

Mark concludes his account of the ministry of Jesus in Galilee with descriptions of some remarkable miracles worked by Jesus during this ministry. In today's reading Jesus shows himself the Lord of life and death – healing the woman 'who had suffered from a haemorrhage for twelve years', and bringing back to life the young daughter of one of the elders of the local synagogue.

Again, the words of Jesus and Mark's telling of the story emphasise the importance of 'faith' in what is to unfold – a trusting openness to the fact that, in the ministry of Jesus, God's great promises to Israel were being fulfilled. This faith, however, finds very different expression in the two cases. The synagogue official, well versed in the traditions of Israel, and with an openness that expresses the true spirit of Israel's faith, makes his request: 'Make my little daughter better and save her life'. His trust in what Jesus can do for him is in stark contrast with the attitude of those who report that the girl is already dead and urge him not to trouble Jesus further, and with the mourners already gathering in his home. The woman's faith is less informed; naïve perhaps, very like the faith of so many simple believers. But what she knows of Jesus inspires her to seek a healing by 'touching his clothes'. The reaction of Jesus is to lead her to the personal meeting with him that should take place in an authentic faith.

As was the case with the miracle story which precedes this one – in which Jesus shows his Lordship by quelling the storm – the community for which Mark wrote his gospel would have listened to this narrative, in which Jesus showed himself Lord of life and death, against the background of their faith in his resurrection – the ultimate demonstration of this Lordship. This is confirmed, commentators point out, by the fact that, in the telling of the miraculous events, terms are used which echo New Testament faith in the resurrection: 'Lay your hands on her that she may be healed and live'; 'Your faith has healed you' (The Greek could also be translated, 'saved', a powerful word in the vocabulary of Christian faith); 'Little gift I tell you arise' (This Greek word is often used in reference to the Lord's resurrection). Against this background, the many references to 'life' take on a deeper meaning.

This gospel narrative sheds light on the attitudes of Jesus. The two miracles, both worked for women, show the freedom with which he related to the customs that had grown up in old Israel. According to these customs, the woman's ailment would have made her 'unclean' – and perhaps that is why, when summoned by Jesus, she 'came forward frightened and trembling', concerned that she may have offended him. But her fears were brushed aside by the Saviour who came to bring authentic fulfilment to all that the life of old Israel foreshadowed; 'My daughter your faith has restored you to health; go in peace'. In bringing the little girl back to life, Jesus 'took her by the hand'. This was a remarkable thing to do. According to Jewish customs it was not acceptable for a man to touch a twelve year old girl – since she was now of marriageable age.

John Thornhill sm
www.theemmausseries.com

Jesus healed Jairus's daughter by saying "Talitha cum" which means "little girl, get up!". Has the Lord called you to get up and walk? Perhaps Jesus wants you to help others get up and walk.

If you feel God is calling you to priesthood, religious life or the diaconate, call Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Toronto 416-968-0997 vocations@vocations.ca www.vocationstoronto.ca



Do not be afraid; only have faith

Readings ~ Wisdom 1.13-15; 2.23-24 ~ 2 Corinthians 8.7, 9, 13-15 ~ Mark 5.21-43

PARISH

Mass Intentions This Week – June 29 to July 5

Please join us as we pray for the following announced intentions...

	Intention(s):	Offered by:
Monday, 9am	✠ Gloria & Alfred Wright	The family
Tuesday, 9am	✠ Mary & Bill Purtle	The Brennan family
Wednesday, 9am	✠ Larry Crooks	The family
Thursday, 9am	✠ Jean & George Lee	Cliff Lee
Friday, 9am	✠ members of the Goseco, Valencia & Feliciano families	Linda Feliciano
Saturday, 9am	... of Agnes & Dameano Carbonelli	Agnes Murphy
5:15pm	✠ Eileen Roche	The Hunwicks family
Sunday 8am	✠ For the needs of our parish and faithful parishioners ✠	
9:30am	✠ David Newton	The family
11am	✠ Marie Savino	Yolanda Savino
12:30pm	✠ Edward Allison	Lourdes Allison

Working wonders for people locally and around the world...

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the 2015 ShareLife Parish Campaign. You have made a dark path to a brighter future much easier for thousands of the most vulnerable in our communities by your generosity. For those who wish to make a contribution, you are still welcome to do so. **You can drop your ShareLife envelopes in the offertory basket until July 31, 2015 or donate online at www.sharelife.org. Thank you!**



ShareLife's campaign continues. Please give generously. You can work wonders!

Our parish goal for 2015 is \$378,000. To date we have received \$265,855.31. The campaign ends soon but there is still time to donate! Please help us reach our goal! Our final total for 2014 was \$396,453. While we welcome ShareLife donations throughout the year, the deadline for contributions to the 2015 Campaign is July 31st and all donations received after that date will go towards the 2016 campaign.

Parishioners! Mark these 75th Anniversary Events in your calendar

- French Boys Choir Concert – In the church, Sunday, July 12, 4pm
- Parish Dinner/Dance – Saturday, September 19
- Retreat for Parish Ministry Participants – Saturday, September 26

Children's Liturgy of the Word – 'on hold' for the summer months

Renovation work has limited access to the church hall necessitating a "pause" in this program normally held during the 9:30am Sunday liturgy. **We expect the program will resume in autumn.**

Parish Pilgrimage to the Holy Land November 8–17, 2015

There are only a few spots left for this once-in-a-lifetime journey, under the spiritual leadership of Fr. Nino, marking the 75th Anniversary of our parish. You'll visit unforgettable places like the Sea of Galilee, Jerusalem, Capernaum, the River Jordan, Nazareth, the Garden of Gethsemane, the Mount of the Beatitudes, Via Dolorosa, Mount Zion, Masada, the Dead Sea & much, much more! Cost is \$2,490 per person. For more information or to reserve your place, contact Halina at 905-886-5610, ext. 315.



"All of us can cooperate as instruments of God for the care of creation, each according to his or her own culture, experience, involvements and talents." – Pope Francis from Laudato si'

Bishop Gary Gordon on Salt + Light

We've been happy to receive Bishop Gary a few times at Our Lady of Sorrows. His smiling face, enthusiasm and tales of "The North" (and adventures on the TTC) have edified and entertained. You may enjoy a new video interview in which he's featured at Salt+Light Media. It's available here: www.goo.gl/LAjXKo

Online Discussion on Henri Nouwen's "Finding My Way Home" – June 28, 2pm

Hosted by the Henri Nouwen Society and led by Ray Glennon, this discussion at (www.wp.henrinouwen.org/rgroup_blog) will explore Nouwen's perspective on aspects of our spiritual life: The Path of Power, The Path of Peace, The Path of Waiting, and The Path of Living and Dying. For info, contact Maureen Wright at mwright@henrinouwen.org

Prayer Service for Cancer Patients & their Families June 28, 2:30pm

Day of prayer for those affected by cancer led by Fr. Joby Kachappilly, VC. Takes place at Divine Retreat Centre, 69 William St. (a short walk from the intersection of Jane St. & Lawrence Ave. W.) Contact cancerhealingday@gmail.com or 647-660-1314 to confirm registration.

A Forum on Pope Francis' New Encyclical on the Environment – June 30, 7:30pm

Pope Francis' encyclical on the environment was released on June 18. To consider the content, significance and potential impact of *Laudato si'* (Medieval Umbrian for "Praise Be to You"), an open forum will be held. Dr. Dennis O'Hara, Director of the Elliot Allen Institute for Theology & Ecology at the University of St. Michael's College and Father Steve Dunn, CP, Director of the Passionist Center for Ecology and Spirituality, will be facilitating the forum. St. Gabriel's Passionist Church (an eco-sensitive church), 670 Sheppard Ave. E. Everyone is welcome! Contact Fatima Lee at 416-221-8866 or via email at fatimalee@bellnet.ca. To read the Holy Father's encyclical, visit www.goo.gl/HYZMnG or scan the QR code.



Street Patrol – St. Patrick's Parish, 131 McCaul St. – July 8, 6:30pm

For 20 years, men, women and youth (aged 13+) have been walking the streets in downtown Toronto, offering food and friendship to those in need. Individuals and small groups are welcome to participate in this ministry at any time. Please contact Street Patrol to book groups of 12 or more. Call Lucio Abbruzzese at 416-738-9197 or email inmylife@rogers.com or visit www.bit.ly/stretpatrolTO

Walking tour of Mount Hope Catholic Cemetery July 11, 2pm

Catholic Cemeteries & Funeral Services – Archdiocese of Toronto invites you to join us for a walking tour of Mount Hope Catholic Cemetery. Visit the graves of some of the Catholic faithful who shaped our Church, our city and our cemetery throughout the last 110 years. Mount Hope Catholic Cemetery is located at 305 Erskine Ave. Contact Amy Profenna at 416-733-8544 or Mount Hope Cemetery at 416-483-4944. In case of rain, please contact the cemetery directly. Visit www.catholic-cemeteries.com

Young Adult's Retreat – Ages 18–35 – July 17, 7pm

A weekend retreat to get away and spend some time reflecting on what every heart longs for – freedom and joy! Open to all young men and women ages 18-35, married or single. Weekend includes prayer, confession, conferences by the Sisters of Life, Mass, Eucharistic Adoration and more. Cost: \$175; deposit of \$75 due July 10. St. Augustine's Seminary, 2661 Kingston Rd. For information, contact Sr. Maria Regina, SV at 416-463-2722 or email toronto@sistersoflife.org or register online at www.sistersoflife.org/canada-yar