

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

Dear Brothers and Sisters, This third Sunday of Lent is characterized by the Jesus' famous conversation with the Samaritan woman, recounted by the Evangelist John. The woman went every day to draw water from an ancient well that dated back to the Patriarch Jacob and on that day she found Jesus sitting beside the well, "wearied from His journey" (Jn 4:6). St Augustine comments: "Not for nothing was Jesus tired.... The strength of Christ created you, the weakness of Christ recreated you.... With His strength He created us, with His weakness He came to seek us out" (*In Ioh. Ev.*, 15, 2).

Jesus' weariness, a sign of His true humanity, can be seen as a prelude to the Passion with which He brought to fulfilment the work of our redemption. In the encounter with the Samaritan woman at the well, the topic of Christ's "thirst" stands out in particular. It culminated in His cry on the Cross "I thirst" (Jn 19:28). This thirst, like His weariness, had a physical basis. Yet Jesus, as St Augustine says further, "thirsted for the faith of that woman" (*In Ioh. Ev.* 15,11), as He thirsted for the faith of us all.

God the Father sent Him to quench our thirst for eternal life, giving us His love, but to give us this gift Jesus asks for our faith. The omnipotence of Love always respects human freedom; it knocks at the door of man's heart and waits patiently for his answer.

In the encounter with the Samaritan woman the symbol of water stands out in the foreground, alluding clearly to the sacrament of Baptism, the source of new life for faith in God's Grace. This Gospel, ... is part of the ancient journey of the catechumen's preparation for Christian Initiation, which took place at the great Easter Vigil. "Whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him", Jesus said, "will never thirst; the water that I shall give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life" (Jn 4:14).

This water represents the Holy Spirit, the "gift" par excellence that Jesus came to bring on the part of God the Father. Whoever is reborn by water and by the Holy Spirit, that is, in Baptism, enters into a real relationship with God, a filial relationship, and can worship Him "in spirit and in truth" (Jn 4:23, 24), as Jesus went on to reveal to the Samaritan woman. Thanks to the meeting with Jesus Christ and to the gift of the Holy Spirit, the human being's faith attains fulfilment, as a response to the fullness of God's revelation.

Each one of us can identify himself with the Samaritan woman: Jesus is waiting for us, especially in this Season of Lent, to speak to our hearts, to my heart. Let us pause a moment in silence, in our

room or in a church or in a separate place. Let us listen to His voice which tells us "If you knew the gift of God...". May the Virgin Mary help us not to miss this appointment, on which our true happiness depends....

(Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI 27 March 2011)

THE SANCTUARY LAMPS THIS WEEK BURN FOR:
In Honour of St. Joseph

PARISH MISSION: A TIME OF GREAT GRACE - MARCH 22-28TH
By Fr. Claudio Piccinini, C.P. & Mrs. Andreina Brann

A parish mission is an opportunity for a parish to experience in a heightened and intense way spiritual services, sermons, and sacraments focusing on the major themes of our faith. Fr. Claudio Piccinini, C.P. will conduct our Lenten Parish Mission from March 23-28. He will preach at all the Sunday Masses on March 23 and in the evening at 7:00 p.m. the Mission will formally begin. Each weekday evening at 7:00 p.m. Mass will be celebrated & the Mission Talk will follow. The topics are:

- Mar. 23- The Presence of God in My Life
- Mar. 24- The Presence of Evil in My Life
- Mar. 25- The Presence of God in Prayer
- Mar. 26 -The Presence of God in the Sacraments
- Mar. 27- The Presence of God in Mary
- Mar. 28- The Presence of God in the Passion and Death of Jesus

FRIDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS 6:30 p.m. in English. 7:45 p.m. in Italian.

LENTEN SERIES ON PRAYER IN THE LIFE OF THE CHRISTIAN Conferences in the Church on Mondays at 7:30 p.m. on March 31 (Stages of the Interior Life), & April 7 (Prayer & Contemplation). Conferences will be given by Fr. Marco.

2000 HAIL MARY'S All Day Devotion on March 29th in the Parish Hall. Couples for Christ Foundation for Family and Life (CFCFFL) in collaboration with our Parish ministries invite everyone to pray and offer petitions to the Blessed Mother for her powerful intercession anytime between 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM (even for only an hour) at the Church Hall.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING: Modern Day Slavery Conference on Sat., March 29th from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at St. Patrick's Church, Markham. Learn how vulnerable youth are exploited by those wishing to make money on their backs. To register, please call 905-294-5955 to leave your name and phone number. Registration is limited.

THANK YOU!!!

Our Rosary Raffle in support of the ProLife movement was a great success! **\$581.41** was raised through your generosity through sales of rosaries and the raffle tickets. The funds collected were given to Campaign Life Coalition. The winners of the rosaries are Roger Chan (black onyx rosary) and Phoebe Pong (red coral rosary).

A word of thanks also to those who attended our St. Joseph's Day Mass and who contributed to our collection in support of the Missionaries of Charity who work with the poorest of the poor. **\$1,596.37** was collected. May God reward your goodness!

COINS FOR LIFE As a Lenten initiative, we encourage everyone to fill a 'Coins for Life' box with their loose change by taking a 'Coins for Life' box. These boxes are at the entrances of the Church. Filled up boxes will be collected on Divine Mercy weekend. Please visit www.coinsforlife.org

FIGHTING PORN IN OUR CULTURE & WINNING! PARISH LENTEN CATECHESIS TRAINING CONFERENCES with Dr. Peter C. Kleponis (A guest on EWTN's: Crossing the Goal, Women of Grace, as well as numerous Catholic radio programs discussing this issue) on Sunday, 23 March at 3:00p.m. & Monday, 24 March at 7:00p.m. at St. James, Colgan. 2118 Adjala - Tecumseth Townline RR#1. Confession available.

THE "BLACK MADONNA" at St. Francis Xavier's Church, Tottenham, ON The Icon of "Our Lady of Czestochowa" ("the Black Madonna") is reputed to have been "written" on Mary's table top from her house in Nazareth by Luke the Evangelist. She has been credited with numerous miracles and healings - both of a spiritual and physical nature. A beautiful copy of this icon has been blessed and consecrated at the monastery of Jasna Gora in Poland, where the original is kept, and entrusted to the defense of life and family. Now, after traveling 40,000 miles from Vladivostok in Russia through 24 countries in Europe, she will be in St. Francis Xavier, Tottenham (76 Queen St.) on her global pilgrimage on 24 March 2014. Please join us as we welcome her to ask for her protection of life and family as well as personal petitions. A welcoming ceremony will be held at 12:00noon and the Icon of Our Lady of Czestochowa will be leaving at 5:00p.m. onto her next destination.

REDEMPTION AND FORGIVENESS JOURNEY, a 1 day Lenten retreat on April 12 at St. Francis Ctr., Caledon. To register or for more info, please call 519-941-1747 or email stfranciscentre@rogers.com. Fee:\$40. Please bring indoor shoes.

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

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT Refresh and rekindle your love for each other by treating yourselves to a marriage enrichment weekend at Queen of Apostles Renewal Centre, or give a weekend as a gift to family or friends. The Centre offers comfort, excellent cuisine and an inspiring program. The next weekend is April 11-13. For info, please call: 905-278-5229

GOD CALLS ALL TO HOLINESS spiritual retreat with Fr. Jose Costa, ICMS at Marylake Monastery o Sat., March 29th from 9-5 p.m. \$25. To register or for more info, please call Solidea at 905-832-1893 or Julia 905-832-3565.

THE 5TH DYNAMIC WOMEN OF FAITH CONFERENCE on Saturday, April 12th. Calling ALL Girls on Friday, April 11. This program has been created especially for girls (14-18 years) and their moms! The program runs from 7pm-10pm. For copies of our brochure, please call **905-279-7702**,

CAMPAIGN LIFE COALITION'S NATIONAL PRO-LIFE CONFERENCE from April 4-5, 2014 at the Woodbine Banquet and Convention Hall at 30 Vice Regent Blvd, Toronto Ontario. The two day event begins with an evening banquet on Friday April 4, at 5:00pm followed by a full day Conference on Saturday April 5, from 7:30am-5:00pm. This is a great opportunity to hear from international pro-life speakers on various life and family issues including Rebecca Kiessling, spokesperson for Personhood USA and Janet Morana, co-founder of Silent No More Awareness. Adult Package for both banquet/conference is \$139 and Student Package for both banquet/conference is \$99. Cost includes all meals. To register, please contact Campaign Life Coalition at (416) 204- 9749 For a full list of speakers and more info, go to www.campaignlifecoalition.com. We hope to see you there!

CATHOLIC CHAPTER HOUSE EVENT Join hundreds of Catholics to be renewed and inspired to live your faith to the fullest! The theme of the event is "**Put on the Amour of God - Understanding & Defending the Faith Event**". The topics of the day: Ephesians 6, learning & defending our faith, and how we can live out our faith in today's culture. The event features 3 talks by Steubenville & Lighthouse Catholic Media speaker, Steve_Ray. And 1 talk given by Allan Smith, of the Fulton Sheen Mission Society. Location: 50 Gervais Drive, (Don Mills Eglinton) on Sat., April 12. For Info or tickets please visit www.catholicchapterhouse.com/armourofgod, or email info@catholicchapterhouse.com or call 1-888-522-2070.

MASS INTENTIONS**March 23-29**

SUN.	9:30 a.m.	+Emilio Carusi +John Buonpastore +Antonio e Nunziata Palombo +Carmela e Antonio Toracchio +Alberto e Giuseppe Giancola +Caterina Caristo +Giuseppe Scida +Francesco Naccarato +Giovanni Facchini e defunti famiglia +Giuseppe Gervasi
MON.	8:00 a.m.	+Kwai Chow
TUE.	8:00 a.m.	In Honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary
WED.	8:00 a.m.	+Kee Wong
THURS	8:00 a.m.	+Holy Souls in Purgatory
FRI.	8:00 a.m.	+Lily Chan
	7:00 p.m.	In Reparation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus +Dolly Marie Bonfa +Anna e Angelo Marcelli +Panfilo De Filippis Deceased members of the Paxton Family +Ms. Tam Yun Yuen +Francesca Sallese
SAT.	8:30 a.m.	In Reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary +Antoni Schweinberger +Armando e Francesco De Iapa

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, 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, Jeffrey Thompson, Linda Vincent, Therese Vincent, Nora Waldherr, Abigail Walz, Sandra Weinholdt, Kayla Whelan.

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

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