

St. Mary Immaculate Parish

10295 Yonge Street, Richmond Hill, Ontario L4C 3B9

Tel: (905) 884-1784 Fax: (905) 884-1883

E-mail: smirh@bellnet.ca www.smirh.com

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EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

"In resurrectione tua, Christe, coeli et terra laetentur!
In your resurrection, O Christ, let heaven and earth rejoice!"

Dear brothers and sisters in Rome and throughout the world, Happy Easter! Happy Easter! What a joy it is for me to announce this message: Christ is risen! I would like it to go out to every house and every family, especially where the suffering is greatest, in hospitals, in prisons ... Most of all, I would like it to enter every heart, for it is there that God wants to sow this Good News: Jesus is risen, there is hope for you, you are no longer in the power of sin, of evil! Love has triumphed, mercy has been victorious! The mercy of God always triumphs!

We too, like the women who were Jesus' disciples, who went to the tomb and found it empty, may wonder what this event means (cf. Lk 24:4). What does it mean that Jesus is risen? It means that the love of God is stronger than evil and death itself; it means that the love of God can transform our lives and let those desert places in our hearts bloom. The love God can do this! This same love for which the Son of God became man and followed the way of humility and self-giving to the very end, down to hell - to the abyss of separation from God - this same merciful love has flooded with light the dead body of Jesus, has transfigured it, has made it pass into eternal life. Jesus did not return to His former life, to earthly life, but entered into the glorious life of God and He entered there with our humanity, opening us to a future of hope. This is what Easter is: it is the exodus, the passage of human beings from slavery to sin and evil to the freedom of love and goodness. Because God is life, life alone, and we are His glory: the living man (cf. Irenaeus, *Adversus Haereses*, 4,20,5-7).

Dear brothers and sisters, Christ died and rose once for all, and for everyone, but the power of the Resurrection, this passover from slavery to evil to the freedom of goodness, must be accomplished in every age, in our concrete existence, in our everyday lives. How many deserts, even today, do human beings need to cross! Above all, the desert within, when we have no love for God or neighbour, when we fail to realize that we are guardians of all that the Creator has given us and continues to give us. God's mercy can make even the driest land become a garden, can restore life to dry bones (cf. Ez 37:1-14).

So this is the invitation which I address to everyone: Let us accept the grace of Christ's Resurrection! Let us be renewed by God's mercy, let us be loved by Jesus, let us enable the power of His love to transform our lives too; and let us become agents of this mercy, channels through which God can water the earth, protect all creation and make justice and peace flourish. And so we ask the risen Jesus, who turns death into life, to change hatred into love, vengeance into forgiveness, war into peace. Yes, Christ is our peace, and through Him we implore peace for all the world....

Dear brothers and sisters, to all of you who are listening to me, from Rome and from all over of the

world, I address the invitation of the Psalm: "Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; for his steadfast love endures for ever. Let Israel say: 'His steadfast love endures for ever'" (Ps 117:1-2).

Pope Francis, Easter 2013

THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

"We bring you the good news that what God promised to the fathers, this day He has fulfilled to us their children by raising Jesus." The Resurrection of Jesus is the crowning truth of our faith in Christ, a faith believed and lived as the central truth by the first Christian community; handed on as fundamental by Tradition; established by the documents of the New Testament; and preached as an essential part of the Paschal mystery along with the cross:

Christ is risen from the dead!

Dying, He conquered death;

To the dead, He has given life.

The mystery of Christ's resurrection **is a real event**, with manifestations that were historically verified, as the New Testament bears witness. In about A.D. 56 St. Paul could already write to the Corinthians: "I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, and that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the Twelve..." The Apostle speaks here of the living tradition of the Resurrection which he had learned after his conversion at the gates of Damascus.

Catechism of the Catholic Church, #638-639.

EASTER GREETINGS As we celebrate the Holy Feast of Easter, we extend to each and everyone of you prayerful wishes for a fruitful commemoration of this great feast. May our religious observance make us more aware of God's loving presence. Devotedly Yours in Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, **Fr. Bob, Fr. Marco, Fr. Jim, and Deacon Joseph**

REGINA CAELI

V. Queen of heaven, rejoice! Alleluia.

R. For He Whom you did merit to bear. Alleluia.

V. Has risen, as He said. Alleluia.

R. Pray for us to God. Alleluia.

V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary. Alleluia.

R. For the Lord is truly risen. Alleluia.

Let us pray. O God, Who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant, we beseech You, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life, through the same Christ, our Lord.

Amen. (*This prayer replaces the Angelus during Easter*)

THE SANCTUARY LAMPS THIS WEEK BURN FOR:

In thanksgiving to the Risen Christ
+Deceased of the Ruza Family

SMI & SVDP INCOME TAX RECEIPTS are ready to be picked up in the lobby. May God reward you.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN RECEIVED INTO THE CATHOLIC FAITH THIS EASTER!

May they continue to receive God's grace and blessings.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS will be holding a Pro-Life Dinner and Coffee House to raise money in support of pro-life charities and activities on Saturday, May 3rd. Tickets go on sale this weekend. talent sign up will begin at that time as well. Mark Your Calendar:

SVDP BUNDLE UP WEEKEND, MAY 3-4 The bundle up truck will be in the parking lot. Your donations of used clothing and small household items are appreciated. Unfortunately we cannot accept furniture or electronics. Many thanks for your support of the work of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

HANDMADE ROSARIES (Brigittine or Dominican) by Fr. Marco are available for purchase from the Parish Office. Proceeds to benefit the pro-life.

YOUTH PUBLIC SPEAKING EVENT The finals of the Mary Matthews Public Speaking Contest and the Annual Youth Awards will be held on **Sunday, April 27, from 1 to 4 pm in our Parish Hall**. The event is sponsored by the Toronto Diocesan Council, coordinated by the North York Region CWL, and hosted by our CWL Council. Parishioners and all CWL members are encouraged to attend and lend their support. Refreshments will be served.

NEEDED FOR BABIES 1500 or more newborn knitted toques (booties also welcome) by May 1st. Silent Children's Mission (CFFC) fully operated by volunteers is sending 3000 baby kits to a hospital in Ludzi Malawi operated by Catholic nuns. For pick up of two dozen or more, please call Ann at 905-884-7025 or drop off at the Church office.

S. Pasqua – 20 aprile 2014

Cari fratelli e sorelle di Roma e del mondo intero, buona Pasqua! Buona Pasqua! Che grande gioia per me potervi dare questo annuncio: Cristo è risorto! Vorrei che giungesse in ogni casa, in ogni famiglia, specialmente dove c'è più sofferenza, negli ospedali, nelle carceri... Soprattutto vorrei che giungesse a tutti i cuori, perché è lì che Dio vuole seminare questa Buona Notizia: Gesù è risorto, c'è la speranza per te, non sei più sotto il dominio del peccato, del male! Ha vinto l'amore, ha vinto la misericordia! Sempre vince la misericordia di Dio! Anche noi, come le donne discepolo di Gesù, che andarono al sepolcro e lo trovarono vuoto, possiamo domandarci che senso abbia questo avvenimento (cfr Lc 24,4). Che cosa significa che Gesù è risorto? Significa che l'amore di Dio è più forte del male e della stessa morte; significa che l'amore di Dio può trasformare la nostra vita, far fiorire quelle zone di deserto che ci sono nel nostro cuore. E questo può farlo l'amore di Dio! Questo stesso amore per cui il Figlio di Dio si è fatto uomo ed è andato fino in fondo nella via dell'umiltà e del dono di sé, fino agli inferi, all'abisso della separazione da Dio, questo stesso amore misericordioso ha inondato di luce il corpo morto di Gesù, lo ha trasfigurato, lo ha fatto passare nella vita eterna. Gesù non è tornato alla vita di prima, alla vita terrena, ma è entrato nella vita gloriosa di Dio e ci è entrato con la nostra umanità, ci ha aperto ad un futuro di speranza. Ecco che cos'è la Pasqua: è l'esodo, il passaggio dell'uomo

dalla schiavitù del peccato, del male alla libertà dell'amore, del bene. Perché Dio è vita, solo vita, e la sua gloria siamo noi: l'uomo vivente (cfr Ireneo, *Adversus haereses*, 4,20,5-7). Cari fratelli e sorelle, Cristo è morto e risorto una volta per sempre e per tutti, ma la forza della Risurrezione, questo passaggio dalla schiavitù del male alla libertà del bene, deve attuarsi in ogni tempo, negli spazi concreti della nostra esistenza, nella nostra vita di ogni giorno. Quanti deserti, anche oggi, l'essere umano deve attraversare! Soprattutto il deserto che c'è dentro di lui, quando manca l'amore di Dio e per il prossimo, quando manca la consapevolezza di essere custode di tutto ciò che il Creatore ci ha donato e ci dona. Ma la misericordia di Dio può far fiorire anche la terra più arida, può ridare vita alle ossa inaridite (cfr Ez 37,1-14). Allora, ecco l'invito che rivolgo a tutti: accogliamo la grazia della Risurrezione di Cristo! Lasciamoci rinnovare dalla misericordia di Dio, lasciamoci amare da Gesù, lasciamo che la potenza del suo amore trasformi anche la nostra vita; e diventiamo strumenti di questa misericordia, canali attraverso i quali Dio possa irrigare la terra, custodire tutto il creato e far fiorire la giustizia e la pace. E così domandiamo a Gesù risorto, che trasforma la morte in vita, di mutare l'odio in amore, la vendetta in perdono, la guerra in pace. Sì, Cristo è la nostra pace e attraverso di Lui imploriamo pace per il mondo intero. Pace per il Medio Oriente, in particolare tra Israeliani e Palestinesi, che faticano a trovare la strada della concordia, affinché riprendano con coraggio e disponibilità i negoziati per porre fine a un conflitto che dura ormai da troppo tempo. Pace in Iraq, perché cessi definitivamente ogni violenza, e, soprattutto, per l'amata Siria, per la sua popolazione ferita dal conflitto e per i numerosi profughi, che attendono aiuto e consolazione. Quanto sangue è stato versato! E quante sofferenze dovranno essere ancora inflitte prima che si riesca a trovare una soluzione politica alla crisi?

Pace per l'Africa, ancora teatro di sanguinosi conflitti. ... Pace nell'est della Repubblica Democratica del Congo e nella Repubblica Centrafricana, dove in molti sono costretti a lasciare le proprie case e vivono ancora nella paura. Pace in Asia, soprattutto nella Penisola coreana, perché si superino le divergenze e maturi un rinnovato spirito di riconciliazione. Pace a tutto il mondo, ancora così diviso dall'avidità di chi cerca facili guadagni, ferito dall'egoismo che minaccia la vita umana e la famiglia, egoismo che continua la tratta di persone, la schiavitù più estesa in questo ventunesimo secolo; la tratta delle persone è proprio la schiavitù più estesa in questo ventunesimo secolo! Pace a tutto il mondo, dilaniato dalla violenza legata al narcotraffico e dallo sfruttamento iniquo delle risorse naturali! Pace a questa nostra Terra! Gesù risorto porti conforto a chi è vittima delle calamità naturali e ci renda custodi responsabili del creato. Cari fratelli e sorelle, a tutti voi che mi ascoltate da Roma e da ogni parte del mondo, rivolgo l'invito del Salmo: «Rendete grazie al Signore perché è buono, / perché il suo amore è per sempre. / Dica Israele: / "Il suo amore è per sempre"» (Sal 117,1-2) (Papa Francesco, Pasqua 2013).

AVVISI

1. A tutti, auguri di una gioiosa S. Pasqua.
2. Durante il mese di Maggio si reciterà il S. Rosario ogni mattina nella cappella della Madonna.
3. "Bake Sale", 11 maggio; vi si prega di mettervi in contatto con Antonietta o Rosa.

MASS INTENTIONS**April 20-26**

SUN.	9:30 a.m.	Pro Populo
MON.	8:00 a.m.	+Michaelangelo Montano
TUE.	8:00 a.m.	+Winston & Nora Whitehead
WED.	8:00 a.m.	Richard Wong
THURS.	8:00 a.m.	Intentions of Wilson Yiu
FRI.	8:00 a.m.	In Thanksgiving
	7:00 p.m.	In thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart of Jesus +David Canivet Intentions of Scarpino Family Intentions of Msgr. Thomas +Heinz Franke +Anna e Angelo Marcelli +Joaquin (Jack) Vespera +Giovanni Colandrea Intentions of Louisa & Peter Siu +Members of the Paxton Family +Olga Campos
SAT.	8:30 a.m.	In Thanksgiving to the Immaculate Heart of Mary +Anthony Schweinberger +Nello Aristodemo Fabbri +Sergio Durante +Saverio Giusti

PLEASE REMEMBER OUR SICK: Ursula Addesi, Doris Anderson, Luciana, Eugene Bomba, Matteo Burbano, Patrick Burke, Rory Burke, Stephanie Byrne, David Calado, Andy Calado, Victoria Carli, Bruno Cassara, Andrea Cavallin, Joe Cinno, Alan & Carol Cook, Manuela Clement, Caterina De Grano, Thomas De Souza, Harry Dekharmenjan, Nancy Duncan, Steven Fiorini, Roberto Garcias, Margaret Gardiner, Jessica Gonzales, Godfrey Gosein, Carmela Harrison, Gertiudes Henriques, Andy Heutehaus, Theresa Hogan, Lawrence Howe, Elena Iacobelli, Rogelia Infante, Maria Iudiciani, Terry Jennings, Jolanta Karabowicz, Margaret Kelly, Derek Lai, Olivera Lambeta, Mary Malandrino, Macaria Margate, Chris Markle, Veronica Martin, Marguerite McRae, Rachele (Joy Ann) Mendoza, George Morgan, Anthony Morse, Susan, Nino Naccarato, Lydia, Michelle Antoinette Nedvedskaya, Helen & Catherine, Myola Nunes, Rosemary Palmieri, Lisa, Domenico Pileggi, Kaliopi & Eugenia Pandelopoulou, Esther Reyes, Todd Santaguida, Werner & Lucienne Schachatsiek, Claire Schickedanz, Vincenzo Sorbara, Pat Sullivan, Jeffrey Thompson, Linda Vincent, Therese Vincent, Nora Waldherr, Abigail Walz, Sandra Weinholdt, Kayla Whelan.

NEW BEGINNINGS Inspirational Talk "On Marriage and Annulment" by Fr. Brian Clough. will take place on Tuesday, May 6th at 7 p.m. at the Catholic Pastoral Centre, 1155 Yonge St. in Toronto Pre-registration is not necessary. info@cfstoronto.com

RETROUVAILLE: Help for Troubled Marriages April 25, 26, 27. For confidential and no-obligation info, go to www.torontoretrovaille.com or call (416) 281-6007

LUMEN VERITATIS ACADEMY invite you to the first annual Golf Tournament on Tuesday July 15, at Glen Eagle Golf Club, Caledon, ON. All proceeds generated from this event will be used to support our current school programs except for a small portion, which will be donated to SSVM Religious Sisters working with troubled youth in the GTA. For more info please visit www.lumenveritatis.ca/golf.

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