

**MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS
FOR LENT 2017**

"The Word is a gift. Other persons are a gift"

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Lent is a new beginning, a path leading to the certain goal of Easter, Christ's victory over death. This season urgently calls us to conversion. Christians are asked to return to God "with all their hearts" (Joel 2:12), to refuse to settle for mediocrity and to grow in friendship with the Lord. Jesus is the faithful friend who never abandons us. Even when we sin, he patiently awaits our return; by that patient expectation, he shows us his readiness to forgive (cf. Homily, 8 January 2016).

Lent is a favourable season for deepening our spiritual life through the means of sanctification offered us by the Church; fasting, prayer and almsgiving. At the basis of everything is the word of God, which during this season we are invited to hear and ponder more deeply. I would like to consider the parable of the rich man and Lazarus (cf. Lk 16:19-31). Let us find inspiration in this meaningful story, for it provides a key to understanding what we need to do in order to attain true happiness and eternal life. It exhorts us to sincere conversion.

(for full text go to http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/len/ documents/papa-francesco_20161018_messaggio-quaresima2017.html)

A Simple Plan to Spiritual Growth this Lent:
Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving



"Living the Gospel" by supporting ShareLife Agencies...

As we begin our ShareLife campaign, we are encouraged to "Live the Gospel," in all that we do. How do we demonstrate that in our community? Living the Gospel may mean helping single mothers to care for their newborn children, or being available to families facing difficulties, or welcoming refugee families to our community. Over the past forty years, countless individuals have experienced this compassionate care offered by our agencies; as an archdiocese we continue to demonstrate our Catholic commitment to serving the needs of the greater community and around the world. Please help us celebrate our ShareLife's 41st anniversary by supporting our annual Archdiocesan appeal during this Lenten season.

~ Thomas Cardinal Collins, Archbishop of Toronto

**Sunday April 2nd is ShareLife Sunday.
Please give generously.**

Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit into the desert for forty days of prayer and fasting. Are you open to being led by the Holy Spirit into the life-commitment God has prepared for you?

If God is calling you to serve him as a priest, deacon, brother or sister, contact Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocations Director, Archdiocese of Toronto. 416-968-0997 vocations@vocations.ca www.vocationstoronto.ca

PARISH

Readings ~ Genesis 2:7-9, 16-18, 25; 3:1-7 ~ Romans 5:12-19 ~ Matthew 4:1-11

Mass Intentions This Week — March 6 — March 12

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

| | Intention(s): | Offered by: |
|----------------|---|-----------------------------|
| Monday, 9am | ✠ Ted McConvey | Connie DeWitt |
| Tuesday, 9am | ✠ members of Mahoney Family | |
| Wednesday, 9am | ✠ Don Sbrolla | family |
| Thursday, 9am | ... of Fr. Marcin Rosinski | Anna Baj |
| Friday, 9am | ... of Brody Senior and family | Anne & Dave Rieger |
| Saturday, 9am | ✠ Geri Ploskonka | Teresa Strejczyk and family |
| 5:15m | ✠ Ruza Dosen | Cairns family |
| Sunday, 8am | ✠ For the needs of our parish and faithful parishioners ✠ | |
| 9:30am | ✠ David and Julia Sutherland | family |
| 11am | ✠ Doris Vogtle | Jeannette |
| 12:30pm | ✠ Janina Krol | family |

Reminders for Sacramental Preparation

Confirmation Session 3B, Sunday, March 19, 4-5:30pm, Parish Hall OR Wednesday March 22, 7-8:30pm, Parish Hall

First Reconciliation and First Communion Reflection for Parents & Children Sunday, March 19, 2-3pm Church & Parish Hall OR Thursday, March 23, 7-8pm Church & Parish Hall At these sessions, Fr. Nino will lead a reflection for children and their parents in preparation for the celebration of First Reconciliation and Communion.

OLS LENTEN DAY OF CONFESSION - Saturday, April 1 from 9:30am-5:00pm



Find your way back to the sacrament of Reconciliation. Priests will be available to hear confession in the church from 9:30am-5:00pm. Prayerfully prepare to participate in this healing sacrament of reconciliation. Visit www.archtoronto.org/confession

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Celebrated each Friday of Lent at 7:30pm in the Church Parishioners are encouraged to make a spiritual pilgrimage of prayer, through meditating upon Christ's suffering and death.



OLS ALTAR SOCIETY — The OLS Altar Society would like to invite new members to join the team. An altar society is a group of laypersons in a parish church who keep the altar beautiful. This includes dusting, changing the altar cloths when required, washing small altar linens, replenishing the candles and keeping the sacristy tidy. We meet every Thursday after the 9:00am Mass. Interested? Contact the parish office at 416 231 6016 or email olosorrows@bellnet.ca.



SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY: Beyond the Box . . . Turning Concern into Action!



The Saint Vincent de Paul Society invites the Parishioners of Our Lady of Sorrows to an open house on **Sunday, March 12 that will run from 9am to 2pm, 2nd floor, Running Room**. If you've ever wondered how the Parish's generosity is applied in real and meaningful ways to help our neighbours in need, or considered volunteering for the Society, please join us at your leisure anytime during the hours of this event.

Stretch & Flex — Tuesdays, 6:30pm-7:30pm, 2nd floor of the Running Room Come and enjoy gentle stretching, gain an awareness of breathing and embrace relaxation. \$10 per session. Bring a yoga mat, bottle of water and wear comfy clothing.

COMMUNITY

Join the "Call for Conscience" — February 6 — March 31, 2017

Now that Canada has legalized assisted suicide/euthanasia, did you know that doctors in Ontario are forced to provide direct referrals for patients seeking to end their lives? Doctors who object feel a direct referral is akin to being an accomplice to assisted suicide. No foreign jurisdiction in the world that has legalized euthanasia/assisted suicide has forced health care workers or facilities to act against their conscience. Visit www.CanadiansforConscience.ca to learn more, join the "Call for Conscience" and to write directly to your Member of Provincial Parliament asking them to protect conscience rights. **TAKE ACTION. Join us in the parish hall after all Masses this weekend to sign letters to the MPPs.**

VICTORIA SCHOLARS CONCERT — TODAY, March 5 at 7:30pm. Join the Victoria Scholars at Our Lady of Sorrows Church as they present "Canadian Scholars". The Scholars celebrate Canada's 150th with the music of this great nation in an all-Canadian content concert. Admission \$30, Seniors/Students \$25. Tickets available at the door. Doors open at 7:00 pm.

St. Augustine Seminary: Come and See Weekend - March 17 to 19

We are hosting a Come and See Weekend for men 18 years and older at St. Augustine's Seminary from Friday, March 17 at 7 p.m. to Sunday, March 19 at 1:30 p.m. This weekend offers a way for men to discern a possible call to priesthood at our seminary. For more information, please call 416 968 0997 or email vocations@archtoronto.org.

AUTISM WORKSHOP — Thursday, March 9, 7-8pm, 2nd floor, Running Room

Do you know someone with autism who is starting school? Join us to learn how to navigate the school system. Conducted by Anne Carol Sharples, author of The Parents Guide to Autism who will speak about the importance of preparing and educating yourself on the following topics: 1) The intake procedure for children with exceptional and special needs; 2) the special education process at the TCDSB; 3) tips for transition. RSVP at Eventbright.ca, search for Anne Carol Sharples.



2017 BACH WALK — The Kingsway Celebrates Johann Sebastian Bach's 332nd Birthday. Join us on a walk to three Casavant organs to learn more about these fine instruments. On **Saturday, March 18**, the Royal Canadian College of Organists and Gordon Mansell will present the organs of the Kingsway. First stop, All Saints Kingsway with a performance by Stefani Bedin at 1:00pm. The second visit will be to Kingsway Baptist Church for a 2:00pm performance from Mel Hurst & Michelle Cheung with guest singers. The organ crawl will end at Our Lady of Sorrows with a 3:00pm performance by our own assistant organist, Manuel Piazza. A splendid birthday cake in the OLS parish hall will top the afternoon off. This is a FREE event and all are welcomed. For more information, please contact Gordon Mansell at gdmansell@sympatico.ca

Spiritual Warfare Lenten Retreat with Rev. Charles Anang — Saturday, March 25, 9:30am-2:30pm (includes Mass in the seminary chapel), St. Augustine's Seminary of Toronto. Cost: \$50 (lunch included). Register at www.staugustines.on.ca or call 416 267 207 ext. 235.

Celebrate Your Marriage with a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend!

Worldwide Marriage Encounter is a weekend getaway that helps married couples rediscover themselves as individuals and as a couple. A Weekend of discovery . . . a lifetime of love! March 17-19 (Queen of Apostles Renewal Centre, Mississauga). Go to www.wme.org or contact Gerard & Marge McCauley at gerard.marge@rogers.com or at 905 792 1925.

Taize Prayer Invitation : "So you had not the strength to keep awake with me for one hour"? LK. 26:40. The Presentation Brothers & The Franciscan Friars of the Atonement invite you to a **TAIZE PRAYER SESSION** on Wednesday, March 29th at 6:30 p.m., The Friary, 5 Laxton Avenue (Queen & Lansdowne). Light refreshments will be served. You are invited to bring a non-perishable item for the Missionaries of Charity. Call 416 537 0327.