HOLY WEEK: PRAYER FOR PRIESTS



Holy Thursday: The Day We Pray for All Priests

By Fr. Kyle Schnippel

This week is a study of contradictions. We begin the week we call 'Holy' by welcoming Christ triumphantly into Jerusalem. Just a few short moments later, we proclaim the story of his Passion from one of the Synoptic Gospels. Holy Thursday begins the final moments of Jesus' earthly life, while also marking the beginning of our entrance, through Him, into Eternal Life. Good Friday's solemn veneration of the Cross and Holy Saturday's Proclamation of the Exultet continue the contrast right up to the end, as we proclaim the 'happy fault of Adam that earned us so great a Redeemer.' Prayerfully re-entering these mysteries year after year, we know that these events had to come to pass so that we might be able to enter into a deeper communion with God, the Father, who loves us so much that He sent His Son for our Redemption.

In the life of a priest, this week also contains many contrasts. Lent is a mad dash of penance services, RCIA rituals and rehearsals for the Triduum. Then Holy Week itself dawns: Palm Sunday, the Chrism Mass, the celebration of the Triduum; taken together, they present a microcosm of the priest's life: ups and downs, running from one thing to the next, hardly a chance to breathe and take in the mysteries that we celebrate, until the morning of Holy Saturday stirs quietly, as the parish sits awaiting the Light's appearance at the Vigil.

In the midst of this chaos, a detail is easy to miss: Holy Thursday is the anniversary of our priesthood. Even though we were each ordained on different dates, we all share in the one eternal priesthood of Christ, who 'ordained,' as it were, the Twelve as the first priests of the New Covenant as He simultaneously established the Eucharist. These two Sacraments, the Holy Eucharist and Holy Orders, are intricately bound together in the mind of the Savior and are primary instruments in the plan of salvation He has laid out before us.

As St. John Paul II when he was pope repeatedly pointed out in his annual 'Letter to Priests' for Holy Thursday, what we enter into over these days is the great banquet of Love. Not the false saccharin sweet notion of love that our modern culture presents, but the tough, dynamic true Love that desires a sacrifice of self so that others may live. During the Mass of the Last Supper on Holy Thursday, Jesus looks into our eyes with a love that is so powerful, personal and profound, that he goes forth to offer himself for each one of us. He loves us so much, he is willing to die that we might be with Him.

This cuts to the heart of the matter as to why a priest is a living symbol of this death out of life. The priest is a living sign that directs others to the redeeming death of Christ. But the priest is also called to follow in the footsteps of the Master, as Jesus promises: 'They have persecuted me, they will persecute you also.' Therefore, his garments are also a constant reminder that he is to die to this world to live in the next.

But this embrace of the Cross is not out of a morbid fascination with suffering and persecution. As always, the priest is the example for his people. If he shies away from a willing suffering for the sake of the Gospel, how will his people embrace their cross? If he is unwilling to die to earthly joy, will his people ever taste the glory of heaven?

In these days that we call 'Holy,' take extra time to pray for your priest. Pray not that he be a good priest, but that he might be an excellent priest, a holy priest, an inspiring priest. Then, hopefully, we might all enjoy the true fruits of this season: the joy of the Resurrection to new life, in a deeper, more profound, way; for Jesus Christ continues to be present among us, and we thank our priests for helping to make this so.

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MASSES & SERVICES

Saturday: 5pm (Anticipated Mass) Sunday: 9am, 11am & 5pm Monday – Wednesday 8am Thursday Mass/Novena: 8am & 7pm Friday, Saturday, Holidays: 9am (Fridays in July & August: 8am) Children's Mass: 9am 1st Sunday of the month Oct-June Children's Liturgy: 11am All Sundays except the 1st Sunday from Sept- June Reconciliation Saturday: 4-4:45pm Adoration Saturday 9:30-10am Library Hours

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday: 9am-4pm **STAFF**

Sunday: 10-10:45am, 4:30-5pm

Pastor

Babu Mathew, C.Ss.R. **Associate Pastor**

Joseph Horo, C.Ss.R.

In Residence William Comerford, C.Ss.R

Office Manager

Virginia Fong

Pastoral Coordinator

Bertilla Watanabe

Bookkeeper Corinna Siy

Youth Ministry Coordinator

Theresa Barao **OLPH School Principal**

Lora Clarke Jr. Kindergarten Director Maria Cortese

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Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

Fr. Jon Hansen Installed as Bishop of Mackenzie-Fort Smith

Dear Friends & Parishioners,

March 25, 2018

It was a blessed day of celebration for all especially Redemptorists everywhere when Fr. Jon Hansen, CSsR Pastor of Our Lady of Victory Parish in Inuvik was appointed Bishop of Mackenzie-Fort Smith last week in Yellowknife. Redemptorist Archbishop Gerard Pettipas was the Principle Consecrator of the Mass. Apostolic Nuncio Archbishop Luigi Bonazzi read the Apostolic Letter from Pope Francis. Also celebrating at Mass in the gym of St. Patrick High School were our Superior from Rome, Fr. Mike Brehl and Edmonton-Toronto Provincial Fr. Mark Miller and a host of other bishops and over 800 friends, visitors and well-wishers. It was a beautiful and colourful ceremony embracing elements of Inuvik tradition.

It was a cool -10 in Yellowknife but it didn't stop me doing a little dog-sledding with my confreres that weekend. For Northern Lights fans, the skies were not spectacular but it didn't matter. We had so many other things to be grateful for. Let us keep Bishop Jon in our prayers as he continues his apostolic work in the Northwest Territories.

> Yours in Christ, Fr. Babu Mathew, C.Ss.R









My God, my God why have you forsaken me. - Psalm 22

Tax Receipts: Tax receipts are available for pickup in the church foyer and in the parish office on weekdays.

Book Keeper Wanted for OLPH School: Our Lady of Perpetual School (OLPH) is seeking applicants for the position of School Bookkeeper. The successful candidate will become a collaborative member of this dynamic community which provides an excellent Catholic education for students from Preschool to Grade 7. A detailed job description is available upon request. Please send resume and supporting documentation to: office@olphbc.ca

Theology of the Body Course: Discover human nature as the "Gift of Self" in our relationship with God and one another through Theology of the Body. Using the teachings of Christ on marriage, St. John Paul II reveals our true human nature in the image and likeness of God as a "communion of persons in the sincere gift of self," giving us the authentic meaning of our humanity now and in eternal life. Sessions begin this spring: April 9 and April 10. Register at rcav.org/tob.

Pro-Life Mass and Vigil: Join us for a peaceful, prayerful vigil for unborn children and their parents on Saturday, April 7. Mass is at 8:30 a.m. at St. Mary's, Vancouver, followed by Rosary at Burnaby Hospital. For upcoming dates visit http://rcav.org/pro-life-mass-and-prayer-vigil/

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat: "Before the retreat my life was full of anger, my cross was heavy, and I was angry with myself; on retreat I went through detox because that is what it is like to be filled with pain, anger, and frustration. Now I am feeling my healing and my resurrection to this new life God has given me. He has fed me with his word, his Mass, and his communion." – Testimonial

Healing after abortion can be a resurrection to a new life that you thought would never be yours again. Ask Him to give you the courage to take that step towards Him. He will do everything else. Rest in Him on a Rachel's Vineyard™ Retreat and come alive again. Next retreat is May 2018. For confidential information and to register call 604-525-0999.

Go on a Catholic Gap Year: Looking for adventure? In need of a break from studies? Want to serve others? Discerning your career? Seeking answers to life? Interested in becoming a missionary? If you answered yes to any of the above, then taking a Catholic Gap Year may just be what you're looking for! This is your chance to serve the Church and the world while exploring God's purpose for you. The Archdiocese of Vancouver is now accepting applications for the \$500 Catholic Gap Year bursary. A total of 4 individuals who apply by June 1 will be selected to receive an award of \$500 each to be applied to mission expenses. Learn more at catholicgapyear.ca.

TWU Science & Christianity Conference: Trinity Western University, Langley, BC TWU and the Canadian Scientific and Christian Affiliation are holding a conference on Science & Christianity May 11 – 14. Keynote speakers include Santa Ono (UBC President), Robert Mann (Physics & Theology), Dennis Danielson (author, Book of the Cosmos), and Richard Middleton (Biblical Exegesis & Origins). Talks on artificial intelligence, creation care, origins, and more! Saturday evening's "Sky Gala" is open to the public (skygala.com) and features renowned climate scientist Katharine Hayhoe (Texas Tech) and a cosmos-themed concert by Janet Danielson (SFU) Questions: Mark McEwan, pdo@csca.ca | Info & Registration: csca.ca/may2018

Retrouvaille Weekend in April: The next Retrouvaille Program for troubled marriages will be held on the weekend of April 13 - 15, 2018. We are blessed to be able to have our weekend at the Christian Retreat Centre Barnabas Landing, on Keats Island. Contact our registration team Marc & Candice at 604-530-6710 (and leave a message to be called back) or visit our websites: www.retrouvaillevancouver.com and www.retrouvaille.org

Stewardship Reflection

"Pilate again said to them, 'Then what shall I do with the man whom you call the King of the Jews?' And they cried out again, 'Crucify him.'" – MARK 15:12-13

Jesus told us "whatever you do for the least of my brothers, you do for me." Every day we are presented opportunities to help someone. Every day we have the opportunity to see the face of Jesus in others and be the face of Jesus to others. Pray for the strength and courage to stand up for those in need of our help.

CALENDAR

MARCH

Chrism Mass

One of the most solemn and significant liturgies of our Church is the Chrism Mass. Join Archbishop Miller and the priests of the archdiocese on Wednesday, March 28, at 5 p.m. at Holy Rosary Cathedral for the blessing of the oil of catechumens, the oil of the sick, and the oil of chrism.

Penitential Service

Please note we will have visiting priests today (Sunday) for Confessions at the 2pm Penitential Service in preparation for Easter. If you have not received the Sacrament of Reconciliation in a while please take this wonderful opportunity to receive the graces bestowed on us especially as we begin our Holy Week celebrations.

Holy Week Schedule



Easter Egg Hunt

Our annual Easter Egg Hunt will take place after the 9am and 11am Masses on Easter Sunday. There will be no Children's Mass that day.



OLPH Parish Is Host Site For 2018 New Evangelization Summit

"Our hearts need to be set on fire with a love for Christ and a desire to make Him known..."

On April 27th and 28th, join thousands of Catholics as the New Evangelization Summit is live in Ottawa, ON and webcast to cities across North America. Speakers who are leaders in the New Evangelization will provide inspiration, encouragement, training, practical wisdom and resources on how Catholics can effectively evangelize. All Catholics – pastors, missionaries, lay ministers, and the lay faithful - will benefit from this powerful opportunity to be further equipped in the fundamental mission of the Church.

The Summit will feature world-class Catholic speakers including:

- --George Weigle, acclaimed author and renowned scholar
- --Curtis Martin, passionate evangelizer and founder of Focus
- --Michael Dopp, founder of Mission of the Redeemer Ministries and the New Evangelization Summit
- --Sr. Anne Shields, evangelization extraordinaire and acclaimed speaker
- --Patrick Madrid, author, radio host, and amazing apologist
- --Christy Dupuis, dynamic speaker, missionary, and member of local parish pastoral team

TICKET: \$40 INCLUDES LUNCH AND SNACKS

TO BUY YOUR TICKET, PLEASE GO ONLINE TO WWW.NEWEVANGELIZATION.CA





Fr. Jon Hansen, C.Ss.R. Appointed Bishop of Mackenzie-Fort Smith

By MC Havey, Redemptorist Archivist

Since moving to Inuvik as pastor of Our Lady of Victory parish in 2015, Fr. Jon Hansen, the newly appointed Bishop of Mackenzie-Fort Smith Diocese, has raised the awareness of the missions of western Canadian Arctic on many aspects.

Through superb photographs and captivating updates, Fr Hansen chronicled lyrically about the mission territory, describing glimpses of daily life, the contrasts of scenery, weather and the culture, intertwining the contemporary social, environmental, political issues with spirituality.

Fr. Hansen described the annual Great Northern Arts Festival, which encompassed painting, carving, music and dance performances, noting that the Inuvik church, known as the "Igloo Church," hosts many music concerts. The arts scene in the north, he wrote, "truly is a multi-hued canvas influenced both by and in reaction to the extremes of nature found here. Through creativity of our imaginations and the work of our hands we bless God through the beauty of our art."

Besides Inuvik, he provided care for the missions of Tsiigehtchic, Tuktoyaktuk and Paulatuk. Of these communities, he wrote in *Community Connections* in 2015.

"Ministry here requires more listening and less talking, more time spent being present with and less presiding over, more consoling and less cajoling, taking the time to first listen, learn and discern what the Spirit is asking while I am in this magnificent land among these wonderful people."

His profound passion, appreciation and understanding of the North may be rooted in his Danish ancestry and a childhood in Northern Alberta. Although born in Edmonton at Misericordia Hospital on February 18, 1967, Jon grew up in Grande Prairie, where the family moved for his father's work in commercial construction. His parents, Paul Hansen and Karen Falkenberg-Anderson, both immigrants from Denmark and Lutherans, converted to Catholicism in the absence of the Lutheran presence in their area.

The family attended the Redemptorist parish of St. Joseph's, where Jon remembered a young Redemptorist Fr. Dino Benedet and Brother Leo Insell, visiting the school talking about vocations. Jon attended the local schools of St. Gerard's, St. Patrick's junior high school and St. Joseph's high school before enrolling in a pre-med program at Grande Prairie Regional College and working at Sports World and the Olsen Construction Co. In the spring of 1986, he attended a vocation retreat led by Fr. David Purcell at the Redemptorist Clement House in Edmonton. For the next eight years, he experienced different aspects of life as a philosophy student at the University of Alberta while living at Clement House. It was on a cross-Canada bicycle trip when he decided on a Redemptorist vocation.

In the spring of 1994, Jon worked on the Redemptorist SERVE program in Edmonton and returned to Clement House and to the University of Alberta on a scholarship, graduating with a bachelor of arts degree in 1997. A few months later, he entered the Redemptorist North American novitiate in Chicago, making first profession on October 16, 1998 in St. Patrick's church, Toronto. While studying for a master of divinity degree at the University of St. Michael's College, he also volunteered at the parish's winter Out of the Cold program for the homeless in the inner city, at L'Arche in Richmond Hill, Ontario and on the SERVE team at Gerard House. Besides taking a unit of clinical pastoral education at Vancouver General Hospital in 2001, he also lived at Sarnelli House, Philadelphia, where the students worked with street people, living on the edge. After completing the graduate degree in 2003, a diaconal appointment followed at Holy Redeemer parish in Sudbury, Ontario. On April 24, 2004, he was ordained by Grouard-MacLennan Archbishop Arthe Guimond in his home parish of St. Joseph's, where a day later he celebrated his First Mass.

Redemptorist assignments have been varied, including postings as associate pastor at St. Teresa's, St. John's (2004-2005) and St. Patrick's, Toronto (2005-2009), where he also directed the Out of the Cold program and the formation program for Redemptorist students as well as participating in Becoming Neighbours, which assists immigrants. Returning to Western Canada as pastor at St. Mary's, Saskatoon (2009-2015), Fr. Hansen balanced the care of an ethically-diverse parish and its outreach initiatives with service on the Saskatoon diocesan Truth and Reconciliation Commission, the Bishop's council of priests and with the diocesan offices of migration and justice and peace.

Upon his episcopal ordination and installation, the new bishop will bring his wisdom and experience to guiding the second-largest diocese of over 1.5 million square kilometres with its boundaries from the Alberta border in the south with parts of northern Saskatchewan, Nunavut to the east, the Yukon to the west and north to the Canadian border.