

Lent and Easter 2023

Dear Members of the Parish Community of St. Kevin,

We are happy to write to you during this Holy Season of Lent, as we journey towards Easter, the great feast of our salvation. Lent is an opportune time for us to go back to the school of silence to reflect more deeply on our relationship with God, ourselves, and others, and to evaluate and to refocus in our call to love and serve God and one another.

With Passion or Palm Sunday we enter the most Holy Week of our yearly faith journey. Our Holy Father Pope Francis said the “Mystery we adore in the Holy Week is a great story of love that knows no obstacles. Jesus’ Passion lasts until the end of the world, because it is a story of sharing with the sufferings of the whole of humanity and a permanent presence in the life of each one of us.”

As we look around us, we are aware of and touched by troubling realities. We continue to witness an incredible loss of life, property and the unthinkable suffering of so many innocent people caused by war and natural calamities. Sometimes we take for granted the peace and prosperity that we enjoy and the blessings of being healthy and living in freedom. Lent reminds us that, as St. Teresa of Avila said, “All things are passing away: but {gratefully} God never changes.”

As people of faith, we celebrate our greatest hope at Easter – the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. No matter how dark, how desperate, how impossible a situation we find ourselves in – if we look to the Lord who has conquered even death, there is always reason for hope. May we ever cherish our faith and be sustained by it, and may we never forget the suffering and crosses borne by our sisters and brothers across the human family.

Share Lent

This year, The Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace is calling for us to *Stand For the Land* by expressing solidarity with the many communities around the world that are mobilizing to defend their territories against threats posed by extractive industries and industrial agriculture. These people are often threatened, criminalized or even killed when they stand up to protect their lands, their livelihoods and their very existence. The Parish’s annual *Share Lent* collection for Development and Peace is a powerful symbol of hope and an important expression of almsgiving. You will find the *Share Lent* envelope in this mailing. Please use it and be as generous as you can. As usual, the *Share Lent* collection will take place **Palm Sunday weekend— April 1/2**. You may also bring your *Share Lent* contribution to

any Sunday Mass during the Easter Season. We thank you for your continued support of Development and Peace.

We invite you to experience anew the richness of our faith by participating in the various Holy Week and Easter celebrations. May you and your loved ones have a very holy season of Lent and a blessed Easter season.

Yours in the peace of Christ,

Father Jinto Mathew Puthiyidathuchalil, CSC Father Arockia Sunil Josapath, CSC

Schedule for Holy Week 2023

- **Palm Sunday – April 1st – 2nd**

Mass Times: Saturday 5:00pm; Sunday 8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00pm

Palms will be distributed to each person as they enter the Church and blessed during the Liturgy

Sacred Triduum

- **Holy Thursday – April 6th**

Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:00pm

Reception of Oils; Washing of Feet; Commissioning of Ministries

Hours of Adoration: 8:00pm to 11:00pm

- **Good Friday – April 7th**

Celebration of the Lord's Passion at 12:00pm and 3:00pm

Stations of the Cross at 7:00pm

- **Holy Saturday – April 8th**

Easter Vigil at 8:00pm

Blessing of the New Fire and Paschal Candle

Initiation of Catechumens/Candidates

- **Easter Sunday – April 9th**

Masses at 8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00pm