Todays reading from Mark's gospel reminds us what a great teacher Jesus was. The object lesson he gives, as he teaches people making their donations is one of the best remembered stories of the world's religious traditions - the 'widow's mite' has become proverbial. Mark sharpens the lesson by linking this incident with what Jesus has to say about 'scribes' who 'swallow the property of widows while making a show of long prayers'. The situation of widows was insecure. The 'scribes', so often mentioned in the gospels, were interpreters of the Law of old Israel - the lawyers of the day. They benefited as trustees for the estates of widows, and a reputation for piety could be good for business. Jesus' words, of course, have a lesson for all of us - people who make a selfish show of their piety, instead of making it a 'secret' they share with their heavenly Father (Mt 5:6) give Christianity a bad name.

Mark gives the little widow a privileged place in his telling of the story of Jesus. Having entered Jerusalem to meet his fate, Jesus is giving his final instructions concerning the discipleship to which he is calling those who wish to follow him. Using the widow's example, he goes to the very heart of the matter - a giving that costs us something. We are called to be like the widow, and make a fundamental truth, that as responsible persons we are made in the image of God, thus by unselfish giving to others? The most precious things in life - in our family, in the community in which we live - come through the selfless generosity with which we give to others. We know from experience that it is a giving that costs us something that brings real happiness to ourselves and to those around us.

Mark is linking the generous giving of the widow with the great dreams of God's generosity soon to take place - as Jesus gives himself into the hands of his Father for the sake of the whole human family. Our liturgy takes up Mark's lesson. Today's reading from Hebrews - a central passage in this great treatise - explains how the ritual of old Israel uses only a fragment of the story of the Saviour's Paschal Mystery. The old sacrifices, offered time and again in a 'man made' temple that was only a model of God's dwelling place, and making use of the blood of animals - have now given way to the world's final act of worship. The Saviour enters 'the actual presence of God on our behalf, making a gift of himself' once and for all. He shows us how true it is that a giving that really counts brings true blessings - in his total gift of himself he has become the source of all the blessings that will fill our eternity.

**Mass Intentions This Week — November 9 to 15**

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intention(s)</th>
<th>Offered by:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, 9am</td>
<td><em>Peggie Weller</em> Marjorie Feheley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 7:30pm</td>
<td><em>of Alfonso Del Valle</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 9am</td>
<td><em>Levy Baquedano</em> The family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, 9am</td>
<td><em>John Paul Murphy</em> The Grant family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 9am</td>
<td><em>Aileen &amp; Harold Nelson</em> Agnes Burke</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, 9am</td>
<td><em>Robert Cleary</em> Winnie &amp; Jim Magee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, 8am</td>
<td><em>Mary &amp; Frank Fertul</em> Anne Pohole</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, 9:30am</td>
<td><em>Edward Ducharme</em> Michael Foran</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, 12:30pm</td>
<td><em>Jesse Oriola</em> Andrew Brazina</td>
</tr>
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**Project Hope Update — Refugees to begin arriving soon: call for volunteers**

The parish has noticed from the Archdiocesan Office for Refugees that the first refugees that Hope Pittsburgh might arrive in Canada within the next few months. Our parish will have the opportunity to support two families through the generosity of the parish and also through the generosity of a parish family who has donated $30,000 for an additional refugee family. At this point we’d like to reach out to members of the parish to seek volunteers to assist with all of the work required to prepare for the arrival of the two families (finding housing, furniture etc.) and to assist in their successful settlement once they arrive (school, ESL and health care registration, finding jobs etc) in Toronto. Based on our recent experience with the Iraqi refugee family that was successfully resettled, the role of the parish team will also involve ongoing interaction over time to ensure that their chances of success are enhanced. We would encourage all those interested in volunteering in this worthwhile and very rewarding effort contact Bill Wilson at 416-733-8544, ext. 2023 or fjannetta@cc-fs.ca.

**Toronto Right to Life Christmas Cards**

View the 2015 designs at www.righttolife.to and visit the parish office to purchase: an affordable $8 per 10-pack, including envelopes. All proceeds go to TRL's pro-life educational network.

**Parishioners! Mark these upcoming events in your calendars!**

- **Saturday, November 26, 7pm** – Public Lecture by David Pereira, M.D. entitled “Preparation for the Rite of the Opening of the Door of Mercy in Local Churches”
- **Saturday, November 28, 7:30pm** (doors open at 12:45pm) – “Out of Cold” Concert

**Campaign Life Christmas Cakes**

In the past, purchases of fruitcakes has raised over $100,000 annually in support of CL’s baby-saving efforts. Produced by a Toronto pro-life bakery, these scrumptious “traditional recipe” cakes are $15/regular & $25/deluxe.

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**Rosary Group**

- **mornings suspended; Fridays, 2pm, above Running Room**

Take this opportunity to pray the Holy Rosary every evening at home with your family!

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