

# Living the Gospel



"We believe that every human being is unique and priceless. We hold that human life must be respected at every stage of its development from the first mysterious moment of conception to the declining days of advanced age."

— Archbishop Philip Francis Pocock,  
A Declaration on Behalf of Life, March 19, 1976

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## *St. Marguerite d'Youville Parish*

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## FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT



<b>MON, MAR 23</b> 9:15 am	Honorato Bettencourt †; Paula Crisostomo †; In thanksgiving for the birthday of Joseph Aries & Carlotte Rose Medeiros
7:00 pm	Giovanni LePiane †; Joaquina Ernestina Fernandes †; For the intentions of Kyle
<b>TUES, MAR 24</b> 7:00 pm	Clara D'Mello †; In thanksgiving - Doris Pais
<b>WED, MAR 25</b> 9:15 am	Amado Olindan †; Nestor & Clavelina Villarroya †; In thanksgiving for the birthday - Arthur Tan
7:00 pm	
<b>THUR, MAR 26</b> 7:00 pm	Rita & Dilip Manuel Pillai †; Nihal Senewiratne †; Rudolph Mathias †
<b>FRI, MAR 27</b> 9:15 am	For the health and intentions of Ozzy & Hazel Colaco
7:00 PM	Fredrick Goes †; Cristabel De Rosario Maheson †
<b>SAT, MAR 28</b> 9:15 am	Maria & Giovannu Puliciquiccio †
5:00 pm	Alphonsa Camoens †; Gilbert Lambe †; Angelo Mongillo †; Vincent Alarcon †; Joseph Bastiampillai†; In thanksgiving - Alex Charles
<b>SUN, MAR 29</b> 9:00 am	In thanksgiving for the birthday of Jerene Pacelo Ferrer; Margaret lanny †
10:30 am	Luz Marina Sanchez †; Manuel Santos †
12:30 pm	Angelito Olindan †; Juanito & John Elmer Go †; Paciencia, Juan & Ludano Biding †; Deceased mem- bers of the Biding & Go family †; All Souls in Purgatory †; Sixto Viduya †
8:00 pm	

### THIS WEEK AT SMDY

**Monday, March 23rd**  
10:00 am - Stiches from the heart  
7:00 pm - CWL General meeting  
**Tuesday, March 24th**  
1:00 pm - 55 Plus club  
5:30 pm - Legion of Mary - English  
7:00 pm - RCIA  
**Wednesday, March 25th**  
9:00 am - SMDY High-school retreat  
7:30 pm - 9am Choir practice  
**Thursday, March 26th**  
7:30 pm - 10:30am Choir practice  
**Friday, March 27th**  
7:00 pm - EDGE  
**Saturday, March 28th**  
10:00 am - RCIA Retreat  
3:30 pm - Children's Choir practice  
**Sunday, March 29th**  
8:00 am - Legion of Mary - Vietnamese

*Are you willing to offer yourselves to God and bear all the sufferings He wills to send you, as an act of reparation for the sins by which He is offended, and of supplication for the conversion of sinner?*  
- *Our Lady of Fatima, May 13, 1917*

After the angel had prepared the three shepherd children for the extraordinary ensuing encounters, the cited quote was the first question asked by Our Blessed Mother. Clearly, Our Lady initiates the visits by setting a tone of importance and urgency regarding the work of saving souls. In retrospect, the much discussed significance of that pivotal moment set the course of momentous events to come as the weariness of the First World War was only to give way to even greater subsequent conflicts, horrors, and tragedies that up to the present moment seem to leave no person left unimpacted. While the daily recitation of the Rosary, the request to honour the First Saturdays, and Russian Consecration were the proposed means of establishing a necessary course correction and pathway to peace, the pious practice of offering the sacrifice of bearing one's daily cross with patience was emphasized as being one of the more meritorious ways of winning over hearts turned away from Jesus Christ. This deep into the Lenten season and with the Solemnity of the Annunciation liturgically observed this coming week, the question asked by Our Blessed Mother is similarly posed to us all. The manner of how the offering of our sufferings find favour with God and obtain grace for others can best be understood by those who enter into the mystery. Surely, the carrying of one's cross (with all the misunderstanding, ridicule, isolation and ache entailed) conforms us more closely to Our Lord in his agony. This participation in the Passion is not something that can be substituted with a counterfeit forgery – either one has entered into the practice of penance for one's own sins and out of love for others, or the tell-tale marks of selfishness and sloth remain tainted on the soul. While many would prefer to dismiss the high level stakes at hand, Our Blessed Mother points to the ultimate realities of the spiritual battle in which we find ourselves in. May she obtain grace for us to fulfill that which she requests.

### FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



As we draw near to the end of Lent, today's Gospel clearly has Jesus' passion and death in view. That's why John gives us the detail about Lazarus' sister, Mary—that she is the one who anointed the Lord for burial. His disciples warn against returning to Judea; Thomas even predicts they will “die with Him” if they go back. When Lazarus is raised, John notices the tombstone being taken away, as well as Lazarus' burial cloths and head covering—all details he later notices with Jesus' empty tomb.

Like the blind man in last week's readings, Lazarus represents all humanity. He stands for “dead men”—for all those Jesus loves and wants to liberate from the bands of sin and death. If we believe, we will see—that Jesus loves each of us as He loved Lazarus, that He calls us out of death and into new life. By His Resurrection Jesus has fulfilled Ezekiel's promise in today's First Reading. He has opened the graves that we may rise, put His Spirit in us that we may live. This is the Spirit that Paul writes of in today's Epistle. The same Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead will give life to we who were once dead in sin.

*Fr. Roger*

**SHARELIFE CELEBRATES 50 YEARS**



Today is ShareLife Sunday. Special collections will be taking place this weekend on March 22. 2026 marks 50 years since Archbishop Philip Pocock made a bold and compassionate decision that would shape our community for generations: the founding of ShareLife. Building on a legacy of charitable giving in the Archdiocese of Toronto that stretches back to 1927, Archbishop Pocock launched ShareLife in 1976—an appeal rooted in the belief that every life matters, at every stage. Today, his vision lives on through more than 40 ShareLife-funded agencies providing unconditional care to people in need—regardless of religion, background, or circumstance and through people like you who make their work happen.

**VISITORS' ENVELOPES**

We have seen a significant increase in the use of Visitors' Envelopes and would like to remind everyone to please write your information **clearly** on the envelope. If we are unable to read the name and address, the donation cannot be properly recorded, and you will not receive recognition for the contribution.



The same applies to donations made using the Blue Building Fund – HVAC envelopes. If your name is not written clearly on the envelope, a tax receipt cannot be issued. If you have an envelope number, we encourage you to include it as well. Thank you for your cooperation and for your continued generosity and financial support of our Parish community.

**CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE**



Meets on the 3rd Monday of the month from September - June at 7pm. For further information please contact league by email at [cwl.smdy@gmail.com](mailto:cwl.smdy@gmail.com)

JOIN US - *Parish Women's Retreat*, the theme will be Radiant Joy - Living the Abundant Life on Saturday, April 11th, 2026 beginning with Mass at 9:15 am.

**2026 PARISH ENVELOPES**

2026 boxes of Offertory Envelopes are available in the Narthex. Please ensure you pick up your **own** box and that your name & address is correct. If your box is not there or you need to make any changes, or you wish to begin using envelopes fill out an Envelope Request Form and return it to the office.

Reminder: **DO NOT USE ENVELOPES FROM PREVIOUS YEARS!**

**PARISH BOOK STORE**

The Parish bookstore is open in March on the 15th & 29th after all Masses. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Linda at [LYeh@archtoronto.org](mailto:LYeh@archtoronto.org)

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**



The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul is a charitable Catholic organization, active throughout Canada. The work of the society is to assist those in need who live within our parish boundary. If you are in need of assistance please contact the St. Marguerite d'Youville Conference directly at 647-642-4906 or email: [vincentdepaulsmdy@gmail.com](mailto:vincentdepaulsmdy@gmail.com)

**MARRIAGE PREP COURSE**

The Spring Session dates for the Marriage Preparation Course have now been set; the course will be held for 4 consecutive Saturday's May 23rd, 30th, June 6th, & 13th from 12:00pm - 6:00pm. \$250.00 per couple. To sign up, please contact the parish office.



**STAY CONNECTED WITH YOUR PARISH...**

eNewsletter to include:  
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**LENT & HOLY WEEK**



Weekday Morning Mass (Monday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday) Remains at 9:15 am.  
Mass Every Weekday Evening (Monday - Friday) at 7:00 pm.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** will be held each Friday; honouring the Lenten tradition of meditating on our Lord's Passion, Join us for 7:00 pm Mass followed by the Stations of the Cross.

**WEEKEND LENTEN MISSION** - March 21 & 22  
Saturday 5:00pm  
Sunday 9:00 am; 10:30 am; 12:30 pm; 8:00 pm

**CONFESSIONS**

Tuesday, March 24th: 5-7pm  
Wednesday, March 25th: 9:45am-12 & 5-7pm  
Friday, March 27th: 5-7pm

**PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 29TH**

Saturday 5:00pm  
Sunday 9:00 am; 10:30 am; 12:30 pm; 8:00 pm

**HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 2ND**

Mass of the Lord's Supper at 8:00 pm  
Procession of Blessed Sacrament to Altar of Repose with Adoration of Blessed Sacrament until Midnight

**GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 3RD**

10:00 am - Passion of our Lord  
12:00 noon - Passion of our Lord  
3:00 pm - Passion of our Lord  
5:00 pm - Divine Mercy Prayer/Novena  
7:00 pm - The Way of the Cross – Taizé

**HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 4TH**

4:00 pm - Divine Mercy Prayer/Novena  
8:00 pm - Easter Vigil

**EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 5TH**

9:00 am; 10:30 am; 12:30 pm; 8:00 pm  
6:00 pm - Divine Mercy Prayer/Novena

**Divine Mercy Novena – April 6th - 12th**  
at 6pm followed by Mass



Next night:

**FRIDAY, MARCH 20TH FROM 7-8:30PM**

Meet new friends, get connected, and discover what's ahead in our bi-weekly Friday sessions. Registration forms are available in the Narthex and Parish office for Grades 6-8.  
For more information email



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