98 - 3

St. Mary Immaculate Parish

Established in 1857

10295 Yonge Street, Richmond Hill, Ontario L4C 3B9 Tel: (905) 884-1784 Fax: (905) 884-1883 E-mail: smirh@bellnet.ca www.smirh.com Office Hours: Monday - Saturday 9:00 am to 4:30 pm



Pastor: Rev. Fr. Robert Reddy Associate Pastor: Rev. Fr. Marco Testa In Residence: Rev. Fr. Jim Adams Deacon: Deacon Joseph D'Amico Pastoral Worker: Michelle Gregory

Secretary: Ida Foch

Hospital Visitations: Anne Roman

Knights of Columbus: Steven Lozinski & Sandy Gerolimon

Catholic Women's League: Boots Montano

CWL meets every 2nd Tuesday after 7:00 p.m. Mass Legion of Mary: meets every Tuesday at 10:30 a.m.

St. Vincent De Paul: Louise Wilson,

Daniella Ballan 905-717-9827

RCIA: Flavia Silano & Murielle Poirier Sunday School: Elizabeth Follows

Atrium: Anita Markle, Lily McCullough, Marie Lehman

Usher: Roland Leandrosz Homebound: Mary Barry Nursing Home: Peggy Paterson

Parish Volunteer Screening: Antoinette Stirling

Italian Prayer Group: Adele Cremonese & Rosa Marsella

Italian Pastoral Care Giver: Antonia Ciuffetta Italian Committee: Antonietta Miniaci



Sunday Masses:

Saturday 5:00 pm Sunday 8:00 am

9:30 am (Italian)

11:00 am 12:30 pm 4:30 pm

Lauds: Monday to Friday: 7:30 am

Weekday Masses:

Monday to Friday: 8:00 am Friday: 7:00 pm Saturday: 8:30 am

Confession:

Saturday: 4:00 to 5:00 pm Sunday: 4:00 to 4:30 pm

Baptismal Class: 2nd Sunday at 2:00 pm

Baptism:

2nd & 4th Saturday at 10:00 am

Marriage:

Contact the priest one year in advance

Friday Exposition & Adoration: 12:00 pm to 6:50 pm

Devotion to Our Mother of Perpetual Help: 8:30 am Saturday Mass **Two Hearts Rosary Prayer Group:** Every Wednesday 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Italian Prayer Group: Every Wednesday at 7:00 pm

Schools

 St. Anne
 905-883-0311
 St. Charles Garnier
 905-884-0223

 St. Mary Immaculate
 905-884-5381
 Fr. Henri Nouwen
 905-884-8086

 Corpus Christi
 905-770-8713
 St. Theresa of Lisieux High School
 905-787-1407

Counselling and Immigrant Services: Catholic Community Services of York Region

Tel.: 905-770-7040 www.ccsyr.org

Holy Cross Catholic Cemetery Tel.: (905) 889-7467 www.catholic-cemeteries.com

JOHN IS THE VOICE & CHRIST IS THE WORD

John is the voice, but the Lord is *the Word* who was *in the beginning*. John is the voice that lasts for a time; from the beginning, Christ is the Word who lives forever. Take away the word, the meaning, and what is the voice? Where there is no understanding, there is only a meaningless sound. The voice without the word strikes the ear but does not build up the heart.

However, let us observe what happens when we first seek to build up our hearts. When I think about what I am going to say, the word or message is already in my heart. When I want to speak to you, I look for a way to share with your heart what is already in mine.

In my search for a way to let this message reach you, so that the word already in my heart may find place also in yours, I use my voice to speak to you. The sound of my voice brings the meaning of the word to you and then passes away. The word which the sound has brought to you is now in your heart, and yet it is still also in mine. When the word has been conveyed to you, does not the sound seem to say: The word ought to grow, and I should diminish? The sound of the voice has made itself heard in the service of the word, and has gone away, as though it were saying: My joy is complete. Let us hold on to the word; we must not lose the word conceived inwardly in our hearts.

Do you need proof that the voice passes away but the divine Word remains? Where is John's baptism today? It served its purpose, and it went away. Now it is Christ's baptism that we celebrate. It is in Christ that we all believe; we hope for salvation in Him. This is the message the voice cried out.

Because it is hard to distinguish word from voice, even John himself was thought to be the Christ. The voice was thought to be the word. But the voice acknowledged what it was, anxious not to give offence to the Word. I am not the Christ, he said, nor Elijah, nor the prophet. And the question came: Who are you, then? He replied: I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way for the Lord. The voice of one crying in the wilderness is the voice of one breaking the silence. *Prepare the way for the Lord,* he says, as though he were saying: "I speak out in order to lead Him into your hearts, but He does not choose to come where I lead Him unless you prepare the way for Him." What does prepare the way mean, if not "pray well"? What does prepare the way mean, if not "be humble in your thoughts"? We should take our lesson from John the Baptist. He is thought to be the Christ; he declares he is not what they think. He does not take advantage of their mistake to further his own glory.

If he had said, "I am the Christ," you can imagine how readily he would have been believed, since they believed he was the Christ even before he spoke. But he did not say it; he acknowledged what he was. He pointed out clearly who he was; he humbled himself.

He saw where his salvation lay. He understood that he was a lamp, and his fear was that it might be blown out by the wind of pride.

Taken from a Sermon of St. Augustine

WAITING? The question is: Is the humanity of our time still waiting for a Saviour? One has the feeling that many consider God as foreign to their own interests. Apparently, they do not need Him. They live as though He did not exist and, worse still, as though He were an "obstacle" to remove in order to fulfill themselves. Even among believers - we are sure of it - some let themselves be attracted by enticing dreams and distracted by misleading doctrines that suggest deceptive shortcuts to happiness. Yet, despite its contradictions, worries and tragedies, and perhaps precisely because of them, humanity today seeks a path of renewal, of salvation, it seeks a Saviour and awaits, sometimes unconsciously, the coming of the Saviour who renews the world and our life, the coming of Christ, the one true Redeemer of man and of the whole of man. -Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, General Audience Dec. 20, 2006

THE SANCTUARY LAMPS THIS WEEK BURN FOR:

+Maria Garavito

+Apolonia Jimenez

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Christmas Eve, Tuesday, Dec. 24

6 p.m., 9:00 p.m., 12 Midnight (11:30, Carols)

Christmas Day, Wednesday, Dec. 25

8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. (Italian), 11 a.m., 12:30 p.m.

There is **NO** 4:30 p.m. Mass this day.

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God.

Eve (Tuesday, Dec. 31): 5 p.m.,

Day (Wednesday, Jan. 1): 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. (Italian), 11 a.m., 12:30 p.m. There is **NO** 4:30 p.m. Mass this day. Please note that January 1st is a **HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION.**

ADVENT SCHEDULE OF CONFESSIONS

Wed., Dec. 18 – 5-8 p.m.; Thurs., Dec. 19 – 6-7 p.m.; Fri., Dec. 20 – 3-7 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 21 – 3-5 p.m.

ADORATION OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT on Dec. 20th and 27th are cancelled.

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES on Dec. 26th, Dec. 27th, Dec. 30th and Dec. 31st are at 9 a.m.

SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS On Sunday, Dec. 15th in anticipation of the hope and joy of Christmas, our parish will have a **Service of Lessons and Carols at 7:00 p.m.** Please join the Italian and English choirs as we join together to listen to the Scriptural story of the Incarnation and sing the Christmas carols we all know and love. **Reception to follow in the Parish Hall**.

CAMPAIGN LIFE CHRISTMAS CAKES are available for purchase from the Parish Office.

2014 CHURCH SUPPORT ENVELOPES are ready to be picked up in the Church hall. Envelopes are organized numerically. For the parishioners who put their donations in previous year's envelopes, plain envelope and/or use loose cheques week after week, please help us record your donation in our accounting system by getting a box of envelopes which will be your envelope number to use. If your box is not there, or if you are new to the parish and wish to use envelopes, please call the Parish Office. Please do not use your old envelopes as they may have been reassigned. Please use 2014 envelopes in 2014. Church support is a precept of the Church undertaken with gratitude to God for His countless blessings.

PLEASE NOTE that anyone wishing to have their donations included for the year 2013 must be given by Sunday, Dec. 29th. We are unable to pre-date any donations. Thank you for your continued support.

2013-2014 SUNDAY MISSALS are available from the parish office. Cost: \$5.00. The Missals will also be on sale next weekend at the Church entrance.

CALLING YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS (12-17 & 18-35)! The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul invite parish community youth and young adults to come together to serve and, meet others in Ontario and worldwide through engaging activities. Please provide your contact info at (905) 717-9827.

"Let us not listen to those who deny that the Church of God is able to forgive all sins. They are wretched indeed, because they do not recognize in Peter the rock and they refuse to believe that the keys of the kingdom of heaven, lost from their own hands, have been given to the Church." -St. Augustine of Hippo, Bishop, Doctor

PLEASE REMEMBER OUR SICK: Ursula Addesi, Doris Anderson, 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, Paul Melotte, Rachelle (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, Linda Vincent, Therese Vincent, Nora Waldherr, Abigail Walz, Sandra Weinholdt, Kayla Whelan.

3a di Avvento - 15 Dicembre 2013

"Il Signore vuole aprire una via dentro di voi, per la quale possa penetrare nelle vostre anime e costruire il suo cammino... Questa è la via per la quale entrò la Parola di Dio, che consiste nella 'capacità' del cuore umano. Grande è il cuore dell'uomo, spazioso e capace, come se fosse un mondo... Vedi come il cuore dell'uomo non sia piccolo, dato che contiene tante cose. Osserva come la sua grandezza non risieda nelle sue dimensioni fisiche, bensì nella forza del suo sentimento, per cui raggiunge tale conoscenza di verità... Prepara la via al Signore con una buona condotta e con azioni irreprensibili spiana il sentiero, perché la Parola del Signore cammini in te senza ostacolo alcuno (Origene, *Comm. a Lc* 21, 5-7)."

"La Chiesa ha scoperto, all'interno della sua fede, la testimonianza silenziosa della Vergine, ma vi è una testimonianza silenziosa anche del Battista. Testimonianza che stupisce! Il più grande profeti è stato trattato, da quel Dio che pure lo amava, come non viene trattato neppure il più piccolo nel regno dei cieli. (...) Profeta dell'attesa e della rinuncia, è stato colmato nella sua rinuncia perché ha udito la voce dello Sposo, ma questa voce non si rivolgeva a lui e lo Sposo viveva per altri... Il rigore e lo spoliamento della vita del Battista, questo deserto implacabile che fu la sua unica dimora, ci spaventano se ne misuriamo l'intensità, l'immensità. Bisognava essere Dio per concepire tale destino e proporlo a un uomo, per osare domandargli tale nascondimento, tale passione prima che il ricordo della passione di Cristo potesse addolcirne le sofferenze e illuminarne la notte... Nessuno, a parte la Vergine, è stato più intimamente associato all'incarnazione del Figlio di Dio, ma la vergine trovava la sua gloria nella sua stessa povertà, mentre il Battista ha trovato solo l'abbandono e la morte (A. Besnard, Giovanni Battista pp. 646-7)."

AVVISI

- Questa sera, alle 7, celebreremo un "Service of lessons and carols." L'evento consisterà di letture e canti in preparazione a Natale. Ambedue i cori parrocchiali parteciperanno. Seguirà un ricevimento in sala.
- Celebreremo la Festa della Famiglia il 4 gennaio 2014. Per informazioni circa questo tradizionale evento chiamate Antonietta Miniaci (905-737-3210) o Rosa Marsella (905-731-9175).

When tempted, invoke your Angel. He is more eager to help you than you are to be helped! Ignore the devil and do not be afraid of him: He trembles and flees at the sight of your Guardian Angel." -St. John Bosco

MASS INT	TENTIONS	Dec. 15-21
	9:30 a.m.	+Nicola & rosa Pileggi
50111	JIGO UIIII	+Vincenzo e Carolina Conetta
		+Tomasso Romanelli
		+defunti Bernardo Famiglia
		+Rosa e Luca Pallotta
		+Marcello e Emidio Frasca
		+Luigi Bertolo
		+Michele Ventrella
		+Alessandro Maiolo
		+Antonio Crisostino
		+Sisto Ritota
		+Maria Antonia e Francesco
		Tamburri
		+Lucia e Gennaro Fuselino
		+Antonietta e Tomasso
		Parmigiano
MON.	8:00 a.m.	+Pietro Sarracini
TUE.	8:00 a.m.	+Augustin Uhm
	8:00 a.m.	+Dora Sojat
THURS	8:00 a.m.	+Michele Pallotta
FRI.	8:00 a.m.	Intentions of Althea Smith
	7:00 p.m.	In Reparation to the Sacred
	-	Heart of Jesus
		Members of the Paxton Family
		+Tullio & Giuseppina Casciere
		+Apolonia & Waclaw Monik
		+Emilio & Antonietta Celotti
		+Leo Milanowski
		+Belinda Wong
SAT.	8:30 a.m.	In Reparation to the
		Immaculate Heart of Mary
		Members of the Paxton Family
		+Libera Mastro
		+Waclaw & Apolonia Monik
		+Winifrid Burke
		Intentions of Anne Roman and
		Ronald Wood
		+Joan Scott
		Marie Sainte Family
		+Belinda Wong
		Old and Trong

25th ANNUAL & FAREWELL CHRISTMAS CONCERT on Sunday, Dec. 22nd at 4:00 p.m. at Unionville Alliance Church, Unionville. Special guests: Michael Burgess, Jackalyn Short, Toronto Mass Choir. For tickets, please call 905-887-5896 or 905-294-5230. Tickets from \$20.

Christian Fontaine & Family

REDISCOVER YOUR FAITH! I would like to say to all of you, and also to those who are passing through a difficult moment in their journey of faith, to those who take little part in the life of the Church or who live "as though God did not exist" not to be afraid of the Truth, never to interrupt the journey towards it and never stop searching for the profound truth about yourselves and other things with the

PRAISE ADONAL A New Year Celebration Hosted by Sts. Peter & Paul Prayer Group on Tuesday, Dec. 31st from 6 p.m. to 2 a.m. A night of Praise & worship, Teaching & Scriptures, Skit & Celebration of the Holy Mass at Don Bosco Secondary School, 2 St. Andrews Blvd., Etobicoke. Parking &

entrance at St. George's Blvd. \$15 each (dinner included). For tickets or info, visit stspeterandpaulprayergroup.com

inner eye of the heart. Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

CUMBRAE ROOFING LTD.

Residential 166 Norfolk Ave. **(905) 884-7378**

Marco Stancato C.F.P., RIB(ON)

Insurance - AUTO, BUSINESS, HOME, LIFE Cel 416-346-2814 Bus 905-237-2905

New Patients Welcome **324 Hwy. 7 E., Ste 103** (at Bayview) 905-886-6198

DR. J. D'SOUZA

FAMILY DENTIST

Marshall Funeral Home Ltd.

10366 YONGE STREET (905) 884-1062 Richmond Hill L4C 3B8 Providing Dependable Service for Over 100 Years

Richmond Hill's Best Weekend Brunch! Lunch + Dinner Daily - Weekday Lunch Buffet "Innovative menu...extremely tasty" **Toronto Star**

Prix Fixe menus for baptisms, communions, confirmations or any other special event

8851 Yonge Street 905-530-1153

tornello "One of Toronto's Top 10" - ZAGAT

ERIC L. BLASCHKE Chartered Accountant 556 Edward Ave., Unit 75

Yonge & Elgin Mills (905) 883-0100

Northland Carpet Care

Professional Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning

- Rug Specialists
- Tile & Grout Cleaning
- Duct Cleaning
- Emergency, Water Damage

416,574,9000 www.northlandcarpetcare.ca



✓ Sports & Rehab

✓ Incontinence & Ostomy

✓ Mobility Aids

LUIGI PANICCIA Insurance Broker Life • Health • Group Insurance

289 819-1383 Mobile 416 616-4249

905-832-4988 / Mastectomy

Shopping Locally

Dr. Susan Capitelli Dr. Vera Sluzar-MacIntyre Dr. Jennifer Yan **OPTOMETRISTS**

Saves Gas



(905) 884-0061 10350 Yonge St. Ste. 104 @ Crosby

BIANCHI/PRESTA Barristers & Solicitors

Practicing Litigation, Corporate,

Commercial & Real Estate

9100 Jane St., 3rd Floor, Bldg. A (905) 738-1078

Carlo Di Rezze, P.Eng.

Consulting Engineer

Richmond Hill (905) 884-4336

AME-TECH

HomeLife/Bavview Realty Inc., Brokerage

WORRY-FREE RETIREMENT LIVING

Call us today! 905 • 773 • 4<u>220</u> www.OakRidgesRetirement.com Experience Vibrant Seniors Living

Please Patronize Our Advertisers!

For advertising space call 1-800-268-2637



905-738-9463 271 CHRISLEA ROAD · VAUGHAN · ONTARIO

Festa ♥ Juice juice for great wine

905-738-5550



Builder of Quality New Homes

35 West Pearce St., #9

(905) 882-2320

Auto Parts & Supplies AC DELCO Distributor 237 Romina Dr., #1 (905) 738-2255

De La Salle College "Oaklands"

LITTLE MORELLO VETTESE SEGRETO LLP

Barristers and Solicitors

Practicing Personal Injury & Insurance Litigation

Now Accepting Applications

from Grade 5 through 12 416-969-8771



Meats • Produce • Grocery • Gourmet Foods Village Gate Plaza • 9665 Bayview Ave. (905) 737-4280 Dr. M. Krawczuk Dentist •-

10271 Yonge St., #100 905-884-3571

HIGHLAND FUNERAL HOME Markham Chapel

905 887-8600 ww.highlandfuneralhome.c 16th Avenue and Hwy 404

Marble • Granite • Onyx • Limestone • Quartz Kitchen Counter Tops • Vanity Tops Installation 965 Creditstone Rd., Vaughan 905-738-7222 bimbrokmarble@on.aibn.com

BIMBROK TILE & MARBLE

BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS Evening Hours by appointment (905) 884-9242 (905) 773-5921 10800 Yonge St. (at Elgin Mills)

Waterproofing, Foundation Repairs, Interior & Exterior Methods
Licensed • Insured

WET BASEMENT SPECIALISTS

SBMB

Charlwell VALLEY VISTA RETIREMENT RESIDENCE 600 Valley Vista Dr. Vaughan 905-417-8900

www.chartwellreit.ca Making People's Lives Better 1111 Creditstone Rd., Vaughan John Vettese (905) 660-7950 **MARLOWE** BANQUET FACILITIES

- Baptisms
- Engagements/Rehearsals Confirmations Showers/Weddings

MARLOWE **RESTAURANT** 905-771-8645 www.themarlowe.ca andrew@themarlowe.ca



Elgin Mills

416-749-2273 • BASETECH.ca Hotel-style service

Registered Nurses always on site

Trial and convalescent stays

www.delmanor.com • 905-770-7963



Susan Filippi

Stan Zoldos, B.B.M., C.A. Chartered Accountant

Maura Moore

Insurance Broker Auto • Home • Business

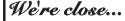
Dentist (905) 737-6770 598 Major MacKenzie Dr. E. (905) 884-4094 90 Major Mackenzie Dr. E. 905-752-4747 ext. 203



Lou Tomasone - Broker RE/MAX 2000 Realty Inc., Brokerage LouSellsHomes.com

416.743.2000





We're just across Dunlop Facing the Parish Specializing in Herbal Products'

and Diabetic Supplies

NEIGHBOURHOOD PHARMAC\ Open Mon-Fri 9:30-7:30; Sat 10-5; Sun 12-4

10271 Yonge St. (905) 737-2024



ROYALLEPAGE Your Community Realty Brokerage

Tim Liang MSc. Sales Representative 647-235-0728

賣金屋. 找金庭 www.goldenhome.ca tliang@trebnet.com

Abruzzo Pizza www.abruzzopizza.com

Delivery • Catering Take-out

Newly Renovated Dining Room 9010 Yonge St. (905) 881-8222

Remember...

Let our advertisers know you saw their ad here.



Richmond Green Orthodontics Dr. Gabrielle Chan

New Patients Welcome 905-770-5882 10785 Leslie St. Unit 1

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES Archdiocese of Toronto

Holy Cross, Thornhill (905) 889-7467 Mausoleum, Cremation, Monument Lo

ADMIRAL CLEANERS Multi Pasta & Catering

9218

MAKES THE BEST IN HOMEMADE, PREMIUM QUALITY, ITALIAN STYLE FRESH PASTA 14 Oxford St. #8 (905) 884-9629

Since 1973

POWELL PLUMBING SUPPLY LTD.

460 Elgin Mills Rd. E. **(905) 883-1616**



An Independent Catholic Augustinian School

Grades 4 through 12

Contact the Admissions Office @ 905-833-1909, ext. 367

Visit our website www.villanovacollege.com

Tree Valley Gardon Centre Ud. 4431 Stoutfville Rd. (W. of McCowan) treevalley.ca 905-640-2020

(SINCE 1984) NEW ECO CLEAN SYSTEM MANY SPECIAL PRICES operated by CERTIFIED DRY CLEANING INSTRUCTOR (SENECA COLLEGE) 3 Yonge St. (at Carrville) 905-886-1147

(VIN MBON)

World class wine World class value Vin Bon Richmond Hill

10620 Yonge St., Unit 2

905.884.2200 VinBonRichmondhill.ca

RICHMOND HILL **ITALIAN SOCIAL CLUB** New Members Welcome!

Banquet Hall Facilities (905) 889-3648



Colaricci Daudlin FUNERAL HOMES LTD.

'A personal touch' Vaughan's newest funeral home

Family owned and operated Kevin Daudlin - General Manager

905-303-4400 211 McNaughton Rd. E., Maple

www.cdtfuneralhomes.ca