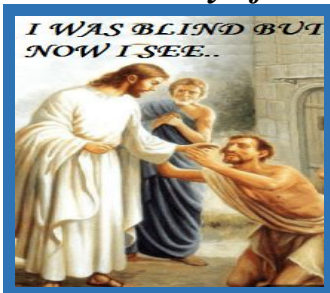


Fourth Sunday of Lent



From The Desk of Fr. Dunstan: The Fourth Sunday of Lent is called "Laetare" Sunday. "Laetare" means "Rejoice". It is the same as the Third Sunday of Advent before Christmas which is called "Gaudete" Sunday which signifies the nearness of the Lord's coming. The Church invites us two times during the liturgical year to rejoice and be joyful - the first time, in Advent with the reminder of Jesus' first coming and with the hope of his second coming a (Parousia) - the second time, in Lent, with the hope of the resurrection and eternal life. It is a break or a bit of a breather in the middle of the seasons from the penitential characters of prayer, fasting and almsgiving (charity) to rejoice. This idea was taken from Isaiah chapter 66:10-11, inviting everyone to be joyful with expectation to the solemnities of Christmas and Easter.

Each Liturgical season has its own colour. During Advent and Lent, the liturgical colour is purple or violet. However, these two joyful Sundays, the colour is pink or rose, which signifies the reason to rejoice amidst the penitential moment with the hope of obtaining the rewards. We can see also that the priest wears pink/rose vestments (chasuble), flowers particularly 'rose' may be used to decorate the altar, and even in the ancient days, there was a papal tradition of the blessing of golden roses to be sent to Catholic heads of state in Europe to encourage the evangelization.

As we have forty days of waiting with prayer, sacrifices, and sharing of love towards Easter (Paschal Mysteries of our Lord Jesus), the Church wants us to rejoice, without losing our hope in the middle of our penitential acts. With this boost, by changing the color and by placing some flowers at the altar, it signifies we have made it half way through and just another half way to go to meet Jesus, "Do not lose your heart and move forward full of hope".

Dear friends in Christ, let us rejoice and be glad and be ready to face the Holy Week that is coming soon, surrendering ourselves completely to die for our sins and to rise for new life that Jesus gave through his suffering, death, and resurrection.



God our Father, you generously grant us all the gifts we have. Help us to understand that it is in the giving that we receive. Thank you for making a gift to your Parish.

| | 2019 | 2023 |
|------------------|---------|---------|
| Sunday Offertory | \$ 4861 | \$ 3100 |
| Offertory PAG: | \$ 1110 | \$ 1421 |



Pope's Monthly Intentions for March
For victims of abuse.
We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.

Mass Intentions

Monday, March 20th, 2023

For + STUART MICHELI

Requested by Kathy, Katie, & Michael

Tuesday, March 21st, 2023

For + DIANE GRIBBEN

Requested by The Gribben Family

Wednesday, March 22nd, 2023

For + ELEONORA CARNEMOLLA

Requested by The Rose Family

Thursday, March 23rd, 2023

For + LELIA BRADY

Requested by Jane Madigan

Friday, March 24th, 2023

For INTENTIONS OF CATHERINE CHANG

Friday, March 24th, 2023

For + FILOMENA & MANUEL MEIRELES

Requested by John & Maria Meireles



Rest in Peace

*In your charity please pray for
the repose of the souls of*

Mary Pennell & Patricia Gesner



*The Sanctuary Light burns this week
in loving memory of*

Edmond Valin Sr.

Please Pray For The Sick

Jacob McLean, Carl D'Sousa, Joan Tierney, Amanda
Finlay, Diane Meldrum, Jack Lees, Carmel Richard

Lent & Easter Schedule

Fridays of Lent

4:30 pm - Stations of the Cross

Confessions

Saturdays - 3:45 pm to 4:15 pm

Thursday, March 30th - 5 pm to 6 pm

Palm Sunday Masses - Usual Weekend Mass Times

Holy Thursday - April 6th

8:15 am - No Mass

7:00 pm - Mass of the Lord's Supper & Eucharistic Adoration

Good Friday - April 7th

8:15 am - No Mass

12 noon & 3:00 pm - Liturgy of the Word - Communion Rite

7:00 pm - Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday - April 8th - 8:00 pm - Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday Masses - April 9th - 9:00 am & 11:00 am

Easter Monday - April 10th - 8:15 am

In The News

NEW BEGINNINGS IN PERSON GRIEF SUPPORT

SESSION: Join us on March 30th at 7 pm at St. Peter's R.C. Church, 100 Bainbridge Woodbridge, to share discussions with others in a safe, welcoming and non-judgmental forum. Topic: Spring Grief: Opening up and Closing down. For more information, contact Arcangelo Limanni, MRE as alimanni@cfstoronto.com, 647.215.3978

SECURITIES AS A CHARITABLE GIFT OPTION: One of the most financially sound ways to support your parish is with the gift of securities (stocks, bonds, mutual funds). When you donate stocks, mutual funds and other securities to a registered charity, you pay no capital gains tax and receive a tax receipt for the full amount of the gift. It means a great tax break for you and support of your Parish and various archdiocesan charities such as ShareLife, St. Augustine's Seminary, The Shepherds' Trust, and many others. For further information, contact the development office at 416.934.3400 Ext. 519 or email to development@archtoronto.org.

"MASS ALIVE. YES, MASS REALLY ALIVE!": When we Catholics want to pray together, we go to Mass. But the Mass can become so routine, it can become boring. What happens at Mass that could make us choose to want to go again and again? Come and reflect on how the Mass could stay fresh, relevant, and nourishing for us. Join us at Manresa for this reflection day open to men and women, on Monday, March 27 – 9 am to 3 pm. Facilitated by Fr. Robert Foliot, SJ. REGISTER: manresa-canada.ca, registration@manresa.ca, or 905.839.2864

MASS OF CELEBRATION TO WELCOME ARCHBISHOP

FRANCIS (FRANK) LEO: The Mass of Installation will be livestreamed through www.stmichaelscathedral.com/live and broadcast on Salt & Light Catholic TV and through their website: www.slmedia.org. Parishioners are invited to attend a regional Mass of Welcome taking place in the Central Region on Tuesday, April 11, 2023 at Blessed Trinity Parish, Toronto at 7 pm. A reception will follow the Mass in the parish hall. All are welcome. Please continue to keep Archbishop Leo in your prayers as he begins his ministry as our shepherd.

"OPENNESS TO CHRIST'S WORDS: A Path of encounter and conversion". Join us from Friday March 24th to Sunday the 26th at Manresa Jesuit Retreat for A silent Ignatian weekend retreat for women and men. Allow the Holy Spirit to open your hearts to the Divine Grace which transforms, restores and re-creates. Facilitated by Fr. Jean Francky Guerrier, SJ. To register manresa-canada.ca, registration@manresa.ca, or 905.839.2864



VOCATIONS: "We must work the works of Him who sent me while it is day." Are you being called to a life as an ordained or a consecrated person? If God is calling you to serve him as a priest, deacon, brother or sister, contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416.968.0997. Email vocations@archtoronto.org www.vocationstoronto.ca

Parish News

ST. JOSEPH SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED

VIRGIN MARY MASS: Come celebrate the Mass of The Solemnity of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary with us here at St. John's this Monday March 20th at 8:15 am.



Because of your kindness and generosity, ShareLife agencies annually help more than 150,000 people. Your gift has: Funded programs for 2,500 individuals with special needs and their families - enabled 23,000 people to receive affordable mental health care - helped over 2,300 seniors receive dignified care -helped 5,000 newcomers to Canada receive language, employment, and housing assistance - invested in our Church's future by supporting the formation of 58 seminarians at St. Augustine's Seminary and Redemptoris Mater Missionary Seminary in the 2022-2023 academic year. And many, many more. Thank you for living the Gospel by providing for those in need!

Next week, March 26th is *ShareLife Sunday*.

Our Goal - \$76,300.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: St. John Children's Liturgy program resumes next weekend March 26th. As a reminder, Children's Liturgy runs most Sundays during the 9 am Mass. All school aged children from Kindergarten to Grade 3 are invited to attend. The children are called to the front of the church after the opening of the Mass and proceed to the church hall, where they participate in a discussion and activity based on the Gospel reading. The children return to sit with their family before the offertory.

CWL: HEALING MASS: A traditional Mass during Lent with a focus on healing as opposed to curing. Through prayer and meditation it helps us to find healing in any form: physical, emotional or spiritual. The choir will provide the music for this special Mass at 7:30 pm on Thursday, March 23.

BAKE SALE: Lent friendly loaves of homemade Irish Soda Bread will be sold in the vestibule after all Masses next weekend! Regular loaf \$5, large loaf \$8 cash sales. Limited number but orders can be placed!

KOC 50/50 DRAW: in support of Ontario Food Banks and the Special Olympics tickets are now on sale. Next draws - April 1st with Main Draw April 30th. Tickets are 15 for \$10, 40 for \$20 or 100 for \$40 for each quarterly draw. Select the name and number "Scarborough Beaches 7008" or go to <https://ontariokofofaffle.5050central.com/?olc=7008>.



Please remember the St. Vincent de Paul poor box as you exit the church.

Little Levity: King Arthur and his men were planning the meeting of all the knights. "We should have a round table where all the knights can sit equally" said Sir Lucas. "And who will build this round table" said King Arthur. "Maybe we can ask Sir Cumference? He will also bring his wife Lady Di of Ameter, and their son Radius as well?"

Peace begins with a smile.....Mother Teresa