



CHRIST THE REDEEMER

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH • 599 Keith Road, West Vancouver, BC, V7T 1L8

RADIATING THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL WITHIN OUR PARISH FAMILY AND BEYOND

Pastor - Msgr. Gregory Smith

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Parish Website - www.ctrwestvan.ca

Flocknote - flocknote.com/CTRrcav

2nd Sunday of Easter—April 19, 2020



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 DIVINE MERCY

JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU

Jesus, I Trust in You DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

“All grace flows from mercy, and the last hour abounds with mercy for us. Let no one doubt concerning the goodness of God; even if a person’s sins were as dark as night, God’s mercy is stronger than our misery. One thing alone is necessary; that the sinner set ajar the door of his heart, be it ever so little, to let in a ray of God’s merciful grace, and then God will do the rest.”

—no. 1507, *Diary of St. Faustina*

On Divine Mercy Sunday, the Church grants a special indulgence to the faithful who take part in devotions to the Divine Mercy, such as the Chaplet we will pray after Mass this morning. During this time of the pandemic, there is also a special indulgence granted to all who pray for its end, and to healthcare workers who expose themselves to danger.

An **indulgence** is “a remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven” (CCC, 1471). The Church understands temporal punishment as meaning time in purgatory.

The faithful can receive a plenary (full) indulgence by satisfying the following four conditions:

1. Prayer for the intentions of the Pope (certain prayers not specified)
2. In a spirit that is completely detached from the affection for sin, even venial sin, take part prayers to the Divine Mercy, praying for an end to the pandemic.

As well as these conditions, as soon as it is possible to do so:

3. Sacramental Confession
4. Eucharistic Communion

A partial indulgence is granted to those who, with a contrite heart, pray to the Divine Mercy today (e.g. repeating devoutly ‘Jesus, I trust in you’).

Icon by Steve Knight, displayed at the confessionals at Christ the Redeemer

A Glance at Our Parish Calendar

#ChurchNeverStops—For more information on getting involved email us at office@ctrwestvan.ca.

Today	April 19	10:00 a.m.	Sunday Mass	rebrand.ly/ctrmass
Tuesday	April 21	7:00 p.m.	R.C.I.A.	Zoom
Wednesday	April 22	10:30 a.m.	Lectio Divina	rebrand.ly/lectiodivina
		7:30 p.m.	Lectio Divina	rebrand.ly/lectiodivina
Friday	April 24	7:00 a.m.	Men's Prayer Group	Zoom
		2:45 p.m.	Knitting for Charity	Zoom
		7:30 p.m.	Mass in Time of Pandemic	rebrand.ly/ctrmass
Sunday	April 26	10:00 a.m.	Sunday Mass	rebrand.ly/ctrmass

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Watch online liturgies at rebrand.ly/ctrmass.

Sun Apr 19	LIVE AT 10:00 a.m.	Marina Gordon † <i>2nd Sunday of Easter DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY</i>
Mon Apr 20		Phil Gleeson †
Tues Apr 21		Helenka Mickova † <i>St. Anselm</i>
Wed Apr 22		Poweska Family †
Thu Apr 23		Christopher Boon Chua †
Fri Apr 24	LIVE AT 7:30 p.m.	Veronica Johnson † <i>Mass in Time of Pandemic</i>
Sat Apr 25		Edwin Stone † <i>St. Mark the Evangelist</i>
Sun Apr 26	LIVE AT 10:00 a.m.	Ruth Oliver † <i>3rd Sunday of Easter</i>



It's Easy to Give!

Well, it may *not* be that easy to give when many of us are feeling the serious financial consequences of the current crisis.

We've appreciated the many parishioners who've taken the trouble to drop off their envelopes at the rectory—and you're welcome to continue. However, there is a simple and easy way to make your weekly gift and your Easter offering: the Archdiocese has setup a 'digital offertory basket' collection for our parish! You make your contribution (one-time, weekly, or monthly) just by clicking [here](https://rebrand.ly/ctroffering) or rebrand.ly/ctroffering.

Of course, we're always happy to help you out by phone if you would prefer. Please call Catherine Davidson at 604-922-1371. Thank you all so much for your sacrificial support at this difficult time.



Mass In Time of Pandemic

"The plague that prowls in the darkness you will not fear." —*Psalm 90, 5-6*

The psalmist invites us to have great faith in the steadfast love of God, who never abandons his people in time of trial. Join us this **Friday, April 24 at 7:30 p.m.** for a special **Mass in Time of Pandemic** streamed live from CTR, to implore God to bring an end to this pandemic.

To view the live Mass, connect to the Internet and just before 7:30 p.m. go to rebrand.ly/ctrmass. Select the "Live" video to enter the stream. Do not click this link too early as we test before each Mass and you may experience connection issues if you join before the scheduled time.

Sunday Masses will continue to be streamed at **10 a.m.** at the link above. Each liturgy will be recorded.



Confession Schedule

Sundays: 4:15—4:45 p.m.

Wednesdays: 8:45—9:15 a.m.

Saturdays: 9:30—10:00 a.m.

To ensure adequate distance, do not approach our outdoor confessional screens until the area is completely clear—and please stand well back from the screen. We ask you to leave immediately as soon as you've made your confession and not to visit in the parking lot.

Please Pray For

Vicki Lupton

All those affected by the COVID-19 virus

&

Ken Beesley, Helen Bush, Ron Buziol, Noel Callahan,
Stephanie Cameron-Anctil, Leo Dy, Ted Ewbank,
Mireille Farwagi, Marilyn Goulet, Germaine Guay,
Gemma Konar, Annie Mackenzie, Peggy McCormick,
Mary Menescardi, Juanita Nazareth, Eduardo Peralta,
Graham Ridsdale, Breda Sheehan, Theresa Sheehan,
Linwood Trask, Molly Waechter, Ed Wild, and Terry Zweng



Project Advance 2020

Please note that the Archdiocese has placed Project Advance 2020 **on hold** until further notice. All donations already made have been recorded. Thank you for your generosity to the Church during this time.



Discovery Faith Studies

The passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus at Easter is for *you*—rediscover the joy of the Gospel and Jesus' personal love for you through a Discovery faith study! We'll be running small-group faith studies virtually via video conferencing. If you are interested in joining us for one of these studies, please email discovery@ctrwestvan.ca. You will be able to begin as soon as a group is formed, so contact us at any time.

The parish is also offering virtual Discovery studies to St. Thomas Aquinas High School parents during this time, continuing from the study that began in February. The group currently meets on Monday evenings by Zoom. If you are an STA parent and would like to join and grow in your faith with other parents, please contact Krista at kgreig@ctrwestvan.ca.



Tech Support

Please check in this week with parishioners you know—especially those who might not be tech-savvy, and ask if they have been able to watch our liturgy live streams and receiving our Flocknotes and bulletins, and see how you can assist them if they are not able to access these currently. If you know someone who doesn't have the technology or Internet, please let us know and we will send them a physical bulletin every week.

Staying Connected One-on-One

Our 'Virtual Office'



The parish staff are working from home to meet your needs and committed to respond to you in a timely fashion—although the office is physically closed.

If you don't have internet access, use the priests' cell phones.

- Email: office@ctrwestvan.ca
- Website: www.ctrwestvan.ca
- Facebook: www.facebook.com/ctrwestvan
- Msgr. Smith's Cell Phone: 604-657-3715
- Fr. Jeff's Cell Phone: 1-416-882-0310

For emergencies, always call the priests' phones directly.

Catholic Women's League News



A North Shore CWL Parish Council Bursary and a Vancouver Diocesan Council Bursary are available to the son, daughter, granddaughter, grandson, niece or nephew of an existing North Shore council CWL member or a young CWL member herself. The bursary will be given to a grade 12 student entering the first year of a post-secondary school in the fall of 2020. The Student selected must be a practicing Catholic, actively involved in church or community at large. The deadline for submission has been extended to **April 30, 2020**. For application and more details, please contact Maria at maria.law@telus.net.

St. Thomas Aquinas Spring Sale



Welcome spring and show your mother thanks on Mother's Day by ordering locally grown flower baskets and plants through St. Thomas Aquinas High School's annual plant sale. Order on-line by credit card or cheque by **Friday, April 24** per the details at <https://stthomasaquinas.growingsmilesfundraising.com/home>.

All orders can be picked up by appointment (to maintain social distancing) on May 7 and 8 at the STA Convent. Funds raised are used by the school's Parent Association to support North Shore Catholic community -building events.



Men's Hostel Outreach

The Men's Hostel Outreach team at CTR provided 200 sandwiches, 40 empanadas, 180 cereal bars and bananas to the Men's Hostel this past week. All the sandwiches were prepared at the homes of a small group of volunteers for safety reasons.

Mili Delgado coordinated the pick-up from each of the homes and delivering to the Hostel.



Pastor's Page



Keeping in touch with my priest friends around the country and the world has been inspiring to me. I'd like to share with you some of what they shared with me.

At Easter I received a beautiful 'gift' from a dear friend in Ireland—a poem by his parishioner, noted author and broadcaster John Quinn.

The poem is all the more perfect because it uses the Lord's title dearest to our own parish, Christ our Redeemer. You can read Mr. Quinn's poem on the back page of this bulletin.

Another of my good priest friends, whom some of you will remember from his visits here, is Fr. Fred Chung, who teaches Scripture at the seminary in Toronto. He is still living there, but teaching online.

Fr. Fred is a specialist in the Old Testament, so it wasn't surprising that he was struck by these words from the prophet Habakkuk when he read them in the Liturgy of the Hours on Good Friday: "Though the flocks disappear from the fold and there be no herd in the stalls, yet will I rejoice in the Lord and exult in my saving God."

He sent me an email to say that I might feel the same way in the parish and find some solace in these prophetic words.

And I certainly do! The disappointment of empty pews during Holy Week and Easter was remedied by the countless messages Fr. Jeff and I received from parishioners who spoke of their joy during our live streamed liturgies. Gathering online seemed to have been a very effective way of uniting our community and praying fervently to God together this Easter.

Fr. Fred continued by observing that we still feel a deep communion with each other and that social media, which has often been a threat to the Christian life, is becoming an ally and tool for reaching out.

When I told him I was going to steal his thoughts for this week's bulletin, he responded that "the patron saint of the Church bulletin (and the homily) is the Good Thief!"



Easter Thank You!

This Holy Week and Easter was uniquely demanding, but generous volunteers and parish staff rose to the challenge. Thanking them, I find myself full of gratitude, and I want to express it now for those who may have missed the Easter Sunday liturgy online.

I first thank Father Jeff—he was a rock during these chaotic weeks, and especially in the stressful preparation

for our live streamed liturgies. He was master of ceremonies, master planner, and of course a masterly preacher. If you weren't able to watch last night's Easter Vigil, you should try to read his lovely homily on my blog.

The live streams—and this time together—would have been quite impossible without the skill and dedication of the team that researched under much pressure the many options available to us. Members of the core team and parish staff, namely Thomas Chan, Catherine Davidson, Glen Goh and Krista Greig put together the plan with good advice from Reza Kartadinata.

The fine technical team of Kenny and Rowan from Second Narrows Technology Solutions did a great job making it all work.

All the while our parish secretary Mary Tibay was reaching out by phone to parishioners to let them know they are in our thoughts and prayers while Nicole Bitelli and Mili Delgado from the core team have been diligently planning our continuing pastoral program.

Our usual sacristy team was replaced by one hard working sacristan, Rina Teo, while the lovely flowers came from the talented Michael Park and his wife Esther of Flowers by Michael.

Finally, we thank the Curalli family! Our parish owes a debt beyond measure to Nick, Jane, Daniel, Sophia and Thomas for sharing their wonderful gifts throughout this week. We were so blessed to have an entire choir under one roof, no social distancing required.

And of course thanks to all of you for all your supportive messages and Easter greetings—and your continued generous support of the work of our parish.



Lectio Divina

The response to our online prayer with scripture, lectio divina, has been very positive. The number of viewers doubled this week.

We will continue to pray with a psalm on Wednesday morning and a Gospel text Wednesday evening. Join us at 10:30 a.m. as we reflect on Psalm 131, a prayer of childlike trust in God, and at 7:30 pm for a time of quiet prayer with John 3:16-21 ("God so loved the world that he gave his only Son.")

The Archdiocese of Toronto's website describes Lectio Divina ("divine, or sacred, reading") as "the name given to a spiritual tradition among Christians over the last two thousand years, in which they attentively and prayerfully read the word of God."



Special Indulgence for the Sick and Dying

We should take careful note of a key provision in the special indulgence related to the pandemic if we have sick family members we aren't allowed to visit but with whom we can connect by phone.

One thing that we can do for the sick and dying is to explain to them the special indulgence that has been granted during the pandemic. Among its provisions is the following:

"The Church prays for those who find themselves unable to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick and of the Viaticum, entrusting each and every one to divine Mercy by virtue of the communion of saints and granting the faithful a Plenary Indulgence on the point of death, provided that they are duly disposed and have recited a few prayers during their lifetime (in this case the Church makes up for the three usual conditions required)."

The "usual conditions" for an indulgence are sacramental Confession, Holy Communion, and prayers for the Pope's intentions. In this crisis, the Church herself satisfies or supplies for these in the case of the sick person.

If we explain the meaning of an indulgence in simple enough terms, this plenary indulgence should be of great comfort to those unable to receive the sacraments. It may also console family members themselves, since even the unconscious who were 'properly disposed' during their lifetime may benefit the indulgence.

The precise definition of an indulgence (see the [Catechism](#) no. 1471) may be over the heads of many people, although the fact that an indulgence "is partial or plenary according as it removes either part or all of the temporal punishment due to sin" is easier to grasp.

In simplest terms, however, we could say something like this to the sick and dying: "The Church has made you a promise. Even though you cannot go to Confession and receive Holy Communion because of the pandemic, the prayers of the Church and all the saints will make sure you go straight to heaven if you are sorry for your sins and have recited some prayers during your lifetime."

"In other words, just as Jesus promised the Good Thief on Good Friday 'today you will be with me in Paradise,' if you welcome this gift from God and his Church you will enter heaven when you die."

If they have a crucifix available, encourage them to hold or kiss it.

And if you would like further explanation of indulgences, don't hesitate to email Msgr. Smith.



Need Help Getting Online?

Did you or someone you know have trouble connecting to our live streamed Masses at Easter (other than the Easter Vigil, where the problem was neither yours nor ours)?

We may be able to help. Please email Thomas at tchan@ctrwestvan.ca or Krista at kgreig@ctrwestvan.ca and tell them as much as you can about the difficulty you've had. Include your phone number so they can chat with you if necessary.

We've had feedback from some parishioners saying they're not on Facebook so they can't watch there. Fear not! Apart from the Easter Vigil, which was a workaround due to technical difficulties, our main liturgies (Sundays, next week's special Mass for the pandemic) are live streamed on YouTube. In the event that we do stream on Facebook Live (such as the Lectio Divina prayer times or if the link you click for Mass takes you to Facebook), Facebook allows you to easily watch the live stream on your computer even without having an account. You may have to scroll a bit around the page to find it, but it will be on the Christ the Redeemer Facebook page!

A combination of technical restrictions as well as the tools, resources, and personnel available to us make us unable to offer everything on YouTube. We've considered all reasonable options, and found that streaming on these two platforms is the most feasible option for us.

Should you have any trouble during a live stream, try clicking the link we sent you or retyping it into your search bar again. It's possible that it may have been redirected, so refreshing the page won't take you to the correct video if anything goes wrong. Our standard link for Mass - rebrand.ly/ctrmass - will be up to date and take you to the correct video for that time. When in doubt, only click on the link a minute or two before the Mass or event should take place.

If you're still a bit hesitant about relying on the live stream for our Masses or events, everything is posted in the place it was streamed:

- Our Masses are posted to YouTube afterwards (www.youtube.com/channel/UCyGH1cKhQahw6bijHS-kZ4g),
- Lectio Divina and other events are posted on the Facebook Page in the "Videos" section (www.facebook.com/ctrwestvan/videos).

Please let us know by email of any troubles you have, whether it's when you watch live or watch later.

Physically Distanced Parish Life

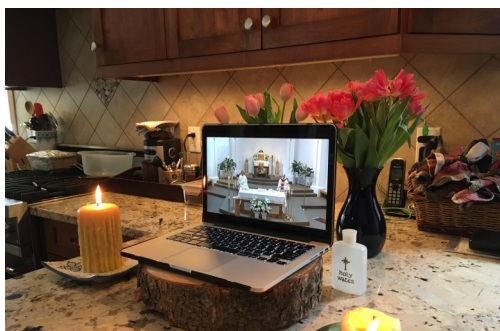
Here are some more scenes from the parish and parishioners over the past few weeks! #ChurchNeverStops



The priests' view of Mass



The Men's Prayer Group prays in front of the tabernacle via Zoom



A parishioner's setup for Easter Mass



Msgr. leads *lectio divina*



The Curalli family after Easter Mass



Staff working at the Virtual Office



Lilies outside the church on Easter



All smiles at the altar!



Rehearsing the Passion according to John on Good Friday

Words from Our Parishioners

Here are some messages from parishioners over the past few weeks! **#ChurchNeverStops**

"On behalf of our Discovery group participants and their families, I would like to express our appreciation and gratitude for all your effort making this Easter Triduum very special in spite of the recent isolation and inability to be attend the church physically.

"We understand it has not been easy and we pray for you our dear priests, our shepherds and for everyone who made the virtual masses possible. We pray and hope that we all will be gathered in the church again soon.

"For now, let's rejoice and are glad to be able to celebrate Easter united as a community." — A.

"We are so grateful for all the effort and work put into the online liturgy over the last week. Most of our family were able to watch with us in their own homes. Although forced to spend Easter apart we were able to share something. There was much discussion following the 'Broken Plates' clip.

"All involved at CTR did a wonderful and very worthwhile job. Thank you." —T.

"Thank you so much for making the online Masses available to us. Participating in these celebrations brings an amazing feeling of peace as I am able to concentrate without distractions. Not that I would like it to become the norm but for now I am truly thankful for the experience.

"It's nice to see you and Father Jeff are well. As well as listen to the Curalli family who always bring so much to our celebrations.

"Always things to be thankful for." — S.

"This Holy Week, although very different, was truly special and beautiful thanks to you and your incredibly dedicated team of helpers.

"We are very blessed indeed to have leaders like you who constantly go above and beyond to bring the Lord to all of us." — N.

"Thank you so much, Msgr, Fr Jeff, Curalli family and EVERYONE behind the scenes that made this possible!! We are so grateful. We're so happy to see you and hear you during these times. We've missed you all." — L.

"Thank you for allowing my family and my CTR family to have our Palm Sunday Mass close to a familiar way regarding the circumstances of Covid 19. These times are challenging but your effort to bring God to our homes brings so much joy and peace to our hearts, that we can not be more grateful for that. I truly appreciate your sensibility and care for all of us. The approach of your homily regarding this time and Jesus suffering put us in prospective that what we consider suffering is nothing and gives us strength that we will go through this healthy with the hand of Jesus."

—M.

"Beautiful, excellent and well done. Totally enjoyed mass on my TV. You two and the choir truly brought Jesus to our home. Thank you and God bless you!"

—C.

"Thank you for bringing Palm Sunday into our home this morning. Our spirits were uplifted, and it truly felt like we were part of the Mass. Special thanks to those who helped to make this possible, and of course to Nick, Jane and family who truly help bring each Mass to life." — T.

"Thank you to both of you for making it possible for us to attend Mass. Although we couldn't be there in person, we can feel the presence of Christ and love and strength of our parish community.

"Your homily has enlightened us that during this difficult time, we should reflect on how much God has provided for us and have trust in Him that He will continue to do so.

"Despite the atrocity of loss of human lives resulting from the coronavirus, we are seeing that countries are working together instead of fighting to no end. Communities all over the world are supporting each other, showing their love and appreciation for the front line health workers.

"God bless both of you with good health and energy to keep up with your tremendous work. As parishioners for CTR, we want to thank you for your tireless efforts in reaching out to all of us, encouraging us to be intentional disciples placing Christ in the centre of our lives." — M.



Digital Offertory

As explained elsewhere in this bulletin, we're passing the collection basket online, on our parish donation page on the secure Archdiocesan website. You can use your credit card, or direct debit to your bank. Just click [here: rebrand.ly/ctroffering](https://rebrand.ly/ctroffering). If you have any problems, don't hesitate to give Catherine Davidson a call at 604-922-1371.



Our Facebook Community

Our new Facebook Group is a place for parishioners and friends of CTR to find community, fellowship, and share resources. Join us at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ctrwestvan>.

Digital Tip of the Week: Join our Facebook group and engage in conversation with your parishioners! One great way to start is by posting something you've been doing, reading, or watching lately, your thoughts about it, and then ask a question to spark discussion!



This Week's Online Ideas

Here is the link to [making a Spiritual Communion](#).

We will be offering you online resources to help you pray daily, and weekly, during this time. Here are two for this week: watch daily Mass with Salt+Light: <https://saltandlighttv.org/live/waystowatch?muid=1> or take a free evangelization course with Bishop Robert Barron at <https://www.wordonfire.org>.

You can also download the Liturgy of the Hours and other prayers on your phone with the iBreviary app, on the Apple App Store and Google Play Store.

We continue to remind you that it is a Christian duty to follow the directives of the health authorities to protect yourself, and others from illness.



Flocknote

Sign up for news and instant updates from the parish at www.flocknote.com/CTRrcav.

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AN EASTER PRAYER

In selfless devotion and care
In our willingness to share
Christ our Redeemer is risen, Alleluia

In our anxiety and our deepest fears
In our suffering and our tears
Christ our Redeemer is risen, Alleluia

In the cheer of birds that sing
In the welcome growth of Spring
Christ our Redeemer is risen, Alleluia

In a world where we've learned to be kind
And where Love has been redefined
Christ our Redeemer is risen, Alleluia

In our hopes that present sorrow
Will give way to a brighter morrow
Christ our Redeemer is risen, Alleluia

In our silence and reflection
In all our cherished connection
Christ our Redeemer is risen, Alleluia

In a time when all's changed in our world
And a whole new future will be unfurled
Christ our Redeemer is risen, Alleluia

John Quinn