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by providing counselling to families



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FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT – MARCH 31, 2019

Mass Intentions for the Week

April 2nd – April 6th

Tues. 8:30 am - Protection of the Unborn

Wed. 8:30 am - John Ambrozic †

Thurs. Noon - Frank Brennan †

Fri. 8:30 am - Jack, Celine & Tony D'Souza †

Sat. 4:30 pm - Hilary Coutinho †

READINGS FOR – April 7th

1st Reading: Isaiah 43.16-21

2nd Reading: Philippians 3.8-14

Gospel: John 8.1-11



Attendance at parish Lenten devotions is a must.



The Stations of the Cross

Join us as we follow the path of Christ commencing this Friday at 7:00 pm.

The Rosary

“I promise my special protection and the greatest graces to all those who shall recite the Rosary.” The Rosary will be recited at 4:10 pm each Saturday, as well as Tuesday through Friday at the completion of our daily Mass.



ShareLife

Helping the whole community through Catholic agencies

Living the Gospel locally and around the World

“It is important that we continue to support the ShareLife appeal, to provide for the needs of the marginalized both here in our communities and around the world. Sometimes the results are obvious and sometimes they're invisible, but always they make a tangible difference in the lives of the people we are helping. **“Please prayerfully**

consider how you can be supportive today on ShareLife Sunday.” — Cardinal Thomas Collins

Today is ShareLife Sunday.

Thank you for your generosity.



THE WORD THIS WEEK

“Your brother here was dead and has come to life.”

As today we hear one of Jesus' most beautiful parables, the Prodigal Son, the message is Reconciliation - the making new of relationships, the healing of past wrongs and the opening of ourselves to the "new creation". It teaches us once more that God is a kind and understanding Father. Families are the foundation of life. The biblical family is the model on which God is building a spiritual family of glorified sons and daughters. This parable tells of a son who was lost and then found. While it shows many details about a family, in the end one truth stands out - a father's patient endurance for the son he loves. Jesus Christ gave this parable to encourage families. God's great plan of salvation is based on the family structure of a father and mother and children born within the love of a relationship based on His laws governing the family. And the basis of that law is love—the love of a parent for a child.

This parable shows the deep love of a father for his lost son. Imagine him praying each day for his son's return, requesting God to guard him from harm, asking God to help the son even when the son's behavior didn't honor God. During these prayers the understanding that God wouldn't suspend the law of consequences didn't keep him from asking for God's mercy and goodness on his son. Mercy – as Christ has presented it in the parable – has the interior form of the love that in the New Testament is called agape. This love is able to reach down to every prodigal son, to every human misery, and above all to every form of moral misery, to sin. When this happens, the person who is the object of mercy does not feel humiliated, but rather found again and restored - “returned to life.”

This parable is also about each of us. God the Father stands waiting for the time when each of His children will at last realize the need for a lasting and satisfying relationship with Him.





FIRST FRIDAY APRIL 5, 2019

First Friday Mass is at 8:30 a.m.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will start at the completion of Mass and continue until noon when the Blessed Sacrament will be reposed. A sign-up

sheet is available at the back of the church if you can commit to a specific time.

LENTEN DAYS OF CONFESSION

Please mark your calendars now and make the time to attend our Bi-Annual Day of Reconciliation on the following dates:

Tuesday, April 2 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. (No evening confessions)

Wednesday, April 3 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. (Three priests will be available) If you need help especially if you have been away for some time simply ask the priest and he will help you by “walking” you through the steps to make a good confession.



OFFERTORY ENVELOPES



1. **DO** write the household name, address, telephone number and donation amount on the envelope or stick a return address label on the envelope. It's important to write your

donation amount on the envelope.

2. **DO** check that you placed your donation in the envelope. We have received offertory envelopes that are empty, no cash or cheque.

3. Please **don't** place tape on or staple the envelope seal. The adhesive on the envelope is sufficient.

4. Please **don't** use the offertory envelope to note your attendance. If you are away or attending another parish that weekend, use the current date envelope and place the total amount of your missed donation in the **one** envelope. Avoid using multiple envelopes, simply use one envelope for total amount or your donation.

5. Please **don't** use foreign currency in the offertory envelopes. Canadian currency only.

6. Please **don't** use another parish offertory envelope for your donation. Use the pink visitor envelopes located in the foyer.

RECONCILIATION

The Lenten wilderness is a place where it becomes necessary to shed some of our old ways. We need to let go of sin and selfishness, greed and self-centeredness to make room for this whole new, resurrected life into which we are called to live. Reconciliation will involve letting go of our old ways of seeing. How can our Lenten journey help us to see beyond the obstacles and stumbling blocks, the places where the fabric of humanity seems too threadbare and torn? And how can we begin to open the eyes of our hearts, to dream of a world fully reconciled and renewed, resurrected and restored? Christ keeps calling, beckoning, drawing us together, so that all Creation might be reconciled to God. The good news is that when we see the frayed edges of human injustice and indignity with the eyes of Christ, then we are compelled to start the work of repair, the work of mending. The world will never glimpse God's vision unless we share it, unless we make a concerted effort to say with our hearts and our lives: this is where the world has been torn asunder . . . this is where love is calling us to go . . . this is what love is calling us to bind and to build. Let us work to live into the fullness of God's good creation. Let us see beauty while creating harmony, justice, and reconciliation – one small act at a time.

CHING MING CHINESE REMEMBRANCE MASS 2019

Upcoming Events:

The 2019 Ching Ming Remembrance Mass will be held in the Holy Family Mausoleum at Holy Cross Catholic Cemetery in Thornhill on **Saturday April 6 at 2:00 p.m.** The Mass is organized by Catholic Cemeteries & Funeral Services – Archdiocese of Toronto which is held in Cantonese and Mandarin with support of the Chinese Pastoral Council of the Archdiocese of Toronto. For further details, please see the poster in the foyer.

Ministry with Maturing Adults Spirituality in the Second Half of Life Winter Program

Inviting men and women (50+) to learn more about faith development in the second half of life.

Fri. April 12 - “Growth in Wisdom”

Fri. April 26 - “Spiritual Strengths & Inner Resources”

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Register: gspadmin@bellnet.ca or phone 905-881-1534

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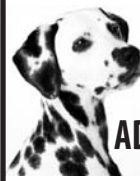


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