# ANNUNCIATION OFTHE BLESSED **VIRGIN MARY** PARISH

3 Combermere Drive Toronto, Ontario M3A 2W4 Tel: 416-445-1760 Fax: 416-445-4228 www.bvmtoronto.com



Fr. Jude Coyle Pastor Fr. Stephen Gilbert Associate Pastor Fr. Steve N. Ransome

In Residence

Ms. Grace Hong Parish Manager/Secretary

#### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Thursday 8:30am to 12:00noon, 1:00pm to 8:00pm 8:30am to 12:00noon, 1:00pm to 4:00pm 11:00am to 4:30pm

#### The Church is open during the following hours:

Monday to Friday First Friday Saturday Sunday

Friday

Saturday

7:00am to 9:00am, 11:00am to 1:00pm 7:00am to 1:00pm 8:00am to 10:00am, 3:30pm to 6:00pm 7:00am to 1:30pm, 6:00pm to 8:00pm

#### SUNDAY OBLIGATION MASSES

Saturday Sunday

Vigil 5:00pm 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am, 12:30pm, 7:00pm

#### WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday to Friday Saturday Public Holiday

8:00am & 12:30pm 9:00am 9:00am only

#### FIRST FRIDAYS

Mass followed by Exposition 8:00am Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament Mass

12:15pm 12:30pm

#### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 9:30am & 4:00pm (At other times by appointment)

#### BAPTISMS

Parents themselves should pick up and return a completed Baptism Information Form to the parish office at least 4 months in advance of the anticipated baptismal date. An interview with a parish priest or deacon is required. Parents of children to be baptized should be registered members of our Parish Community. Attendance at a Baptism Preparation Meeting is mandatory.

#### MARRIAGE

Couples themselves must contact the parish office at least one full year in advance of the anticipated marriage date. No date may be set before meeting with a priest. A Marriage Preparation Course is required. If either party has been previously married, permission to proceed must be obtained from the Chancery Office of the Archdiocese.

CARE of the SICK Visitation and/or Communion for the sick upon request.

LEGION OF MARY - Prayer group Saturday Mornings at 10:00am.

SOCIETY OF SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL Call 416-657-2989 for assistance.

#### PARISH SCHOOLS

Our Lady of Wisdom School Annunciation School St. Isaac Jogues School Senator O'Connor College School 416-393-5273 416-393-5299 416-393-5315 416-393-5505

## ANNUNCIATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY PARISH, TORONTO, ONTARIO

"You are the light of the world."

#### **PRAY WITH THE SAINTS**



Monday, February 6th is Memorial of St. Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs Friday, February 10th is Memorial of St.

Scholastica, Virgin

Join us in prayer in communion with these great saints and all the saints in Heaven at the 8:00AM and 12:30PM Masses on weekdays, and 9:00AM Mass on Saturday.

#### SENIOR MEN'S HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT

We, at the Office of Vocations are getting ready for the different programs and retreats we are hosting, and one of them is the Senior Men's High School Retreat taking place on **February 11, 2017.** This retreat is an invitation for young men, grade 11 and 12 to cultivate a deeper prayer life and relationship with Christ in order to better discern God's call for their lives.

It is recognized that building a strong Catholic faith foundation with today's young people is the most critical step in developing strong vocations for the future. Date: February 11, 2017; 9:00AM to 5:00PM Location: Blessed Sacrament Parish — 24 Cheritan Avenue, Toronto, ON, M4R 1S4 Deadline for registration is <u>Monday, February 6, 2017.</u>

#### LIVING THE GOSPEL BY RESPECTING AND CARING FOR LIFE AT ALL STAGES!

We knew there had to be a reason we were not conceiving on our own. We worked with the FertilityCare Toronto doctors and our practitioner for 15 months and I had another surgery shortly thereafter to repair the Fallopian tube. After only two effective cycles, I was pregnant! I was closely monitored through regular blood work the entire pregnancy. At 38 weeks and 3 days, I delivered our healthy and happy baby boy. Word cannot express how grateful we are to the FertilityCare Toronto and the staff for all their assistance. FertilityCare Toronto treats their patients with the greatest amount of respect and care. I have never felt so in control of my fertility as I do today. Thank you ShareLife and FertilityCare Toronto!



#### FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"You are the light of the world." Are you willing to let your light shine as a priest, deacon, brother or sister? If you think God is calling you to a Church vocation, contact Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416 968 0997.

## Why do we need faith and the sacraments in order to live a good, upright life?

If we were to rely only on ourselves and our own strength, we would not get far in our attempts to be good. Through faith we discover that we are God's children and that God makes us strong. When God gives us his strength, we call this "grace". Especially in the sacred signs that we call the sacraments, God gives us the ability actually to do that good that we want to do.

What reasons do Christians give for human dignity? Every person, from the first moment of his life in the womb, has an inviolable dignity, because from all eternity God willed, loved, created, and redeemed that person and destined him for eternal happiness. If human dignity were based solely on the successes and accomplishments of individuals, then those who are weak, sick or helpless would have no dignity. Christians believe that human dignity is, in the first place, the result of God's respect for us. He looks at every person and loves him as though he were the only creature in the world. Because God has looked upon even the least significant child of Adam, that person possesses an infinite worth, which must not be destroyed by men.

#### Why do we yearn for happiness?

God has placed in our hearts such as infinite desire for happiness that nothing can satisfy it but God himself. All earthly fulfillment gives us only a foretaste of eternal happiness. Above and beyond that, we should be drawn to God. God wants us to be happy. But where does the source of this hope lie? It lies in a communion with God, who lives in the depth of the soul of every man.

How is God's grace related to our freedom? God's grace is freely bestowed on a person, and it seeks and summons him to respond in complete freedom. Grace does not compel. God's love wants our free assent. One can also say No to the offer of grace. Grace, nevertheless, is not something external or foreign to man; it is what he actually yearns for in his deepest freedom. In moving us by his grace, God anticipates man's free response.

### **ANNUNCIATION PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### THE LITURGY — WORK OF THE HOLY TRINITY

1077 "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. He destined us before him in love to be his sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace which he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved."

**1078** Blessing is a divine and life-giving action, the source of which is the Father; his blessing is both word and gift. When applied to man, the word "blessed" means adoration and surrender to his Creator in thanksgiving.

**1079** From the beginning until the end of time the whole of God's work is a blessing. From the liturgical poem of the first creation to the canticles of the heavenly Jerusalem, the inspired authors proclaim the plan of salvation as one vast divine blessing. 1080 From the very beginning God blessed all living beings, especially man and woman. The covenant with Noah and with all living things renewed this blessing of fruitfulness despite man's sin which had brought a curse on the ground. But with Abraham, the divine blessing entered into human history which was moving toward death, to redirect it toward life, toward its source. By the faith of "the father of all believers," who embrace the blessing, the history of salvation is inaugurated.

1081 The divine blessings were made manifest in astonishing and saving events: the birth of Isaac, the escape from Egypt (Passover and Exodus), the gift of the promised land, the election of David, the presence of God in the Temple, the purifying exile, and return of a "small remnant." The Law, the Prophets, and the Psalms, interwoven in the liturgy of the Chosen People, recall these divine blessings and at the same time respond to them with blessings of praise and thanksgiving.

**1082** In the Church's liturgy the divine blessing is fully revealed and communicated. The Father is acknowledged and adored as the source and the end of all the blessings of creation and salvation. Through his Word, he pours into our hearts the Gift that contains all gifts, the Holy Spirit.

#### UPCOMING MEETINGS

Women's Spirituality Group

Tuesday, February 7th at 1:00PM-4:00PM in the St. **Pius X Room** 

#### **RCIA Meeting**

Tuesday, February 7th at 7:00PM in the St. Pius X Room.

#### **PRAY FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED**

Please remember in your prayers all those parishioners who have gone to their rest in Christ, particularly those we remember who died recently: Elisea Reyes and Eleanor Flores.

#### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR** SUNDAY PASTORAL CARE TEAM

The Sunday Pastoral Care Team are looking for volunteers to become extraordinary ministers of communion to homes/institutions and assist with their Sunday ministry to bring the Blessed Sacrament to sick and housebound members of our parish. They receive the blessed Sacrament at the 9:30AM mass on Sunday and go out in pairs thereafter to our parishioners. If you would like to be part of this special ministry and can share a few hours of your time for about two Sundays a month after the 9:30AM mass, please leave your name at the parish office.

#### FEEDING THE HUNGRY

Do you want to start the new year helping others but unsure how? Did you know that Annunciation parishioners provide nourishing, home cooked meals for the Good Shepherd Centre? If you are willing to make a frozen casserole dish, please contact the parish office. We will provide aluminum pans and recipes to follow. Just deliver your frozen dish to the parish office and we will store it until pick-up.

#### **UNCLAIMED 2017 SUNDAY ENVELOPES**

There are still a number of unclaimed 2017 Sunday Envelope boxes in the parish office. If yours is among them, please visit us during office hours or from the Welcome Desk before or after Sunday Masses. Unclaimed boxes will be recycled and numbers will be reassigned. Thank you for your continuing support.



269 Ellesmere Rd. 416.331.8085 www.creativeyarns.ca

www.heritagefuneralcentre.ca

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416-499-4850