

*A Lenten Message from Archbishop Michael Miller, CSB*

February 18, 2018

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

As we journey through this Lenten Season, the Lord Jesus calls us to devote ourselves to prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Our Development and Peace organization, *Caritas Canada*, offers us practical ways to respond to this Gospel appeal. This year's Share Lent theme, "Together for Peace," echoes Pope Francis's desire that we "strive to build lasting peace in the world, and to arm ourselves and our children with the weapons of dialogue."


We pray for the true peace of Christ in a world where strife seems endless. We pray for an end to conflict together with our partners in Lebanon, Cambodia, Nigeria, Peru and elsewhere. Through dialogue, they are building bridges of tolerance among peoples, generations, communities, and religions. And we pray not only for the absence of war but also for the establishment of justice.

Today I invite you to join me in this year's Share Lent campaign: that we might work "Together for Peace."

Share Lent resources are available in your parish, on rcav.org and on devp.org, including a Solidarity Calendar to guide you through our Lenten journey. On March 18, the Fifth Sunday of Lent, you will have the opportunity to donate to the Solidarity Sunday Collection in support of this campaign. I urge you to give sacrificially in support of our Development and Peace partners who are on the front lines. In the words of St. Francis of Assisi, may we "be instruments of God's peace." Together let us build a world where peace and justice prevail.

With cordial greetings and my prayers for a blessed Lent, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

 J. Michael Miller, CSB  
Archbishop of Vancouver



**ST. MONICA PARISH**

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PASTOR: **Rev. Robert Wong, SJ**

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

Monday – Friday

**9:30 am – 1 pm / 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm**

**MASS SCHEDULES**

WEEKDAYS: **9:00 am**

SATURDAYS: **9:30 am & 5:00 pm**

SUNDAYS: **9:00 am & 11:00 am**

**CONFESSION SCHEDULE**

SATURDAYS: **4:30 pm – 4:55 pm**

CONFESSIONS: 10 MINUTES BEFORE DAILY

MASS OR BY REQUEST AT OTHER TIMES

**NOVENA TO**

**OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP**

WEDNESDAYS: **7:00 pm**

MASS FOLLOWED BY NOVENA

& BENEDICTION

**BAPTISM COURSE**

EVERY 2<sup>ND</sup> TUESDAY OF THE MONTH AT **6 pm**

**BAPTISMS**

4th SATURDAY AFTER 9:30 am MASS

**HOUSE BLESSINGS**

PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE

March 11, 2018

**4th Sunday of Lent**

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God does not love us conditionally, or despite our sins, but rather because he created us, and he is love. His mercy and compassion are that of a loving Father. It is in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus that God's merciful love overcame our sins and transgressions.

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

In the first reading from Second Chronicles describes the destruction of Jerusalem and its Temple that terminated the sacred worship space of the Jewish people. In Paul's letter to the Ephesians, he reminds us that even when we were dead in our transgressions, God brought us to life through Christ. In the Gospel, John proclaims that God so loved the world that he sent his only Son.

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**Today's Readings:**

1st: 2 Chronicles 36.14-17a, 19-23

Psalm: 139

2nd: Ephesians 2.4-10

Gospel: John 3.14-21

**PARISH UPDATES**

**Lenten Penitential Service – Tuesday, March 20th, 7pm** is our parish’s Lenten Confession. At least 3 priests will be available. Please take advantage of this graceful time for your spiritual life.

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**Parish Pastoral Council Meeting – Tuesday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, 7pm** is our next meeting. Representatives of our parish groups, please make this bi-monthly meeting a priority.

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**Louis Antonio Cardinal Tagle Visit** – Archbishop Miller extends his invitation to all, especially Filipino parishioners, to the **Mass at Holy Rosary Cathedral at 12:30pm** and the ticketed event at **6:00pm at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre on Monday, March 19th**. You need to purchase your ticket through [Ticketmaster.ca](http://Ticketmaster.ca), check the special poster for more information.

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**LED LIGHTING** – Pope Francis’ encyclical on *Laudato Si*, Care for Our Common Home, promotes better stewardship of our natural resources. We are taking a small step by replacing the lighting in the balcony from conventional florescent lighting to LED lighting. An electrician from Good Shepherd Parish will replace the light fixtures.

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**Windows Sponsorship** – A few more inscriptions have been mounted on the “Tree of Gratitude.” A special recognition includes our Project Advance donors. The pledge form is available at the Parish Office when you decide to sponsor a leaf plaque. Thank YOU!

**Marriage Encounter Weekend** at the John Paul II Pastoral Centre on Saturday and Sunday, **April 28 - 29, 2018**. This enrichment is for all married couples and for couples civilly married for more than 5 years, now preparing for marriage in the Church. Registration is online on RCAV website: <http://rcav.org/worldwide-marriage-encounter-non-residential-weekend/> Spaces are limited.

**Men's Spiritual Exercises Retreat**

The Spiritual Exercises are a silent retreat based on the well-proven method of St. Ignatius of Loyola. The Priests of Miles Christi, devoted to the preaching of these Ignatian retreats, frequently offer them in a weekend format. Throughout the centuries, the Spiritual Exercises have shown to be an excellent means of sanctification, highly praised by Popes and saints. This is open to any men. **March 16-18** at Westminster Abbey, Mission. <http://rcav.org/event/mens-spiritual-exercises-retreat>

**EASTER TRIDUUM**

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**HOLY THURSDAY: March 29**  
**LORD’S SUPPER—7:30 PM**  
**ADORATION UNTIL 11 PM**

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**GOOD FRIDAY: March 30**  
**WAY OF THE CROSS—11 AM**  
**PASSION OF THE LORD—3PM**

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**HOLY SATURDAY: March 31**  
**EASTER VIGIL—8:30 PM**

**ARCHDIOCESAN EVENTS**

**Reformation and Communion**

Last year we marked the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. The Christian Churches in Richmond will host free seminars on Tuesdays, Jan. 23, Feb. 6, **March 6**, May 1, and June 5 at 7 p.m. There will be a special musical event on **April 10 at 7 p.m. at South Arm United Church**. All are welcome. Contact Pastor Christoph Reiners at 604-270-0085 for more information.

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**Development & Peace: Share Lent on March 18**—At the start our Lenten journey, when we are called upon to fast, pray and give alms, D&P – Caritas Canada is encouraging all our parishes to join us in Pope Francis’s call for Peace on Earth through dialogue. The Theme “Together for Peace” reminds us of the vital role we all play in supporting, both in solidarity with our voices and in action with our donations, our local partners in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East who are working tirelessly through dialogue to bridge gaps to create lasting peace in their different warring communities. We at D&P–Caritas Canada work in all these areas to be instruments of peace.

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Sweet Fresh baked Goodies (suman, turon, biscotti, and more) CWL Bake sale on Sundays, after 9a.m. and 11a.m. Mass, March 11, and April 8.

**Our new website, [stmonicaparish.ca](http://stmonicaparish.ca) is now live. Also, visit and like us on Facebook: [‘Smon Monica’](https://www.facebook.com/StMonica).**

**Stewardship Reflection**

**Fourth Sunday of Lent**

All that we have and all that we are comes from the Lord. “We are what (God) made of us,” says St. Paul in the second reading, “created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.”

*See Ephesians 2:10*

*Stewardship by the book – Sharon Hueckel*

**Mass Intentions**

**March 11-17, 2018**

- Mon, Mar 12— Ms. Chow Mui (RIP)
- Tue, Mar 13— Feves Moran (RIP)
- Wed, Mar 14 — 9am, Marcelino Revita (RIP)  
7pm, Pascal Fernandes (RIP)
- Thu, Mar 15— Remedio & Valantin  
Conanan (RIP)
- Fri, Mar 16— Mrs. Lau (TG)
- Sat, Mar 17— 9:30am, Mary, Mother of the Redeemer Praesidium (TG)  
5pm, Jose Zamora (RIP)

**WAY OF THE CROSS**

During Lent, we will make the Way of the Cross on FRIDAYS after the morning Mass.

