



**EASTERTIDE
RETREAT @
WESTMINSTER ABBEY**

TOPIC : THE MYSTERIES OF THE KINGDOM
FRIDAY, 24 APRIL @ 7:30PM TO
SUNDAY, APRIL 26 @ 1:30PM

FOR MORE INFO and
REGISTRATION
CALL (604) 261-3535
parish.sspp@rcav.org

Rev. Fr. Emmerich Vogt, OP
Retreat Master

40 Days for Life

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

**Archbishop Smith's Letter
for Development and Peace Share Lent**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
Next Sunday, March 22nd, we mark the Fifth Sunday of Lent - Solidarity Sunday - when our international development organization, Development & Peace - Caritas Canada, invites us to live out the Lenten practice of almsgiving by contributing to the Share Lent campaign.

The Lord Jesus Christ taught us, "As long as you did it for one of these, the least of my brethren, you did it for me" (Mt 25:40). This year's Share Lent theme, "On Track for Justice", invites us to align our Lenten sacrifices with this Gospel imperative, fostering solidarity that transforms lives and societies in the spirit of the Church's social teaching. Pope Leo XIV says: "Justice becomes concrete when it reaches out to others, when each person is given their due, until equality in dignity and opportunity among human beings is achieved."

Even in these uncertain times, our faith urges us to respond with hope and generosity. Last year you helped Development & Peace raise over \$19 million to support 59 life-changing projects in 34 countries across Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Middle East. I encourage each of you once again to give as you are able in next weekend's Share Lent collection, so as to journey with our suffering sisters and brother sin the Global South, advancing peace as the fruit of justice.

With gratitude for your steadfast care for the poor, I assure you of my prayers for you and your families as we approach the joy of Easter.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Richard W. Smith
Archbishop of Vancouver

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.

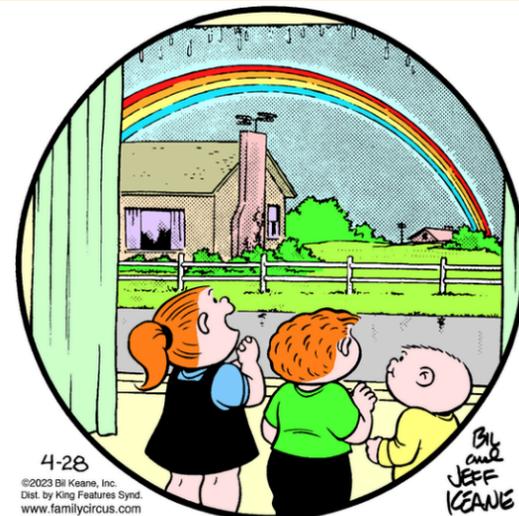
It is the most convenient way to make your Sunday Offering. Your commitment to give this way also ensures that your Sunday Offering reaches us even if you are away or not able to come to our Parish in person. Instead of giving weekly, your Sunday Offerings would be simplified to one monthly donation.

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"



"I'm glad God thought up rainbows."

4-28
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Bill
and
JEFF
KEANE

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>



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (LAETARE SUNDAY) MAR. 15TH 2026



**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.

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: FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

"I came into this world to divide it, to make the sightless see and the seeing blind" (John 9:39). The parables of Jesus propose the paradox of a faith perceived by the simple and disregarded by the wise.

Under the gaze of Christ, the light of the world, people choose either for or against Him. Some pretend to see and know Him. But they keep to their limited views, and it is by the measure of their narrow wisdom that they gauge the works of the divine envoy. If they refuse to believe in Him, they can base their case only upon the blindness of their hearts:

"We have no idea where this man comes from" (John 9:29).

The healed blind man knows only one thing: the man who opened his eyes must come from God. For him and for us, all of life depends upon this humble certitude. In spite of opposition, the newly sighted must look beyond the man and the prophet to the Son of God and the Lord. Only the totally free initiative of Jesus will allow this personal vision of faith: "You have seen Him; He is speaking to you now" (John 9:37).

Through baptism the sinner is reborn from native darkness to the light of Christ. But the sinner must learn to see all things anew through the eyes of faith. This the whole Christian life is catechumenal: a slow climb through the shifting visions of this world, from the light received and imperfectly seen up to the total clarity of the day of Christ.

Think You Have Nothing to Confess? Think Again by: Fr. Michael Rennie

For some, scrupulosity is a huge problem, but I'd guess that, for the majority of us, laxity is more tempting. I know people who haven't gone to confession in well over a year and still cannot think of a single sin they need to confess.

Pope St. John Paul II, back in 1984, was already concerned about a cultural shift that was causing a loss of our sense of sin. Modern man, he posited, suffers from a "deformation of conscience" caused by widespread secularism.

The deformation has only accelerated in the decades since he wrote those words. We're so afraid these days of making moral judgments that the very idea of wrong-doing as transgressing against an objective standard has disappeared. We're assured over and over again that if we just follow our consciences, we can do no wrong.

I don't know about you, but I don't exactly need this sort of "encouragement" to justify my actions. I pretty much always think I'm right. I'm never the "bad guy." If you think about it, none of us in our own minds is ever "the bad guy." We always have a justification. We're always the hero. I can easily convince myself I'm following my conscience no matter how anyone else perceives my actions. This means that I am more than capable of dismissing guilt over having sinned. I'm what you might call a person with a lax conscience.

John Paul II identifies this deadening of the conscience as a huge problem. "When the conscience is weakened," he writes, "the sense of God is also obscured." He then points out that his predecessor Pope Pius XI once said, "the sin of the century is the loss of the sense of sin."

Drifting into apathy

For some, scrupulosity is a huge problem, but I'd guess that, for the majority of us, laxity is more tempting. I know people who haven't gone to confession in well over a year and still cannot think of a single sin they need to confess. They cannot think of anything they've done wrong. Now, I have a lax conscience but, even I, as hard-hearted and arrogant as I am, recognize that I fall short of the ideal on a daily basis. I have plenty of things to confess. We all do.

Of course, everything in our pop-culture preaches the opposite, insisting that sin isn't real and the only moral boundary is the vague intention to not harm other people, even insisting it's okay if you do harm someone else just as long as that wasn't your intention. Everyone is a saint these days, which to my mind, means no one is a saint.

It sounds nice to practice non-judgmental, follow-your-heart type ethics but really it's nothing more than surrender to mediocrity. Lack of self-knowledge and responsibility isn't good for anyone, particularly us sinners who need a moral standard to which we can aspire. With no goals, we drift into apathy. Without acknowledgment of wrong-doing, we lack hope.

This is why laxity indicates a serious spiritual sickness. It's a symptom of living in denial. The original Latin word for lax is related to being slack or overly-wide, a definition which brings to mind Our Lord's teaching that the way is wide that leads to destruction. If we want to know ourselves, we must focus and push through the narrow gate, take responsibility, set aside pride and fear, practice accountability. It's a challenging path to travel but is the way of hope and happiness. This is how we heal old wounds and open ourselves up for growth.

That said, it can be difficult to fully understand our actions and motivations. Where can we improve? What are the ways we sin in small ways every single day? In short, how can we think of a complete list of sins to confess?

Here are a few practical tips.

Use an examen

Examinations of conscience are abundant. They can be found online, in hand-missals, and prayer books. Based on the 10 Commandments, a good examen offers memory aids and specific practical ways in which we might be sinning in our daily lives. I find that using an examen prompts my memory and unveils sins of which I had previously been unaware.

Ask God to teach you more about yourself

A prayer to the Holy Spirit to ask him for insight is a simple but necessary step to preparing for confession. God knows us better than we know ourselves, and his light illumines our darkened consciences.

Dig down into hidden motives

Over time, the goal is to leave behind the big obvious sins. What to confess after these disappear, though? Reflect on less obvious sins, hidden motives, unbecoming thoughts, and disordered attachments. The goal isn't scrupulosity but, rather, sensitivity. The more we love God, the more we will desire to give our entire selves to him and even small sins bother us.

Practice honesty

We cannot be honest in the confessional if we aren't willing to be honest with ourselves. It hurts to recall our sins. They're embarrassing. They rip open old wounds. But we cannot grow and develop until we're willing to face them.

The sins we think aren't such a big deal might take on a different importance if we think about them from a different perspective. We might be willing to live with a sin, but are we willing to die with it? Knowing we're about to face our Creator, is it an impurity we feel comfortable bringing into his presence?

I offer this advice not because I sit in judgment of anyone else or think I'm perfect. The advice is for me as much as anyone else, and I want to re-emphasize that the whole point of going to confession is not because God is judgmental and angry. The point is that God loves us and wants to forgive us. He desires that we face our flaws honestly so that we can be set free from them. This is our path not only to happiness in the next life, but also authentic self-fulfillment in this life.

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, Mar. 15th - Fourth Sunday of Lent

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

MONDAY, Mar. 16th - Lenten Ferial

8:00 am - *Fraser Ballantyne*

TUESDAY, Mar. 17th - St. Patrick +461

4:00 pm - *P. Bernard Rowe*

WEDNESDAY, Mar. 18th - Lenten Ferial

8:00 am - *Warren Longpre*

THURSDAY, Mar. 19th - St. Joseph, Spouse of Mary

8:00 am - *John Allen Jr. +*

FRIDAY, Mar. 20th - Lenten Ferial

8:00 am - *Dick Reid +*

SATURDAY, Mar. 21st - Lenten Ferial

9:00 am - *Gabrielle Brett +*

5:00 pm - *Adrienne Chan*

(Fifth 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.

2025 Parish Financial Report:

Available next to the bulletin.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

2026 Lenten Penitential Services

by the Vancouver West Deanery:

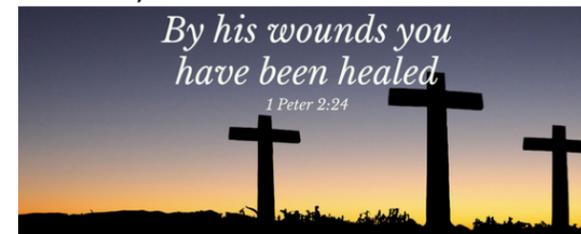
Sts. Peter and Paul - Wed. Mar 18 at 7 pm
(5 Priests)

St. John the Apostle - Wed. Mar 18 at 7 pm

St. Mark - Sun. Mar. 22 at 2:30 pm

Our Lady of Perpetual Help - Thurs. Mar. 26 at 7 pm

St. Anthony of Padua - Sun. Mar. 29 at 6:30 pm



Holy Week at Sts. Peter & Paul:

Palm Sunday: Mar. 28th at 5 pm,

Mar. 29th at 9 am, 11 am, and 4 pm

Mass of the Lord's Supper: Thurs. Apr. 2nd at 7 pm
Followed by Adoration until 11 pm (no morning Mass)

Liturgy of Good Friday: Fri. Apr. 3rd at 12 noon, 3 pm

Easter: Vigil Sat. Apr. 4th at 8:30 pm

Sun. Apr. 5th at 9 am, 11 am, 1 pm (no evening Mass)

Confessions during Holy Week:

Sat. Mar. 28th: 9:30 am, 4:00 - 4:30 pm

Wed. Apr. 1st: 8:30 am

Holy Thursday Apr. 2nd: 8:00 - 8:30 pm

Good Friday Apr. 3rd: 10:00 - 10:30 am

Holy Saturday Apr. 4th: No Confessions

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. Booklets available at 1st station when the 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. **N.B.** Copies of "The Practice of the Presence of God" are at the Chapel.

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.

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

Tuesdays at 7-8 pm from Jan. 20th to Mar. 17th

(Last Class) Mar. 17th Topic:

Preparation for the Ceremony.

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.