



March, 2023

Special Dates:

World Day of Prayer (March 3)

24 Hours for the Lord (March 17-18)

St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary (March 20)

*Moved to Monday as the 19th falls on a Sunday

The Annunciation of the Lord (March 25)

Rosary & Reflection with Bishop Stephen (at Sacred Heart Cathedral /6:30pm)

Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace (CCODP) (March 26)

Featured Special Days: CCODP Collection

Through their prayer, fasting and almsgiving during Lent, Christians express their desire to turn toward God and to all God's children in preparation for Easter.

The Bishops of Canada have reserved the Season of Lent for a collection to assist the Global South. Normally this collection is held on the Fifth Sunday of Lent. On the day of the collection, an appropriate petition may be added to the Prayer of the Faithful...

"So many people even today hope to have enough to eat. The planet has food for all, but the will to share with everyone seems to be lacking. To prepare the table for all, and to ask that there be one table for all. Doing whatever we can so that everyone has food, but also reminding the world's powerful that God will call them to be judged one day, and it will be demonstrated whether they have truly tried to provide food for Him in each person (cf. Mt 25.35) and whether they have acted in order that the environment would not be destroyed but would be able to produce this food." (Pope Francis, Homily during the Mass at the opening of the 2015 General Assembly of Caritas Internationalis)

*Taken from 'Ordo: Liturgical Calendar 2022-2023' published by the CCCB



Food for Thought!

The Ministry of Jesus and the Ministry of the Assembly (Continued from January):

What was Jesus' ministry? It consisted primarily in teaching and healing. Jesus always acted for God; he always followed the will of the Father. Jesus' service to the people whom he encountered was a sacrament of God's own service to these people. He always acted for God in meeting the needs of those around him. He was truly interested in the people who came to him and showed concern for their needs. There was so much suffering, pain and brokenness in the lives of people that Jesus' ministry was one of deep compassion: he truly suffered with his brothers and sisters. He tried to fight against the evils and oppression that enslave us as human beings: physical disability, poverty, hunger, political and social oppression, physical, and psychological disorders (Luke 6:20-37). He spent his life healing people. Jesus also taught about the kingdom of God and how we can enter into God's reign. He challenged everyone to conversion and repentance (Luke 7:36-50; 19:1-10). By eating with tax collectors and sinners, Jesus destroyed the barricades that block the relationship that exists between God and humanity (Mark 2:15-17; Luke 15:1-32).

The summit of Jesus' ministry was his death and resurrection through which he revealed the depth of the Father's love for the world. Jesus freely chose to experience suffering and death out of love for us. He readily absorbed the evil and hostility that were directed against him and, therefore, overcame the power of evil in the world (John 13:1). Jesus, as the sacrament of divine love, modeled for us how we can overcome the power of sin and evil in our own lives and in the whole of creation."

(Preparing for Liturgy Series / 'Preparing the Assembly to Celebrate' by Kim Aldi-Wanner)