St. Stanislaus & St. Pius X & St. Christopher

Parish Priest: Rev. Father Arulkumar

Parish Secretary:

Fave Wafer

Office Hours: Tuesday to Thursday 10 AM to 2 PM

Sunday Masses:

St. Pius X - Lively

Saturday: 4:30 PM St. Christopher - Whitefish **Sunday** : 9:00 **AM** St. Stanislaus - Copper Cliff **Sunday: 11:00 AM**

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

St. Stanislaus - Copper Cliff Sunday: 10:30 AM to 10:45 AM St. Pius X - Lively Saturday: 4:00 PM to 4:15 PM

St. Christopher - Whitefish Sunday: 8:30 AM to 8:45 AM

Baptism:

Usually on the 3rd Sunday of the month. Please make arrangements one month in advance by contacting the Parish Office.

Marriages:

Please make marriage arrangements 9 months in advance by contacting the Parish office. Saturday weddings are scheduled at 1:00 PM.

> Other Sacraments: **Contact Parish Office**

Bulletin Announcements:

Email yours to ststans@eastlink.ca **Before 12 PM Wednesday**

Prayer line:

St. Stanislaus: Fave Wafer 705-682-3207 or Ellen Austin 705-682-4596

St. Pius X: Eleanor Williams 705-692-4061 or Denise Stewart 705-6924883

St. Christopher: Adrienne McIntyre 705-866-2235

Mission Statement:

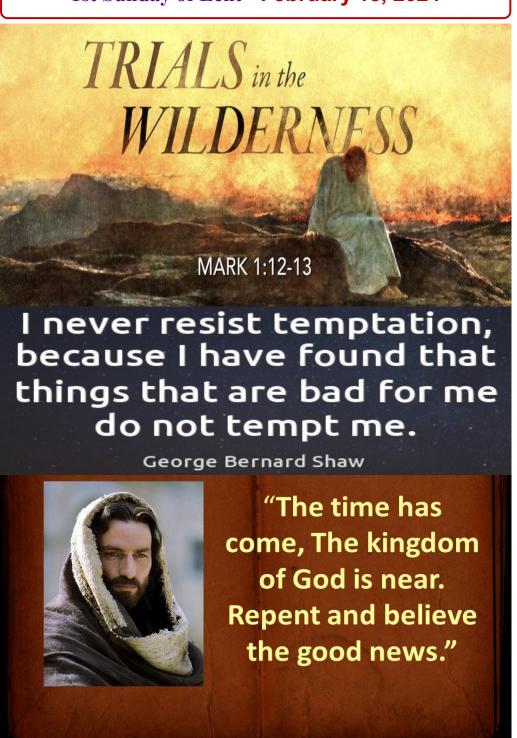
By our Baptism, we are committed to celebrate the presence of Christ in Word and Sacrament and are continually called to build our lives in the image of Christ. Through liturgy and ministry, we strive to bring ourselves closer to God and to each other, by building a strong community of believers and a joyous family of God.

78 Balsam Street, P.O. Box 910 Copper Cliff, ON P0M 1N0

Tel: 705-682-4683 / Fax: 705-682-2646

Email: ststans@eastlink.ca Website: www.sts-spc.com

1st Sunday of Lent - February 18, 2024





Tuesday, February 20
10:00 AM - St. Christopher, Whitefish
No Intentions requested

Wednesday, February 21 10:00 AM - St. Pius X, Lively No Intentions requested

Thursday, February 22 10:30 AM - Meadowbrook, Lively No Intentions requested

Friday, February 23 09:30 AM - St. Stanislaus, Copper Cliff No Intensions requested

Second Sunday of Lent
Saturday, February 24
04:30 PM - St. Pius X, Lively
† M. Maloney by St. Pius X CWL

Sunday, February 25 09:00 AM - St. Christopher, Whitefish For the People entrusted to the Pastor

11:00 AM - St. Stanislaus, Copper Cliff
† Isadore Paolin by Paolin family

The Rosary is recited before Saturday and Sunday Mass.

The Cenacle of the Marian Movement of priests is held each Tuesday at 10:45 AM at St. Christopher's Church, Whitefish.

A Prayer Line is available for parishioners.

Anyone wishing to pray for a special Intention, for someone who is ill, having surgery, for the deceased, or any other intention may contact the Prayer Line or the Parish Office.

Mass Intentions

Offering Masses is a long standing tradition in the Catholic Church.

An Individual may ask a priest to offer a Mass for several reasons.

For example, in Thanksgiving, for the intentions of another person (such as on a Birthday or an Anniversary), for someone who is sick or for the repose of the soul of someone who has died.

Call the Parish Office: 705-682-4683

1st Sunday of Lent Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 25

Your paths, Lord, are love and faithfulness for those who keep your covenant.

Weekdays Scripture Readings: February 19 to February 25, 2024

| Day | Reading | Gospel |
|-----------|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| Monday | Leviticus 19.1-2 | Matthew 25.31-46 |
| Tuesday | Isaiah 55.10-11 | Matthew 6.7-15 |
| Wednesday | Jonah 3.1-10 | Luke 11.29-32 |
| Thursday | 1 Peter 5.1-4 | Matthew 16.13-19 |
| Friday | Ezekiel 18.21-28 | Matthew 5.20-26 |
| Saturday | Deuteronomy 26.16-19 | Matthew 5.43-48 |
| Sunday | Genesis 22.1-2 Romans 8.31b-35 | Mark 9.2-10 |

| Sunday Collection - February 1 | 1, 2024 | Thank You for Your Continued Generosity! | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------|--|------------|--|
| Church | Envelope | s Loose | PADP | |
| St. Stanislaus, Copper Cliff | \$ 780.00 | \$ 33.30 | \$ 1310.00 | |
| St. Pius X, Lively | \$ 660.00 | \$ 17.00 | \$ 1580.00 | |
| St. Christopher, Whitefish | \$ 480.00 | \$ 50.00 | \$ 735.00 | |

First Week of Lent

On the **First Sunday of Lent**, as we begin our Lenten journey, remembering how God re-established the covenant after the flood, and we reflect on how Jesus began his public ministry with a retreat of forty days - driven to the desert by the Spirit.

After last week's first four days, the next three weeks of Lent represent a period of instruction, originally designed for the Catechumens (those preparing for Baptism at the Easter Vigil). We can read these readings as a catechism of renewal for us all.

The first weekday reading of week one is the great giving of the Commandments: 'Be holy, for I, the LORD, your God, am holy'. Jesus gives the great parable about the last judgment - separating the charitable from the uncharitable: 'whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me'. Then, Jesus teaches his disciples to pray. He says that it is an evil generation that looks for "signs." He's the sign - a call to repentance. On the day we hear the desperate but faith-filled prayer of **Esther**, Jesus tells us to pray confidently. And he sums up the whole law and the prophets for us: 'Do to others whatever you would have them do to you'. Jesus says our holiness has to go beyond the letter-of-the-law holiness; it must touch our anger, our judgments of others, and be reconciled with those we've wronged. The holiness Jesus proposes for us calls us to love our enemies, even to pray for those who persecute us. We are called to love the way God does.

Thursday is the **Feast of the Chair of St. Peter**.

For the **Second Sunday of Lent** we read of how God tested Abraham's faith. In the gospel we witness how Jesus showed his disciples his glory, to prepare them for what is to come. A voice from a cloud said, 'This is my Son, my beloved. Listen to him'. All we need to do for the journey ahead is to listen to him.

Temptation is Real and painful..!

Temptation in life is real. It's the result of our fallen human nature. It comes from our weakness but also from the evil one. Temptation can be a heavy burden and cause heavy emotional and psychological pain. And when the temptation is given in to, it causes an even deeper spiritual pain. Jesus never gave in to the temptations in the desert, nor did He give in to temptations at any other time in His life. But He endured them and suffered them.

This tells us that He can be our strength and inspiration in the midst of whatever we are tempted with each and every day. Some days we may feel the loneliness and isolation of one who is driven into the desert of our sins. We may feel as though the wild beasts of our disordered passions are getting the best of us. We may feel as though the evil one is having his way with us. Well, Jesus felt this way, also. And He freely allowed Himself to experience this in His humanity. It was the will of the Father and the working of the Holy Spirit that drove Him to this experience.

For these reasons, it is Jesus Himself who is able to meet you in this desert within. He is there, waiting for you, looking for you, calling to you. He is there in the midst of anything and everything you may be going through. And it is He, the One who defeated this desert temptation, who will gently guide you out. He went to the desert to meet you and to bring you back. And just as the angels ministered to Jesus in this desert, so also does He send those angels to minister to you.

So whether your "desert" is only a slight agitation in life right now, or if it's a struggle against complete despair, Jesus wants to meet you and bring you out. He conquered the desert once and for all and He is able to conquer any desert in your life, also.



Daily Prayer This Week

This first week of Lent is the time we are given to begin our Lenten patterns, to re-align our priorities, and to make use of more reflective time each day. It is a time to fast and abstain from those things that hinder our relationship with the Lord, and to consider being more generous to the poor.

As we make this beginning, we are offered some beautiful instruction about what is expected of us. These readings describe a very Jesus-like love. We can examine our care for the hungry, thirsty, naked, sick or imprisoned. We can reflect upon who in our lives needs us and whether we love them as we want to be loved. And we can look at the deeper things, like our anger or how we treat others, and our response to those who are our "enemies." What is most important this first week, beyond a sharper examination of our consciences, is to see this as a time for God's grace to work in us. So, it is a time to ask for the graces we are starting to see we need.

Each morning this week we can ask our Lord to help us focus this day on the neediest people around us. We can ask to begin new patterns this week by practicing special charity and love, where I haven't been so generous or kind before. The key is to ask and to be very specific. Then, throughout the day, we can keep talking with our Lord, in the background about these graces we ask for and the concrete circumstances we find ourselves in. It is in the particular events of our day that we will become attentive to our need for our Lord's presence and grace, as well as our need to choose a new pattern. Each evening, we can briefly review the day and recognize some missed opportunities to connect with the Lord or take advantage of a situation here or there, but most of all, we can thank the Lord for the moments of connection that have begun our Lenten journey.