

# ANNUNCIATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY PARISH

3 Combermere Drive  
Toronto, Ontario  
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www.bvmtoronto.com



Fr. Jude Coyle  
Pastor

Fr. Stephen Gilbert  
Associate Pastor

Fr. Steve N. Ransome  
In Residence

Ms. Grace Hong  
Parish Manager/Secretary

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Thursday	8:30am to 12:00noon, 1:00pm to 8:00pm
Friday	8:30am to 12:00noon, 1:00pm to 4:00pm
Saturday	11:00am to 4:30pm

## *The Church is open during the following hours:*

Monday to Friday	7:00am to 9:00am, 11:00am to 1:00pm
First Friday	7:00am to 1:00pm
Saturday	8:00am to 10:00am, 3:30pm to 6:00pm
Sunday	7:00am to 1:30pm, 6:00pm to 8:00pm

## SUNDAY OBLIGATION MASSES

Saturday	Vigil 5:00pm
Sunday	8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am, 12:30pm, 7:00pm

## WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday to Friday	8:00am & 12:30pm
Saturday	9:00am
Public Holiday	9:00am only

## FIRST FRIDAYS

Mass followed by Exposition	8:00am
Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament	12:15pm
Mass	12:30pm

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday	9:30am & 4:00pm
	(At other times by appointment)

## BAPTISMS

Parents themselves should pick up and return a completed Baptism Information Form to the parish office at least 4 months in advance of the anticipated baptismal date. An interview with a parish priest or deacon is required. Parents of children to be baptized should be registered members of our Parish Community. Attendance at a Baptism Preparation Meeting is mandatory.

## MARRIAGE

Couples themselves must contact the parish office at least *one full year in advance* of the anticipated marriage date. No date may be set before meeting with a priest. A Marriage Preparation Course is required. If either party has been previously married, permission to proceed must be obtained from the Chancery Office of the Archdiocese.

**CARE of the SICK** Visitation and/or Communion for the sick upon request.

**LEGION OF MARY - Prayer group** Saturday Mornings at 10:00am.

**SOCIETY OF SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL** Call 416-657-2989 for assistance.

## PARISH SCHOOLS

Our Lady of Wisdom School	416-393-5273
Annunciation School	416-393-5299
St. Isaac Jogues School	416-393-5315
Senator O'Connor College School	416-393-5505

ANNUNCIATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY PARISH,  
TORONTO, ONTARIO

*“Do not worry about your life or tomorrow.”*

HOLY FATHER’S MESSAGE FOR LENT

Lent is a favorable season for deepening our spiritual life... at the basis of everything is the word of God, which during this season we are invited to hear and ponder more deeply. I would now like to consider the parable of the rich man and Lazarus.

Part II: Sin Blinds Us

The parable is unsparing in its description of the contradictions associated with the rich man (cf. c. 19).

Unlike poor Lazarus, he does not have a name; he is simply called “a rich man”. His opulence was seen in his extravagant and expensive robes. Purple cloth was even more precious than silver and gold, and was thus reserved to divinities (cf. Jer 10:9) and kings (cf. Jg 8:26), while fine linen gave one an almost sacred character. The man was clearly ostentatious about his wealth, and in the habit of displaying it daily: “He feasted sumptuously every day” (v.19). In him we can catch a dramatic glimpse of the corruption of sin, which progresses in three successive stages: love of money, vanity and pride (cf. Homily, 20 September 2013).

The Apostle Paul tells us that “the love of money is the root of all evils” (1 Tim 6:10). It is the main cause of corruption and a source of envy, strife and suspicion. Money can come to dominate us, even to the point of becoming a tyrannical idol (cf. Evangelii Gaudium, 55). Instead of being an instrument at our service for doing good and showing solidarity towards others, money can chain us and the entire world to a selfish logic that leaves no room for love and hinders peace.

The parable then shows that the rich man’s greed makes him vain. His personality finds expression in appearances, in showing others what he can do. But his appearance masks an interior emptiness. His life is a prisoner to outward appearances, to the most superficial and fleeting aspects of existence (cf. *ibid.*, 62).

The lowest rung of this moral degradation is pride. The rich man dresses like a king and acts like a god, forgetting that he is merely mortal. For those corrupted by love of riches, nothing exists beyond their own ego. Those around them do not come into their line of sight. The result of attachment to money is a sort of blindness. The rich man does not see the poor man who is starving, hurting, lying at his door.

Looking at this character, we can understand why the Gospel so bluntly condemns the love of money:

“No one can be the slave of two masters: he will either hate the first and love the second, or be attached to the first and despise the second. You cannot be the slave both of God and of money” (Mt. 6:24).

THE HOLY FATHER’S INTENTIONS  
FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH

**Evangelization:** *Support for Persecuted Christians* ~ That persecuted Christians may be supported by the prayers and material help of the whole Church.

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“No one can serve two masters.” Do you feel called to help people get closer to God? If you think God is calling you to a Church vocation, contact Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416 968 0997.

SEASON OF LENT

Lent is the yearly celebration by the Church of its corporate conversion in Jesus Christ. During Lent, the liturgy prepares catechumens to celebrate the Paschal Mystery by the various stages of Christian initiation. It also prepares the faithful for Easter as they recall their baptism and do penance in preparation for the greatest Feast of the year. Lent has two major purposes: It recalls or prepares for baptism, and emphasizes a spirit of penance. Through forty days of closer attention to God’s Word and of more fervent prayer, believers are prepared to celebrate the Paschal Mystery. Lenten instructions stress these baptismal and penitential themes.

During Lent, it is important to teach the social consequences of sin as well as the fact that the heart of the virtue of penance is hatred of sin as an offence against God.

The Church encourages penitential practices that are external and social, reflecting the circumstances of individuals and communities, as we pray and do penance for sinners.

NEW TO OUR PARISH?

If you are a new parishioner of Annunciation Parish we offer you a warm welcome. Please take the time to register at the office and receive your personal box of Sunday Offering Envelopes. We’re glad you’re here.

## ANNUNCIATION PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ASH WEDNESDAY

March 1, 2017



#### SCHEDULE OF MASSES

8:00AM, 12:30PM, 7:30PM.

9:45AM (Schools Mass).

**Ashes will be Blessed and  
Distributed at all Masses.**

**ASH WEDNESDAY IS A DAY OF  
FAST & ABSTINENCE FROM MEAT.**

#### STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT

EVERY FRIDAY AT ANNUNCIATION PARISH AT 7:00PM  
BEGINNING MARCH 3RD



*Join us as we walk with Jesus from death to new life. Make this traditional Lenten prayer part of your personal Lenten program.*

#### **COME AND SEE WEEKEND**

**MARCH 17TH TO 19TH, 2017 AT  
ST. AUGUSTINE'S SEMINARY**

Inviting single Catholic men 17 years and older, to cultivate a deeper prayer life and relationship with Jesus Christ; leading to a better discernment of God's call for their lives. Time of prayer, reflection and information on the process of becoming one of Christ's disciples as a Catholic priest. Please contact the Office of Vocations at: 416 968 0997; or email: vocations@archtoronto.org

#### **BUILDING FUND COLLECTION**



This weekend we will be taking up our monthly Building Fund Collection. Thank you for your continuous generosity.

#### **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

##### **CWL Executive Meeting**

Thursday, March 2nd at 1:00PM.

##### **SOCIETY OF SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL**

Turning Concern into Action — Around Our Community and Around the World. **We are seeking new members.** Parishioners who are looking for the opportunity to put their faith into action in service to their neighbours in need are welcome to join us. We meet once a month. Please call — 416 657 2989 for more information.

*"To love God and neighbor is not something abstract, but profoundly concrete: It means seeing in every person the face of the Lord to be served, to serve him concretely." - Pope Francis*

##### **PRAY FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED**



Please remember in your prayers all those parishioners who have gone to their rest in Christ, particularly those we remember who died recently: Paul Tremble.

##### **ANNUNCIATION CWL**

The CWL invites parishioners to the World Day of Prayer Service at **Precious Blood Catholic Church — 1737 Lawrence Ave E.**

When: **Friday, March 3 at 2PM.**

For more information call church office at 416 751 2661. Refreshments will follow the service.

##### **How is forgiveness possible?**

Mercy can penetrate our hearts only if we ourselves learn how to forgive — even our enemies. Now even if it seems impossible for us to satisfy this requirement, the heart that offers itself to the Holy Spirit can, like Christ, love even to love's extreme; it can turn injury into compassion and transform hurt into intercession. Forgiveness participates in the divine mercy and is a high-point of Christian prayer.

##### **What is the meaning of the final Amen?**

"At the end of the prayer, you say 'Amen' and thus you ratify by this word that means 'so be it' all that is contained in this prayer that God has taught us." (Saint Cyril of Jerusalem).





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