

Concluding the introductory section of Mark's gospel, today's reading further clarifies the nature of the mission Jesus means to share with his disciples. As we have seen, the healings and deliverance performed by Jesus are part of his preaching of the Kingdom, signs that God will triumph over all the forces of evil in the world. This is brought out by Mark, as he recalls and contrasts two moments of healing.

There are practically no details in the gospels of the family circumstances of the apostles. The account of the curing of Peter's mother-in-law is therefore remarkable. It is generally accepted that Mark composed his gospel in Rome about the time of Peter's martyrdom. If this is true, Peter's telling of the story of Jesus would have been an important source of his material. In this incident we may well hear echoes of Peter's voice describing a sequence of events. Peter brings Jesus from the synagogue to his home for a meal; they are surprised to find the old lady ill with fever; Jesus heals her instantly by taking her hand and helping her up; fully recovered she gives herself to the service of the Lord.



Let us go elsewhere, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came

As we have seen, 'Who is this man?' is the subtext of Mark's narrative. There is no doubt that Jesus worked miracles. Miracles, as we all know, have an unhealthy fascination for many people. Mark is concerned that his readers are not carried away by the fact that Jesus was a wonder worker. They must understand that the miracles of Jesus were signs inviting faith in the coming of God's salvation into the world. True faith in the Saviour will come, in the end, to understand that the greatest wonder in the life of Jesus of Nazareth was the salvation he brought to the world as its crucified Saviour. Thus, as Mark's narrative continues, we hear echoes of how Peter began to learn this lesson at the end of the eventful Sabbath Mark has described.

By evening, word had spread that there is a miracle worker in town. People came crowding around Peter's door, bringing their sick and 'possessed' for healing. Jesus responded to their appeals; but in his silencing of the 'devils who knew who he was' we are reminded that these people still have to learn who he is. In the morning there was consternation when Peter and his companions find that Jesus was nowhere to be found. 'Everyone is looking for you', they protest, disappointed that he has not made the most of this instant notoriety. Later they will recognise that Jesus was concerned to lead the people beyond the wonders he worked to a renewed faith in the coming of God's Kingdom – the great theme of the solitary prayer he shared with his Father. This could only be achieved by his preaching the message of the Kingdom. And so the ministry he was about to undertake 'all through Galilee' would combine his 'preaching' and his 'casting out devils'.

John Thornhill'sm
www.theemmausseries.com

Jesus created much excitement in His day through His preaching, teaching, and healing. Today, the Church communicates that same wonder and grace by those active in priesthood, religious life, and lay ministries.

If you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious, or permanent deacon, contact Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocations Director, Archdiocese of Toronto 416-968-0997 vocations@archtoronto.org www.vocationstoronto.ca

Readings ~ Job 7:1-4, 6-7 ~ 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23 ~ Mark 1:29-39

PARISH

Mass Intentions This Week — February 5 — February 11

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

	Intention(s):	Offered by:
Monday, 9am	✚ Manuel Soler	family
Tuesday, 9am	✚ Ingeborg Dowrick	Irena Sintal
Wednesday, 9am	Cole Fleming	Irene Gilligan
Thursday, 9am	✚ Jose Caceres	sister
Friday, 9am	✚ Ricardo Diaz	family
Saturday, 9am	✚ Edna Loscerbo	Tess Resznetnik
5:15pm	✚ Sara Assalone	Vince & Angie Assalone
Sunday, 8am	☞ Celebrated for the needs of all members of our parish family ☜	
9:30am	✚ Grace Budway	Innis & Gordon Mansell
11am	✚ Guerard family	Rena & Denis Guerard
12:30pm	✚ Richard Sintal	family friend

Reminders for Sacramental Preparation

FIRST COMMUNION SESSION 1 (Children Only) - Choose **ONE** of the following sessions to attend: Sunday, February 25 (2:30pm-3:15pm) OR Monday, February 26 (6:30pm-7:15pm), Parish Hall

CONFIRMATION SESSION 3 FOR GROUP A (Last name A-M) — Choose **ONE** of the following sessions to attend: Sunday, February 25 (3:45pm-5:00pm) OR Wednesday, February 28 (6:45pm-8:00pm), Parish Hall. **Note: Parents are requested to participate in the first 10 minutes of the meeting.**

Liturgy of the Word for Children — All children (4-10 yrs) are welcome to participate in this program during the 9:30am Sunday Mass. Children go as a group to the parish hall after opening prayers to hear the Liturgy of the Word from the Children's Lectionary and discuss the Gospel message at their level of understanding. Please note that access to the hall is through the west glass-in-stairwell.



SUMMER CAMP AT OUR LADY OF SORROWS—July 15-20, 2018

Making plans for summer? Our Lady of Sorrows is offering a new program called Totus Tuus. Children and youth parishioners are invited to a fun-filled, faith nurturing summer camp. Time away from the regular routine of life, in a loving community, with opportunities to grow emotionally, spiritually and socially is a wonderful gift for any child. The program offers a one-week summer camp broken down into two sessions: Day Program (8:45am-2:30pm) for students in Grades 1-6 and Evening Program (6:45pm-9:00pm) for students in Grades 7-12. Interested? Email totustuus@sorrows.ca.

Movie Time at OLS: The War Room — Sunday, February 11 at 2:30pm, Parish Hall

The "War Room", is a compelling drama with humour and heart that explores the power that prayer can have on marriages, parenting, careers, friendships, and every other area of our lives. **The movie is a vivid reminder that prayer is a powerful weapon.** Rated PG - thematic elements throughout; some materials may not be suitable for children. **Admittance is Free.** Hotdogs, popcorn and drinks will be available for a minimal cost. Proceeds will go to the 2018 ShareLife Campaign. Mark your calendars and see you at the movies!



Our Lady of Sorrows Church introduces beeswax votive candles -

We have introduced some pure Canadian-made beeswax votive candles to our sanctuary. Beeswax candles emit negative ions to purify, cleanse, improve air quality and invigorate the body. Beeswax candles are: environmentally friendly; safe; non-toxic; 100% natural, chemical-free (no carcinogens) and burn cleanly with little smoke eliminating residue. Although more expensive and thus smaller than paraffin candles, the special characteristics and liturgical significance of pure beeswax candles improve the atmosphere in the church for all who enter.

COMMUNITY

Christian in the Middle East Exhibit — February 3 & 4, Our Lady of Sorrows Parish Hall "A People, A Face, A Newness in Everyday Rubble"

This exhibit captures stories of Iraqi and Syrian Christian refugees through glimpses of their lives in different locations in refugee camps in Amman, Jordan. The exhibit is an effort to share their stories and their witness of faith with a wider audience. The hopes is that these witnesses can illuminate our own experience as Christians, it can move us to examine the role of faith plays in our lives and open us to the possibility of encountering a Presence and a newness in the everyday rubble. **Free event. All are welcome. Guided tour available after each Mass.** Visit www.exhibitcme.com for more info.

Pancake Tuesday — February 13, 5-7pm, Parish Hall

Advance tickets only—no tickets sold at the door, in response to last year's exceptional support of this event. **Tickets go on sale this weekend, Feb. 3 & 4 after all Masses. Tickets: Adults \$10; Children (6-12 yrs old) \$5. Children under 6 Free** (must be accompanied by parents) **Ticket includes: 4 pancakes, 3 sausages & a drink.** Extra tickets can be purchased for those wishing larger servings. Proceeds will go to the 2018 ShareLife Campaign.

Volunteers Needed in shifts from 3-8pm: cooks, servers and helpers. If you are able to help, volunteer forms are available at the back of the church. If you have any questions, contact the parish office at olosorrows@bellnet.ca or 416 231 6016.

Living with Christ Anyone interested in having a personal copy of the monthly Living with Christ Missalette,

subscription forms are available at the back of the church. Fill out the form and return with your payment to the parish office **on or before March 15, 2018.** For each new subscription, Novalis will donate \$10 to our parish (or \$2 for subscription renewals). Funds raised will benefit OLS 2018 ShareLife Campaign.

New CTS Booklets have arrived - Visit the book stall at the back of the Church to see the newly arrived booklets from the Catholic Truth Society. These pamphlets have been helping Catholics understand, live, and share their faith more deeply since 1868. Cost: \$5/booklet.

Lectio Divina : The Human Condition (Sirach 17:1-32)

Feb. 4 at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica
Vespers (evening prayer) at 7pm followed by Lectio Divina from 7:30pm-8:15pm. All are welcome! Visit www.archtoronto.org/lectio

Mary, Mother of God Lecture Series — Wednesday, Feb. 7, 7pm
Charbonnel Lounge, Elmsley Hall, St. Michael's College, University of Toronto
Can one write as a Catholic in 2018? Does it matter? As part of its *Seeing More...* lecture series, Mary, Mother of God School, in collaboration with St. Michael's College, University of Toronto, has invited: Prof. Randy Boyagoda, Prof. Janine Langan, Alexandra Newman, & Prof. Stephen Tardif to explore these questions. Please join the discussion! Donations welcome. Call for more details 416 531 7897.

Celebration of Marriage Mass — Feb. 11, 3 p.m.

As part of Marriage Sunday 2018 celebrations, Bishop Robert Kasun will preside at a special Mass to honour couples celebrating milestone anniversaries in 2018. If you (or a couple you know) are celebrating a 25th, 40th, 50th or 60th+ wedding anniversary this year, they are invited to join in this special celebration. The Mass will take place at 3 p.m. on Sunday, February 11 at Blessed Trinity Parish (3220 Bayview Ave., North York). A reception will follow. All are welcome to attend - couples celebrating milestone anniversaries are asked to register online to ensure reserved seating. Registration and other important information can be found at: www.archtoronto.org/marriage or by calling 416 934 3400 x 523.

VOCATION DISCERNMENT with the Daughters of St. Paul — Sunday, Feb. 5, 3-8pm (Niagara Falls, NY (Buffalo))

Young adults 18-35 are invited. Topic: "Using Theology of the Body to Discern & Live your Vocation" Email Sr. Helena at srhelenaburns@gmail.com for more details.

Spirit of the Renaissance Concert—Sunday, Feb. 25, 7:30pm, Our Lady of Sorrows Church
Come and join the Victoria Scholars as they present "Spirit of the Renaissance". Experience the emotionally colourful music of their namesake Tomas Luis de Victoria, as well as the sublime music of Allegri, Byrd, Josquin, Palestrina, Tallis and other Renaissance masters. Tickets (Adult \$30, Seniors/Students \$25) available at the door from 7:00pm. For more information visit www.victoriascholars.ca