

# The Parish Community of St. Kevin

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## Lent and Easter 2014

Dear Members of the St. Kevin's Parish Community,

We are happy to write to you during this Holy Season of Lent, as we journey towards Easter, the great feast of our salvation. Lent is an opportune time for us to go back to the school of silence to reflect, to evaluate and to refocus in our call to love and serve God and one another.



When we wrote to you last year we were without a pope after the resignation of Pope Benedict XVI. Now we are blessed with Pope Francis and since his election a year ago, he has captivated people throughout the world through his simplicity and by his call for a *“a church that is poor and a church for the poor.”* He constantly reminds us that we are called to be a community: a welcoming community, a caring community and a praying community.

For us Holy Cross priests here at St. Kevin's, (Father Jim and Father Vijay), it has been our experience that many find St. Kevin's to be a *very warm and welcoming* spiritual community. We minister to the spiritual needs of over 3,300 families. For our community Sunday Eucharist is the epicentre of every week. It is the Eucharist that feeds us and sends us out to share and care. To be honest, life is not easy. We all need time to be refreshed and replenished. In the celebration of the Eucharist we bring our cares and concerns to the Lord; we give thanks to the Lord; we join with others in praising God and committing to God our common worries and preoccupations.

St. Kevin's is your *spiritual home*. Please make the effort to join us for the Sunday Eucharist. But, if you are not able to join us, please know that we would love to see you any time and you and your loved ones are in our community's prayer at all times. Please pray for our Parish Community, especially for our ten RCIA candidates who will receive the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist) at the beautiful Easter Vigil, April 19, 2014 at 8.30 pm, for our nine RCIC children who will be baptized on Easter Sunday April 20, 2014 at 2.00 pm and for our 110 grade two children who will receive First Holy Communion with their families on Easter Sunday.

Included with this letter is the schedule of our services for Holy Week and Easter. We are looking forward to welcoming the Parish Community to these celebrations. This is a wonderful opportunity to enter the tomb so that at Easter we can feel a renewed and stronger faith.

**Share Lent 2014 - *One human family, food for all!***

Do the math! Here is an equation that does not add up: the 85 richest people in the world have as much wealth as half the global population put together. That is a sinful, scandalous reality. And here is another sinful, scandalous reality: One out of every 8 of God's children suffers from hunger – a total of one billion people on our planet. To die of hunger in our world of plenty is a scandal and denies the most basic human right: the right to food. These are two of the realities that have compelled Pope Francis to invite the Catholic Church across the world to take seriously his words *one human family, food for all*. In Canada we are doing that through our annual Share Lent campaign. Lent is a time for us to taste people's hunger and touch their poverty with our fingers. In our Easter mailing please find the Share Lent envelope for our collection on Palm Sunday. And you will find as well a Share Lent bookmark expressing beautifully in prayer form Pope Francis' wish – *one human family, food for all!*

May you and your loved ones have a blessed Easter.

Yours in the peace of Christ,

Father Vijay Amirtharaj, CSC    Father Jim Mulligan, CSC

**You may bring your Share Lent contribution to Mass on Palm Sunday  
or to any Sunday Mass during the Easter Season.**

## Schedule for Holy Week    2014

**Passion Sunday/Palm Sunday    April 12<sup>th</sup> – April 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Mass Times: Saturday 5:00 p.m.; Sunday 8:00 a.m.; 10:00 a.m.; 12 noon; 5:00 p.m.**

Palms will be distributed to each person as they enter the Church and blessed during the Liturgy.

**Sacrament of Penance:            Monday, April 14<sup>th</sup> Communal Celebration at 7:30 pm**  
Communal Preparation with several priests for confessions.

**Sacred Triduum**

**Holy Thursday                            April 17<sup>th</sup>**

**Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:30 p.m.** Reception of Oils; Washing of Feet; Commissioning of Ministries – all parishioners involved in any ministry are encouraged to participate in this beautiful liturgy.

**Hours of Adoration: 8:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.**

**Good Friday                                April 18<sup>th</sup>**

**Celebration of the Lord's Passion at 12 noon and 3:00 p.m.**

**Stations of the Cross at 7:00 p.m.**

**Holy Saturday                              April 19<sup>th</sup>    Easter Vigil**

**At 8:00 p.m.** Blessing of the new fire and Paschal Candle

and Initiation of Catechumens/Candidates    ***[NO 5:00 p.m. Mass today]***

**Easter Sunday                                April 20<sup>th</sup>**

**Masses at 8:00 a.m.; 10 a.m.; 12 noon; 2:00 p.m. – Initiation of the RCIC children**