

Father Oliver's Weekend Reflection:

2nd Sunday of Lent Gen 12.1-4

Abram is told by the LORD: "Go from your country, your kindred, and your father's house to a land that I will show you." Similarly, Lent is a time for being gently but strongly instructed, "Go." This entails deeper introspection and responding to a call to go places you would not ordinarily visit.

Abram is now 75 years old. He is established; he has a past, habits, attachments, and perhaps grounds to say, "Now is not the time." Nonetheless, the wording is stunningly straightforward: "Abram went, as the Lord told him." There was no argument, no negotiation, and no delay. Remember that God does not provide Abram with a map, timeline, or destination. This is more than just a geographical tour; rather, it is spiritual in nature. Abram is being challenged to abandon what is familiar, comfortable, and secure to entrust himself completely to God. That is the central theme of Lent. In this passage, faith means trusting God's orders rather than understanding everything.

God's call always demands that you leave something behind. Abram had to leave behind his farm, family, and security—everything that characterized his identity. However, it is vital to remember that God did not take these things away from Abram to devalue him. Instead, God empties him to bless him. He says: "I will make of you a great nation... I will bless you... and through you, all the families of the earth shall be blessed." This text leads us to a basic, personal question: What is God asking me to leave behind? And where does God invite me to trust Him enough to take the next step?

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Liturgy and Sacraments:

Baptism & Instruction in the Catholic Faith: The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on Sundays as needed. Parent preparation is required.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) Those wishing to join the Catholic Church please call the office (613-543-2544). Classes starting soon!

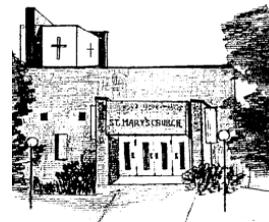
Marriage: 9-12-month notice is needed for the celebration of the Sacrament of Matrimony. Each couple is required to participate in a Marriage Preparation course.

Reconciliation: Confessions heard half hour before Mass or by appointment.

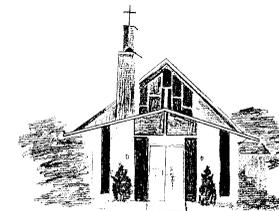
Anointing of the Sick: The Sacrament of Anointing is given on request, especially before going to the hospital, or at the hospital or at home.

Sick List: Please call the office if anyone needs prayers, a visit or is seriously ill. If you are unable to attend Mass for an extended period of time, please contact St. Mary's. Arrangements can be made for reception of the Holy Eucharist in the home.

ST. MARY'S - ST. CECILIA'S PARISH



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Civic Address: St. Cecilia, 3 College Street, Iroquois
Father Oliver Wekesa, Administrator
Mrs. Nancy Richer, Parish Secretary

Second Sunday of Lent ~ March 1, 2026

Sun. 01 Mar 9:00 am Tina Serviss (Mary Van Moorsel)

Tue. 03 Mar 9:00 am Linda Casselman (Fred & Sandy Diegel)

Wed. 04 Mar **9:45 am** Mass of Thanksgiving (Carol & Al Belanger)
Stations of the Cross: 9:00 am – 9:45 am led by the CWL

First Friday

Fri. 06 Mar 4:00 pm Margaret Lortie (Janis Tindal)
3:00 – 4:00 pm Exposition & Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

Sun. 08 Mar 9:00 am Debbie de Bruijn & Arie Stuyt (G. Stuyt)

Tue. 10 Mar 9:00 am Mass of Thanksgiving (Joanne Williams)

Wed. 11 Mar **9:45 am** Souls in Purgatory (Linda Fleury)
Stations of the Cross: 9:00 am – 9:45 am led by the Knights

Marian Mass

Sat. 14 Mar 8:30 am Margaret Lortie (Robert Lortie)
8:30 – 9:00 am Rosary ~ Mass at 9:00 am

Second Sunday of Lent

Etransfers Available: We have set up the ability to send etransfers to the Church, please use StMary.Morrisburg@archkingston.ca, in the remarks area please give your name and what you wish the money to be used for eg. Roof, Regular Collection etc.

Collection: 1st Sunday of Lent: \$1,915.00 (2025: \$1,192.00)
Archdiocesan Lenten \$330.00; (2025: \$685.00); Roof Repair: \$3,070.00;

Roof Collected to date: \$15,035.00 (Total cost \$120,000)

Meetings:

KNIGHTS - Mon 9 March, 7 pm St. Mary's Meeting Room

CWL - Mon 16 March, 7 pm St. Mary's Meeting Room (No Meeting Jan & Feb)

Bible/Faith Study: 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 6 pm St. Mary's Meeting Room

Sacramental Preparation: Meetings will be held after the 9 am Mass

First Communion: March 1; April 5

Confirmation: February 22; March 29; April 26

Parish Activities:

Choirs: St. Mary's: Jim Boissonneault (543-3435) new members are welcome!

AA Meeting: Wednesday, 8:00 pm,

Coffee Social: March 8th Marg Zambon (613-652-4741)



Pray for those who are sick in our families and parish especially:
Tony Byvelds, Bridget Van Der Zweep, John Ricci, Alice McNairn, Noella Kirkwood, and Louise Altimas.

Pray for the repose of the soul of Bill McSheffrey, Robert Miller, Father Stan Alanen, Julie Watters (nee Durivage), Margaret Lortie; Jim Kelly, Juliet Gremlie, Catherine Lortie, Tina Serviss, and Beat Schraner.

Used Stamps are used to help the Redemptorists Missions fund their work. Catherine Dwyre will be collecting them in March; this will be the final time as the process has changed for sending them and is no longer feasible.

March 1, 2026



Lent for Christians is a solemn period in which we reflect on the way we live our lives by imitating the 40 days of Jesus's sojourn in the desert. This period of purification assists us in our spiritual growth. Sundays, because it is a solemn feast day is not one of the 40 days of Lent.

Regnum Christi Women's Monthly Day of Reflection: Agora Centre, 301 McConell Avenue, Cornwall, Saturday 7 March. From 9:00 am till noon. The guest speaker will be Fr. Hasiniaina of Precious Blood parish, speaking on The Sacred Heart of Jesus and Lent. The morning includes Mass, confession, refreshments, & rosary, a free offering of \$5 is appreciated. For more information: call Marilyn 537-2021.

Free Will Offering for Missals and Word Among Us if you are able, please consider helping with the cost of these items, the box is located at the back of the church. Thank you for your continued support of our Parish.



Fundraising Committee Needed! Please consider joining this committee to help our parish reach its goals and be a part of uplifting our parish! Help make a difference in your parish!

There is a sign-up sheet at the back of the Church for volunteers to sign up to be on this committee.

Mass Intentions The parish has a shortage of weekday Mass Intentions, cost \$20. Please consider gifting a Mass intention for someone who is celebrating a special occasion. Having a Mass in memory of a loved one is a wonderful way to remember.

50/50 Raffle Tickets: The Knights of Columbus presents its Ontario Charities raffle tickets in support of their local projects. Open only to Ontario residents over 17, 50/50 grand prize is April 26. Tickets are 10 for \$10, 40 for \$20, 125 for \$50 and 300 for \$100 or online at <https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/k-of-c-ont/295> or call Graham Darling at 613-214-1968.