

Living the
Gospel



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FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

"My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor." (Cf. Psalm 24.15-16)



Week Three | Return: Lent with Fr. John Burns

Fr. John Burns reflects on the practice of fasting to return to the Lord. In Lent, we are reminded that we

are not alone. Christ walks with us every step of the way to bring us into communion with the father. How will you unite your suffering to Christ's this Lent? To watch, please visit FORMED. To register for FORMED, for FREE, go to: www.formed.org and enter the Parish Code: FVT2H9.

Announcements

1. As we approach Easter, we will have many guests visit our parish. In order to accommodate them and parishioners who are not accustomed to giving using PAG or credit cards, we will pass the basket on Palm Sunday weekend, during Holy Week and on Easter weekend. For your own convenience and to assist the parish during the rest of the year, we continue to encourage you to sign up for PAG or give by credit card on the parish website. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

2. The Young Adults at Holy Rosary are planning to pray and reflect on the Stations of the Cross on March 9th, 2024, across the churches on St. Clair Ave W. We will start at 10:15am at Holy Rosary Church and then walk westward to churches along the street. Please RSVP to youngadults@holyroary.ca by March 4th so that pamphlets can be printed accordingly.

3. Stations of the Cross – Every Friday through Lent (March 1, 8, 15, & 22) at 6:30 PM followed by Mass at 7:00 PM. Pray along with us on your mobile by scanning the QR code.



4. Lenten Evening of Confessions will be held on Tuesday, March 12th from 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM.

5. The MARCH Food of the Month donation is **LARGE (FAMILY SIZED 1 KG) JARS OF PEANUT BUTTER**. With rising food costs, the Foodbank is serving record numbers of clients (approximately 1200 people per week). In order to ensure that the Foodbank can continue in future years we need the financial support of the community. On behalf of the clients, volunteers at the COTH Foodbank, thank you for your support.

6. Dear Parishioners, we are Humber College Nursing Students, and in our continued collaboration with the Out of the Cold Program, we will be presenting on medication management and valuable local pharmacy services. We are seeking donations of Pill boxes, Hygiene products, Sunscreen, and common pre-engraved Medical ID bracelets, available at various pharmacies. Boxes will be set up at the Church entrance for the donations. We welcome you to join us on Saturday, March 16th, 2024, at 11 AM in the Holy Rosary Parish Hall. Thank you for helping to make a positive impact on accessible health!

7. Toonie Sunday for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SSVDP) will be held **next weekend, March 16th and 17th**. SSVDP asks for your generosity to help support the most vulnerable in our community. Thank you for your support.



8. Embark on an unforgettable journey at Totus Tuus Summer Camp! Dive deep into the richness of your

faith while having a blast with friends. From engaging activities to interactive lessons, every moment promises excitement and growth. Join us and make this summer an experience to remember! Start from \$100 per child. For more information, visit www.totustuustoronto.ca or contact the Parish Office.

The Day Program (Gr. 1-6) runs from July 22-26, 2024 (9:00 AM – 2:30 PM). Kids will Learn and grow their Catholic faith in a fun and interactive way through songs, games, prayer, Scripture and the Sacraments.

The Evening Program (Gr.7-12) runs from July 21-25, 2024 (6:45 PM – 9:00 PM). Teens will deepen their relationship with Jesus through discussions, fellowship, prayer, Scripture and the Sacraments.

9. This Lent, please consider giving to Aid to Women. For over 35 years, Aid to Women has operated as a Christian, volunteer-based charity that offers pro-life options and practical help to pregnant women, enabling them to choose life for their unborn children. We provide counseling, material items, emotional, spiritual, and financial support for mothers in need. We are currently in need of people to pray, volunteer, help financially, or offer material donations (infant car seats, strollers, diapers, wipes, and clothes (newborn to 2 years). Donations can be made online at www.aidtowomen.ca For more information or if you are interested in volunteering, please contact us at 416-921-6016 or at info@aidtowomen.ca.

March 10th, 2024

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, March 11, 2024

12:10 pm. Jolan Horvath (+)
Requested By: Klara

Tuesday, March 12, 2024

12:10 pm. Michael Robert Ward (+)
Requested By: Gladys Lavilla-Ward

Wednesday, March 13, 2024

12:10 pm. Tracey Daunheimer-Bruni (+)
Requested By: Cathy Feghali

Thursday, March 14, 2024

12:10 pm Joseph (+)
Requested By: Maria Zelia

Friday, March 15, 2024

12:10 pm. Margaret Gasso (+)
Requested By: The Feghali Family

Multiple Intentions:
Holy Souls in Purgatory

6:30 PM Stations of the Cross
7:00 pm. Fr. Joseph Kwok Cheung (+)

Saturday, March 16, 2024

9:00 am. Intentions of the Blessed Virgin Mary and in reparation for all sins committed against her Immaculate Heart

5:00 pm. Cheslava Kirebko (+)
Requested By: The Family

Sunday, March 17, 2024

Fifth Sunday of Lent

8:00 am. Primitivo Dagulo (+)
Requested By: Mary Joyce Dagulo

10:00 am. Holy Rosary Parishioners

12:00 pm. Cesario Fabro (+)
Requested By: The Fabro Family



Please remember in your prayers those who are sick, especially: Betty Dempsey, Anthony Verombeck, Mario, Edward Haggarty, M.M. Mackenzie, and Jamie.



The Pastor's Reflection

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life." (John 3:15)

Dear brothers and sisters in the Lord:

On this Fourth Sunday of Lent, the Gospel focuses on a hidden dialogue between Nicodemus and Jesus. Nicodemus is a Pharisee and leader of the Jews, most likely a member of the Sanhedrin. From a Catholic perspective, he would have been similar to a cardinal at the Vatican. All eyes would have been on him. Jesus is performing many signs and preaching with an authority never before seen or heard. John tells us he comes to Jesus at night out of fear of being noticed by the other religious authorities. He is afraid of what they will think of him. The Evangelist is also telling us that Nicodemus is still in spiritual darkness. He needs the Holy Spirit in order for him to be "born again" (Jn 3:3). He cannot enter the "Kingdom of God" unless he first gets baptized (Jn 3:3). It is only then that he will come to understand the truth of Jesus Christ.

Jesus tells Nicodemus that "as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life" (Jn 3:14). In the Book of Numbers, the sacred author recounts how the Israelites sinned against God by constantly complaining about their lack of sufficient food and water. They failed to trust in Divine Providence. Consequently, they were punished through the arrival of fiery serpents which bite the people and ultimately killed them (cf. Num 21:4-9). As a consequence of their repentance, God commanded that Moses put a serpent on a pole and have everyone who had been bitten look upon it for healing. The thing that caused their death was now the very thing that caused their healing!

"God, who is rich in mercy," sent Jesus to die for our sins (Eph 2:4). Those of us who look upon Christ Crucified with repentant eyes will be forgiven of our sins because he came "not to condemn but that the world might be saved through him" (Jn 3: 17). Look upon the Lord and be saved! Look upon the wounds Jesus accepted out of love for us and repent! Hide yourself in those wounds and pray that the Sacred Blood that flowed from them will wash you clean and renew your spirit! Like the "princes of Judah, the priests and people" of old, we too have been unfaithful to the Lord (2 Chr 36:14). That is why we fast, pray, and give alms during Lent. That is why we make an extra effort to go to Sacramental Confession before the arrival of Holy Week. We ask him to wash away the dirt from our souls so that we can be found clean and ready to do the "good works" God wants from each one of us! (Eph 2:10).

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