

From the desk of.....

Many of us will remember World Youth Day here in Toronto in 2002. Around the parish, there are still many monuments to remind us of those days of grace. For me, it was the first time that I can remember making a pilgrimage and I didn't even have to leave the city. The theme for this World Youth Day was taken from today's Gospel, *Salt of the Earth, Light of the World*. It would be the last World Youth Day for our beloved Pope St. John Paul II. We heard from the mouth of the future saint that he loves us and he was encouraging us how we as young people are to be Christians for this third millennium by being salt and light for this world. That message has not left me, for if we as Christians live out our mission as salt and light for the world, we will accomplish the task that is given to us: to build up, brick by brick with Our Lord the city of God within the city of man.

Since the message of my homily last week focused on being lanterns for Christ's light as joyful witnesses, in my message this week, I will focus on the image of salt.

Salt is an everyday household substance that has many functions. It is used in cooking to preserve food. It is our task in building up, brick by brick with Our Lord the city of God within the city of man "to preserve and keep alive the awareness of the presence of our Saviour". We can achieve this by our faithful celebration of the Sacraments especially the Sunday Eucharist and regular confession. In being spiritually nourished and cleansed by Our Lord, we are able to spread the good news to our neighbour at home, at work, at school about what Our Lord is doing for us.

Another function of salt, especially in cooking is to enhance the flavours of food. It is our task in building up, brick by brick, with Our Lord the city of God within the city of man, "to improve the taste of human history". We can achieve this by living virtuous lives by being men and women of faith, hope and love...by living out temperance, fortitude, justice and prudence.

To build, brick by brick with Our Lord the city of God within the city of man, is no easy task. We can easily be burdened and lose the joyful witness becoming "sour faced saints." We should fight the temptation to become complacent or robotic in our good works, doing them as if we're on autopilot. Instead, we should strive to be intentionally joyful and light-hearted as we serve Christ and His Church being open to the creative and dynamic power of the Holy Spirit.

Fr. Michael

SEAMSTRESS REQUIRED

We are looking for a seamstress to sew vestments and nativity garments for children for an Early Catholic Family Life program we will be running in the spring. We have the patterns. Please call the church office if you can help!

FUNERAL RECEPTION MINISTRY

In times of loss and grief, the support of family and friends becomes a hidden consolation. Many come to the Church to seek that support, and we as their family ought to find ways to support them. One way of supporting those grieving at the time of the funeral is to offer our assistance if they are looking to have a reception in the hall. We are looking for men and women who are able to volunteer their time and talent to help with funeral receptions. If you are interested, please call or email the parish office.

MARIAN PILGRIMAGE

Fr. Michael Simoes will be the spiritual guide to the Marian shrines of Portugal, Spain and France. The pilgrimage will be 12 days from 2-13 October 2020. Please see the poster on the bulletin boards around the Church and pick up a brochure at the doors of the Church for further details.

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.

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.

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!

COMMUNITY MEAL

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

LINKS TO FAITH FEBRUARY 9, 2020

WEEK 6 – A BEGINNER’S GUIDE TO EUCHARISTIC ADORATION – CAITLIN SICA

“Go to adoration, even if it’s just for 5 minutes. Jesus desires to be with you, to have you gaze upon Him, as He so lovingly gazes upon you..... Here’s a list of 5 ways to be successful in adoration.” Make this your New Year’s resolution – to attend adoration each month – it isn’t too late!

To read this article from the LifeTeen website, click on Links to Faith at the bottom of the parish homepage: www.stmarystarofthesea.ca and select [Week 6 – A Beginner’s Guide to Eucharistic Adoration – Caitlin Sica](#)

DANCING FOR THE COMPASS

Dancing for The Compass was a big success on Saturday January 25. It was a sellout with over 250 people attending! \$2,395 was raised through the raffle and a total of \$5,915 can be turned over to The Compass. The food and raffle were kindly sponsored by Raymond James Ltd. Thank you for your support of this great community fundraiser!
Peter Toller

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY’S

SATURDAY 8TH

10:00 am	Mass - Special intention of Emily Lobo Requested by the family
Followed by 10:30 am	Devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Help 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 (<i>Church</i>)

MONDAY 10TH

9:00 am	Mass - †Florian Fernandes Requested by the family
7:00 pm	SSVP Mass
Followed by 7:30 pm	SSVP Peel Particular Council Meeting (<i>Hall</i>) Knights of Columbus Executive Meeting (<i>SJR</i>)

TUESDAY 11TH

NO MASS	
7:00 pm	Choir Practice (<i>Church</i>)
7:00 pm	RCIA Meeting (<i>SJR</i>)

WEDNESDAY 12TH

10:00 am	Craft Group Meeting (<i>SJR</i>)
6:30 pm	Confessions (<i>Church</i>)
7:00 pm	Mass – Special intention of Shantie Toolsie Requested by Lyette Alley
7:45 pm	Legion of Mary Meeting (<i>SJR</i>)

THURSDAY 13TH

9:00 am	Mass - †Mrs. Mathri Paul Kannampuzha Requested by the Kannampuzha family
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FRIDAY 14TH

9:00 am	Mass - †Ricardo & Mary Barbisan Requested by Leo & Mary Barbisan
5:00 pm	Community Meal (<i>Hall</i>)

SATURDAY 15TH

10:00 am	Mass - †Ricky Cassolato Requested by mom and dad
Followed by 10:30 am	Devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Help Confessions
5:00 pm	Mass - †Alberto & Stella Severin Requested by the family

SUNDAY 16TH

9:00 am	Mass - †Alan del Puerto Jr. Requested by the family
11:00 am	Mass - For the People of the Parish