

From the desk of.....

I once heard in a lecture that to know someone is not to study them intensely and then to be a scholar about them, but to know someone in the truest sense is the self-revelation of that person to you. This is how we enter into relationships. Most especially the one we have with God. Today, we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany of Our Lord which is traditionally celebrated on January 6th. The word epiphany derives from the greek word which means "to manifest" or "to make known." What we celebrate with this feast is that God has made himself known to us. He has revealed himself to us because he desires to enter into a relationship with us.

In various ways, God had made himself known to the Jewish people. But today, in reflecting on the Gospel narrative of the wise men, the Magi, who had come from the east to the Infant Saviour's crib explains to us the fullness of God's plan of salvation. God did not just want to be in a relationship with the Jewish people, he wanted to be in a relationship with all nations. Secondly, the fullness of this relationship with his people is through worship. The Jewish people were set free from Egypt to worship God. The Magi came to the crib to worship the Infant Saviour.

When we come to Mass, we come to worship God. We have been chosen by God, set free from the bonds of sin through baptism to worship Him. We process to the altar to worship our Lord and God who is really, truly and substantially present in the Blessed Sacrament. When we worship, we are not to get anything out of it, but offer something. We see with the Magi offering the Master of the Universe their most precious and important gifts. So it is with us. We too must offer our best to God: our time, our talent and our treasure.

Throughout this new year, make a good resolution to offer your best to God. It is in giving that we receive, and what we receive is eternal life.

Fr. Michael

COFFEE SUNDAY

Join us in the parish hall after the morning Masses this Sunday, January 5, 2020 for friendship and refreshments.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

JOHN PAUL COUNCIL II

THANK YOU FROM THE KNIGHTS

The Knights thank all parishioners for their ongoing support in 2019. With the money we raise at our various events, we are able to support many worthy causes in our local community and beyond.

In 2019, our council supported: St Vincent de Paul, Community Meal, The Compass, Right to Life Mississauga, Vita Centre, KofC Christian Refugee Relief Fund, Canadian Food for Children, Special Olympics Ontario, and two bursaries for graduating high school students at our parish!

We are blessed to live in this great community, and we wish you and your families all the best for a very happy and grace-filled New Year.

COMMUNITY MEAL

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

EXCITING

NEW FAMILY MINISTRY **COMING TO ST. MARY'S**

Do you want to connect with like-minded parents in a welcoming and supportive environment? Do you want to learn the best in child development and how to teach the Faith? Do you want to deepen your relationship with your child? Then, join us for Early Catholic Family Life (ECFL), a new program that St. Mary's will be piloting in the Archdiocese of Toronto. ECFL welcomes families with children 0-5 years old. Its sessions facilitate parent-child interaction, parent discussion time and children's learning time.

We are excited to bring this opportunity to our community in the spring and fall of 2020 and hope that you will join us!

PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING (PAG)

In response to changing lifestyles and demands on time, we are offering the Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG) program. If you would like to donate to the Church, or find out more about the program, please pick up a brochure from the tables at the side exits of the Church.

UPDATE FROM FATHER NEIL

It was on the 24 December last year that I had surgery for a bowel obstruction. This was followed by a hip replacement surgery on July 22 after the first surgery collapsed. Since then the rehabilitation has been progressing and I hope to be fully ambulatory (without using a cane) soon.

I want to thank you the parishioners of St. Mary Star of the Sea for all your love and prayers over the course of the past year. To Father Michael and to all of you: Have a joyful Christmas and may the God who is Love keep you and all those you love close to his heart and preserve you in his friendship and peace.

Forever grateful for blessings received,

Father Neil

LINKS TO FAITH – JAN. 5, 2020

WEEK 1 – 8 (SPIRITUAL) NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS FOR CATHOLICS – GRETCHEN FILZ

“January is here again, and it's time to make the annual New Year's resolutions. Every Catholic should add to their list a few spiritual resolutions designed to help them walk higher up that mountain of faith. Let the freshness of a new year be your impetus to make new strides in your walk with God! There is no time but the present! Here are some ideas.”

To read this article from the GetFed website, click on Links to Faith at the bottom of the parish homepage: www.stmarystarofthesea.ca and select [Week 50 – 8 \(Spiritual\) New Year's Resolutions for Catholics – Gretchen Filz](#)

INFORMATION SESSION TO SUPPORT THE TRANSITION OF CHILDREN WITH DIFFERING ABILITIES INTO DUFFERIN-PEEL CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD IN SEPTEMBER 2020

The Special Education and Learning Services department is hosting an information session for families of children with differing abilities who are transitioning into the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board in September 2020. The information session will be held at the Catholic Education Centre, 40 Matheson Blvd. West, Room 301 on Wednesday, January 29, 2020 from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. Snow date, Thursday, January 30, 2020 from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. Families are asked to contact their local school or visit www.dpccdsb.org for additional information and for a list of required registration documents.

Dancing for The Compass returns for a 13th year to the Port Credit Legion (upstairs), 35 Front St. N. on Saturday January 25 2020. Doors upstairs open at 7:00 pm and dancing from 8:00 pm to 12:00 am. The ticket price for this fundraiser is \$25/person and \$30 at the door. Please contact the church office or phone Peter Toller at 905-274-6131 to order your tickets. It will be a fun night of 50s and 60s music with the local 8-piece band, Little Peter and the Elegants. A light buffet will be served. Fabulous raffle prizes!!

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY'S

SATURDAY 4TH

10:00 am Mass - †Lucy Lobo
Requested by the family
Followed by Devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Help
10:30 am Confessions
5:00 pm Mass - †Ricardo, Tarsila, Gini Campagnolo
Requested by the family

SUNDAY 5TH

9:00 am Mass - †Albert Di Biattista
Requested by Franca & Rino Barbisan
11:00 am Mass - For the People of the Parish

MONDAY 6TH

9:00 am Mass - †Mr. & Mrs. W. S. Gladysz
Requested by the family

TUESDAY 7TH

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

WEDNESDAY 8TH

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

THURSDAY 9TH

9:00 am Mass - In thanksgiving
Requested by the Tesoro family

FRIDAY 10TH

9:00 am Mass - †Jeannine Gorman
Requested by Gloria Jardine
5:00 pm Community Meal (Hall)

SATURDAY 11TH

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

SUNDAY 12TH

9:00 am Mass - †Joseph Wosik
Requested by the Wickett family
11:00 am Mass - For the People of the Parish
12:30 pm Bible Study (SJR)
1:30 pm Baptisms (Church)