

March 24th, 2019 – Third Sunday of Lent Gospel: Luke 9:28b-36

## *God's Holy intervention*

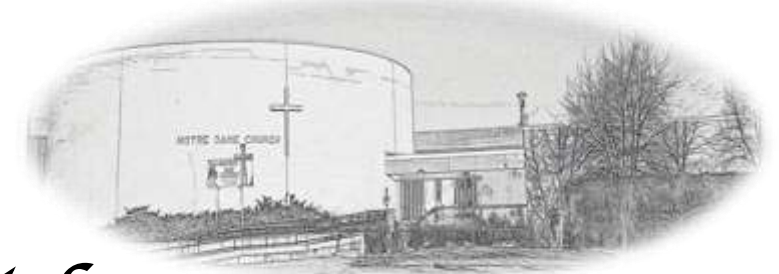
The burning bush is a powerful image in the Christian imagination. In today's reading, Moses encounters God, instructs him to take off his sandals because he is standing on Holy Ground. But how often do we reflect on the reason for God's holy intervention at this point in history? Yes, the image of the burning bush is an amazing one. But even more amazing is *why* God appears at this moment. "I have seen the affliction of my people in Egypt and have heard their cry." God hears the cry of the poor and afflicted and responds by calling Moses to cooperate with Him in their deliverance. Indeed, as today's psalm says, "The Lord is kind and merciful." In the Gospel, Jesus reminds us not to interpret simple calamities as divine punishment. He refers to two different calamities of his time and makes it clear that those who perished did not do so because they were greater sinners than those listening to him. He urges his audience, and us, to be conscious of the need to repent of our own failures. We are like the fig trees of his parable. Although we have not yet been cut down, we are not yet bearing fruit.

Today is also the feast day of Saint Oscar Romero, who was martyred on this day in 1980. He was, at first, like the fig tree which has not yet begun to bear fruit. When he was appointed Archbishop of San Salvador, no one thought the church had appointed a champion of the poor. And yet, he encountered God in his own burning bush and heard the call that is always made on holy ground. In this case, it was this holy intervention: I have heard the cry of the poor. He began to bear fruit. His body perished because he responded to God's call, yet his spirit lives on. Development and Peace is proud to have been a part of the journey of this saint, supporting his work to end the oppression of his people. Inspired by his spirit, we continue today to respond to the cry of the poor throughout the world. For example, we respond today to the cry of the Rohingya people, victims of genocide in their own country, Burma. Over a million Rohingya have been forced to flee their homes for neighbouring Bangladesh. Like Moses and Romero we share the journey of the poor and oppressed towards liberation and freedom. We respond to their very real physical needs – food, shelter and security – while calling for their freedom and an end to their persecution.

Today is a chance to reflect on the ways in which God is calling you to hear the cry of the poor. Is it the cry of a marginalized person in your own family? Is it the look from the homeless panhandler who manages to lock eyes with you for a brief second on the street? Is it the story of the child migrant, separated from her family and far away from home? Let us pray that we not only hear that call, but that we recognize that the ground on which we hear it is holy.

If we recognize that the call is made on holy ground, we are more likely to freely respond. We are more likely to say, like Moses, "Here I am." We are all fig trees which must bear fruit. We are spared in our comfort from the oppressive conditions of our sisters and brothers in the darkest corners of the world. This does not mean that God has abandoned them and not us. In fact, our own salvation may be in peril more than theirs. No, Jesus tells us that this is the moment of our mutual salvation – when we respond to the cry of the poor and come together to *Share the Journey*

# *Notre Dame Parish*



908 - 104 Avenue, Dawson Creek, B.C. V1G 2H7

Office Hours: 9-12noon - 1-4pm, Monday to Friday

Telephone: (250)782-3456 Fax: (250)782-7373

Web Site: <https://notredamedc.ca> Email: [nddc@shaw.ca](mailto:nddc@shaw.ca)

Mass Times: Tuesday & Thursday - 12:10pm, Wednesday & Friday - See Bulletin

Saturday - 7:30pm, Sunday - 10:00am

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday - 6:30pm - 7:00pm or by Appointment

#### PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Fr. Venerando Sabacan Secretary: Pauline Bates

Office Volunteer: Yvonne Becotte

#### SCHOOL STAFF

Principal: Mrs. Terri Haynal Secretary: Gen Cabrera

Phone No: (250) 782-4923

**March 24th, 2019**

**3rd Sunday of Lent**

**Green thumbs?**

Some of us are born with green thumbs. These blessed souls can make a garden oasis out of the scantiest soil. It's as if they know by instinct the right fertilizer for each plant, as if they have an invisible radar warning them of pests and drought. For those of us whose gardens produce weak and wilting harvests, gardening skills border on the miraculous. We look at an empty flowerbed and see dirt. Gardeners see the same freshly turned soil as riot of color just waiting to happen. Thankfully the Master Gardener has a never failing green thumb. He looks at the soil and knows exactly what we need for a bountiful harvest. On the outside a life may seem just dried soil and weak stalks, but God sees the fruit they *could* bear. We may wonder why God has asked us to carry fertilizer or water to such a barren field, but He knows what is planted there and what He hopes to reap. This week, before you point out the root rot in someone else's life, remember that your harvest is invisible too, and pray for the weed of false judgment to be uprooted from your garden

Mass Intentions for the Week	
Tuesday	+ Cindy Malkinson
Wednesday	+Jackie Da Ros
Thursday	Val & Damian Wong
Friday	+Luke Dufour
Saturday	Gracie White
Sunday	Intentions of Notre Dame Parish

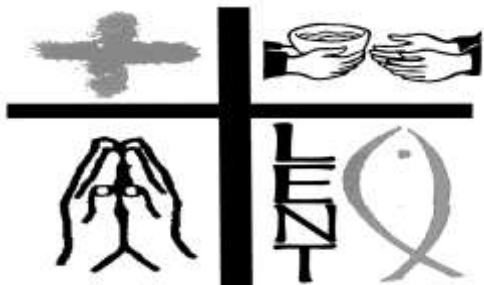
Ministries – Mar 30, 2019 - 7:30pm	
Ex. Ord. Min. Comm	G. Macarat, G. Juell, Y. Becotte
Lectors	C. Clement, C. Kinnear
Servers	G. Stanek, T. & L. Skin
Ushers	R. & N. Roy, P. Bates
Greeters	B. Figura
Ministries – Mar 31, 2019 - 10am	
Ex. Ord. Min. Comm	KC
Lectors	KC
Servers	KC, N. Banocnoc, L. Anonuevo
Ushers	KC
Greeters	KC

**Children's Liturgy:** Leanne  
**Church Foyer Cleaner:** G. Stanek

**Baptism of children:** Contact the Parish Office (even prior to the birth of your child) about the process for Baptism preparation for parents & godparents.

**Marriage:** Couples wishing to be married in a Catholic Church should contact the Parish Office at least 6 months prior to their wedding date.

**RCIA:** Any persons wishing to join the Catholic faith please contact the Parish Office



- Mar 24** 3rd Sunday of Lent  
9:20am Rosary  
10am Mass
- Mar 26** 10:20am - CTW Bible Study  
12:10pm - Mass
- Mar 27** 10:30am Mass - Rotary Manor  
6pm Choir Practice
- Mar 28** 12:10pm - Mass
- Mar 29** 12:10pm - Mass  
7pm Stations of the Cross
- Mar 30** 10am Divine Mercy Stat. of the Cross and Rosary  
6:30pm - 7pm Reconciliation  
7:30pm Mass
- Mar 31** 4th Sunday of Lent  
9:20am Rosary  
10am Mass

**PARISH SICK LIST:** Please pray for....  
 Gerry York, Rose Palfy, Carol Dufour, Margaret Lowther, Cathie Carver, George LaJeunesse, Violet Thomas, Bill Thomas, Isabel Ong, Fr. Eric Swearigen, Mary Irene Redies, Bernadette Redgate, Christine Waller, Tracey Lee Woodcox, Melina Hamilton, Vicki York, Mel Palfy, Jane Spent, Ray Richardson, Laureen Harrold, Jerome Reschny, Fran Papp, Graham Carson, Anne Franke, Sandra Hoisington, Mieczyslaw(Matt) Smusz, Jeannine Tanasichuk, Cheryl McLeod  
 (Names will be removed after 1 month unless contacted)

**Seminary of Christ the King  
 Vocation Live-In  
 April 5-7, 2019  
 Call 1-604-826-8715 or fax  
 1-604-826-8725 or email  
[frpeterosb@gmail.com](mailto:frpeterosb@gmail.com) to register or  
 for more information.**



## STATIONS of the CROSS

On Fridays at 7:00 pm at the church – come join us.

### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES: CATHOLIC INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS-

#### Prince George Diocese

Teacher Positions – Continuing and Limited Duration

Details of these positions and application process can be found at:

<http://cispg.ca/cispg/career>



**2019 Annual  
 Diocesan Youth  
 Conference –  
 “Called”  
 May 3 – 5, 2019**

Featuring Katie  
 Prejean McGrady  
 and  
 Face2Face Ministries

*Keep in your prayers the  
 children preparing for  
 their 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion  
 & Confirmation*

## NOTRE DAME & FRIENDS “SPRING FLING”

### KOFC BURSARY FUND RAISING EVENT

**WHEN: SUNDAY, APRIL 7 FROM 5:00 – 9:00 PM**

**WHERE: NOTRE DAME SCHOOL GYM**

**RESERVATIONS: SEATS ARE LIMITED & ARE VIA DONATION**

**CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE OR A MEMBER OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FOR A RESERVATION**

**COME OUT AND ENJOY AN ENTICING INTERNATIONAL POT-LUCK, DOOR PRIZES, GAMES, CONTESTS, GREAT MUSIC, DANCING**



Facing persecution and violence, 723,000 Rohingyas have fled Myanmar since August 2017 and taken refuge across the border, in neighbouring Bangladesh. Development and Peace’s long-time partner Caritas Bangladesh is working hard to restore some dignity to these people who simply yearn to live in peace. Thanks to your donations, Caritas Bangladesh has been able to provide temporary shelters, access to clean water, safe latrines and showers for women and girls, and hygiene kits, and to raise awareness among refugees about safety issues. Your generosity makes a difference in the lives of the Rohingya! [devp.org/give](http://devp.org/give)

Save the Date! **June 2, 2019**---Notre Dame School Diamond Jubilee Celebration & Fundraiser, Tickets: \$35/each. All Proceeds go towards for Playground equipment. Donations of items for a “Silent Auction” would be much appreciated. Dinner will be served at 5:30pm. Doors will open at 4:45pm.