Throughout the Season of Lent and Easter, we will be selling our very own Paschal Candles. This fundraising initiative is in support of the many faith-based events and programs we have at the Newman Centre and the University of Toronto.

Your support is greatly appreciated! Having a Paschal Candle at your Easter table makes known to all who see it that Jesus Christ is alive and His Resurrection is God's victory!

To obtain your candles, please see one of our volunteers or staff members before or after our daily or weekend Masses.

HAVE YOU BEEN GIFTED?

Our talents are God's gift to us.
What we do with them is our gift back to Him.

All of us have been gifted with talents from God to use for His purposes. How can you use your talents as an offering back to God?

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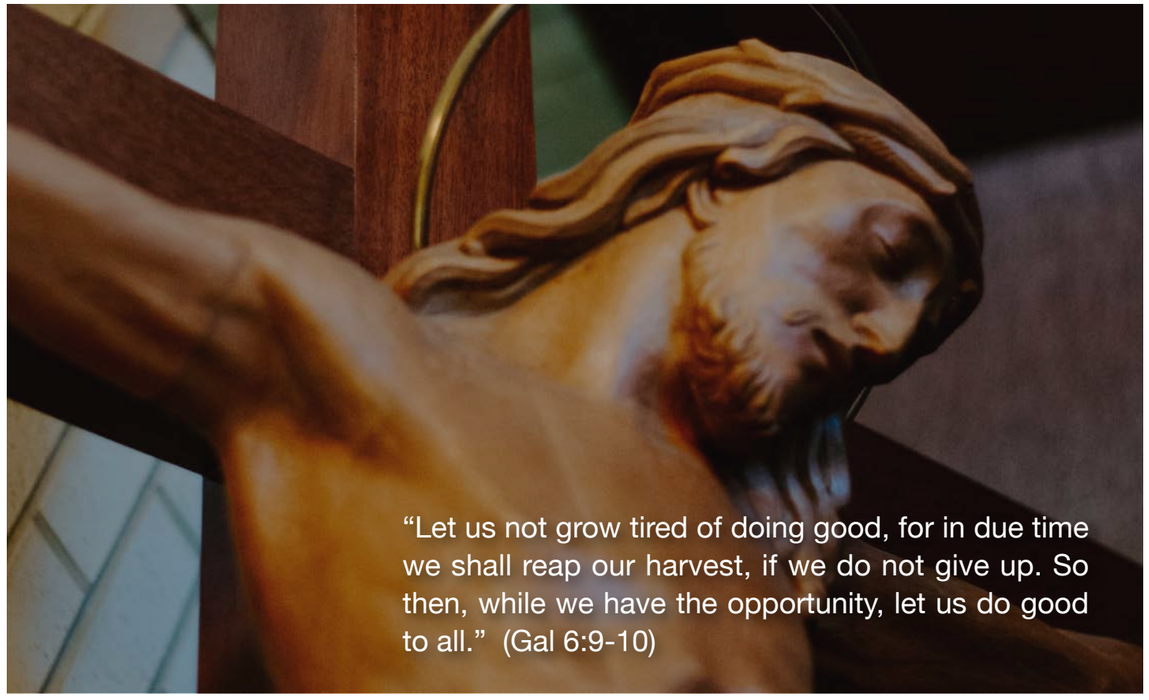
NEWMAN CENTRE CATHOLIC MISSION



At the start of Lent, His Holiness Pope Francis released his annual message to the faithful all around the world. Following is an excerpt of that Lenten message...

"Lent is a favourable time for personal and community renewal, as it leads us to the paschal mystery of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. For our Lenten journey in 2022, we will do well to reflect on Saint Paul's exhortation to the Galatians: "Let us not grow tired of doing good, for in due time we shall reap our harvest, if we do not give up. So then, while we have the opportunity (kairós), let us do good to all" (Gal 6:9-10).

"Christ's resurrection enlivens earthly hopes with the "great hope" of eternal life, planting the seed of salvation in our present time (cf. BENEDICT XVI, Spe Salvi, 3; 7). Bitter disappointment at shattered dreams, deep concern for the challenges ahead and discouragement at the poverty of our resources, can make us tempted to seek refuge in self-centredness and indifference to the suffering of others. Indeed, even our best resources have their limitations: "Youths grow tired and weary, the young stumble and fall" (Is 40:30). Yet God "gives strength to the weary, he strengthens the powerless. Those who hope in the Lord will regain their strength, they will soar on wings like eagles; though they run they will not grow weary, though they walk they will never tire» (Is 40:29, 31). The Lenten season calls us to place our faith and hope in the Lord (cf. 1 Pet 1:21), since only if we fix our gaze on the risen Christ (cf. Heb 12:2) will we be able to respond to the Apostle's appeal, "Let us never grow tired of doing good".

Let us not grow tired of praying. Jesus taught us to "pray always without becoming weary" (Lk 18:1). We need to pray because we need God. Thinking that we need nothing other than ourselves is a dangerous illusion. If the pandemic has heightened the awareness of our own personal and social fragility, may this Lent allow us to experience the consolation provided by faith in God, without whom we cannot stand firm (cf. Is 7:9)...

To read more, please visit: **https://bit.ly/3id34Y9**

AS WE CONTINUE THROUGH THE LENTEN SEASON

From Catholic Culture: As we continue our journey "up to Jerusalem" during the month of March, three prominent ideas are proposed for our contemplation by the liturgy of Lent: the Passion and Resurrection of Christ, baptism, and penance.

The Solemnity of St. Joseph is a special landmark this month in which we will celebrate the great honor bestowed upon the foster father of Jesus. Also the Solemnity of the Annunciation (March 25) when we ponder Our Lady's fiat. And if you are Irish (who isn't), St. Patrick's feast is another cause for a joyful celebration.

A Time of Penance and Promise: Here and there in the stark March landscape, a few plants and trees are beginning to give evidence of the new life that winter's frost and chill had concealed from our eyes. The Church's vibrant new life has been obscured, too, by the austerity of the penitential season of Lent. But that life is indisputable, and it will burgeon forth on Easter as Christ coming forth from his tomb!

At the beginning of March we embarked on our journey to the cross by receiving ashes and donning the purple of penance. We will continue our journey to the cross with our acts of penitence. We will reflect on our mortality (Remember man thou art dust) and the shortness of life (and to dust thou shall return). We will heed the call, Now is the acceptable time, now is "the day of salvation (2 Corinthians 6:2)." Just like Our Lord's earthly life every moment of our lives is leading up to the last moment—when for eternity we will either go to God or suffer the fires of hell.

The Solemnity of the Annunciation bravely appears during Lent; a pure white flower in the purple Lenten landscape. It seems to be, at first glance, a Christmas feast, but upon reflection we grasp that the feast is intimately linked to the Paschal mystery. For what Christ inaugurated at His Incarnation in accepting to offer himself for the human race, he will complete in his sacrifice on the cross.

As the weeks of Lent progress let us not tire of doing our good works and penance, but continue with the enthusiasm of the catechumens on their way to Easter and Baptism. May our Lenten observance be a joyful journey — and not a forced march.

SHARELIFE 2022 CAMPAIGN | LIVING THE GOSPEL BY PROVIDING FOR THOSE IN NEED

ShareLife is more than a parish collection. It is how we, as a Catholic community in the Archdiocese of Toronto, bring the hands of Christ to those in need.

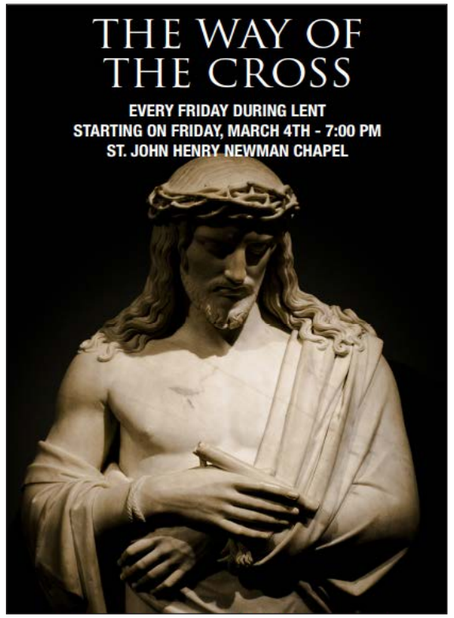
There are many ways to get involved. From Sunday collections to setting up a monthly donation online or starting a fundraiser at your parish, workplace or school, your contribution will help those that rely on ShareLife agencies today.

Over 40 ShareLife agencies serve tens of thousands of people locally and countless more around the world, regardless of religious affiliation. Given the growing needs in our communities, it is crucial we meet our 2022 Parish Campaign goal of $13.8 million. By reaching this goal, our agencies will continue to: offer walk-in counselling to those facing mental health issues, help victims of domestic violence, ensure isolated seniors are not forgotten, deliver food to children in developing countries, form priests and deacons who will minister in our parishes. Your support of ShareLife makes these programs possible, among many others. Thank you for living the Gospel by providing for those in need.

Follow us on our Newman Centre social media pages for more information on ShareLife. Thank you for Living the Gospel.

RETREATS 2022

THE WAY OF THE CROSS EVERY FRIDAY AT 7:00 PM THROUGHOUT LENT



The Way of the Cross details fourteen different moments on the day Jesus died. This prayer pilgrimage is a powerful way to grow closer to Jesus at any time of the year, however, it is most popular during the Lenten season.

In 2017, Pope Francis detailed the importance of Praying the Sations of the Cross. Following are a few of those reasons.

THEY ALLOW US TO PLACE OUR TRUST IN HIM

"The Cross of Christ contains all the love of God; there we find His immeasurable mercy. This is a love in which we can place all our trust, in which we can believe.

THEY PUT US INTO THE STORY

"And you, who do you want to be? Like Pilate? Like Simon? Like Mary? Jesus is looking at you now and is asking you: do you want to help me carry the Cross?

THEY REMIND US THAT JESUS SUFFERS WITH US

"The Cross of Christ bears the suffering and the sin of mankind, including our own. Jesus accepts all this with open arms, bearing on his shoulders our crosses and saying to us: 'Have courage! You do not carry your cross alone! I carry it with you.