

From the Administrator's desk.....

In a month and specifically this weekend where many are thinking about St. Patrick's Day and how they are going to celebrate the great missionary saint, many often forget about St. Joseph. It is rarely talked about, but the month of March is dedicated to St. Joseph and his most chaste heart. We celebrate his solemnity on March 19th in the church calendar as he is both the principal patron of Canada and the patron of the universal Church.

Recently, trying to learn more about St. Joseph, I found myself reading an article from the Catholic Herald by Michael Warren Davis entitled "Why we should take St Joseph as our role model this Lent". In it, Davis notes that the solemnity of St Joseph will always fall during Lent and that is not a coincidence. In his life of faithfulness and chastity, St. Joseph also exemplified the interior life and could be considered the first Christian Mystic.

We learn from Sacred Scripture that St. Joseph does not say a word. In all the major events surrounding the incarnation of the Son of God, he remains silent. Last week, I emphasized the importance of this silence and solitude in our prayer life in order to grow closer with God and draw strength from Him to resist temptation. This week, through the example of St. Joseph, we learn that we can incorporate silence into our prayer life when we are praying with Sacred Scripture.

Here you can imagine, as St. Ignatius invites us to do when praying with Scripture, St. Joseph contemplating both Our Lord and Our Lady at meal times. You can imagine St. Joseph teaching the child Jesus the trade of carpentry. You can imagine St. Joseph dying in the arms of both Our Lord and Our Lady. Through the silent and prayerful reading of Sacred Scripture, we grow closer to Our Lord and Our Lady.

Ite ad Joseph. Go to Joseph. This Lent, as a family, spend some time with the Scriptures in silence prayerfully reading the word of God. St. Joseph, pillar of families, pray for us.

Fr. Michael

THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS!

National Volunteer Appreciation Week
April 7 – 13, 2019

We celebrate the many volunteers who contributed enthusiasm, energy and countless hours to create a culture of giving in our parish communities.

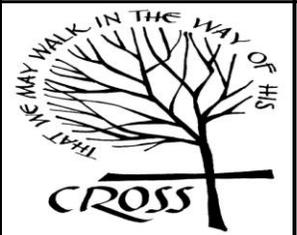
Our volunteers give their time, talents, and experience to benefit our communities without expecting anything in return.

We are grateful for our volunteers who dedicate their time serving others.

ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Please join us for the Stations of the Cross, led by the Legion of Mary, at 7:00 pm on Friday, March 22, 2019.



CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

LENTEN RETREAT

Women of the Parish are invited to join the CWL members for a morning of Lenten prayer and reflection on Saturday, March 23rd, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 pm in the Church Hall. Please call Anne Marie Munden 905-916-1220 or Cathy Griffin 905-278-6290 to register. CWL members must also register.

CWL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday March 20th CWL General Meeting at 1:00 pm in the Church Hall. All ladies (members and non-members) are welcome.



SPIRITUAL BOUQUET FOR FATHER NEIL

As a way to let Father Neil know that the parishioners of St. Mary Star of the Sea are praying for him, we would like to present him with a spiritual bouquet. If you wish to participate by offering rosaries, remembrances at Holy Mass, Holy Communions, visits to the Blessed Sacrament, Novenas, or acts of penance please indicate your intention on one of the sign-up sheets found at all exits of the Church.

SSVP – FEBRUARY REPORT



During the month of February, our members made 19 home visits and distributed \$1820.90 of grocery and Salvation Army store vouchers and bus tickets. We thank you for your ongoing support. Please pray for the poor.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

John Paul II Council # 11955

Stations of the Cross | Fri Apr 05 at 7:00 pm
Led by the Knights – we look forward to your attendance.

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 !!

KARAOKE NIGHT

SAVE THE DATE

That's right! St. Mary's will have its first ever Karaoke Night on Sunday, May 5 from 7 - 8:30. This is a family event, and all ages are welcome. Snacks provided. Start working on your routine!

SL ShareLife

You can work wonders!

Living the Gospel by helping young mothers

Anika became a mother at the age of 19. Soon after, her fiancé became increasingly controlling. Feeling isolated, she reached out to a ShareLife agency called Rose of Sharon. She and her son attended almost every program offered, including one called Healthy Relationships. Anika realized she didn't have to tolerate her partner's behavior. Rose of Sharon helped her find an affordable apartment so she and her son could move out. "I never thought I could make it on my own," says Anika. "But with the help of Rose of Sharon, here I am doing it."

March 31 is ShareLife Sunday
Our goal this year is \$136,500
Please give generously

LINKS TO FAITH **MARCH 17, 2019**

WEEK 10 – MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS **POPE FRANCIS FOR LENT 2019**

"May our Lent this year be a journey along that same path, bringing the hope of Christ also to creation, so that it may be "set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the glorious liberty of the children of God" (Rom 8:21). Let us not allow this season of grace to pass in vain! Let us ask God to help us set out on a path of true conversion."

To read Pope Francis' message for Lent 2019, click on Links to Faith at the bottom of the parish homepage: www.stmarystarofthesea.ca and select [Week 11 – Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for Lent 2019](#)

LENTEN RETREAT: MARY IN **THE HEART OF THE CHURCH**

LED BY FR. CHARLES ANANG

St. Augustine's Seminary's Institute of Theology and Lay Spiritual Formation Program presents a workshop/retreat on Saturday, March 30, 2019 from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm (including Mass) at St. Augustine's Scarborough campus. Cost is \$50 including lunch. Registration: www.staugustines.on.ca

LENTEN MORNING **OF REFLECTION**

FRIDAY, MARCH 22, 2019 – 9:30 TO 11:30 AM
AT ST. CHRISTOPHER'S PARISH

We welcome Fr. Bill Burns, a retired priest of the Archdiocese of Toronto, on Friday, March 22nd for a Lenten morning of reflection. The event will begin morning Mass with coffee in the parish hall. All seniors and anyone who would like to spend a morning of prayer and relaxation are welcome.

COMMUNITY MEAL

Every Friday. Doors open at 5 pm and dinner served at 6:45 pm. All are welcome.

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

SATURDAY 16TH

10:00 am Mass – Special Intention of Deacon Steve Barringer
Requested by Pushpa & Benny Lobo
Followed by Devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Help
10:30 am Confessions
5:00 pm Mass – For the People

SUNDAY 17TH

9:00 am Mass – †Alan del Puerto Jr.
Requested by the family
11:00 am Mass – †Patrick Hummel
Requested by Isabelle Hummel
2:00 pm Bible Study (SJR)
Knights of Columbus Sunday Brunch after the 11:00 am Mass

MONDAY 18TH

9:00 am Mass – †All Souls in Purgatory

TUESDAY 19TH

NO MASS
7:00 pm Choir practice (Church)

WEDNESDAY 20TH

10:00 am Craft Group Meeting (SJR)
1:00 pm CWL General Meeting (Hall)
7:00 pm Mass – †Alberto Severin
Requested by the family
7:45 pm Legion of Mary Meeting (SJR)

THURSDAY 21ST

9:00 am Mass – †Geraldine Boudreau
Requested by Alberta Melanson

FRIDAY 22ND

9:00 am Mass – Special intention of Neyla & Bill Revill
Requested by friends of the family
5:00 pm Community Meal (Hall)
7:00 pm Stations of the Cross led by the Legion of Mary (Church)

SATURDAY 23RD

10:00 am CWL Lenten Retreat (Hall)
10:00 am Mass – Special Intention of Kenny Lobo
Requested by the family
Followed by Devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Help
10:30 am Confessions
5:00 pm Mass – For the People

SUNDAY 24TH

9:00 am Mass – †Mary Dennis
Requested by Lan & Bela Thassy
11:00 am Mass – †Angelina & Frank Bottone
Requested by the family