

## From the desk of.....

This Sunday we celebrate the feast of the Presentation of the Lord where we reflect on Joseph and Mary taking the child Jesus up to the temple. To help us understand the feast, we go back to the Mosaic Law. "According to the Mosaic Law, a mother had to remain at home for forty days after the birth of a son." These were the days of purification following childbirth. In bringing the child to the temple, Joseph and Mary would have to offer two turtle doves, one for purification and the other for thanksgiving. They would also have to "buy back" their first born son for five shekels.

In following these prescriptions of the law, they would encounter Simeon, "an elderly prophet in Jerusalem to whom it had been revealed that 'he would not see death before he had seen the Christ' (Lk 2:26). After labouring in the temple for his entire life, Simeon was rewarded with the gift of beholding Christ with his own eyes." In receiving the Christ child into his arms, Simeon gives thanks to God.

Another figure they would encounter is the prophetess Anna. As the sacred author relates, Anna was an 84 year old widow who was only married for seven years. After her husband passed, she dedicated her life to worshipping God through prayer and fasting. She too, upon seeing the Christ child, began to praise God and spread the news about Him to those that she would meet.

For us as well, when we labour and sacrifice for the greater glory of God, the reward is to see Him and receive Him in heaven. When we are tempted to despair and to close our hearts to the creative and dynamic power of God because of the challenges and hardships of being a disciple, labouring in Christ's vineyard, we are to remember that joy and peace in Heaven as our reward.

*Fr. Michael*

## CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

CWL members, membership dues for 2020 are now being accepted. Please remit your membership dues as soon as possible, using the blue envelope from your 2020 envelope box. Put your membership dues envelope into the regular collection basket at any weekend Mass.

Regular members: \$28.00, Seniors (65+): \$25.00

CWL National appreciates your prompt payment of your dues!

The Catholic Women's League welcomes all Christian women, aged 16+, to our Council. Like to know more? Please drop into any of our meetings. We accept new members at any time. Call if you have questions 905-822-6795.

Barbara Barringer, President.

## BLESSING OF THROATS

On Monday, February 3, the Memorial of St. Blaise, the traditional blessing of throats will take place after the 9:00 am Mass.

## COFFEE SUNDAY

Join us in the parish hall, after the morning Masses this Sunday, February 2, for friendship and refreshments.

## FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTION FEBRUARY 7, 2020

9:00 am Mass followed by Adoration

3:30 pm Benediction and Reposition

6:30 pm – 6:45 pm Confessions

7:00 pm Mass followed by Adoration

9:00 pm Benediction and Reposition

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS JOHN PAUL II COUNCIL # 11955

\*\*\* SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE DINNER \*\*\*

"All You Can Eat" Pancake Dinner | Tue Feb 25 at 5:30 pm  
Save the date in your calendar, and plan to join the Knights for the Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner.  
Pancakes & Sausages will be served with Juice, Coffee & Tea.  
All donations will go to charity.  
More information is posted on all church bulletin boards.

## KofC Lottery Tickets | NOW ON SALE

The Knights of Columbus are conducting their annual lottery, benefitting the Special Olympics of Ontario, The Arthritis Society & local charities.

Tickets are \$5 each. Generous participation is encouraged for fabulous prizes. Hope to see you on the winning side !!

## SSVP

Donors should receive their 2019 tax receipts in the next few weeks. Thanks!

## SHARELIFE

### PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING (PAG)

Parishioners who participate in our parish's Pre-Authorized Giving Program (PAG) will soon receive a letter from ShareLife. If you are not currently making your ShareLife gift via PAG, you are encouraged to sign up. And, if you already use PAG for ShareLife, please consider increasing your gift to help those who rely on your generous support.

## COMMUNITY MEAL

Every Friday at 5 pm in the Parish Hall. All are welcome.

**LINKS TO FAITH**

**FEBRUARY 2, 2020**

**WEEK 5 – ENCOUNTERING CHRIST**  
**– SACRED HEART MAJOR SEMINARY**

“The great artist Caravaggio captured a moment in time when Matthew the tax collector had a life changing encounter with Jesus Christ. We need such an encounter with Jesus, not only at the beginning of our faith journey, but as an ongoing experience throughout our lives. I would like to invite you to join the distinguished faculty of Sacred Heart Major Seminary on a Lenten journey as we explore how we encounter Christ in Word, Sacrament, and in the daily events of our lives.”

To sign up for this free online 6 week course from Sacred Heart Major Seminaries beginning on March 2, click on Links to Faith at the bottom of the parish homepage: [www.stmarystarofthesea.ca](http://www.stmarystarofthesea.ca) and select [Week 5 – Encountering Christ – Sacred Heart Major Seminary](#)

**WORLD DAY FOR**  
**CONSECRATED LIFE**

The Church will celebrate the World Day for Consecrated Life on Sunday, February 2, 2020. Please pray for all those who have made commitments to the consecrated life and be sure to thank them on their special day. May they continue to be inspired by Jesus Christ and respond generously to God's gift of their vocation.

**CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE**

**MASS WITH CARDINAL COLLINS**  
**FEBRUARY 9, 2020 – 3 PM**

As part of Marriage Sunday 2020 celebrations, Cardinal Thomas Collins will preside at a special Mass to honour couples celebrating milestone anniversaries in 2020. If you (or a couple you know) are celebrating a 25th, 40th, 50th or 60+ wedding anniversary in 2020, you are invited to join in this special celebration. The Mass will take place at 3 p.m. on Sunday, February 9 at St. Isaac Jogues Parish (1148 Finch Ave., Pickering). A reception will follow Mass. The Mass is open to all, but due to space restrictions, those wishing to attend are asked to register online or by phone. Milestone anniversary celebrants will be assured of reserved seating.

Registration and other important information can be found at [www.archtoronto.org/marriage](http://www.archtoronto.org/marriage) or by calling Ella Okonkwo at (416) 934-3400 ext. 523.

**WHERE THERE IS A WILL,**  
**THERE IS A WAY**

Have you remembered St. Mary Star of the Sea Church in making your will? By doing so, you can be part of the continuing ministry of your parish, even after you have gone to your eternal reward.

**THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY'S**

**SATURDAY 1ST**

10:00 am Mass - †Gavin Carton  
 Requested by the family  
 Followed by Devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Help  
 10:30 am Confessions  
 5:00 pm Mass - †Sid, Tarcisio, Caterina Marchiori  
 Requested by Maria and family

**SUNDAY 2ND**

9:00 am Mass - †Erma & Guido Barbisan  
 Requested by Franca & Rino Barbisan  
 11:00 am Mass – For the People of the Parish  
 1:30 pm Baptism (*Church*)

**MONDAY 3RD**

9:00 am Mass - †Pio Bizzotto  
 Requested by Lucia Bizzotto  
 7:00 pm Society of St. Vincent de Paul Meeting (*Hall*)

**TUESDAY 4TH**

NO MASS  
 7:00 pm Choir Practice (*Church*)  
 7:00 pm RCIA Meeting (*SJR*)  
 7:00 pm CWL Executive Meeting (*Hall*)

**WEDNESDAY 5TH**

10:00 am Craft Group Meeting (*SJR*)  
 6:30 pm Confessions (*Church*)  
 7:00 pm Mass - Friends and family  
 Requested by the Fietta family  
 7:45 pm Legion of Mary Meeting (*SJR*)

**THURSDAY 6TH**

9:00 am Mass - Special intention of Benny Lobo  
 Requested by the family

**FRIDAY 7TH**

9:00 am Mass - †Deceased members of the Galea and Spiteri families  
 Requested by the family  
 Followed by Adoration  
 3:30 pm Benediction and Reposition  
 5:00 pm Community Meal (*Hall*)  
 6:30 pm Confessions  
 7:00 pm Mass - †Erma Barbisan, Requested by the Ushers  
 9:00 pm Benediction and Reposition

**SATURDAY 8TH**

10:00 am Mass - Special intention of Emily Lobo  
 Requested by the family  
 Followed by Devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Help  
 10:30 am Confessions  
 5:00 pm Mass - †Giuseppe Tedesco  
 Requested by the family

**SUNDAY 9TH**

9:00 am Mass - For the People of the Parish  
 11:00 am Mass - †Deceased members of the Lucato and Di Segna families  
 Requested by Louise Lucato and family  
 12:30 pm Bible Study (*Church*)