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**2016 Parish Campaign**  
Next Sunday, March 13  
is ShareLife Sunday

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## St. Thomas More Parish

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**Youth Ministry**

Youth Group  
 Drusilla Lobo.....[drusilla17lobo@hotmail.com](mailto:drusilla17lobo@hotmail.com)  
Young Adults for Christ  
 Andy Rodrigues .....[stmyac@gmail.com](mailto:stmyac@gmail.com)

**Parish Groups**

Parish Council  
 Mike Carolan.....416-282-4750  
Finance Council  
 Alan King.....416-439-1545  
Screening Committee  
 Claudine Goller.....416-289-0307  
St. Vincent de Paul Society  
 Martel Gordon-Tennant.....416-439-7827

**The Parable of the Merciful Father**

On this fourth Sunday of Lent we read about a very familiar passage of the Gospel known as “The Parable of Prodigal Son”. It recounts the story of a young man who asked for his father’s inheritance, left home and spent all that money in a self-indulgent way. After suffering starvation, he repented and chose to come back as his father’s employee. The father’s older son, though, became angry as soon as he learned that his brother was back. It seems that this story is focused either on the younger son who asked for pardon, or on the older son who struggled to forgive. However, the core character of this parable is the father. It could be called “The Parable of the Merciful Father”.

It is the Merciful Father who remained looking down the road and untiringly waited for the return of his younger son. It is also the Merciful Father who patiently went out to meet the older son when he refused to join the party. God is the Merciful Father! He does not give up on any of His children. He runs to us, kisses and embraces us when we come back. He restores our dignity by giving us a robe, sandals, ring and food. Remember that every time you celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation you are encountering this Merciful Father who forgives and rejoices with you. Today is the Joyful Sunday! Come back to God and allow the Merciful Father to love you. Celebrate with Him the joy of being saved again.

*Fr. Will, SCJ*

**Mass Intentions for March 5 - 12, 2016**

Saturday	5:00 p.m.	+Remedios Vilela, requested by the family
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	+Clarence Miller & Gordon Bennett, requested by the Collins family
	10:00 a.m.	+Herbert & Agnes Finney, requested by L. Finney
	11:30 a.m.	Intentions of the parish community
	8:00 p.m.	+Perfecto Abad, Sr., requested by the family
Monday	7:30 a.m.	+Claudia & Romy Chua, requested by the family
Tuesday	7:30 a.m.	+Perfecto Abad, Sr., requested by the family
	7:00 p.m.	+Bernice Emig, requested by the family
Wednesday	7:30 a.m.	In thanksgiving to St. Gregory, Luisa Cobrana
	7:00 p.m.	+Paul James, requested by the family
Thursday	7:30 a.m.	Intentions of all priests and seminarians
	7:00 p.m.	+Ermelinda Rustia, requested by the family
		+Bill Cascagnette, requested by the family
		In thanksgiving, Juana Flores
Friday	7:30 a.m.	For vocations to the religious life
	7:00 p.m.	+John Victor, requested by R. & T. Lopes
Saturday	9:00 a.m.	+Carmon Patrick, requested by M. Patrick

**PENITENTIAL SERVICE**

Thursday, March 10 at 7:30 p.m.



Our Lenten Penitential Service will be held on Thurs., Mar. 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. Many priests will be available for confession in preparation for our Easter celebration.

## ShareLife



**Together we are continuing to work wonders... Working wonders for people locally and around the world...**

Pope Francis reminds us that this is the Year of Mercy. How do we extend the hands of Christ to others in our daily lives? For some, it may be caring for an elderly relative, volunteering in a soup kitchen, or helping to collect food or raise funds for charity. In our busy society, many of us do not have the time to actively participate, and as such we rely on the many agencies within our community to provide love, care and support to those in need. In the Archdiocese of Toronto, our annual ShareLife appeal provides resources to over 40 agencies, bringing much needed programs and services to those both here in our communities and around the world. Collectively, through our support, we share in their success in making a positive difference in the lives of those they serve.

Next Sunday is the first ShareLife collection. Over the next week, consider your ability to help your brothers and sisters in Christ, and make a contribution to our annual appeal. You will be helping to make a difference—indeed you will be working wonders!

**Next Sunday, March 13 is ShareLife Sunday!  
Please give generously. You can work wonders!**

## Lenten Workshops

The parish is hosting Lenten workshops in the parish hall on the following dates:

- Wednesday, March 9 at 7:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, March 16 at 7:30 p.m.

## Upcoming Sacramental Events



Persons preparing to become Catholic are continuing their formation, through the R.C.I.A. program, with the Second and Third Scrutinies this weekend and next at the 5:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday.

Children preparing for their First Reconciliation will receive the Sacrament on Wednesday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.

Please pray for them in their preparations!

## Circle of Conversation

Monday, March 14 at 7:00 p.m.



Our Priests of the Sacred Heart invite everyone to a Circle of Conversation around welcoming and accompanying Syrian refugees within the context of the Islam and Christian faiths with Samira Kanji, the President and CEO

of the Noor Cultural Centre and Ghalia Dbiwe, Ghalia Bdiwe, a Syrian journalist. The Circle of Conversation will be held in our parish hall on Mon., Mar. 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

## Lenten Retreat for Young Adults

Saturday, March 19 at 10:00 a.m.



The Priests of the Sacred Heart and the Sisters of St. Joseph will facilitate a retreat for all young adults (19 to 39 years of age) on Sat., Mar. 19 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the rectory basement. Admission is free. Please register at [stmyac@gmail.com](mailto:stmyac@gmail.com).

## Stations of the Cross

Each Friday evening during Lent the Stations of the Cross will take place at 6:00 p.m. followed by Mass at 7:00 p.m.

## Praying for the Sick

We are praying for the sick of our parish: Victoria G. Arceo, Denise Wilde, Sebastian DeSilva, Ofelia Lim, Nita Hazell, Roslyn Leigh Patrick, Tirso Manadero, Erlinda De Vera, Erlinda Cal and Rita Benedict. May they be supported by our prayers and pastoral ministry by the grace of God.

## Easter Lilies

March 5 / 6

Our Young Adults for Christ will be taking orders after all Masses this weekend, Mar. 5 / 6, for lilies in memory of your deceased loved ones. The lilies will be part of our Easter altar display. Proceeds will go to the English and Spanish Youth Groups.



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