

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

SUNDAY MARCH 13, 2016

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Kathleen Angus, Christopher Chiu, Angeline Nazareth, Bob Hustins, Cleo Savoie, Elizabeth Wong, Anne Sequeira, Philip Selvanayagam, Vincent Marshall, Johanna Kambeitz, Sheila Steaman, Edward Hamel, Raquel Pinto, Joseph Yu, Anne Canagasuriam, Hua Ling Liu, Harry Ramadhin, Johnny Luu, Sean Shanahan, Eric Maddan, Erwin Ishmael, Stephanie Graham, Aston Wong and Anthony Hsueh

PRAY FOR THE DEAD: Louis Wong and for those who have no one to pray for them.

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION will be the weekend of March 20. The children who are celebrating the Liturgy of the Word together will be part of the entrance procession at the Sunday noon Mass.

ADDITIONAL CONFESSIONS FOR HOLY WEEK will be following the evening Mass on Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week, Holy Thursday from 6:30-7:30, Good Friday from 10:00-10:45 and following the Stations of the Cross, and Holy Saturday from 10:00-10:45 and from 4:00-5:00.

HOLY THURSDAY MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER will be at 8:00 p.m. (no noon Mass). There will be a free will offering for Canadian Food for Children.

GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY OF THE PASSION will be at 12:00 noon and 3:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross will be at 7:30 p.m. The Good Friday collection is for the needs of the churches in the Holy Land.

GOOD FRIDAY IS A DAY OF FAST AND ABSTINENCE from meat for Catholics between 14 and 59 and who are in good enough health to participate. Those who suffer illness should join their sufferings to the Passion of the Lord for the good of the Church.

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA begins Good Friday at 11:00 a.m. and continues Holy Saturday (11:00), Easter Sunday (after the noon Mass) and weeknights following the evening Mass. See poster.

THE SOLEMNITY OF THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD this year will be transferred from March 25 to April 4.

ANNUAL MASS FOR ST. PATRICK'S DAY will be at St. Paul's Basilica, 83 Power St., Toronto, on Thursday, March 17 at 10:00 a.m. with Bishop Boissonneau presiding.

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION will be celebrated by our Regional Bishop, His Excellency, Bishop Wayne Kirkpatrick, on Sunday, April 4 at 3:00 p.m. Candidates and their sponsors should gather in the parish hall by 2:30. Photos may be taken in the parish hall AFTER the ceremony.

THANKS TO ALL VOLUNTEERS WHO SERVE OUR PARISH AS CATECHISTS for the children who are preparing for First Confession and First Holy Communion and the candidates for Confirmation. Also thanks to those who have been working with adults through the R.C.I.A. and those facilitating our Symbolon presentations.

CARDINAL COLLINS' STATEMENT about proposed legislation on physician-assisted was included in last week's bulletin. He is encouraging Catholics throughout the archdiocese to visit CanadiansforConscience.ca and support the Coalition for HealthCARE and Conscience. The coalition represents a group of like-minded partners, including 5,000 doctors across Canada, who are committed to protecting conscience rights for health practitioners and facilities. You can use this website to write directly to your Member of Parliament, respectfully expressing your concerns. Given tight timelines for this legislation, please take action no later than April 1, 2016.

ALL PARISHIONERS SHOULD BE REGISTERED and are asked to support the parish and the needs of the Church by using Sunday Offertory Envelopes and making up for any absence during vacation. New parishioners are asked to register in the parish office.

A HOLY YEAR OF MERCY began on December 8 and will continue until the end of the Liturgical Year. Pope Francis announced the Year of Mercy in a Bull of Indiction which may be read at <http://www.im.va/>

JUBILEE OF MERCY IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO – Following the opening of the Holy Doors of papal basilicas in Rome, the doors of mercy in churches throughout the world will also welcome pilgrims. Designated churches in the Archdiocese of Toronto will be St. Paul's Basilica, St. Patrick's (Toronto), Merciful Redeemer (Mississauga), St. Anthony (Bramalea), St. Patrick's (Brampton), St. Theresa's Shrine (Scarborough), and Martyrs' Shrine (Midland). To obtain a plenary indulgence pilgrims should receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist and recite the Creed and pray for the intentions of the Holy Father (one Our Father and one Hail Mary).

SYMBOLON IN OUR PARISH – Symbolon: The Catholic Faith Explained is an exciting 20 part series that is presented in our parish every Tuesday from 8:00-9:00 p.m. and will continue until May. Symbolon open up the "big picture" of the Catholic faith in a way that helps us know it, live it and articulate it to others. This week's session will present: The Sacraments: Baptism and Confirmation. For more information please call Philomena Bong (647)460-7932, or visit www.symboloncatholic.org

OUR 2016 PARISH SHARELIFE CAMPAIGN GOAL this year has been set as \$106,000.00 while the Archdiocese of Toronto is hoping to raise \$13.2 million to support the good work of the 42 Catholic agencies that help the whole community throughout the year. ShareLife gives us an opportunity to practice the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. The three ShareLife parish collection dates are today, March 13, April 17 and May 29. There are three envelopes in your box of Sunday Offertory Envelopes and additional envelopes at the entrance of the church. Donations may also be made on-line. Together we are making a difference. Together we can work wonders.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT – SHARELIFE SUNDAY- SUNDAY MARCH 13, 2016

Working wonders by providing vital life-restoring needs....

“Agencies are lifesaving and life-restoring to those who regularly rely on them. Families are working through crises and are healing. People with developmental challenges are supported as they experience a sense of self-worth and fulfillment in their daily activities. Seniors are living independently, yet have access to the social services and care they need. Refugees and new Canadians are guided toward a stable, productive livelihood in their newfound home. Sometimes the results are obvious and sometimes they’re invisible but, always, they make a tangible difference. Please prayerfully consider today how you can support ShareLife.” - Thomas Cardinal Collins, Archbishop of Toronto.

Today is ShareLife Sunday – March 13, 2016 Please give generously. You can work wonders!

WALK-IN COUNSELLING at Catholic Family Services York Region (21 Dunlop St., Richmond Hill) on Mondays and Tuesdays from 1:00-9:00 (www.ccsyr.org)

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

What am I racing after in my life? Fame? Fortune? A life in Jesus? What is the prize I seek at the finish-line? If you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, contact Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Toronto 416-968-0997
email vocations@archtoronto.org www.vocationstoronto.ca

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION for York Region Catholic District School Board schools begins in January at your local Catholic school. For more information www.ycdsb.ca/admissions

ALTAR SERVERS – Boys as young as grade 4 who would like to become Altar Servers should contact Fr. Andrews to begin preparation. This involves a serious commitment and support from parents.

CANADIAN HEARTS AND HANDS is looking for volunteers from our parish to assist at the following projects on Sundays in the GTA: St. Vincent’s Kitchen in Oshawa, Happy Hour at Tendercare Living Centre in Scarborough, Good Shepherd Centre and Good Neighbours Club in downtown Toronto. Thanks to Les Rodrigues and the many volunteers who have been working with people on these projects. For more information check www.canadianheartsandhands.ca or contact Les Rodrigues l_s_r_3@hotmail.com

PROVIDE A MEAL is a monthly opportunity for the people of our parish to bring a frozen shepherd’s pie which will be picked up by the Good Shepherd Centre and provide a meal for those in need. The empty containers are available for pick-up the first weekend every month and the donated pies are collected in our freezer the second weekend every month. Thanks to many parishioners who have been participating for years to help meet the needs of the homeless. For more information contact: Philomena Bong (647)460-7932

OUR PARISH PRAYER GROUP WILL PRAY FOR YOUR INTENTIONS if you could write out your requests for particular intentions and place them in the box located near the statue of our patron, St. Thomas the Apostle.

BUNDLE SUNDAY FOR THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL will be the weekend of April 3. Let us work together to fill the truck with shoes and clothing for those in need.