

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

with the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem

UNDER THE SPIRITUAL DIRECTION OF

MOST REVEREND RICHARD W. SMITH,
ARCHBISHOP OF VANCOUVER



OCT. 22 to NOV. 2, 2026
\$7,649.00 CAD
(Double occupancy)



Join us for 12 days in the Holy Land, Oct. 22 - Nov. 2, with the Most Reverend Richard W. Smith. Price includes airfare. For more information or land only price, please contact Lisa at Lisa@DJLtravel.ca or (604) 562-4567.

40 Days for Life

Pray to End Abortion: vancouver40days@gmail.com
www.40daysforlife.com/en/vancouverbc

Trending this Week on Formed



Sunday Donations February 7 - 8, 2026

Sat. 5 pm \$1015 from 38 envelopes = \$26.71 avg.
Sun. 9 am \$817 from 40 envelopes = \$20.43 avg.
Sun. 11 am \$950 from 29 envelopes = \$32.76 avg.
Sun. 4 pm \$605 from 13 envelopes = \$46.54 avg.
Grand Total: \$3387 + \$295.75 loose = \$3682.75

February 14 - 15, 2026

Sat. 5 pm \$515 from 28 envelopes = \$18.39 avg.
Sun. 9 am \$830 from 34 envelopes = \$24.41 avg.
Sun. 11 am \$1150 from 35 envelopes = \$32.86 avg.
Sun. 4 pm \$690 from 19 envelopes = \$36.32 avg.
Grand Total: \$3185 + \$488.15 loose = \$3673.15

In gratitude for your regular financial support!

sspeterpaul.ca

Leave a Legacy

By remembering Sts. Peter & Paul Parish in your will, you leave a legacy in a place you love. Consider a bequest to the Parish Building Fund. This will enhance the Church's mandate to sanctify and teach as we enter into our 2nd 100 years of service. May our Lord reward you in this life and in the next.

2026 Sunday Offering Made Easy by Direct Deposit or Credit Card



Thank you for your interest in Sts. Peter & Paul Parish's Sunday Offering Plan.

This plan allows you to give your Sunday Offering on a monthly basis by direct deposit or credit card.

It is the most convenient way to make your Sunday Offering. Your commitment to give this way also ensures that your Sunday Offering reaches us even if you are away or not able to come to our Parish in person. Instead of giving weekly, your Sunday Offerings would be simplified to one monthly donation.

For more information, take the **PRE-AUTHORIZED DONATION BROCHURE.** 2026 PAD forms are now available from the website and vestibule.

FORMED New Formed Program

To aid our parishioners' want and need for Catholic Resource, we are pleased to announce that we have set up, with the Augustine Institute, the new Formed program. This resource is **free** for parishioners of Sts. Peter & Paul Parish. All you have to do is sign up online via your computer or smart devices with the app. Steps for parishioners to register for free on FORMED:

- Go to "www.formed.org"
- Type "Saints Peter & Paul Vancouver" to find and click on our Parish **Saints Peter & Paul 1425 W 39th Ave. Vancouver, BC V6M 1T2**
- Click "Next"
- Type first and last name as well as your email and click "Sign Up"



"Billy better hope his guardian angel didn't get laid off."

SAINTS PETER & PAUL PARISH



Archdiocese of Vancouver

Archbishop: Most Rev. Richard W. Smith D.D.

PASTOR: FATHER RONALD W. THOMPSON M. Div. M. Ed.
RECTORY/MAILING: 1425 West 39th Avenue Vancouver, B.C. V6M 1T2
CHURCH LOCATION: 1430 West 38th Avenue
PARISH OFFICE PHONE: 604-261-3535
OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday - Friday: 9 am - 3 pm
EMAIL: parish.sspp@rcav.org
OFFICE MANAGER: Thomas Nguyen
OFFICE ACCOUNTANT: Theresa Inocentes
PARISH WEBSITE: <https://sspeterpaul.ca>



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT FEB. 22ND 2026

Sunday Mass: Saturday: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 4:00 pm

Sunday Vespers & Benediction: 3:30 pm

Weekday Mass: Monday: 8:00 am, Tuesday: 4:00 pm,

Wednesday - Friday: 8:00 am

Saturdays and Civic Holidays: 9:00 am

Also First Fridays: Adoration: 12:00 noon - 4:00 pm, with

Benediction: 3:45 pm, 2nd Mass: 4:00 pm

East Side Adoration Chapel is Open: Tuesday - Friday: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Confessions: Wednesday - Friday: 8:30 am, and

Saturday: 9:30 am and 4:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Marriage: By Appointment -- Notify 8 Months in Advance

SUNDAY READINGS: FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

We begin the forty-day Lenten journey in the desert where the new Adam becomes freer as the conscience becomes sharper. United with all who are suffering from famine and oppression, Jesus, the new Moses, relives the forty years of Israel's struggle in the solitude of the exodus. Through the descriptive narration of this ordeal, the evangelists suggests that Jesus, true God and true man, was tempted by Satan throughout His life.

Jesus' mission is the focus of His adversary's attack. Would He be able to accept being poor, ignored and weak? Would He be able to refrain from selling short the reality of His incarnation by using miracles, force, and seduction as if He were superhuman? Would He be the Servant-Son according to the heart of God, or Prometheus, relying upon His own power to steal fire from heaven? Every time Jesus felt in His heart the temptation to be a worldly messiah, He rejected it, relying solely on the word of God. He fled the crowds who clamored for His marvels and wished to make Him king. He rebuked Peter who came between Him and the way to His passion. Jesus wished to drink the bitter cup of His death, not to save Himself once He was nailed upon the cross.

This stands as a strong judgment against many of our choices, our appetite for consumerism, our solicitation of profit and our unbridled ambition. How can we set priorities at the beginning of Lent without contemplating Jesus who is turned toward the one source of all His actions, the word of God?



Welcome Visitors! New Parishioners!
We are pleased to have you pray with us at Saints Peter and Paul. We hope you enjoy your visit to our beautiful Church. Please introduce yourself after Mass to Father Ron and parishioners; we would like to meet you!



Fr. Ron Thompson
Please Note:

All requests of the Pastor are kindly asked to be made by phone during office hours, not by email. Thank you.

ST. MICHAEL'S PRAYER

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our defence against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; And do Thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Maintaining a Prayerful and Unified Liturgy:

Proper Liturgical Action: Do NOT extend your hands when saying, "And with your spirit."

RCIA Candidates and new Catholics observe and ask: What are the proper hand gestures at Mass? There are only 2: the sign of the cross and the signing on forehead/lips and heart before the Gospel. All other hand gestures are accretions added without following the proper protocol of directives for Mass. Although this practice is well-intentioned, it is believed to have been introduced by a foreign evangelical prayer group like gesture that has in some circles been expressed. But this is not conducive to the true Spirit of the Liturgy. Such a gesture **contradicts** the proper role of the priest who **alone** leads and "collects" the people together in prayer, Also, such an action shows dis-unity with the rest of the congregation where our Unity needs to be expressed in word (praying at the same pace) and in deed (unity of gestures).

Here is a further theological explanation from "Zenit" the Vatican Publication of questions and answers to the liturgy:

"And With Your Spirit" by Fr. Edward McNamara

Q: When the presider at Mass greets the assembly with the words "The Lord be with you" he extends his arms to all in a gesture of pouring out this wish and blessing. The assembly replies... "And with your Spirit." Is it liturgically incorrect or not permissible for the assembly, in their reciprocation, to extend their hands and arms similarly as they reply to the presider's greeting, as a gesture of returning the blessing?

A: While your proposal is likely done with the best of intentions I do not believe that this change would be beneficial.

The use of this gesture by the congregation would probably actually **reduce** the specific presidential character of this greeting and gesture, which is traditionally somewhat more than just an act of social courtesy...

St. John Chrysostom (344-407) refers to the spirit of the greeting as the indwelling Spirit and as an allusion to the fact that the bishop performs the sacrifice by the power of the Holy Spirit.

For this reason the greeting "The Lord be with you" was from early on restricted to bishops, priests and deacons...

The gesture which accompanies the dialogue of stretching out and closing the hands deepens more the utterance of a desire to be united with the assembly and to draw them **together** into the prayer which is about to begin.

In fact, during Mass, this gesture is reserved to the priest during the specific presidential moments in which he invites the assembly to pray or, in other words, to act as a liturgical assembly.

Thus **if** the whole assembly were to repeat this gesture it would... **weaken** the expression of this theological and ecclesial rapport.

When the formula "The Lord be with you" is used in non-presidential moments, such as before the reading of the Gospel... the rubrics specify that the priest or deacon keeps his hands joined.

From another standpoint, introducing this gesture unilaterally would be an example of arbitrarily establishing a new liturgical movement which may not be done at the local level but is primarily reserved to the Holy See or proposed by the bishops' conference and ratified by the Holy See.

Also from Catholic Answers:

In the 1997 document *Ecclesiae de Mysterio* [EM], the Church drew the line on this issue and specifically mandated that "neither may . . . non-ordained members of the faithful use gestures or actions which are proper to the . . . priest celebrant" (EM, Practical Provisions, Article 6, §2).

The instruction's longer official title is *On Certain Questions Regarding the Collaboration of the Non-ordained Faithful in the Sacred Ministry of the Priest*, which a number of congregations and pontifical councils of the Holy See co-authored, including the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (CDF). The Church issued the instruction to address a number of **unauthorized** modifications taking place in the liturgy.

The reference to gestures that are appropriate to the priest celebrating the Mass certainly includes praying with arms outstretched, which is probably the single most frequent gesture the rubrics direct him to make during Mass and which is clearly tied to the office of priest in the Church's liturgical documents.

At the Our Father the stayed lower gesture of the "orans" position or family hand holding (which ceases at: "but deliver us from evil") does not seem to be prohibited.

Also, it is not a proper gesture to raise hands at: "For the kingdom, the power..."

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, Feb. 22nd - First Sunday of Lent

9:00 am; 11:00 am; 4:00 pm - *Parishioners*

MONDAY, Feb. 23rd - Lenten Ferial

8:00 am - *Mark Luka Erceg+*

TUESDAY, Feb. 24th - Lenten Ferial

10:30 am Funeral Mass - *Trinidad Yupangco+*

4:00 pm - *David Chandler*

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 25th - Lenten Ferial

8:00 am - *St. Walburga Abbey*

THURSDAY, Feb. 26th - Lenten Ferial

8:00 am - *Warren Longpre*

FRIDAY, Feb. 27th - Lenten Ferial

8:00 am - *A. Masutti+ & G. Chies+*

SATURDAY, Feb. 28th - Lenten Ferial

9:00 am - *Genoveffa+ & Luigi Chies+*

5:00 pm - *Freda Neves*

(Second Sunday of Lent)

2025 Tax Receipts:

Parish & Project Advance tax receipts for 2025 will be available for pick up on the left (east) side table of the Baptismal font.

St. Leo the Great on the True Meaning of Lent:

Dearly beloved,

At all times indeed, but especially in these days, the hearts of Christians ought to be attentive to spiritual duties and eager for the works of God. But now, when the return of the sacred season calls us to the exercises of renewed devotion, the faithful must strive with special zeal to cleanse themselves of all defilement of flesh and spirit.

For as we draw near to the celebration of the Lord's Passion, we must prepare ourselves by purifying our hearts, so that the mystery of redemption may be worthily celebrated. And since the Lord Himself consecrated the fast of 40 days by His own abstinence, let us imitate His example according to our measure, that by the restraint of lawful pleasures we may more easily overcome unlawful desires.

The abstinence of fasting, dearly beloved, is not confined to food alone, nor does the virtue of temperance consist merely in lessening the quantity of nourishment. True fasting is to withdraw from sin, to restrain the tongue from evil, the hands from injustice, the eyes from impurity, and the mind from wicked thoughts. The discipline of fasting purifies the soul, raises the mind, subjects the flesh to the spirit, renders the heart contrite and humble, scatters the clouds of concupiscence, quenches the fire of lust, and kindles the true light of chastity.

Let mercy accompany fasting, that the abstinence of the one may become the abundance of the other. Let what is saved by frugality be bestowed upon the needy. Let the poor rejoice in the nourishment of charity, and let the weak be strengthened by the compassion of the strong.

Let no one be so poor as to have nothing to give. For even he who has little can give much if he gives with love. The measure of charity is not taken from the size of the gift, but from the goodwill of the giver. The widow's two mites outweighed the rich offerings of the wealthy.

Let us forgive injuries, let us dismiss resentments, let us quench the flames of anger, and let us put away every desire for revenge. For the forgiveness we grant others will return to us from God, and mercy shown to our neighbour will secure mercy for ourselves... (Con't next Sunday)

LENTEN DEVOTIONS & PRAYERS:

1. Sunday Solemn Sung Vespers and Benediction:

Vespers at 3:30 pm and Mass at 4 pm. Join us for prayer.

2. Lenten Stations of the Cross:

Wednesdays at 6:30 pm beginning **Feb. 25th**.

Booklets available at 1st station when Church is open.

3. East Side (Ramp) Door Adoration Chapel Open:

For private prayer from Tues. to Fri. 9 am to 3 pm.

This is a place for private prayer and reading, not vocal prayers. If needed, the parish office washroom is available during these hours: enter outside to the west side - to the office.

ONGOING:

Catechism Grade 1-7:

★ "PREP" Classes begin Tues. Jan. 13th at 4:30-5:30 pm in the Church. ★

Registration forms (green) are available next to bulletin. For more info, please contact Parish office, Tues. - Fri. from 9 am - 3 pm.

★ RCIA Classes and Talks on the Faith: ★ (This takes place in the Church)

Tuesdays at 7-8 pm from Jan. 20th to Mar. 17th (8 wks) Feb. 24th Topic: The Eucharist & Walking through the Mass.

All are welcome to learn more about the Faith and for the non-Catholics who want to become one.

CONTRIBUTIONS:

Envelope Boxes:

The 2026 envelopes are available at the East side of the back of the church. If you would like a box of envelopes, simply sign up in one of the red binders and they will be put out for you the next Sunday. If new, please fill out the New Parishioner Registration Form.

Thank you for your support!

Building Fund:

N.B. All donations made to building fund go towards building our own Parish Centre and are not taxed the usual 15% by the diocese.

SACRAMENTS & BLESSINGS:

The Sacrament of Baptism:

Parents and Godparents are to be married in the Catholic Church, and parents need to be registered parishioners for at least 2 months.

Sacrament of Marriage:

Couples planning marriage (here or elsewhere) must contact the Parish Priest at least 8 months before the wedding. Must attend the Marriage Preparation Course and the Catholic is to be registered here, at least 6 months and regularly attending Mass here.

Blessing of Cars, Homes, or Religious Articles:

Please see Father after any of the Sunday Masses.