

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



What is our basic spiritual problem in our daily life? It goes without saying that it must be our fearful ego. Ego-addicts know that sometimes the best defense is a good offense. If you want to protect the ego and its prerogatives, you must oppress and demoralize those around you. There is a very unsubtle version of this method: You attack, put down, insult, and undermine those around you. This is the method of the bully. But the religious version is much subtler and thus more insidious and dangerous. It takes the law itself, especially the moral law, and uses it to accuse and oppress: *“I know what’s right and wrong; I know what the Church expects of us; and I know that you are not living up to it. And so I accuse you; I gossip about you; I remind you of your inadequacy.”* Mind you, this is not to condemn the legitimate exercise of fraternal correction or the office of preaching. But it is a reminder not to be sucked into the slavery of ego addiction. We must stay alert to this and avoid it at all costs for as someone wrote in this eye-opening short reflection:

Somewhere along the way we learned to amp up everything. A juicy apple is not good enough; we want sugar, distilled and intensified and injected into our foods. Wine is not strong enough; we want spirits. Water isn’t good enough; we want coffee, tea or soda. (Or, if worse comes to worse, bottled water.) Air isn’t good enough; we want tobacco smoke, or marijuana. Music isn’t good enough unless it blasts your ears into insensibility. Marriage isn’t enough; we want pornography. It seems every pleasure we have has been intensified by technology. Often, experiencing these extreme pleasures, we become addicted, forfeiting our humanity in the process. St. Augustine was 100% right in his timely statement, “We often use the things we ought to love and habitually love the things we ought to use.”

We can leave these things behind, however, when we go into the wilderness with Jesus during these purple days of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. The Lord will show us the delight of His own company first, and the pleasure of our company free from any attachment to sin. Only there will we truly learn what it means to “enjoy yourself,” perhaps singing with Marvin Gaye, *“How sweet it is to be loved by you.”*

Fr. Slawek

MARCH 8, 2026

Pre-Authorized Giving Plan—Pre-Authorized Giving is a very simple procedure. When you participate in Pre-Authorized Giving, your offering will be withdrawn from your account on or about the 20th of the month. This amount will then be deposited to the Parish's account.

This amount will be receipted at the end of the year for tax purposes.

Application forms are on the table at the back of the church.

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, March 10

9 a.m.

Wednesday, March 11

9 a.m. + **Intentions of** Austin Popescu

Thursday, March 12

9 a.m. + **Rest of the soul of** Dan Noranho req. by Rosy & Campbell.

Friday, March 13

9 a.m. + **Rest of the soul of** Lloyd Clayburn req. by the Noranho family.
+ **Rest of the soul of** Hartley and Dolly Nigli req. the Noranho family.

Saturday, March 14

4:30 p.m. **Intentions of** all Parishioners.

Sunday, March 15

9 a.m. + **Rest of the soul of** Frank Ficar Sr. req. by the Ficar family.

11 a.m. **Intentions of** thanking for Ryan Catequista on his birthday req. by the Catequista family.



HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH 2026 SUMMER CAMP

Registration forms are available from Claudia Marzo.

Forms with payment must be returned
no later than June 14 /15 to Claudia Marzo

**Maximum 60 children ages 4 – 13 years old
per camp week**

Summer Camp days – Week 1
June 28– July 3, (9 a.m. -3p.m.)

Cost
\$100 per child • \$175 with 1 sibling

Summer Camp days – Week 2
July 6– July 10 (9 a.m. -3p.m.)

Cost
\$100 per child • \$175 with 1 sibling

Summer Camp days – Week 3
July 13– July 17 (9 a.m.- 3 p.m.)

Cost
\$100 per child • \$175 with 1 sibling



The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul
Holy Spirit Conference

Turning concern into action

When we pray the “Our Father”, we ask God to give us “our daily” bread. Most of us are fortunate to receive sufficient food, but some do not. It is a struggle, especially for our neighbour-in-need.

Please remember the POOR BOX on your way out of the church after Mass.



COFFEE & TEA & SNACKS SOCIAL

Wednesday, March 11, 2026

Everyone welcome



Children's Liturgy: Every Sunday

For the 9 a.m. & 11 a.m. Masses.



Daily Spousal Prayer

Lord Jesus, we place our marriage in your hands. Help us grow in our love for you and for each other. Grant us humility in recognizing and appreciating each other's strengths, patience in accepting each other's weaknesses, and understanding of each other's differences. We thank you for the joys you have given us and offer up to you the sorrows we have experienced. May we always work together to reach our eternal happiness with you.
Amen.

—Taken from *Prayers for Catholic Men* by Mike Pacer