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Served by the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement

PARISH STAFF

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religioused@joanofarc.ca

Ms. M.J. Ramos
Parish Manager (Ext. 1005)
mj@joanofarc.ca

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Altar Servers
Call the office

Eucharistic Ministers
Catrina Bova

Lectors:
Genia Vanderkruk
10:00AM Choir
Susan McElcheran
Rehearsal: Thursday 7:30 PM
12:00 Noon Choir
Michael Thibodeau

Greeters/Ushers: Call the office

CELEBRATIONS OF THE EUCHARIST

Monday - Saturday
5:30 PM

Sunday
10:00 AM
12:00 PM

CELEBRATION OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM
or by appointment.

BAPTISMS

Arrangements are made through the
Religious Education office. Couples
expecting a child are encouraged to
contact the office before the child is
born. Please contact Ext 1003, for
more information.

MARRIAGE

Please call Fr. Bob at least one year
prior to the planned wedding date.

Pastoral Visitation of the Sick:

To arrange for a visit
Call the office Ext 1007

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday
9:30 AM to 11:30 AM
1:00 PM to 4:00 PM
Closed Wednesday mornings

Wednesday afternoons
1:30 PM to 4:00 PM

Friday Closed

ORGANIZATIONS & ACTIVITIES

Catholic Women's League
See CWL Bulletin Board for Details

Children's Liturgy
10:00 AM Mass

Creation Care Ministry
2nd Tuesday of each month 7pm.

Development and Peace
www.devp.org
3rd Monday of the month 7:00 PM

Merrymakers
3rd Thursday of the month 12:00 PM

Knights of Columbus
1st Thursday of the Month

Parish Council
Every two months
St. Vincent de Paul Society
2nd Saturday of the Month 4:00 PM



MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, March 17

Jer 31:31-34 Ps 51: 1-13

Heb 5:7-9 Jn 12:20-33

10:00 am Rosamunde Ficker

12:00 pm Parish Community

Monday, March 18

Daneil 13:1-9m 15-17, 19-30, 33-64 Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 Jn 8: 1-11

5:30 pm Intentions of May

Tuesday, March 19

2 Sam 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16 Ps 89: 1-2, 3-4, 26+28 Rom 4:13-16-18, 22

Matt 1:16, 18-21, 24a Lk 2:41-51a

5:30 pm John Sobie †

Wednesday, March 20

5:30 pm Daniel 3:13-20, 24, 49-50, 91-95 Dan 3:52-56 Jn 8:31-42

5:30 pm Souls in purgatory

Thursday, March 21

Genesis 17: 3-9 Ps 105: 4-9

Jn 8: 51-59

5:30 pm Intentions of Stanley

Friday, March 22

Jer 20:7, 10-13 Ps 18: 1-2ab, 2c-3, 4-6 Jn 10: 31-42

5:30 pm Eutiquia Suson-Diaz & Amado Diaz †

Saturday, March 23

Ez 37: 21-28 Jer 31:10-13

Jn 11:45-56

5:30 pm Thanksgiving



The Friar's Nook

Lent brings us the old image of the desert. It is a place to meet God. It belongs to the basic wisdom of the spiritual man. It became an obligatory path for the people of God to the promised land and place of encounter with God. Moses, Elijah, John the Baptist, and Jesus himself were men of the desert. The desert is that hostile space, which forces struggle as well as trust, and becomes God's pedagogy to move forward, in order to recognize His presence. In the mentality of God's people, the desert was the area reserved for the cursed and the disinherited. However, in your wandering and forced passage through it, is where you will experience the greatest manifestations of love from God. There is where God established his Covenant with his people and where he will test it again and again. John the Baptist is the man of the desert par excellence; hardened body, scrutinizing eye, voice that cries out for conversion: his existence becomes a path for the Lord. Jesus, after baptism, will live in the desert a testing experience that will lead him to the full acceptance of his own identity and of the entrusted mission. The Church itself will have its desert experience. The desert will bloom in the history of spirituality, the desert has featured different, and even contrasting, experiences. Asceticism and solitude were also sought in the desert by many Christians who, from the second and fourth centuries, fleeing from the world, dreamed of Isaiah's prophecy: "the desert will flourish" (Is 41:17-20). Little by little, this experience will be filled with a new meaning.

Each person has before them a desert to cross, which can take many forms. It arises, for example, from the experience of growing old, falling ill, or suffering the consequences of an accident. Crossing this type of desert is long and painful: we forget the clarity of the sky; Fatigue and pain exert a heavy burden. Accepting that fact, however, can awaken an oasis in us. Other times, it is the desert of lack of love, loneliness. All of this, in a positive sense, can give rise to the appropriate detachment from the other, to renounce possessing him, and that in this renunciation we are given the joy of "being with him." There are those who, come to experience a kind of absence of God, the meaninglessness of many things, the aridity of faith, which someone would call "Dark Night." It seems that God withdraws, hides, abandons us. But it's not like that. What abandons us are our illusions and fantasies; faith is not lost on the contrary we begin to deepen it by losing our "beliefs". Summarizing the characteristic features of that spiritual wisdom of the desert, we would say:

- Call to seek a framework of silence and solitude to travel our inner path.
- Live the sense of passage, purification, and God's dependence.
- Learning from one's own poverty, supported by the Absolute.
- Confidence to walk blindly and in austerity, always open to solidarity.
- Change of heart to, in freedom, be able to offer life.

Fr. Alex

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

The Sick: Aniela Kuncaitis, Antonia Bova, Celeste Cignarella, Guillermo Medina, Rose Menecola, Rosanne Kelly, Inez Meleca, Charles Coupal, Lucia Xavier da Silveira.

The Deceased: Albina Padilla †, Neza Kastelic †

March 21, 3PM – Preventing Falls Workshop - FREE!

The experts from Living at Home Ltd will provide tips and advice on how to make your home safer and help you prevent costly falls & continue to age in place. Whether you are living home alone or taking care of someone, this workshop aims to equip you with the right information for fall prevention! Please join us on Thursday, March 21st at 3:00pm in the parish hall!

Solidarity / Fair Trade Weekend - March 23 /24

Next weekend is **Solidarity Weekend**. Being in **solidarity** is one of the key principles of Catholic Social Teaching. **Solidarity** is a recognition that we are 'all in this together'... That we stand together with our sisters and brothers here and around the world to heed the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor. Fair Trade products will be available after the 5:30 & 10:00 Mass next weekend. We stand in solidarity with each other and with our world.

Needs of the Holy Land Special Collection on Good Friday,

March 29, 2024 The Good Friday collection "Needs of the Holy Land" is coordinated by the Commissariat of the Holy Land. As in the past, please remit funds from this collection to the Archdiocese. These funds are used for the upkeep of the sanctuaries and to help with Pastoral work, Catholic schools, and social assistance in the Holy Land. For more information please visit: www.commissariat.ca

Holy Week Retreat led by the Daughters of St. Paul

Date: Friday, March 22, 6:30pm – 8pm & Saturday, March 23, 10am – 11am followed by the Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament in the chapel. **Location:** Pauline Book and Media Centre, 3022 Dufferin Street, Toronto, ON M6B 3T5. A \$10 donation for the 2-day event + each participant gets 10% discount coupon toward book center purchases that day. Please RSVP your spot for the retreat at 416-781-9131 or toronto@paulinemedia.com

Creation Care: How might care for nature help another person in your life to experience a better way of life?

Reflection excerpt: ' Drawing strength from our faith in God's continual love-energy at work in our world is as subtle yet effective as how a mustard seed grows and yeast expands. We can take small steps to act wherever we are.'

Suggested action: March 22, World Water Day. Consider the ways in which you can conserve the precious resource of water in your daily life. **Best practices for conserving water here:** <https://mogc.info/conservewater>

Source: <https://maryknollogc.org/files/attachments/lent-2024.pdf>

Monthly Offertory

Offertory	Feb 2023	Feb 2024
Envelopes	\$ 4,966	\$ 4,786
Loose	\$ 1,170	\$ 2,238
PAG*	\$ 6,223	\$ 6,096
Total	\$ 12,359	\$13,120

**Pre-Authorized Giving*

Contributions to the **Building Maintenance Fund** for the month of January were \$3,509.

Upcoming Activities

March 17

ShareLife Collection

March 18

D & P Meeting

March 20

Lenten Penitential Service

March 21

12pm Mass

12:30pm Merrymakers Lunch

March 21

3pm Living at home seminar

Holy Week Schedule:

Palm Sunday

Sat. Mar 23 – 5:30pm

Sun Mar 24 - 10am & 12pm

Holy Thursday

Mar 28 – 7:30pm

Good Friday

March 29 – 3pm

Easter Vigil

Sat. March 30 - 8:30pm

Easter Sunday

March 31 – 10am & 12pm





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