

Today's liturgy begins with the familiar commemoration of the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. This year we hear Luke's account. Its majestic tone is an appropriate prelude to the greatest week of the Church's year – emphasising the unique authority of Jesus, and ending with the joyous cry of the whole group of disciples: proclaiming that the miracles worked by Jesus are a breaking in of 'heaven' itself. In Luke's account, his preoccupation with the issues of riches and poverty finds expression; it is not palms but 'cloaks' – the proud possessions of the rich – that are spread on the road.

The reading from Isaiah invites us to learn from the example of the Saviour, the trust we should have in our Father in heaven, whatever trials we may face. But it is something else that makes the reading an appropriate one, as we find ourselves on the threshold of Holy Week – with God's true Servant, we must have minds and hearts open to a new meeting with our God in what lies ahead. Like him we should be glad that the Lord 'wakes us to hear, to listen like disciples'

In the second reading, from the letter to the Philippians – echoing a hymn used in the liturgy of the first generation of the Church – Paul summarises with majestic brevity the drama of the Paschal Mystery we are about to celebrate: how Jesus 'emptied himself', shared our human condition, even to 'accepting death on a cross', and how finally, for our sake, he is 'raised high', one with the Father in the glory of the divine name.

Luke's account of the Lord's passion has been put together with great care, as this faithful disciple of Jesus makes reference in the course of his narrative to many of his favourite themes: the example of Jesus' prayer during his ordeal (on Calvary; for Peter); the good news of a merciful and forgiving God ('Father forgive them'; 'Today you will be with me in paradise'); the attitudes of true discipleship ('The leader must be as one who serves'; the presence of the disciples, men and women, on Calvary – 'at a distance'); the great titles of the Church's confession of faith in the Saviour are skillfully woven into the narrative, often on the lips of those who are rejecting him ('Son of Man', 'Son of God', 'Christ of God', 'King of the Jews', 'Chosen One'; and significantly it is the gentile centurion who is given the final word, 'This was a great and good man').

The liturgies of Holy Week will teach us, not with fine oratory, but by recounting the great events in which the divine Truth found expression in our human history. Let this recognition set the tone for our participation in the liturgies of these days.

John Thornhill sm
www.theemmausseries.com

Blessed are they who come in the Name of the Lord! Am I being called to proclaim Jesus as a priest, deacon, religious brother or sister?

If God is calling you, contact Fr. Chris Lemieux, Archdiocesan Vocations Director
416-968-0997 vocations@vocations.ca www.vocationstoronto.ca



Father into your hands
I commend my spirit

Readings ~ Luke 19:28-40 ~ Isaiah 50:4-7 ~ Philippians 2:6-11 ~ Luke 22:14 - 23:56

PARISH

Mass Intentions This Week – March 21–27

Please note that 9am Mass will not be celebrated on March 24, 25 or 26.

Join us as we pray for the following announced intentions...

	Intention(s):	Offered by:
Monday, 9am	✠ members of the Grogan family	
Tuesday, 9am	... of Manuel Soler	The family
Wednesday, 9am	✠ John Joseph Keane	Philip Keane & Family
Holy Thursday	Mass of the Lord's Supper – 7:30pm Non-perishable food donations will be collected for the poor	
Good Friday	Celebration of the Lord's Passion – noon & 3pm Stations of the Cross – 7:30pm	
Holy Saturday	Easter Vigil – Resurrection of the Lord – 8pm Everyone is invited to bring bells to ring during the Gloria	
Easter Sunday	Resurrection of the Lord 8am, 9:30am, 11am, 12:30pm	

Tenebrae Responsories – Sunday March 20, 4pm@OLS – free admission

You are invited to join the Victoria Scholars as they present Msgr. J.E. Ronan's masterful 'Tenebrae Responsories'. The sorrow of Holy Week is conveyed in this beautiful service of readings and solemn, noble music intended to help us all "Prepare the way of the Lord".

Rosary Group – mornings after 9am Mass; Fridays, 2pm, above Running Room

"The family that prays together stays together" –Patrick Peyton, C.S.C. ("The Rosary Priest")

Stretch & Flex – \$10/session – Bring water & a yoga mat – Tues., 6:15–7:30pm

Takes place in the parish hall; moves to 2nd floor, Running Room, every 3rd Tues./month.

Information Session on Physician-Assisted Dying Ethical & Pastoral Reflections

Join us in our parish hall on Wednesday, March 30 at 7:30pm. OLS parishioner Dr. Christopher De Bono, PhD is a health care ethicist and a pastoral theologian. He will reflect on how the current Canadian context for Physician Assisted Dying or PAD (also called Medical Assistance in Dying) is changing. This information session will do three things. It will:

- ▶ explore what we currently know (and don't know) about these changes;
- ▶ focus on the ethical and pastoral implications of the proposed practices; and
- ▶ explore the kinds of suffering which might make someone ask for PAD in the first place, and reflect on what faith communities might consider when responding to that suffering.

SAVE THE DATE Ministry Day of Reflection – Saturday, September 17

If you are in ministry at OLS (or would like to be) you are invited to attend. Details to follow.

Working wonders in our families...

"The impact that Silent Voice has had on my life as a former camper has given me the opportunity to meet many deaf and hard of hearing children from different backgrounds. Silent Voice has helped me discover who I am in my life and has given me purpose and future goals. As an adult, I want to help other deaf children and youth who are going through difficult times in life. I want to show them that they are not alone and provide them with support and a role model that is really needed in their lives. Thank you, ShareLife!" —Suma, former camper & Silent Voice day program counselor

Last year more than 600 deaf children received support through Silent Voice's Sign Language Summer Camps.



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

"Ten more commandments": 7. When God solves your problems, you have faith in His abilities; When God doesn't solve your problems, He has faith in your abilities.

Assisted Suicide – Protect the vulnerable and those who care for them!

By June 2016, the Government of Canada is expected to pass legislation to legalize assisted suicide. Cardinal Collins encourages Catholics throughout the archdiocese to support the Coalition for HealthCARE and Conscience by visiting www.CanadiansforConscience.ca today. The coalition represents a group of like-minded partners, including 5,000 doctors across Canada, who are committed to protecting conscience rights for health practitioners and facilities. You can use this website to write directly to your Member of Parliament, respectfully expressing your concerns. Given tight timelines for this legislation, please take action no later than April 1. **Thank you for helping to protect the vulnerable and those who care for them!**

Easter Film Classics at the Brentwood Library – 36 Brentwood Road N

▶ **Barabbas** – Tuesday, March 22, 12:30–3pm, Brentwood Program Room
Epic account of the thief Barabbas, who was spared crucifixion when Pilate manipulated the crowd into pardoning him, rather than Jesus. Struggling with his spirituality, Barabbas goes through many ordeals leading him to the gladiatorial arena, where he tries to win his freedom and confront his inner demons, ultimately becoming a follower of the man who was crucified in his place. Cast: Anthony Quinn, Harry Andrews, Arthur Kennedy, Katy Jurado, Silvana Mangano. 1962 - 134 minutes – Rated PG. **First Come, First Seated.**

▶ **The Robe** – Wednesday, March 23, 2–4:30pm, Brentwood Program Room
The Robe is a testament to the faith of early Christians. It is the story of the robe Christ wore at the Crucifixion, and the effect it had on the lives of a Greek slave, a Roman nobleman, and the troubled Roman tribune who won the garment in a dice game. Cast: Richard Burton, Jean Simmons, Michael Rennie, Victor Mature. Based on the novel by Lloyd C. Douglas. 1953 - 143 minutes – Rated G. **First Come, First Seated.**

Music and Readings on Good Friday – Tenebrae Service – March 25, 7:30pm

Enjoy this moving experience, featuring a men's chorus of over 30 voices singing the music of Msgr. John Edward Ronan, founder of St. Michael's Choir School. **Our Music Director, Gordon Mansell will be at the organ.** Bring friends and family with you to St. James Catholic Church (Annette and Jane). **There is no charge for this event.**

Catholic Family Services of Toronto – New Beginnings – Upcoming Events

You are invited to attend the following upcoming inspirational talk which will be held at the Catholic Pastoral Centre, 1155 Yonge St., 4th floor. We gather at 6:30pm. ▶ **Monday, April 18** – "Living with Loneliness"
ALSO The New Beginnings Spring Retreat, entitled, "Nurturing Seeds of Hope in all the Seasons of Life" will take place on Saturday, April 23 at The Franciscan Church of St. Bonaventure, 1300 Leslie Street from 9:30am–3:30pm.



The Annual National Catholic TV Mission 2016

To support the Mission or to get more information please call the National Catholic Broadcasting Council's toll-free number: 1-888-383-6277. "Merciful Like the Father," with Fr. Thomas Rosica, CSB will be broadcast during Holy Week on the following dates/times:
Salt + Light TV – Part 1: Tuesday, March 22 & Part 2: Wednesday, March 23 at 8pm & midnight.
Vision TV – Part 1: Monday, March 21 & Part 2 on Tuesday, March 22 at 6pm & 10pm.

Celebrate Holy Week & Easter with EWTN Rogers channel 239 or Bell 633

Learn more about your faith during the holiest time of the year with EWTN's first-rate movies, documentaries, musicals, children's programs, and much more! Join in the celebration of Mass at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome or at the majestic Basilica of the Nation Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC. Get program details at www.ewtn.com