

The story of the rich tax collector, converted when Jesus visited him, is found in Luke's gospel alone. He makes it part of the Saviour's instructions on his way to Jerusalem – together with stories about the teaching of Jesus on faith and prayer, other stories about his receiving of outcasts, and his advice concerning this world's possessions. In a sense, all these themes are brought together in this incident so well described in today's reading.

Zaccheus may have been small in stature, but he was a man of substance – a centre of attention, as he 'made his appearance'. As a senior tax collector, who presided over the collection of tolls and taxes in Jericho, an important centre because it was on the junction of two trade routes, Zaccheus would have been a man of considerable wealth. The attention he attracted would certainly not have been friendly. His undignified ascent into the branches of a tree to be able to see Jesus over the heads of the crowd would have provoked amusement. But the incident gives us an insight into the forthright character of Zaccheus – qualities that contributed, no doubt, to his worldly success. The attitude he displays in his encounter with Jesus also makes it clear that, for all his success, he is looking for more from life than the wealth he has accumulated. Drawn by what he has heard of the teacher from Nazareth, he disregards the amusement of the crowd and climbs the tree to see for himself. When Jesus calls him down in order to visit his house, his reactions are wholehearted and generous, 'he hurried down and welcomed him joyfully'.



Today salvation has come to this house

Zaccheus is like so many people today who - though they are confused - are not far, in their generous outlook, from the kingdom of God. Those, on the other hand, who 'complain' that the Saviour has 'gone to stay at a sinner's house', are like the righteous who do not understand the generous mercy of God, and do not know how to reach out to those in need. With Jesus at his side, the forthright little tax official confounds his critics; he 'stands his ground', Luke tells us, and amazes the whole town by the generosity of the conversion to which he has been led by the words of Jesus. He is prepared to renounce his wealthy status, by giving half of his riches to the poor, and by repaying fourfold what he has gained unjustly by taking advantage of his position.

'Today', Jesus said, 'salvation has come to this house'. There are moments of grace in the lives of all of us, moments we shall never regret, if we respond trustingly and generously to the call of God. In his concern for the outcasts – stressed in the readings we have had from Luke's gospel in recent weeks - Jesus was giving expression to the true faith of old Israel, forgotten by so many of his contemporaries, and calling them back to that faith: clearly expressed in today's first reading from Wisdom. God loves all those God has brought into existence; if God 'corrects' and 'admonishes' it is that, as a 'lover, of life', the Lord may 'spare all'.

John Thornhill sm
www.theemmausseries.com

PLEASE NOTE Registrations for First Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation will be accepted until Friday, November 15

PARISH

Readings ~ Wisdom 11:22 – 12:2 ~ 2 Thessalonians 1:11 – 2:2 ~ Luke 19:1-10

Mass Intentions This Week – November 4 to 10

Please join us as we pray for the following announced Mass intentions:

	Intention(s)	Offered by
Monday, 9am	✠ John Broe	The Dodig family
Tuesday, 9am	✠ Louis Jannetta	Josie Dilella
Wednesday, 9am	✠ Mary Lucey	Ursula & John Matthews
Thursday, 9am	✠ Ivelda Cavoto	Mary Pat & Frank Kielty
Friday, 9am	✠ Ivelda Cavoto	Aida & Raymond
Saturday, 9am	✠ Isobel Duncan	John & Ruby Boersma
5:15pm	✠ Mary & Frank Ferkul	Anne Pohole
Sunday, 8am	✠ Louis Jannetta	Darrell Greco
9:30am	✠ Rina Bartozzi	The Marcoccia family
11am	✠ members of the Pizon family	The family
12:30pm	...our parish and faithful parishioners	

November: Month of Remembrance

The month of November is dedicated to commemorating our loved ones who have died in the Lord. The shrine of St. Joseph will be suitably decorated and The Book of the Dead readied to receive the names of our dearly departed. All Souls' Day envelopes will be available for those who wish to have their loved ones remembered at the Eucharist.

Lectors+Wannabes Lector Workshop – Sat., Nov. 16, 11am–1pm

Whether you're a new lector or have been a lector for years, you will learn something new to make you an even better lector. Lunch will be provided. Contact the parish office to register.

Rosary Group – stay and pray daily, after 9am Mass & Fridays, 2pm

Five decades daily, fifteen decades on Fridays followed by the Chaplet of Divine Mercy.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul 'Adopt a Family' – Help in all possible ways

Once again our parish's St. Vincent de Paul group is asking parishioners to provide a family in need with special gifts at Christmas. The area covered by our group has expanded to include the Berry Rd./Stonegate area, allowing us to assist even more families. If you are interested in helping, please contact carolmurray@rogers.com or call 647-859-4805 by December 2.

Thank you and welcome to our newest volunteers! The work is hard, the rewards many!

2013 Advent Fair – November 9, 9:30am–5pm, Nov. 10, 9am–2:30pm

Call for bakers and volunteers! This much-anticipated annual event features crafts, jewelry, CDs & cards, religious books, baked goods and much more! Call the parish office.

Drop-In Bridge – Thursdays, 1pm, parish hall meeting room

All are welcome, partners not required! For more information, call Rena Guerard, 416-236-0728.

This Weekend Youth & Young Adult Ministry – Sunday, after 12:30 Mass

Everyone is invited to the parish hall for Michael Kelly's presentation about his teaching internship at a Peace and Reconciliation Centre in Bosnia-Herzegovina through Intercordia Canada. Sponsored by Youth and Young Adult Ministry. Refreshments will be provided.

Soup Day Nov. 17, after all Sunday liturgies. \$3/person and includes

soup, dinner roll, water & coffee. Proceeds to benefit the Bosnian community noted above.

Update Restore, Renew, Rejoice!

Last June's revised plans included a newly conceived and designed accessible entrance and elevator at the south end of the church, along Cliveden Ave., and received very positive feedback from parishioners. Subsequently, a 'Request for Approval' was submitted to the Archdiocese. Their approval having recently been received, Larkin Architect will commence work on detailed drawings for the project. The drawings will ultimately need to be presented to and approved by the Archdiocesan Building Committee before any actual work can begin. As the above progresses and over the next few months, the OLS Building Committee will meet regularly with Larkin to review and finalize details.



This is your opportunity to point out any specific issues or deficiencies (i.e. lighting, electrical) with our current building you'd like to ensure are being addressed as part of this project. Please email this information to dolores@sorrows.ca as soon as possible. Non-email users, please submit your observations in writing to Dolores, care of the parish office.

We anticipate beginning our combined **Capital+Archdiocesan Campaign** in the spring of 2014. We are hopeful that the renovations will begin in the spring or summer of 2014, and will be completed in time to celebrate the parish's **75th Anniversary in 2015!**

On our parish website you'll find a recap of the feedback received, and a revised Frequently Asked Questions & Answers. Visit the site at www.sorrows.ca and please contact the parish office by email or phone if you have any questions or comments. **Thank you!**

Parish Housekeeping Items – Thank you for your ongoing support & co-operation!

Parish registration forms are available at www.sorrows.ca or from the parish office. Please use them to: register as a parishioner; request offertory envelopes; advise us of a change in address or to update household information. (Please advise any former parishes that you have changed parishes, so that their records can remain up-to-date as well.)

Registration forms are also available for Pre-Authorized Giving. If you use Offertory Envelopes, kindly make an effort to mark the 'amount' of your donation on the envelope, to assist the volunteer collection counters in their ministry.

Shepherds' Trust – envelopes Nov. 9/10, collection Nov. 16/17

A focused mission: provide, comfort and care for those who have steadfastly cared for us. We each have our own memories of a Catholic priest who made a positive, meaningful and lasting impact in our lives. Shouldn't they retire safely and with dignity? The Shepherds' Trust allows us to achieve this goal. **Your generosity is deeply appreciated.**

This Weekend JAZZ AT R.Y. – 20th Season, Sunday Nov. 3, 2pm

'A Tribute to Peter Appleyard' featuring Don Thompson, Joe Sealy, Michael Stuart and Neil Swainson at Royal York Rd. United Church, 851 Royal York Rd. \$20 at the door. Call 416-231-1207 for information. Free refreshments. Net proceeds to support local outreach charities.

Bystanders to the Holocaust – November 6, 7–9pm

Scarboro Missions Interfaith Department, in collaboration with the Sarah & Chaim Neuberger Holocaust Education Centre, invite you to an evening program at the Scarboro Missions Centre, 2685 Kingston Rd., Scarborough. Speaker Fellow Mr. Istvan Pal Adam, 2012-13 Tziporah Wiesel Fellowship. Admission is free. For more information, call 416-261-7135, ext. 244 or 296.



COMMUNITY

