

The overall structure of Luke's gospel is becoming familiar to us. After his ministry in Galilee, Jesus prepares his disciples for what awaits him in Jerusalem. The incident in today's gospel reading from Luke – also emphasised by Mark and Matthew – initiates the formative relationship Jesus now wishes to enter into with his disciples.

'Who do you say I am?' is a very challenging question. Beyond names and family ties, it concerns the commitments and loyalties that shape a person's identity as their life unfolds. It is challenging, because it invites the one addressed to measure themselves against these commitments. What follows in the gospel narrative makes it clear that this is what Jesus intends as he asks his question of his first followers. And he asks the same question of those in every generation. Jesus invites his disciples to identify with his mission for the life of the world, fully aware of all that this mission involves.

Peter, the leader of the group, gives expression to the momentous awareness that has begun to dawn on them: 'You are the anointed one of God' – the one who will bring fulfilment to all the hopes of God's people. The expectations of the people – of a political leader, who would lead the nation to freedom after centuries of humiliation under occupying powers – were far removed from the real designs of God. Jesus, therefore, accepts the truth of Peter's declaration; but he instructs them to keep it to themselves – lest they give rise to a misguided popular movement. He then proceeds to make clear how different his role is from popular expectations: 'The Son of Man must suffer, be rejected and put to death.' The necessity Jesus speaks of ('must suffer') refers to the evil, destructiveness, selfish and foolishness that disfigures the world; God will not nullify the freedom that belongs to creatures made in God's image; he will overcome the evil that disfigures the world by sharing the lot of humanity in the lost world we have made – so that the Cross, the ultimate expression of humanity's abuse of freedom, becomes the ultimate expression of God's love – the tree of life for a redeemed humanity.

The words of Jesus are addressed to us. Living in a world disfigured by destructive forces that seem impossible to overcome, we are called to give ourselves 'every day', in the concrete circumstances of our lives, to all that Jesus stands for, knowing that it is his life-giving 'cross' that we are taking up with him. And, as we live in unshakeable hope in the Saviour's final victory over all evil, we will come to know the joy implied in his words, 'anyone who loses his life for my sake will save it'. The problem of evil was very real for the people of the Old Testament. Scoundrels prospered; and those who confronted them were made to suffer. Our first reading from the prophet Zechariah, looks forward to a final healing, in which those who suffered for justice will be remembered in awe and reverence: 'They will look upon the one they have pierced'. It is not surprising that this text was seen by New Testament authors as foretelling the saving mission of Christ.



Who do you say I am?

John Thornhill sm
www.themmasseries.com

"If anyone wants to become my follower, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me."
If you think God is calling you to consecrated life, contact Fr. Chris Lemieux
416-968-0997 vocations@vocations.ca www.vocationstoronto.ca

Readings ~ Zechariah 12:10-11 ~ Galatians 3:26-29 ~ Luke 9:18-24

PARISH

Mass Intentions This Week – June 20–26

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

	Intention(s):	Offered by:
Monday, 9am	✠ Ismael Caceres	Delia Urosevic
Tuesday, 9am	✠ members of the Grogan family	
Wednesday, 9am	✠ Gloria & Estrella Navarro	The family
Thursday, 9am	✠ Madeleine Gillin	Jim & Winnie Magee
Friday, 9am	✠ Anthony DiFonzo	The family
Saturday, 9am	✠ Ned Daly	Kathleen Stanley
5:15pm	✠ Josh Haddon	OLS Music Ministry
Sunday, 8am	✠ For the needs of our parish and faithful parishioners ✠	
9:30am	✠ Walter Gray	the Medal family
11am	✠ Domingos Carvalho	the Cairns family
12:30pm	✠ Antoinette Lavecchio	The family

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."

Franciscus

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



Archdiocese of Toronto

Children's Liturgy of the Word going on vacation for July and August!



This program for young parishioners (4–10 years of age) takes place on Sundays at the 9:30am Mass. **The last program before the summer break will be on June 26.**

Stretch & Flex – Join us! – Tuesdays, 6:15–7:30pm @Running Room, 2nd Floor

Only \$10 per session. Bring a bottle of water, a yoga-type mat and wear comfy clothing!

'Final Fridays' Fellowship last Friday of each month, after 9am Mass

Everyone is invited to the parish hall for coffee, tea and breakfast rolls. Take advantage of this special opportunity to get to know your neighbour. **All are welcome... bring a friend!**

Together we are working wonders... ShareLife

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the 2016 ShareLife Parish Campaign. Your generous donation has made a brighter future possible for many of the most vulnerable members of our community. For those who have yet to make a contribution, you are still most welcome to do so. You may drop your ShareLife envelopes in the offertory collection until July 31 or donate online at www.sharelife.org

Thank you for your ongoing generosity! Together we really CAN work wonders!

Travelling this summer? Visit www.massimes.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**

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.



Monthly Mass at Queen of Heaven Catholic Cemetery July 2, 9:30am

Please join us for a special Mass at Queen of Heaven Cemetery, 7300 Highway #27, Woodbridge. The Mass will take place in the St. Anthony Chapel of the Mausoleum. For further information contact the cemetery at 905-851-5822.

Kolbe Eucharistic Mini-Retreat: Celebrating the Year of Mercy – July 2, 2pm

Join us in celebrating the extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy! Enjoy Eucharistic Adoration, prayer, praise & worship. Father Victor Borg, OCD, will give an inspiring talk, "His Mercies are New Every Morning." St. Brigid's Church, 300 Wolverleigh Blvd. Visit www.kolbeapostolate.com