

# CRUSADER CHAPLAIN CHATTER

WEEK OF MARCH 30 - APRIL 2, 2026

## IMPORTANT DATES

MARCH IS IRISH HERITAGE MONTH,  
BANGLADESHI HERITAGE MONTH, HELLENIC  
HERITAGE MONTH, PERSIAN HERITAGE MONTH.

MAR. 4: PHOTO DAY

MAR. 6: WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

MAR. 8: INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

MAR. 11: NAT'L DAY OF OBSERVANCE FOR  
COVID 19

MAR. 13: LAST DAY BEFORE MARCH BREAK

MAR. 16-20: MARCH BREAK!

MAR. 14: COMMONWEALTH DAY

MAR. 15: INT'L DAY TO COMBAT

ISLAMOPHOBIA

MAR. 17: IRISH HERITAGE DAY / ST. PATRICK'S  
DAY

MAR. 21: INT'L DAY FOR ELIMINATION OF  
RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

MAR. 25: SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

MAR. 26: SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

MAR. 26: PARENT / TEACHER INTERVIEWS

MAR. 29: PALM SUNDAY

MAR. 29-APR. 2: HOLY WEEK

MAR. 31: INT'L TRANSGENDER DAY OF  
VISIBILITY

MAR. 31: NAT'L INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES DAY

MAR. 31-APR. 2: OSSLT

APR. 2: HOLY THURSDAY SERVICES

APR. 3: GOOD FRIDAY

APR. 4: EASTER VIGIL

APR. 5: EASTER SUNDAY

APR. 6: EASTER MONDAY  
(HOLIDAY)



*We pause to honour the land  
on which we live, work and learn.*

*This land is sacred:*

*it is the land of many First Nations  
and the Metis;*

*From the lands of the Anishinabe  
to the Attawandaron,*

*The Haudenosaunee and the Metis,  
who lived, worked and learned*

*on this land and kept a peaceful balance  
with the land and its creatures and  
inhabitants and continue to do so.*

*As we begin our week,*

*Let us honour this land, its rich history,  
the many First Nations and the Metis  
and commit to continue learning  
how to keep a peaceful balance  
with this land and with all those  
who call this land home.*

*We are only as healthy  
as our relationship with this land  
and with our commitment  
to truth and reconciliation.*





## Mining in Oklahoma Left Toxic Wasteland Until Indigenous Tribe Brought it Back to Life

The Quapaw Nation of Oklahoma has brought one of the most contaminated areas in America back into agricultural production, and is now ranching cattle and growing wheat and corn. Taking over the remediation efforts in 2013 which began 20 years earlier, the Quapaw have done most of the work to clean up the old mining site, starting with bulldozers and ending with cultivators.

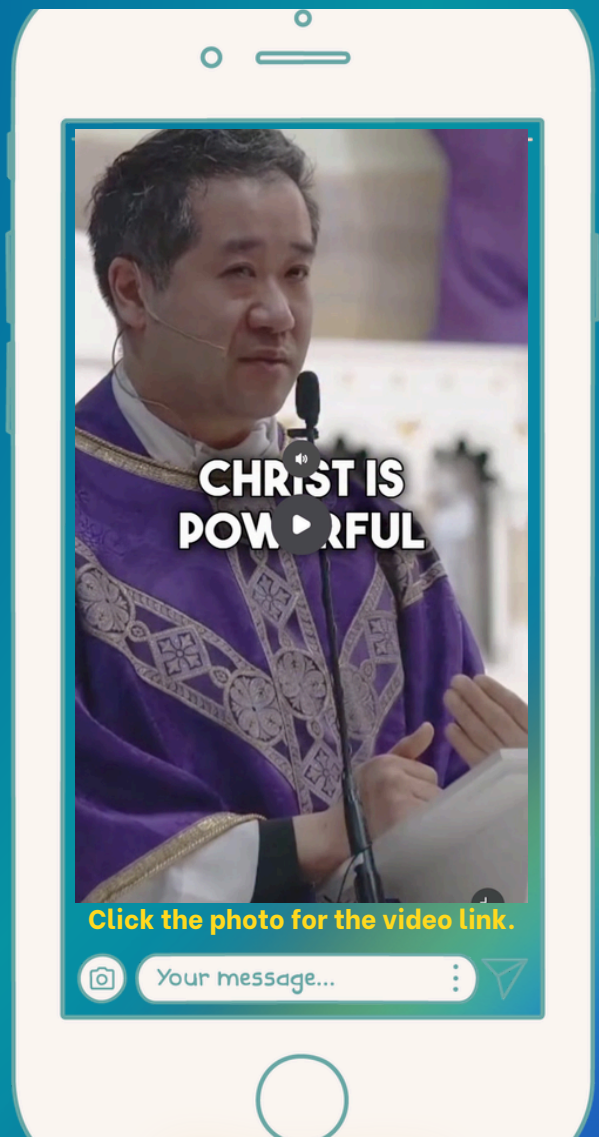
Environmental stewardship is all over mining today. One example is the South African company DRD Gold, which produced over 4,000 pounds of gold last fiscal year entirely from re-processing old mine tailings: the giant mounds of ground-up stone that can contain toxic heavy metals left over from stone and ore milling. They power the re-treatment process with a 40 megawatt solar farm. Junior developer Free Gold Ventures hired specialized metallurgists for its Golden Summit project, who pioneered a mineral recovery method that extracts the gold from the ore body while simultaneously turning the dangerous arsenic it contains into harmless, sci-fi looking sheets of glass.

In the 20th century, this proactive stewardship was rarely observed, and was certainly never observed at the zinc and lead mines in northeast Oklahoma which came to be called the Tar Creek Superfund site.

Profits declined with the depletion of ores in the 1960s and the mines were completely abandoned by 1974. In 1979, the nearby Tar Creek turned bright orange. What had once been a water source and gathering place for the community quickly became the first sign of serious environmental issues.

The Quapaw Nation has lived in the area since 1834, long before lead was first discovered and mining operations began. Between 1997 and 2013, the nation worked in close partnership with the EPA to receive the training needed to clean up the whole area, for which they would be compensated by the agency. "The Quapaw Nation Environmental Office (QNEO) has overseen the removal of more than 7 million tons of mine waste from Tar Creek and remediated more than 600 acres of land," she said in a [statement](#) 3 years ago.

Click the photo for the link to the article.



## PRAYER

*God of love,  
As we enter Holy Week,  
Help us understand more fully  
and deeply the meaning of the cross.  
Through your Son,  
You show us  
that You are with us  
in all aspects of our humanity.  
Help us appreciate and embrace  
Your love for us and let us  
be courageous in living our faith,  
sharing Your love and compassion  
with others, turning our lives around  
so that we follow the example of Jesus  
in the way we love, include,  
forgive, and befriend.*

*Our Lady of the Assumption,  
pray for us!*

# CRUSADER CHAPLAIN CHATTER

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*"Preach the gospel at all times; use words when necessary."*

On Friday the Senior School Reach team were at the Burlington Reach Championship Tournament. They defeated Hayden High School to capture 3<sup>rd</sup> place after a heart-breaking 1 question loss to the eventual champions from Burlington Central. It was a great season for all! The coaches, Mr. Colterman and Mrs. Degenhardt, were blessed with working with an amazing group of students. Your smiles, dedication, and camaraderie were inspiring. Go blue go!

Any student attending the French trip on April 10th, if you have not yet handed in your permission forms, forms were due on Monday (yesterday) to your French teacher or bring them to workroom 200A. Merci!

Attention students needing volunteer hours – Breakfast club is looking for volunteers on Wednesdays from 7:30-8:00am. Come by the main office if you are interested!

All grade 12s writing the math contest today, please go to room 302 immediately at 8:10 a.m. Grade 9, 10 and 11 students writing the math contest tomorrow (Wed) are to go to the small cafe before 8:10 a.m.

Any boys interested in playing lacrosse this year are invited to tryout TODAY, Tuesday, March 31, Thursday, April 2 and Tuesday, April 7 at 7 am on the back field. Please see Mrs. D'Amico in room 209B to collect a permission form which must be brought to the first tryout in order to participate.

Back by popular demand, the cast of FORTRESS will be performing one last time here at Assumption after their award-winning performance at the NTS drama festival. Your LAST CHANCE to see the show is THIS Wednesday, April 1st! Tickets are only 5\$ and can be purchased through school cash online. See you there!

Hey Assumption! Think you're a master of useless facts, random knowledge, or weird trivia? Trivia Night is back Thursday, April 11th! Grab your friends, family, or even your neighbor's cousin—teams of up to 8 players can join. It's \$20 per person, and we can only have 35 teams, so don't wait or your team might be trivial-ly disappointed! All proceeds support the St. Vincent de Paul Society and our Ambassador Program. Bonus points: there's a silent auction with amazing prizes. Sign up your team now on the school website and may the smartest team win!

Student Council is hosting another Krispy Kreme bonanza!

Treat yourself (and your friends ) to a dozen delicious donuts for just \$15!

School cash online opens on Thursday, Mar. 26 and sales close on Thurs. Apr. 2nd. Deliveries will take place next week on Wednesday, April 8th! These are perfect for a sweet snack...sharing...or keeping all to yourself! Check our social media for more details!

Popcorn will be available on all lunches Mon. Tues. & Thurs. If you have already purchased your popcorn card, stop by the table in the atrium on your lunch to pick up your card and popcorn. Don't have a card yet? Head to school-cash-online to purchase your popcorn card today. \$10 / card!

Attention all Varsity Girls Lacrosse players:

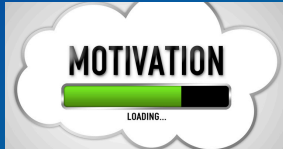
There will be an important information meeting after school at 2:15 PM in Room 211. It will only be 20 minutes. This meeting is mandatory for anyone planning to play this season. See you there

**See the the TV / bulletin board outside of Phys. Ed. for all updates regarding sports and practices.**

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## Quote for the week



"The more that you read, the more things you will know, the more that you learn, the more places you'll go." — Dr. Seuss

## Dad Joke of the Week

**Bon Jovi must be at least 3/4 of the way there by now.**



## WEATHER REPORT FOR THE WEEK

|       |  |     |  |     |
|-------|--|-----|--|-----|
| Today |  | 4°  |  | 18° |
| Tue   |  | 11° |  | 15° |
| Wed   |  | 4°  |  | 14° |
| Thu   |  | 1°  |  | 5°  |
| Fri   |  | 5°  |  | 19° |
| Sat   |  | 6°  |  | 10° |
| Sun   |  | 3°  |  | 14° |

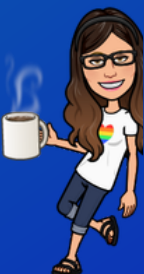
from the iPhone weather app

If you need support, please remember we are here for you:

Mr. Brophy (Principal)  
Ms. Fraser (VP)  
Mr. Ilczyszyn (VP)  
Ms. Rerecich (Chaplain)  
Devin Misener (CYC)  
Bailey Jones (SW)  
Guidance Counselors  
and your teachers

**For More Information**

@assumptioncssofficial  
gobluego.ca



# CRUSADER CHAPLAIN CHATTER

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## MONDAY

Student Council  
in rm 214

Chess Club, rm 304

Senior Reach,  
rm 224

## TUESDAY

Rosary Group in  
the Chapel per. 2

Concert Band in  
the music room

Debate Club,  
rm 202

## WEDNESDAY

Wellness Wednesday  
in Piazza over lunches  
DECA, library.

Intermediate Reach,  
rm 224

Math Madness,  
rm 305

HOSA, rm 217

Latin American Club,  
rm 202

French Club, rm 204

Spectrum GSA,  
during lunches--see  
Ms. R. & Ms.  
Ventura  
for locations!

## THURSDAY

Dungeons &  
Dragons,  
rm 209B

BSA, rm 110

Senior Reach,  
rm 224

Dance team,  
stage/small gym

Art Club, rm 108

South Asian Club,  
rm 222

**8:10**

Be in class  
by  
8:10 a.m.



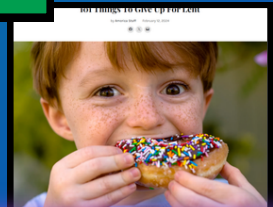
## FRIDAY

Good  
Friday



**PLUG IN TO YOUR FAITH**  
Click the item and it will take you to the site/article.

**STATIONS  
OF THE  
CROSS**



Weekly Trivia Challenge

First person to see  
Ms. R. with the  
correct answer will  
receive a prize!



GET THE APP!

“Whatever you do to the least of these, you do to me.” Matt. 25.40

# Praying through Holy Week, even when the sequence of events feels jumbled

by Zac Davis

Praying through Holy Week is like watching a season of television with the episodes all out of order. The finale is in the right place, for sure. Saturday will become Sunday, and a man will rise from the dead. But it can feel disorienting on Palm Sunday, when the long reading of the Lord's Passion seems to skip our imaginations ahead to Good Friday, past the anointing at Bethany or the Last Supper. If Palm Sunday is the only liturgy you attend until Easter (which is the case for many Catholics, and there is no obligation imposed by the church to attend any others), then the sequence perhaps makes sense. But if you attend Holy Thursday or Good Friday, or even pray with the readings throughout the week of Holy Week, the narrative jumps around.

Take today's Gospel: Jesus announces to his disciples that one of them will betray him. Shock and confusion spread throughout the table. But tomorrow's Gospel goes back (this time in Matthew's Gospel) to Judas preparing the betrayal. And today's Gospel comes immediately after Jesus washes the disciples' feet, which we'll hear at Mass of the Lord's Supper on Thursday evening.

But stay with today's Gospel, for now. And consider "The Last Supper." Yes, that one. The painting, by Leonardo da Vinci. A painting so ubiquitous and omnipresent on refrigerator magnets and posters and reproductions can lose its power to move us, but I believe it is still possible. Even staring at a digital reproduction of the image for 10 minutes does the trick. Da Vinci captures today's Gospel in a moment, frozen in time. Or is it a moment? Walter Isaacson, in his biography of da Vinci, disabuses us of that notion: Look longer at the picture. It vibrates with Leonardo's understanding that no moment is discrete, self-contained, frozen, delineated, just as no boundary in nature is sharply delineated...each moment is part of what just passed and what is about to come. This is one of the essences of Leonardo's art: from the Adoration of the Magi to Lady with an Ermine to The Last Supper and The Mona Lisa, each moment is not distinct but instead contains connections to a narrative.

The drama begins the second after Jesus' words have been spoken.... Like a stone thrown into a pond, his pronouncement causes ripples outward, spreading from him to the edges of the picture and creating a narrative reaction.

I am always struck by how disorienting the events of the Passion must have been for the disciples. Jesus has just completed the surprising and intimate act of washing their feet. And now he is announcing his betrayal? One night they are celebrating a feast with their friend, brother and teacher. In less than 24 hours, he will be dead. These moments and scenes are not isolated incidents, even though we encounter them as such in our prayer and liturgies.

Isn't this how our lives work, though? Anyone who has sat vigil at a deathbed knows that dying is a collection of moments more than it is a time of death that a physician calls out. Or that falling in love can begin in an instant but unfolds and deepens over decades. This week's liturgies and readings are a river. They will carry us, wherever we step in, toward the same destination: a crucified and risen Lord waits for us.

# POET'S CORNER

© Tyona Frater

The water wakes early in the morning,  
rushing past the bend,  
never looking anywhere but ahead.  
Its loud, restless voice  
echoes for all to hear.

An unusual friend crashes the party  
Thunder.  
It rolls in without warning,  
leaving a ringing silence behind.



The stream and the sky  
never seem to meet eye to eye.  
As visitors roam the small town,  
a quiet fight fills the air.

The stream begins to cry.  
Red tears stain the bank.  
Fish flicker through the water,  
struggling to see  
what end is coming.

@assumptioncreatives

**crusader art gallery**



# Saints for March-April

March 3 - St. Katharine Drexel (USA)

March 4 - St. Casimir

March 6 - World Day of Prayer

March 7 - St. Perpetua and St. Felicity

March 8 - 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent

March 8 - St. John of God

March 9 - St. Frances of Rome

March 15 - 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

March 17 - St. Patrick

March 18 - St. Cyril of Jerusalem

March 19 - St. Joseph

March 22 - 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

March 23 - St. Turibius of Mogrovejo

March 25 - Annunciation of the Lord

March 29 - Palm Sunday

March 30 - Monday of Holy Week

March 31 - Tuesday of Holy Week

April 1 - Wednesday of Holy Week

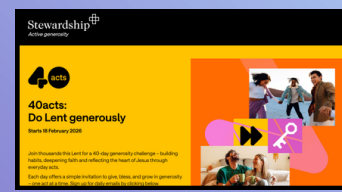
April 2 - Holy Thursday

April 3 - Good Friday

April 4 - Holy Saturday / Easter Vigil

April 5 - Easter Sunday

April 6 - Easter Monday - Easter Octave



Lord, I pray  
that I may  
decrease  
and You  
increase in  
me.

Lord,  
have mercy  
on me,  
a sinner.