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Mass Readings for April

Click on the link to download and print the [Liturgical Calendar for the month of April](#). (PDF, 1 page)

A Pilgrimage with the Archbishop

You are invited to take the journey of a lifetime with Archbishop Richard Smith on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land from **November 29 to December 10, 2017**. "Walk where Jesus taught, healed, and gave His life for our salvation." Space is limited -- for more information or to reserve your spot, contact Jackie Abello at 780-229-4171 or 1-800-661-2454 ext. 4171 or JackieA@UniglobeOne.com. [Download the poster/flyer for more details](#) (PDF, 2 pages)

What is the Archbishop

Dear [Contact.First Name],

Did you hear that Pope Francis ranked third in Fortune magazine's annual list of 50 of the "World's Greatest Leaders?"

Great leaders have three qualities in common, Fortune says: They acknowledge reality and offer hope. They bring followers physically together. They build bridges.

Certainly the Holy Father qualifies on all three counts! How would you like to spend 2 1/2 hours in his company? That's just what the Bishops of Western Canada did this week at the Vatican.

"He listened carefully throughout the encounter, and offered responses, insights and his own experiences, which gave beautiful voice to his pastor's heart," Archbishop Smith said.

"He encouraged us to stay close to our people, to accompany them with the truth and beauty of the Gospel, freely and willingly to enter into dialogue, even (and especially) with people who are far from the Church, and above all to continue to be men of deep prayer, attentive and open to the movement of the Holy Spirit, who enables us to serve free from fear."

Read all about the bishops' *ad limina* visit to Rome on the Archbishop's blog, [The Reason for Our Hope](#).

God bless,
Lorraine



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thinking this week?

Find out by following his blog, [The Reason for Our Hope](#). Or follow him on Twitter [@archbsmith](#).

Office of the Archbishop

Grace This Week



As part of his Every Life Matters initiative, Archbishop Smith asks us all to heed the invitation of our Holy Father and embrace the custom of praying at mealtime, and to add to the usual Grace before meals one line from Scripture and one line of prayerful response to it. New lines are posted each week at www.caedm.ca/grace.

Grace with lines from the Readings from March 25-26

Leader: Lord Jesus, we thank you for your Word. An angel announced your coming to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

All: Help us, Lord, to follow the example of your Blessed Mother and joyfully do your will.

OR

Leader: Lord Jesus, we thank you for your Word. You are the one who made the blind man see.

All: Help us, Lord, to see your face in each person we encounter.

Together We Serve

Making a Difference at NTC



A gift to *Together We Serve* helps Newman Theological College in its mission to provide theological education that prepares laity, religious, and ordained ministers for service and leadership to meet the needs of the Church in Western Canada. To learn about how Newman Theological College

makes a difference, visit www.caedm.ca/PastoralScene.

Opening Doors to Faith



A convert to the Catholic Church, Jeannette Nixon says studying at Newman Theological College has opened doors to a much deeper understanding of the faith. She was initially attracted by the online courses offered by the college, but now is working toward a Master of

Theological Studies. Her hope is to take her new knowledge back to the oil and gas industry where she worked, to offer advice on environmental and business ethics.

[Read more about Jeannette's journey to NTC](#)

Development Office

Faith, Fitness & Fun Run/Walk



Join us for the 12th Annual Faith, Fitness & Fun Run/Walk on **Saturday, May 27**, on the grounds of St. Joseph Seminary and Newman Theological College, 10012 - 84 Street. Enjoy scenic views of our river valley on your chip-timed 10K run, 5K run or 3K walk -- and support the seminary and college at the same time. Register at events.runningroom.com.

Fee includes T-shirt, hospitality, prizes & fun, plus games and activities for children. For more information, visit <http://caedm.ca/funrun> or email FunRun@caedm.ca.

[Please share the Poster](#) (PDF, 11 x 17")

Newman Golf Classic

It's not too early to think about golf! Registration is now open for the 25th Annual Newman Golf Classic on **Monday, July 10**. When you join us at the beautiful Blackhawk Golf Club, you will become part of a mission to educate future priests, Catholic school teachers, youth ministers, parish workers, and chaplains – the people who will go on to serve our families and communities. Visit <http://caedm.ca/golf> for all the details.

Friars Ball

Mark your calendar and make plans to attend this formal event in support of the education, training and formation of seminarians, religious, and lay leaders for the Ukrainian Eparchy and the Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton. The 48th Annual Friars Ball takes place on **Friday, May 5**, at The Westin hotel. Tickets are \$250 each (\$150 for 25 and younger). For further information, please contact Anna at 780-469-1010 or check out our new website at www.friarsball.com.

Communications

Pope Francis receives our Bishops



Bishops from Western Canada are pictured above with Pope Francis, during their visit *ad limina Apostolorum* (to the threshold of the Apostles). Together the bishops serve 18 Roman Catholic [Latin-rite] dioceses, including Archdiocese of Edmonton, and four Ukrainian Greek Catholic eparchies. And yes, that's Archbishop Smith right next to the Holy Father in the photo, and Bishop Bittman a bit further to the left. (Photo courtesy of Radio Vaticana)

CWL Petitions Ottawa to Insure Home Care



Patients and their families should not be on the hook for home health care, the Catholic Women's League of Canada says.

Over 2,350 people have signed the CWL's e-petition to the federal government to have home care included as an insured service under the Canada Health Act, including 566 from Alberta.

"Right now, a lot of the caregiving that's happening in homes is (dependent) on family and friends because a lot of people can't afford to be hiring someone to be coming into their home," said Nancy Simms, the CWL's national chairperson of legislation.

[Read the story by Thandiwe Konquavi](#)

Faith Leaders Defend Religious Freedoms



Faith leaders in Edmonton say religious freedoms are under threat and it's time to defend them.

"None of us are free until all of us are free, and there are no exceptions to this," said Netta Phillet, one of 250 delegates to the inaugural

Religious Freedoms: A Community Conversation. "Religion and culture are inseparable."

The March 18th event offered a chance for representatives of Catholicism, Islam, Sikhism and a wide range of other faiths to talk

about the threat.

[Read the story by Thandiwe Konquavi](#)

Newman Theological College

Online Faith Formation

Registration is now open for the next cycle of classes in the Certificate in Catholic Studies (CCS), offered by the Benedict XVI Institute for New Evangelization through Newman Theological College. Thirteen different courses will begin on **Monday, April 3**.

All are offered online, so you can study from the comfort of home and work around your personal schedule. Each course runs five weeks and costs just \$85. This program is open to adults and youth of all backgrounds and education levels. Register online at <http://www.newman.edu/ccs>. For more information, contact Sandra Talarico at 780-392-2450 Ext. 2214 or sandra.talarico@newman.edu.

[Download the poster](#)

Divine Worship

Prayers, Reflections & Activities for Lent

We are pleased to share some resources from Liturgy Training Publications that parishes may find helpful in celebrating each week in the season of Lent. They are presented in the form of a double-sided PDF handout which can be printed and distributed. (Please contact us if you need a Word version for copy & paste.) Included this week is the following prayer for the Fifth Sunday of Lent:

Release Us by Your Spirit

God of all life,
who raised Lazarus from the dead,
and released the poor from their suffering;
you who lead us in the land of the living:
bless us and give us your Spirit,
your Spirit of generosity and holiness,
of life and of creative energy.
Lift us from our graves of sinfulness
and raise us from our dry and wasteful ways.
May our sins be left behind
and our life in your Spirit bring us joy.
We ask this through Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

[Download the handout for the Fifth Sunday of Lent](#) (PDF, 2 pages)

Praying the Our Father

Have you noticed that when we pray the Our Father at Mass, some parishioners stand with hands outstretched, while others pray with their hands together? One of our Facebook friends wondered about which is the correct posture, and here is part of the answer given by Father Paul Kavanagh, Director of Divine Worship:

The *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* (GIRM), with adaptations approved by the Holy See for Canada, does not specify a posture for the hands of the faithful during the praying of the Our Father. This is in regards to either having their hands joined or extended.

The General Instruction does specify that the priest, "with hands joined, says alone the introduction to the Lord's Prayer, and then with hands extended, he pronounces the prayer together with the people."

It also does not speak of a prescribed posture for the hands of the deacon. However, deacons are taught, at both St. Joseph Seminary here in Edmonton and in the Permanent Deacon Formation Program, that they should have their hands folded during the praying of the Our Father.

Let Us Remember

In our prayers, our priests who have died during the month of April.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Rev. Charles F. OKHUYSEN, Apr. 1, 1930
 Rev. Ernest R. BATTLE, Apr. 1, 1971
 Rev. Patrick L. ROONEY, Apr. 3, 1973
 Rev. Clement GAUTHIER, Apr. 3, 2008
 Rev. Michael McANALLY, Apr. 7, 1963
 Rev. Mark E. MURPHY, Apr. 8, 1979
 Rev. Kenneth. V. DYLKE, Apr. 8, 1988
 Rev. Lorenz MAIER, Apr. 10, 2007
 Rev. John McNEIL, Apr. 13, 2006
 Rev. Denis Hebert, Apr. 14, 2015
 Rev. Daniel W. MARTIN, Apr. 15, 1961
 Rev. Stanley V. ZENKO, Apr. 18, 1984
 Rev. Dominic Richard ROWLAND, Apr. 21, 1945
 Rt. Rev. Albert D. O'BRIEN, Apr. 21, 2000
 Rev. Henry B. PEET, Apr. 25, 1985
 Rev. Maurice Anthony HARNETT, Apr. 28, 1965

Every Life Matters

**'Whether you do it yourself
 or get someone else to do it,
 you are causing it to happen.'**

Cardinal Thomas Collins, Archbishop of Toronto, has joined with a number of other religious leaders in asking the Ontario government to legislate protection of conscience rights for health-care practitioners who refuse to participate in the administering of euthanasia.

"At present, the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario (CPSO) requires an effective referral from doctors who do not wish

to participate in ending the lives of their patients," the leaders wrote in a joint letter to provincial legislators.

"For physicians who object, whether for personal or moral reasons, a referral is akin to performing the procedure itself. Whether you do something yourself or arrange that it be done by someone else (effective referral), you are causing it to happen."

Eight Canadian provinces, including Alberta, do not require doctors to make such referrals. Ontario is currently considering amendments to its "Assistance in Dying" law.

[Read the joint open letter](#)

12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care

Mark your calendar! The Catholic Women's League of Canada is inviting all people of faith to join nationwide in 12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care on **Thursday, May 4**. This day is designed to lead into National Hospice Palliative Care Week, **May 7-13**, as a profound witness to the sanctity of human life. The prayer can take place within a church, home, or elsewhere, with a large congregation, a few friends, or alone at home. For more information about the need for palliative care and resources, visit www.cwl.ca.

You are invited to join in this initiative and share your plans with others across Canada by using the hashtag **#12hoursofprayer**.

Lay Apostolate

Stewardship: Points to Ponder

- Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it away. – *William Arthur Ward*
- The talents and abilities God created in us are inextricably linked to God's will, God's purpose, God's plan for our lives. – *Towards a Theology of Strengths, Edward C. Anderson*
- A full stewardship parish is not a goal. It is a way of achieving many goals

Ask yourself:

- What qualities in the life of Jesus provide a model for living and an example of good stewardship?
- How might they compare to my own life and experience?
- What resources, talents, and abilities has God given me?
- Do I use them in service to others?
- How might I take the next step to become a more effective steward?
- If I am to work to be an effective Christian steward, with the help of God's grace, what will it cost me in terms of personal sacrifice and hardship?
- Am I willing to take the next step?

All that we have and all that we are comes from God. That includes spiritual gifts as well as our interests, talents, skills and abilities. Each day that we live, we gain experiences unique to us. Stewardship of Gifts refers to how we employ all of this richness to strengthen each other and our community.

Lent & Easter

Musical Lenten Reflection

Sacred Heart Parish in Wetaskiwin invites you to join us for a special Musical Lenten Reflection on **Palm Sunday, April 9**, at 4 p.m. Enjoy inspirational music and reflective readings on the theme of peace. Music by the St. Nicholas Mandolin Ensemble and Guest Choir of Edmonton. Sacred Heart Church is located at 5113 - 49 Avenue, Wetaskiwin. Everyone is welcome; food bank donations gratefully accepted.

[Download the poster](#) (PDF, legal size)

Outdoor Way of the Cross



You are invited to join in the 37th annual Outdoor Way of the Cross through inner-city Edmonton on **Good Friday, April 14**. The annual prayer walk begins at 10 a.m. at Immigration Hall (100th Street and 105th Avenue), in Edmonton. This year's theme is "The cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor are one."

This year's walk will be into an area not walked before, north of the new Rogers Place complex.

Everyone is welcome at this event. For more information, contact Linda at 780-466-6327 or Jim at 780-218-6989.

[Download the flyer](#)

Life and Family

40 Days for Life



From **March 1 to April 9**, our community in Edmonton will take part in the 40 Days for Life.

Join us by signing up for an hour (or more) to pray, fast and witness for life across from the Morgentaler Clinic of Edmonton. For more information, please contact the Edmonton Coordinator for 40 Days for Life, Melody Berscheid at 780-710-5188. Please join us with your Lenten prayers so that with God's help we can save lives by ending abortion.

[Share the poster](#)

Theology of the Body Conference

St. Therese Institute in Bruno, Saskatchewan, is hosting a Theology of the Body conference led by internationally renowned speaker and author Christopher West. The conference takes place **Sunday-Thursday, April 30-May 4**. This unique approach to John Paul II's teaching includes reflections on St. Thérèse of Lisieux that Christopher West only teaches at St. Therese Institute. Early bird rate is \$445. Visit www.St-T.ca/TOB or call 306-369-2555 for more details.

Benefit for Life

Registration is open for Alberta's Benefit for Life Banquet, taking place on **Saturday, April 22**, at Kingsway Ramada Hotel in Edmonton. Alberta Pro-Life (The Wilberforce Project) invites you to attend this annual fundraising banquet. Admission is free; however, seating is limited, so you must register at <https://banquet-thewilberforceproject.nationbuilder.com>.

Fertility Education Training

Are you interested in providing fertility education to couples? Billings Life is seeking organized and compassionate individuals to become Accredited Teachers of the Billings Ovulation Method®. *The Billings Ovulation Method: Basic Teacher Training Workshop* (Part 1) is taking place **Friday-Sunday, April 21-23**, at Misericordia Hospital in Edmonton.

Please call 403-320-1489 if you have questions and register online at billingslife.ca/get-involved/become-a-teacher.

Schools

Beacon of Hope Award

Do you know a great staff member in the Greater St. Albert Catholic School District? Nominations are now open for the Laura Bird Memorial Beacon of Hope Award, The award celebrates staff mentorship and those who are an active and articulate witness to Jesus Christ by serving the needy in the most selfless manner possible. For information on how to nominate, visit www.gsacrd.ab.ca. Deadline for nominations is **Monday, May 15**.

[View the poster](#)

Parish and Community News

Church Furnishings

Queen of Martyrs Parish in Edmonton has one pulpit and two nave tables available to give to any parish that could use them. If you are interested, contact the parish at 780-423-5389.

Desks need new Home



St. John the Evangelist Parish has two desks that are in need of a new home. They need to be picked up as soon as possible; please call Linda or Sophie at the parish office, 780-452-3988.

