus Christ, and through the Sacraments, the graces He won for us on the Cross so that we might be equipped to live like Him - to live that total self-giving love that we were made for from the very beginning, so that we might be with God forever in heaven.

Does that mean we're home-free? Not at all. Like any other gift, salvation and sanctification (growing in holiness) have to be received and put to use to be of benefit.

But I'm at Church most Sundays; doesn't that count? Christianity entails a lifelong process of discipleship which begins with a voiced desire and choice to surrender our lives to God and to be led by His Holy Spirit. Discipleship includes making it a priority to seize opportunities to grow deeper in relationship with God and with other disciples, lovingly encouraging and helping to hold one another to account.

We find ourselves in the midst of Lent, a season of repentance / change of heart and also in the midst of a special jubilee year of mercy. Will we embrace God's gift of mercy? There is no time like the present.

How about right now giving God permission – yes, permission – permission to change our attitudes, permission to change our habits, permission to lead us where He knows is best for us!



PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Fr. Ernest Emeka Emeodi
Parochial Administrator
Deacon Chris Chisholm (Apr 2016)

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Mrs. Kelly Poitras

OFFICE HOURS

Mon. to Thurs. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Evenings by appointment

BAPTISMS

By appointment 1 month in advance

MARRIAGES

Please give 6 months notice

CONFESSIONS

Saturday 3:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Also by appointment

OFFICE PHONE

613-932-9616

PARISH E-MAIL ADDRESS

stcolumban@cogeco.ca

ACCESS PARISH BULLETIN

www.parihsbulletins.com/bulletins/111

PARISH FOUNDATION

www.stcolumbans.com

DIOCESE

www.alexandria-cornwall.ca

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FOR TIMELY PUBLICATION,
E-MAIL BULLETIN NOTICES TO
stcolumbanbulletin@outlook.com
BY 4 P.M. FRIDAY
(ONE WEEK PRIOR TO REQUIRED
WEEKEND PUBLICATION)

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

Saturday, March 12th

3 – 4 p.m. Confessions

5:30 p.m. Fred & Evelyn Upton by Angus Kelly

Sunday, March 13th

7:30 a.m. Intentions of parishioners

9:30 a.m. Sylvia Etwell Shaver (22nd Anniv. of death) by
daughter Kelly Poitras & family

11:00 a.m. Maria Rosa Vincelli by the Vincelli family

12:30 p.m. *Baptisms*

Tuesday, March 15th

7:30 a.m. Souls in Purgatory by a parishioner

12:10 p.m. Sr. Mary McAlear by Shannon Bellefeuille

Wednesday, March 16th

7:30 a.m. Deceased family members of
Art & Geraldine Lauzon

12:10 p.m. Ursula Cleary by Nick & Marion Haramis

Thursday, March 17th

7:30 a.m. Douglas Bennett by Elaine Lebrun

12:10 p.m. Rosa Vincelli by Richard & Linda Leroux

Friday, March 18th

7:30 a.m. Souls in Purgatory by a parishioner

12:10 p.m. Marlene Macmillan by Leoza Filion

5:15 p.m. *Stations of the Cross*

Saturday, March 19th

3 – 4 p.m. Confessions

5:30 p.m. Rene Ouellette by Gerry & Lise DiCola

Sunday, March 20th

7:30 a.m. Intentions of Parishioners

9:30 a.m. James McLaverty by John & Janice Meyer

11:00 a.m. Jack Tyo by the Estate

Monday, March 21st

7:00 p.m. *Chrism Mass*

COMMUNION STATIONS ARE LOCATED
CENTRE FRONT AND HALFWAY DOWN CENTRE AISLE
Please exit pews from the centre aisle & return by the side aisles.

COFFEE AND CHAT – NEXT SUNDAY, 20 MARCH

YELLOW MASS RESPONSE BOOKLETS

These booklets help us to remember to use the correct Mass responses. After each Mass, please place yours in the red song book. When left on the pew, many of them fall on the floor and are damaged. Thank you for your understanding and care.

IRISH STEW – PARISH SUPPER – 5 P.M., SUNDAY, 20 MARCH

In the Parish Activity Centre.

Tickets available at the door - \$10. Family \$20.

IN THE PARISH

COLLECTION 28 FEBRUARY, 2016 – THANK YOU

\$3,157.05 Sunday Env.	\$161.00 Flowers
251.25 Loose	\$134.00 Candles
\$3,408.30 Total	\$ 99.75 Books

2016 CHRISM MASS

Please join Archbishop Terrence Prendergast and the priests in the diocese, for the annual blessing of the oils at the Chrism Mass. These oils will be distributed to the parishes of the Diocese of Alexandria-Cornwall for use during the coming year. At this special Mass all our priests are given the opportunity to renew their priestly promises during the Liturgy. General seating is available to those who would like to attend.

7 P.M., MONDAY, 21 MARCH, ST. COLUMBAN'S CHURCH

CLEANING THE CHURCH 9 TO 11 A.M., MONDAY, 21 MARCH

This is a very large Church to clean and your help, along with members of the C.W.L. and other parishioners is most welcomed. If you are able, please come and bring a bucket and clean cloths. Thank you.

CHICKEN DINNER 4:30 TO 6:30 P.M., SUNDAY, 10 APRIL

Hosted by Royal Canadian Legion Branch 297,
415 2nd St. W. – All are welcome.

**FUNDRAISER FOR PATRONS OF ST. COLUMBAN FOUNDATION
FOR RESTORATION OF OUR HISTORIC ST. COLUMBAN'S CHURCH.**
Tickets (\$12.) available after masses the weekends of March 19-20 and April 2-3. Tickets also available at St. Columban's parish office during office hours, from Foundation members, at the Legion or call Brian Lynch at 613-933-8353.

DEVELOPMENT & PEACE – SHARE LENT 2016

Each year during Lent, Canadian Catholics are invited to stand in solidarity with communities in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East who are struggling for dignity and justice. Please give generously by using your D & P envelope. Make cheque payable to St. Columban Parish.

St. Columban's Catholic Women's League
ST. PATRICK'S DAY TEA AND BAKE SALE
1:30-3 P.M., THURS., 17 MARCH, PARISH ACTIVITY CENTRE.
Admission \$6. + Bake sale, Candy table & Basket draw.

IN THIS THE YEAR OF MERCY

do you have a few hours to spare to visit fellow parishioners who are housebound, in nursing homes and hospitals?
ST. COLUMBAN PASTORAL OUTREACH TEAM IS RECRUITING parishioners to help with this much needed ministry. Training and on site visiting experience will be provided. Please contact Jean McDonnell at 613 938-6138 for more information.

HOLY THURSDAY – VOLUNTEERS FOR FOOT WASHING

Michael Beaulieu, Susan Beaulieu, Molly Bellefeuille,
Bernadette Blakely, Gary Clouthier, Keith Grant,
Joseph Harvey, Maya Kupina, Teresa MacInnis,
Joe Parisien, Richard Pilon, Megan Roundpoint.

PASTORAL EXHORTATION ON EUTHANASIA & ASSISTED SUICIDE (FROM BISHOP PRENDERGAST)

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

On Feb. 6, 2015, the Supreme Court of Canada redefined medical ethics by striking down Canada's Criminal Code prohibition of assisted suicide. This decision causes concern because authorities could interpret the subjective language of the Court decision to allow euthanasia, with few or no constraints. The result? Society would abandon people at their most vulnerable stage, rather than provide proper medical care for their suffering & need. This is precisely how the Parliamentary Committee, which recently published its recommendations on February 25, viewed the Supreme Court decision. From not only a Catholic perspective but any rational perspective, the intentional, willful act of killing oneself or another human being is clearly morally wrong. How can a just society permit the state-sanctioned taking of lives by our physicians? When any life is vulnerable & can be taken at will, the dignity of all lives is seriously eroded. Respect for all human life in our society is jeopardized. Advocates for assisted suicide & euthanasia often raise the issue of managing severe, chronic pain. They propose terminating the patient's life as the best "medical treatment." Many people do indeed fear physical pain, but the Church teaches that patients in the final phase of terminal illness may receive whatever pain relief is required, even if, indirectly, it could shorten their life. The principle involved here is simple & clear: the goal of the medication is to ease the patient's great pain, not to hasten their death. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* explicitly teaches us, "whatever its motives & means, direct euthanasia consists in putting an end to the lives of handicapped, sick, or dying persons. It is morally unacceptable" (n. 2277). The right to life is not a matter for Christians only. It is a human right for all. To formally cooperate in the killing of the disabled, frail, sick, or suffering, even if motivated by a misplaced compassion, requires a prior judgement that such lives do not have value & are not worth living. But all human life has value. The law should protect all life. No one forfeits the right to life because of illness or disability. The Catholic Church does not advocate prolonging life at any cost. Rather, the Church is guided by the principle of the quality of life that considers the *whole person* & not simply keeping the body going no matter what. As rational Catholic Christians, we ask the question in evaluating whether or not to accept life-prolonging treatment: is there a reasonable hope of benefit without excessive pain, or other serious problem? As your bishop and your brother in Christ, I exhort you to fast & pray that our parliamentarians heed our concerns. **PLEASE TAKE PART IN A NOVENA TO ST. JOSEPH** from March 10–18. Let us pray that our legislators at the national & provincial levels will protect life, especially that of the most vulnerable & that they will respect the right of medical professionals to refuse to take part in assisted-dying. What else can you do? Take these concerns to your Member of Parliament and Member of Provincial Parliament. You may also join or start a parish pro-life group to support the work of resisting the culture of death & nurturing the culture of life in Canada. Talk to your friends & co-workers about the grave threat to human dignity & life that assisted suicide & euthanasia pose to our most vulnerable neighbours. Explain to your children, grandchildren, friends & associates the importance of reverencing human life that begins

at conception in the womb and ends in natural death. I encourage you to be an agent of mercy in this Jubilee Year of Mercy—"feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, welcome the stranger, [comfort] the sick, visit the imprisoned, and bury the dead." Catholics, like all other citizens, have a right and a duty to participate in the political process of our democracy. We must act to uphold the dignity of every human life. Take courage. Do not be afraid to stand up for the value and dignity of life. Catholic Christians have a special role to play in resisting this culture of death. I call on all Catholics to be strong supporters and proponents of the Gospel of Life. Make your voice heard.

✠ *Terrence Prendergast, S.J. Apostolic Administrator,
Alexandria-Cornwall Diocese*

NOVENA TO ST. JOSEPH – 10 – 18 MARCH

Glorious St. Joseph, foster-father and protector of Jesus Christ! To you I raise my heart and my hands to implore your powerful intercession. Please obtain for me from the kind Heart of Jesus, the help and the graces necessary for my spiritual and temporal welfare. I ask particularly for the grace of a happy death and the special favour I now implore. *(That our Government reverse its decision and protect life, from birth till natural death.)* Guardian of the Word Incarnate, I feel animated with confidence that your prayers in my behalf will be graciously heard before the throne of God.
V. O glorious St. Joseph, through the love you bear to Jesus Christ, and for the glory of His Name.
R. Hear my prayers and obtain my petitions. Amen.

IN THE DIOCESE

PRO-LIFE CORNWALL SPAGHETTI SUPPER
4:30 TO 7 P.M., SUNDAY, 13 MARCH
at the Agora Catholic Centre (former Nativity Hall).
\$8/person – under age 12 are free. Take out orders available.
New this year: Regular and gluten-free spaghetti

PALLIATIVE CARE OR PHYSICIAN ASSISTED SUICIDE
Whether you want to watch the talks again, or share them with others or see what you missed you can now do so by purchasing the DVD (\$3 to cover the cost of making the DVD) at the Catholic Information Centre, 146 Chevrier

NEW EVANGELIZATION SUMMIT – 15/16 APRIL
Hear Sherry Weddell, live-streamed to the Agora Centre. Her book *Forming Intentional Disciples* is a best seller that has sold over 100,000 copies & helping transform parishes around the world. Summit tickets available at www.newevangelization.ca

HOLY YEAR OF MERCY PILGRIMAGE – 17–30 SEPTEMBER
Escorted by Fr. Kevin Maloney & Donna Flanigan
Call Donna at 613-938-6969 for more details.

Knights of Columbus 755, 205 Amelia Street
FISH AND CHIPS – GOOD FRIDAY, 25 MARCH
4 to 7:30 p.m. - \$10/person

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