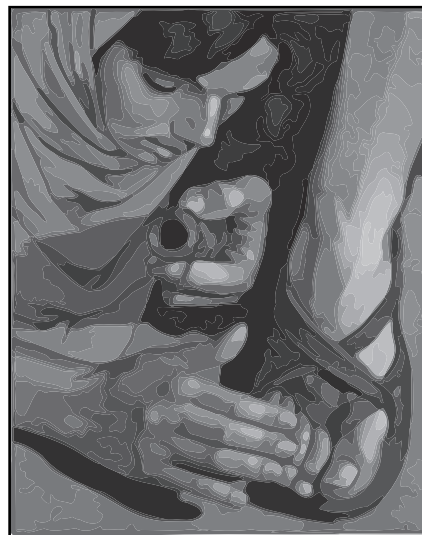


The gospel writers reveal something of their own personalities and outlook in the way they present stories of the life of Jesus from the first generation of Christians. This is especially true of Luke, a cultured gentile convert with a sensitive and engaging disposition. He gives women a special place in the story. He alone – in a passage some verses before today's reading – tells the story of the widow burying her son, and he ends today's reading describing the group moving around with Jesus, the itinerant teacher, as including with the Twelve he has chosen, a group of well-to-do women who gave him material support. This group, which would have astounded Jesus' contemporaries, was a symbol of the New Israel, and its foreshadowing of the Kingdom he announced. And it is a woman who is at the centre of today's gospel story.

We would be wrong to presume that Simon, the host in today's incident had deliberately insulted Jesus as he received him into his house. He was curious to see and hear this man; but, as a Pharisee, he wished to make it clear that his invitation did not imply common cause with Jesus; so he welcomed him as an inferior rather than as an honoured guest.

In the customs of Jewish society, very different from those we take for granted, gatherings such as that to which Jesus was invited were more or less 'open house' to passers-by. The woman who came in and approached Jesus, we must presume, had been led by his teaching – and no doubt by his notorious concern for the outcasts of respectable society – to repent of her past life, and she came in to express her gratitude. Those at the meal would be reclining on mats, with their feet drawn up behind them, around a low table. Luke tells us, therefore, that she was 'behind him' as she made her remarkable gesture of devotion and gratitude to the Saviour. Luke, the cultured Greek, tells the story in the 'symposium' form fashionable in his culture – a form in which a banquet sets the scene for a remarkable conversation. Jesus begins by reading the thoughts of his host – who, as a Pharisee, is shocked to see Jesus allow himself to be touched by this woman of the streets, and concludes that he cannot possibly be a 'prophet' (rabbinical teaching directed that one must distance oneself at least two yards from a prostitute!).

Jesus' explanation, that it was only right that one who has found God's forgiveness through his ministry should be filled with a grateful love, is an invitation to us all to join him in the midst of the sinners and outcasts he has welcomed into his company. With the words that only the Lord can pronounce, he tells the woman, 'Your sins are forgiven'. [Two clarifications: 1) The widely accepted mistranslation, 'Her sins are forgiven because she has shown great love' confuses the straightforward message of the story.; 2) There are no grounds for identifying the woman with Mary of Magdala – the words, 'from whom seven demons had gone out' refer to her being healed of serious ailments by Jesus.]



Who is this man, that even forgives sins?

John Thornhill sm
www.themauserseries.com



Jesus is always ready to grant forgiveness and pardon to those who sincerely repent. Are you able to help others to believe and return to Jesus with repentant hearts?

If you think God is calling you to consecrated life, contact Fr. Chris Lemieux 416-968-0997 vocations@vocations.ca www.vocationstoronto.ca

Readings ~ 2 Samuel 12:7-10, 13 ~ Galatians 2:16, 19-21 ~ Luke 7:36 - 8:3

PARISH

Mass Intentions This Week – June 13–19

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

	Intention(s):	Offered by:
Monday, 9am	✠ John Lynskey	Helen Martin
Tuesday, 9am	✠ Taylor Whitney	The family
Wednesday, 9am	✠ John Lynskey	Brenda McKay
Thursday, 9am	✠ Matilde Sottile	Pat McCarthy & family
Friday, 9am	✠ Ismael Caceres	Delia Urosevic
Saturday, 9am	✠ Jeremija Urosevic	Delia Urosevic
5:15pm	✠ Mary & Frank Ferkul	Ann Pohole
Sunday, 8am	✠ Jack Killoran	The family
9:30am	✠ For the needs of our parish and faithful parishioners ✠	
11am	✠ Michael Kalisz	Diana Kalisz
12:30pm	✠ Michalina & Peter Dzummu	The family

THIS WEEKEND Special Collection for Marygrove Camp

Marygrove Camp is a residential camp situated on Georgian Bay. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Toronto Central Council, helps over 1,000 girls each summer, registering eligible campers through home visits. Marygrove is open to girls ages 5–13 and provides a camping experience for children who may not otherwise have the opportunity to enjoy a nature-based adventure. Families who are experiencing financial or domestic hardship may contact the Society directly to determine their eligibility.



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.

The Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet are "a spiritual medicine... good for your heart, for your soul, for your whole life."

Franciscans

Gifts of Securities a great option for all your church giving

If you have stocks or mutual funds that have appreciated, you're likely not keen on paying capital gains tax on them! Consider making them your offertory gift. You can also use securities to consolidate all your Church giving. If you make an annual gift to ShareLife, for example, we will arrange to have the parish credited with your gift. To learn more, call the Archdiocesan Development Office at 416-934-3411 or visit www.archtoronto.org/development



Children's Liturgy of the Word – Join us!

This program for young parishioners (4–10 years of age) takes place on Sundays at the 9:30am Mass. All are welcome!

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

"You do not have to look far to see the wonders being worked by ShareLife... in the pews of your parish, in the homes on your street, in your neighbourhood." ShareLife agencies provide competent, faith-informed care to those who turn to them for help, regardless of their beliefs or background. Last year, over 381,000 services were provided to over 114,000 people in our Archdiocese in more than 20 languages, receiving the compassion, care and respect they rightly deserve. In addition, countless others were assisted through outreach programs around the world.



—Thomas Cardinal Collins, Archbishop of Toronto

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

Travelling this summer? Visit www.masstimes.org and get to Mass! You may also use their phone-based system at 1-858-207-6277 to search a database of 117,000 diocese-approved Catholic churches in 201 countries!

COMMUNITY

Bill C-14 Physician assisted suicide now legal thanks to the Supreme Court

Because the federal government has yet to pass legislation, the vulnerable are at risk. Healthcare professionals and facilities could be compelled to assist in suicides contrary to their conscience because of the new patchwork of regulations made by each individual province and territory. It's critical that the Senate introduce strong amendments to protect the conscience rights of Canadian healthcare providers and ensure that strong, universal protection is in place across all of Canada. A new letter has been added for you to send to the Senate in support of stronger amendments. If you have not done so already, please visit www.canadiansforconscience.ca

St. Anthony Feast Day – Queen of Heaven Catholic Cemetery – June 13, 2pm

Please join us for this special prayer service in the St. Anthony Chapel of the Mausoleum. Queen of Heaven Catholic Cemetery is at 7300 Hwy. #27. For information, call 905-851-5822.

The Celebration of the Christian Mystery – June 18, 9:30am

The Eucharist is the source and summit of Christian life. Join us for a reflection on the Eucharist in the Year of Mercy. Held at Blessed Trinity Parish, 3220 Bayview Ave., all are invited to attend & be inspired by Fr. Seamus Hogan, Professor of Church History at St. Augustine Seminary. Refreshments will be served. Call 416-226-0262 or email blessed_trinity@rogers.com

Healing Through Sharing – Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, June 19, 1pm

Please join us to meet, hear & learn from Residential School Survivors their personal experiences and vision forward for Canada & Christians. The Honoured Guests include: Mr. Michael Cheena (Bishop Borden Hall), Mr. Kim McDougall (Mount Elgin Residential Schools) and Mr. Murray Crowe, (Anglican & Mennonite schools). A Q&A session will follow. All are welcome to attend this free event and light refreshments will be served. 520 Sherbourne St., 2nd floor meeting rooms; wheelchair accessible. Sponsored by the Jesuit Development Office. Call 416-962-4500, ext. 240 or email emcgrath@jesuits.ca for more info. Visit www.jesuits.ca

Truth, Reconciliation and Hope Conference June 22, 8am–4:30pm

A vision for a new Canada. Join the conversation & hear speakers including Cree Knowledge Keeper Noel Starblanket, Dr. Marie Wilson, Commissioner, Truth and Reconciliation Commission, The Rt. Hon. Paul Martin, Charlie Angus, MP, and Grand Chiefs Joe Norton & Abram Benedict. Reception to follow with Thomas Cardinal Collins. Hosted by the University of St. Michael's College and the Jesuits. Proceeds for the Mother Teresa Middle School, Regina, SK. Sponsorship & 'matching gift' opportunities are available. Tickets (\$50) include lunch & refreshments. Takes place at Alumni Hall, 121 St. Joseph St. Wheelchair accessible. For info, see 'Jesuits' contact info above.

50th Anniversary of St. Anselm's Church – June 26, 11am

We are pleased to mark the 50th anniversary of the first Mass celebrated in the current St. Anselm's Church building at 1 MacNaughton Rd. Cardinal Thomas Collins will celebrate the 11am Mass. A reception in the parish hall will follow. We look forward to commemorating the gift of 50 years of faith, church and parish community. All are welcome.

Feast of Our Mother of Perpetual Help Novena Triduum June 27–29, 7pm

Archbishop Gerard Pettipas, CSsR, will be guest preacher for each of three evenings at St. Patrick's Church, 131 McCaul Street. Begins Monday evening. On Tuesday we celebrate the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick and on Wednesday, the feast day, concluding with a social in the parish hall. This will conclude the Jubilee Year for the 150th Anniversary of the Mission of the Redemptorists: 'Make Her Known Throughout The World'. Visit www.stpatrickstoronto.ca for more information.

