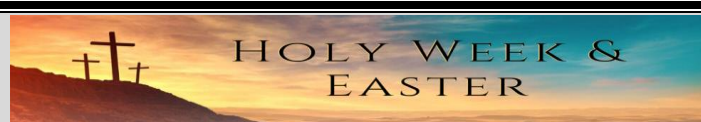




Today is Palm Sunday. It celebrates Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem for the Jewish festival of Passover. Great crowds of people lined the streets waving palm branches to welcome Him. Shortly thereafter these same people were to desert Him and shout for His death.



Wednesday March 27th

Mass at 8:30am – Holy Cross
(†Ermelinda Pinto)

Holy Thursday March 28th

Mass at 5:00pm – Holy Cross
Mass at 7:00pm – St. Gregory's

Good Friday March 29th

Celebration of the Lord's Passion:

12-noon – St. Gregory's
followed by Stations of the Cross

3:00pm – Holy Cross
followed by Stations of the Cross

Easter Vigil Saturday March 30th

Mass at 6:00pm – Holy Cross
Mass at 8:30pm – St. Gregory's

Easter Sunday March 31st

Mass at 8:00am – St. Gregory's
Mass at 9:30am – St. Gregory's
Mass at 12noon – Holy Cross

Church Bulletin Advertising

Liturgical Publications will be setting up the advertisements for our Church bulletin beginning in May 2024. This helps support the bulletin service. Call Liturgical Publications at 1-800-268-2637.

Sacramental Prep

First Communion Prep Class #6 at 10:45 a.m.

Sunday April 7, 2024 at St. Gregory the Great
Parish Hall (190 Simcoe St. N.)

Confirmation Prep Class #6 at 10:45 a.m.

Sunday April 14, 2024 in Holy Cross Parish Hall.

About Fasting and Abstinence

Fasting is the limitation of food and drink, typically to one main meal and two smaller meals, with no solid foods in between. (But remember to drink enough fluids!). We fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. We fast because it helps us to pray better. An empty stomach can lead to more attentive prayer. Catholics aged 18-59 are bound to fast. Those with impaired health should not fast in any way.

Abstinence is avoiding certain kinds of food or drink, typically meat or other desirable foods. Catholics are obliged to abstain from meat every Friday throughout the year (except solemn feast days). Instead of abstaining, you may substitute special acts of charity or piety on Fridays. We abstain on Fridays because it's the day of Christ's saving death on the Cross; we abstain to share in His work of saving the world. Catholics aged 14 and older are obliged to abstain.

<https://www.archtoronto.org/en/offices-and-ministries/sub-sites/lent/home/lent/>

Totus Tuus Summer Camp 2024

The Totus Tuus summer camp will be taking place here at St. Gregory's for both Holy Cross and St. Gregory's Parishes from July 8th to July 12th for students in grades 1-12. An announcement will be coming soon as to when registration will begin and how you can help volunteer. Please see the following link for more information about the camp:

<https://www.totustuustoronto.ca/>



Good Friday Collection

Needs of the Holy Land.

Pope Francis has asked our parish to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, which helps Christians in the Holy Land. Your support helps the church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools and offer religious education. The Pontifical Good Friday Collection also helps to persevere the sacred shrines. The wars, unrest and instability have been especially hard on Christians. In these times of crisis, the Pontifical Good Friday Collection provides humanitarian aid to refugees. When you contribute to the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, you become an instrument of peace and join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land.

Please remember Holy Cross Parish in your Will.

Radical Humility

As stewards, we may sometimes forget the truth found in the paradox of the cross. It is not our own strength or achievements that make us great but it is rather our humility and obedience to God. As we enter Holy Week, let us take some time to meditate on the radical humility of Christ crucified and seek to imitate Him in our own lives.



Welcoming Jesus into our hearts by sharing our blessings today.

Today is Palm Sunday, a time in our Lenten journey when we are reminded of the importance of welcoming Jesus in our hearts. In the spirit of His teachings and example, let us extend our hands to those who need our help the most.

So far, we have raised **\$2,978.00** toward our goal of **\$19,500.00**. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope or at:

<https://sharelife.org/donate/>.

DAY OF REFLECTION

Monday, March 25, 2024: 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM

**Manresa Jesuit Spiritual Renewal Centre,
Topic: "Walk Beside Me"**

Facilitator: Fr. Henk van Meijel, S.J.

A suggested offering of \$65 per person. Includes break, lunch and mass along with the program.

REGISTER: <http://manresa-canada.ca>

CONTACT: registration@manresa.ca

PHONE: 905-839-2864

MINISTRY OF MATURING ADULTS 60 + Immaculate Conception Parish, Port Perry

April 18, 2024 – End of Life Issues – Moira McQueen from Canadian Catholic Bioethics Institute University of Toronto.

9:30 coffee / 10:00 session / concludes with free luncheon. Registration is not required. You are most welcome.



For the Sick:

Mary McDermott, Ryan Brown, Raymond Richard, Rita Globe, Daniel Zdanowski, Rose Henry,

Maurice Chartrand, Alberto Pinto, Mark Smegal, Jerry Ashworth, Shaunna Herron, Sean Brooks, Paul Gallegos, Eric Gates, Martyn Mooney, Joseph Cassar, Phillippe Alberigo & Anne Buday.

*From the
Pastor's
Desk*

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

We have received permission to have two multiple intention weekday Masses on Wednesday and Thursday at 8:30 am at Holy Cross, and on Tuesday at 12:10 pm and Friday at 7 pm at St. Gregory's. It means that we may have up to 20 Mass intentions per Mass. That is, if you would like to have a Mass intention for the living or deceased, and someone's name is already there, just reach out to the office so that your Mass intention may be added.



Sacrament of Baptism

If you are interested in having your child Baptized, please request a registration form from the priest after attending Sunday Mass. We ask that couples be registered with the parish and that the Catholic parent(s) be in regular attendance at Sunday Mass.

NOTICE OF CONSTRUCTION

The Regional Municipality of Durham has begun construction for the replacement of existing watermain, sanitary and storm sewers, service connections, road construction and pavement rehabilitation on Simcoe St. S. from Olive Ave. to 20 metres north of Metcalfe St. There will be lane closures and at the intersections of John St. and Gibb/Elm St. there will be intermittent road closures to through traffic in both eastbound and westbound directions. For more information, please visit:

www.durham.ca/SimcoeStreetWatermain

Palm Sunday is a Time for Reflection Before Holy Week

St. Bernard of Clairvaux offered a homily about the significance of Palm Sunday and the account of Christ's entry in Jerusalem:

"How different the cries, 'Away with him, away with him, crucify him,' and then, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, hosanna, in the highest!' How different the cries that now are calling him 'King of Israel' and then in a few days' time will be saying, 'We have no king but Caesar!' What a contrast between the green the green branches and the cross, between the flowers and the thorns! Before they were offering their own clothes for him to walk upon, and so soon afterwards they were stripping him of his, and casting lots upon them."

Please remember Holy Cross Parish in your Will.