

Living the Gospel

by providing counselling to families



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March 30/31

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1 Dormington Drive (2234 Ellesmere Road)

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Phone: 416-439-1545 Fax: 416-439-0192

www.saintthomasmoreparish.org e-mail: stthomasmore@rogers.com

Youth Ministry

Youth Minister

Silvio Escobar.....silvio.escobar@live.com

Youth Group

Lisette.....stthomasmoreyouthgroup22@gmail.com

Young Adults for Christ

Racine Senining.....stmyac@gmail.com

Parish Groups

Parish Council

Mike Carolan.....416-282-4750

Finance Council

Alan King.....416-284-7190

Screening Committee

Claudine Goller.....416-289-0307

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Martel Gordon-Tennant.....416-439-7827

The Elder Brother

This Sunday's Gospel is known as "*The Parable of the Prodigal Son*." It is the younger son who is the focus of preachers. But the parable also speaks about an older son. The older son is told that his father has organized a lavish party to welcome his brother back but he gets very angry and refuses to join the party. He had done his duty, but now he feels like a stranger in his own house.

The father goes out to invite him with the same tenderness with which he has welcomed his brother. He doesn't shout but with humble love "*He tries to persuade him*" to come to the welcome home party. It's then that the son explodes. He's spent his whole life fulfilling his father's orders, but he hasn't learned to love as his father loves. Now all he knows how to do is to demand his rights and put his brother down.

This is the tragedy of the older son. He's never left home, but his heart has always been far away. He knows how to fulfill commandments, but he doesn't know how to love. He doesn't understand his father's love for his lost son. He doesn't welcome or forgive him; he doesn't want to know anything about his brother. Jesus ends this parable without satisfying our curiosity: does he enter the party, or does he stay outside?

In our daily lives, we're used to talking about believers and non-believers, about practicing Christians and fallen-away, about marriages blessed by the Church and couples living together. But God keeps waiting for us, since He isn't the property of good people or of practicing Christians. God is the Father of all.

The anger of the elder brother invites us to examine our own attitudes to outsiders. Do we think that we deserve better from life than others? Do we practice the faith as a duty, while resenting the mercy that God offers to sinners who repent? Or are we trying to form a welcoming community that is willing to understand and accompany whoever wants to join the family of the church, no matter where they come from? Do we offer help and friendship, or do we look on others with suspicion?

Fr. Aegidius SCJ

Mass Intentions for March 30 – April 6, 2019

Saturday	5:00 p.m.	Intentions of Mesaaba Correia
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	+Anastacia De Juan, requested by the family
	10:00 a.m.	+Mary & Leo Mendez and Winnie, Wilfred & Mildred Finney, requested by R. Hassan
	11:30 a.m.	Intentions of the parish community
	8:00 p.m.	In thanksgiving, Joshua Harry
Monday	7:30 a.m.	+Abelardo Lacson, requested by the family
Tuesday	7:30 a.m.	+Jose & Carmen Carrillo, requested by the family
	7:00 p.m.	+Teodoro P. Tagle, requested by Tessie & Elena
Wednesday	7:30 a.m.	In thanksgiving, the Long family
	7:00 p.m.	+Francisco Lagundi, requested by M. & A. Lagundi
Thursday	7:30 a.m.	+Michael Fernandes, requested by T. Fernandes
	7:00 p.m.	+T. Vapiwalla, requested by friends
		+Luis Del Rosario, requested by R. Del Rosario
		In thanksgiving, Regina Santillan
		+Isabella Benedict, requested by the family
		+Dolores Bailon, requested by the family
Friday	7:30 a.m.	+Claudia Chua & Marina Catalig, requested by the family
	7:00 p.m.	+Joseph De Silva & Clarine Perera, requested by the family
Saturday	9:00 a.m.	+Sixto Antonio & Dante Gozun, requested by the family

**Confession of sin is the soul in which
God's forgiveness flourishes.**



You can work wonders!

Living the Gospel locally and around the world

“It is important that we continue to support the ShareLife appeal, to provide for the needs of the marginalized both here in our communities and around the world. Sometimes the results are obvious and sometimes they are invisible, but always they make a tangible difference in the lives of the people that we are helping. Please prayerfully consider how you can be supportive today on ShareLife Sunday.”

Cardinal Thomas Collins

**Today is ShareLife Sunday.
Thank you for your generosity.**

Reconciliation Service

Wednesday, April 10 at 7:30 p.m.



Lenten confessions will be held on Wed., Apr. 10 at 7:30 p.m. with many priests in attendance in preparation for our Easter celebration.

Sacramental Ministry

Date	Time	Event
Sun., Mar. 31	11:30 a.m.	RCIA 2 nd scrutiny
Sun., Apr. 12	9:00 a.m.	School confessions

Volunteer Appreciation Week

April 7 – 13, 2019

The Parish is grateful to have hundreds of volunteers assisting in diverse ways. Leaders of our ministries and groups do the extra work to keep the group running smoothly. All of them are important to the parish.

Is God Calling You?

Like the forgiving father of Luke’s gospel, God welcomes us home in spite of our sinfulness and calls us to a life of holiness. Are you being called to a life as an ordained or a consecrated person? If you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, contact Fr. Chris, at 416-968-0997 or at vocations@archtoronto.org.

YAC Fundraiser – Easter Lilies

April 6 / 7 and April 13 / 14 weekends

Our YAC are taking orders for Easter lilies after all Masses on the weekends of April 6 / 7 and 13 / 14. These lilies will be part of the altar display at Easter in memory of your deceased loved ones. A donation of \$15.00 is requested.

Prayers Needed for the Sick

We are praying for the sick of our parish: Hanna Hadden, Catalino Bicos, Candida Garcia, Albert Vella, Phyllis & Antonio Cogliano, Joanna Alexander and Gerald Molloy. May they be supported by our prayers and pastoral ministry and by the grace of God.

Ushers Needed at 5:00 p.m. Mass

Ushers are needed for the 5:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday. If you are interested, please call Dennis at 416-494-8858 for more information.

Stations of the Cross

Fridays at 6:20 p.m. during Lent

During Lent the Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday beginning at 6:20 p.m. after the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament which begins at 6:00 p.m. Mass follows at 7:00 p.m.

Valentine’s Dinner and Dance

Thank You

TO OUR SPONSORS

The Valentine’s Dinner and Dance was a huge success! We wish to thank each person who

helped in any way with this fundraiser including the Volunteers’ Group. Our gratitude also goes to the following sponsors who made this event the success that it was:

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