

# Easter Retreat

May 2 - 4, 2025

(Friday 7:30Pm to Sunday 1:30Pm)

@ Westminster Abbey



DEIFICATION and the TRUE CHRISTIAN LIFE



Rev. Fr. JOSEPH SELINGER, OP  
Retreat Master

For more info and to register, call (604) 261-3535  
Sts. Peter & Paul Parish, Vancouver, B.C.  
Email: [sspp@rcav.org](mailto:sspp@rcav.org)

## LEAVE A LEGACY

By remembering Sts. Peter & Paul Parish in your will, you leave a legacy in a place you love. Consider a bequest to the Parish Building Fund. This will enhance the Church's mandate to sanctify and teach as we enter into our 2nd 100 years of service. May our Lord reward you in this life and in the next.

## Sunday Donations Mar. 15 - 16, 2025

Sat. 5 pm \$690 from 22 envelopes = \$31.36 avg.  
Sun. 9 am \$905 from 33 envelopes = \$27.42 avg.  
Sun. 11 am \$921 from 29 envelopes = \$31.76 avg.  
Sun. 4 pm \$1375 from 18 envelopes = \$76.39 avg.  
Grand Total: \$3891 + \$583.80 loose = \$4474.80

## Mar. 22 - 23, 2025

Sat. 5 pm \$785 from 28 envelopes = \$28.04 avg.  
Sun. 9 am \$1000 from 35 envelopes = \$28.57 avg.  
Sun. 11 am \$570 from 21 envelopes = \$27.14 avg.  
Sun. 4 pm \$495 from 21 envelopes = \$23.57 avg.  
Grand Total: \$2850+ \$445.70 loose = \$3295.70

In gratitude for your regular financial support!

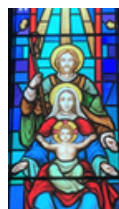
[sspeterpaul.ca](http://sspeterpaul.ca)

## Jubilee Pilgrimage to Italy

More information can be found on the yellow sheet next to the bulletin.

40 Days For Life during Lent. More information found on the blue sheet next to the bulletin.

## 2025 Sunday Offering Made Easy by



### Direct Deposit or Credit Card

Thank you for your interest in Sts. Peter & Paul Parish's Sunday Offering Plan.

This plan allows you to give your Sunday Offering on a monthly basis by direct deposit or credit card.

It is the most convenient way to make your Sunday Offering. Your commitment to give this way also ensures that your Sunday Offering reaches us even if you are away or not able to come to our Parish in person. Instead of giving weekly, your Sunday Offerings would be simplified to one monthly donation.

For more information, take the **PRE-AUTHORIZED DONATION** brochure.

2025 PAD forms are now available from website and vestibule.

## FORMED® New Formed Program

To aid our parishioners' want and need for Catholic Resource, we are pleased to announce that we have set up, with the Augustine Institute, the new Formed program.

This resource is **Free** for parishioners of Sts. Peter & Paul Parish. All you have to do is sign up online via your computer or smart devices with the app, if you would like.

Steps for parishioners to register for free on FORMED:

- Go to "www.formed.org"
- Type "Saints Peter & Paul Vancouver" to find and click on our Parish

**Saints Peter & Paul 1425 W 39th Ave. Vancouver, B.C.**

- Click "Next"
- Type first and last name as well as your email address and click "Sign Up"



"I'm gonna say my prayers, Daddy. Do you have any requests?"

# SAINTS PETER & PAUL PARISH



Archdiocese of Vancouver

Archbishop: Most Rev J. Michael Miller, CSB

PASTOR: FATHER RON THOMPSON

RECTORY/MAILING: 1425 WEST 39TH AVENUE VANCOUVER, B.C. V6M 1T2

Church location: 1430 West 38th Avenue

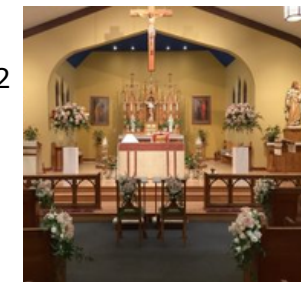
PARISH OFFICE PHONE: 604-261-3535

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday - Friday 9 am - 3 pm

E-mail: [parish.sspp@rcav.org](mailto:parish.sspp@rcav.org)

Admin. Assist.: Thomas Nguyen

PARISH WEBSITE: <https://sspeterpaul.ca>



## FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (LAETARE SUNDAY) MAR. 30TH 2025

**Holy Mass: Saturday: 5:00 pm**

**Sunday Mass: 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 4:00 pm**

**(Vespers and Benediction 3:30 pm)**

**Weekday Mass: Monday 8:00 am; Tuesday 4:00 pm, and**

**Wednesday - Friday 8:00 am**

**First Fridays: Adoration 12:00 noon - 4:00 pm, with**

**Benediction 3:45 pm; 2nd Mass 4:00 pm**

**Saturdays and Civic Holidays: 9:00 am**

**Church is Open: Wednesday - Friday 12 noon - 3:00 pm**

**Confessions: Wednesday - Friday: 8:30 am, and**

**Saturday: 9:30 am and 4:00 pm - 4:30 pm**

**Marriage: By appointment -- Notify 8 Months in Advance**

## SUNDAY READINGS: FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

The parable of the prodigal son strikes a chord in the human heart because it speaks of the universal experience of a separation and forgiveness. The parable tells us less about the son's sin than about the abundant mercy of the father. It reveals a God whose solicitude for all sinners is such that He can never reconcile himself to the loss of a single child.

This parable is also a revelation of Jesus himself. His behaviour serves as the story's point of departure. In order to justify His eating with sinners, Jesus describes this father who runs to meet the prodigal and finds his joy in restoring him to the dignity of a son.

The parable also reveals something of the darker side of ourselves. All Christians run the risk of becoming the elder son who will not welcome his younger brother as their father does. This parable is not finished. Its conclusion will depend on us. Will the elder brother pass from disdain to love, from the idea of a calculating God to the idea of a Father who loves because he wills to save?

## Wasting Time with God

By Fr. Wayne Sattler

Mental prayer," St. Teresa of Avila writes, "is nothing else than a close sharing between friends; it means taking time frequently to be alone with Him who we know loves us" (The Book of Her Life, ch. 8, par. 5).

When we make time frequently to be alone with anyone we love, the time will not always be filled with noticeable activity. We come to enjoy simply being with them without much concern as to what we might be doing. You may be familiar with the humorous remark that rightly observes how we are human beings, not human doers. There is an art in learning to be who we are and to enjoy the being of another. With those whom we love, we quite naturally enjoy being in their presence, and when they are away, their absence is clearly noted.



Welcome visitors! New Parishioners! We are pleased to have you pray with us at Saints Peter and Paul. We hope you enjoy your visit to our beautiful Church. Please introduce yourself after Mass to Father Ron and parishioners; we would like to meet you!



Fr. Ron Thompson  
Please Note

All requests of the Pastor are kindly asked to be made by phone during office hours, not by email. Thank you.

**ST. MICHAEL'S PRAYER**  
Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.

Be our defence against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; And do Thou, o Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.



cont...

It is interesting how our time alone with the Supreme Being can become infected by a type of "activism." When it seems that nothing is happening in prayer, we might consider it a waste of time. It is endearing to hear St. Therese of Lisieux reflect on her own time in prayer as being alone with "Jesus (Who) was sleeping as usual in my little boat" (Story of Soul, ch. 8). This seeming lack of activity did not concern her in the least. In fact, she received it as a good sign of the authentic intimacy of their relationship, "Jesus is so fatigued with always having to take the initiative and to attend to others that He hastens to take advantage of the repose I offer to Him . . . instead of being troubled about it this only gives me extreme pleasure."

In the authentic intimacy of this frequent time alone with Our Lord, Jesus wasn't the only one sleeping. She reflects also on how "I should be desolate for having slept during my hours of prayer . . . well, I am not desolate. I remember that little children are as pleasing to their parents when they sleep as well as when they are wide awake."

A key in all of this lies in the frequency of our time alone with Jesus. When our contact with someone we love is not frequent, it might be strange and even disturbing for them to simply fall asleep. Such inactivity could seem like wasted time. On the other hand, with those loved ones we are blessed to be alone with frequently, having them fall asleep is quite natural. In fact, it can be a pleasant sign that we are well familiar with one another. Perhaps that is why Therese laments over "how rarely souls allow Him to sleep peacefully within them."

We certainly would not consider it wasted time for a mother to spend all day with her often sleeping infant. That frequent time spent alone enables a mother to come to know that little person in a way others will not. When the child cries, the mother will know whether it is a cry of hunger, weariness, or general fussiness. To those who have not spent that kind of time with this infant, the cries can all sound the same. In fact, the cry of this infant might not be distinguishable from the cry of any other infant. A mother knows the cry of her child and from all the time spent together alone with them, she will know what is being communicated with each cry.

To know God as the person He really is, requires frequent time alone with Him. Without actual time spent with God, there is a danger that we will never come to know Him as the Person He really is. We might imagine we know what God is thinking, rather than come to learn over time the subtleties with which He communicates with us. We may presume that God is much angrier than He is. We could miss how He is grieving over us. We just might utterly fail to grasp His manner of loving us unless we make the effort that is needed to "be still and know that I am God!" (Ps. 46:11). To truly know God as the person He is takes time.

The sheer amount of time that St. Jerome spent alone with God is striking. Around the year 390 AD, he set out on the task to translate the entire Bible into Latin. At the time, Latin was the common language throughout Western Europe. He first translated the Bible from the Greek and then went on to correct the Old Testament against the Hebrew original. There are so many words in the original Hebrew text of the Old Testament and Greek text of the New Testament that could have different meanings in Latin. In striving to make the proper translation, it took twenty-one years of frequent time alone with God.

That time was not wasted. It led St. Jerome to the conviction that "ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ." And for the next thousand years, what became known as The Latin Vulgate (Vulgate means "in the common tongue") was the version of the Bible used by everyone in Western Europe in their own time alone with God.

Are we taking time frequently to be alone with Him Who we know loves us? Have we learned the beauty of what can happen when we learn to waste time with God?

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

As is customary, next Sunday is Share Lent Sunday, when the Canadian faithful join together to support the international initiatives of Development & Peace - Caritas Canada, which addresses the root causes of poverty, oppression and inequality in the developing world. On April 6, I hope that you will give generously in support of this year's Share Lent Appeal.

Lent is a favourable time to practise works of charity by sharing your blessings joyfully with others. Take advantage of this holy season to reach out to your brothers and sisters who lie wounded along the path of life (cf. Lk 10:25-37). Lent invites us to become more sensitive to the presence of the poor in our world and to seek them out. Mother Church combats all forms of poverty because she wants every person to live in the full dignity of a child of God. On Share Lent Sunday, you can respond to Jesus' call to do good to all, especially those in developing countries who lack material and spiritual resources, and those discriminated against and marginalized. On your journey of conversion, make this Lent an occasion for self-denial that is truly sacrificial. As a way of celebrating this Jubilee Year, I urge everyone to ignite the light of hope by contemplating Jesus in the face of those in the Global South who are in need of your help.

This year's Share Lent theme, "Turning Debt Into Hope," is part of a global campaign sponsored by Caritas International, the Catholic Church's global development arm. Please consider signing the Caritas petition calling on public, private and multilateral creditors, as well as political leaders, to act with courage and compassion. The petition is found at [TurnDebtIntoHope.caritas.org](http://TurnDebtIntoHope.caritas.org).

As you prepare for the celebration of Jesus' Death and Resurrection, I hope you will respond to next Sunday's Share Lent Appeal with a generous heart.

With gratitude for your timely support and my prayers for you and your families, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

J. Michael Miller, CSB  
Apostolic Administrator  
Archdiocese of Vancouver

## WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

**SUNDAY, Mar. 30th - Fourth Sunday of Lent**

9:00 am; 11:00 am; 4:00 pm - *Parishioners*

**MONDAY, Mar. 31st - Lenten Ferial**

8:00 am - *St. M. Walburga OSB+*

**TUESDAY, Apr. 1st - Lenten Ferial**

4:00 pm - *Joanne Irwin*

**WEDNESDAY, Apr. 2nd - Lenten Ferial**

8:00 am - *Patrick Leung+*

**THURSDAY, Apr. 3rd - Lenten Ferial**

8:00 am - *L. Radelet*

10:00 am - **Funeral Mass: Edmund Hensel+**

**FIRST FRIDAY, Apr. 4th - Lenten Ferial**

8:00 am - *Msgr. Simon Wang+*

4:00 pm - *Sydney Layton*

**SATURDAY, Apr. 5th - Lenten Ferial**

9:00 am - *Luigi and Genoveffa Chies+*

5:00 pm - *Andrew, Olivia Da Silva, and Family*

**(The Fifth Sunday of Lent)**

### 2024 Tax Receipts

Parish & Project Advance tax receipts for 2024 will be available for pick up on the left (east) side of the Baptismal font.

### 2024 Annual Financial Report

available next to the bulletin.

### Quiet Contemplation Time

We are pleased to invite parishioners back to the Church for private prayer and adoration. Saints Peter & Paul Parish will open the doors from **Wednesdays to Fridays from 12 noon to 3 pm.**

### Sunday Solemn Sung Vespers & Benediction

3:30 Vespers; Mass at 4:00 pm

Come and pray with us.

### Lenten Stations of the Cross:

Wednesdays 6:30 pm

### 2025 Lenten Penitential Services by the Vancouver West Deanery

Wed. Apr. 2nd 7:00 pm - Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Sun. Apr. 6th 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm - St. Mark

Wed. Apr. 9th 7:00 pm - Blessed Sacrament

Thurs. Apr. 10th 7:00 pm - Holy Name of Jesus

Thurs. Apr. 10th 7:00 pm - St. John the Apostle

Sun. Apr. 13th 6:30 pm - St. Anthony of Padua

### Mark Your Calendar:

**Men's Monthly Meeting Wed. Apr. 2nd 7pm**  
**Joe Rogan discusses the forthcoming film: 'The Resurrection' with Mel Gibson**

**Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Edmund Hensel, a long time parishioner whose funeral Mass is here on Thurs. Apr. 3rd at 10 am, with prayers on Wed. Apr. 2nd at 5:30 pm. May he rest in peace.**

**Next Monthly First Friday Faith Studies**  
**Fri. Apr. 4th at 10:30 am (Coffee at 10:15)**

**First Friday Adoration Apr. 4th: 12 noon - 4 pm, 3:00 pm - Divine Mercy Chaplet (lay led), 3:45 pm - Benediction, 4:00 pm - 2nd Mass**

### Holy Week at Sts. Peter & Paul:

**Palm Sunday Masses:**

**Apr. 12th at 5 pm**

**Apr. 13th at 9 am, 11 am, and 4 pm**

**Mass of the Lord's Supper:**

**Thurs. Apr. 17th at 7 pm**

**Followed by Adoration until 11 pm (no morning Mass)**

**Liturgy of Good Friday:**

**Fri. Apr. 18th at 12 noon, and 3 pm**

**The Masses of Easter:**

**Vigil Sat. Apr. 19th at 8:45 pm**

(trumpet, organ, & choir)

**Sun. Apr. 20th at 9 am** (violin & choir),  
**11 am** (trumpet, organ, & choir), **1 pm** (organ)  
**(no evening Mass)**

**Confessions:**

**Holy Thursday 8:00 - 8:30 pm**

**Good Friday 10:00 - 10:30 am**

**Holy Saturday - None**

**Divine Mercy Sunday Apr. 27th:**  
**Chaplet at 3 pm followed by Solemn Sung Vespers & Benediction**

**1st Communion Mass at Sun. Apr. 27th 9 am**

**Mandatory Confirmation Practice for Candidates + Sponsors:**  
**Tues. Apr. 29th 4:30 pm**

**Abbey Retreat at Fri. May 2nd 7:30 pm - Sun. May 4th 1:30 pm**

**Confirmation Mass at Sun. May 4th at 4 pm**

Catholics who have not received the Sacrament of Confirmation, and would like to, simply contact the Parish office. Confirmation date here: **Pentecost Sunday June 8th at the 9 am Mass.**

**A part-time volunteer organist is needed for the Saturday 5 pm Mass.**

If you are available, kindly phone the Parish office. Thank You.