

Pastor's Note

St. Paul wrote in the Second Reading, "For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified." Through his incarnation, crucifixion and resurrection, the light that Jesus speaks of in this week's Gospel is revealed to us. In the Gospel the Lord identifies us as "the light of the world." He goes on to say that no one with such a light would ever cover it up, but rather the light would brighten the whole world. Sometimes we think of this light as being the particular gifts a person may possess, for example, a person may be a good speaker, a brilliant student, a graceful athlete, a beautiful singer, an efficient worker, and so we think that it's about letting these parts of a person to stand out and be used or to shine. While it is true that we are to use the gifts that God has given to us, I think the Lord is speaking about something more primary, something much more foundational. To be the light of the world, to retain our "saltiness" is to live according to God's creation of the human person. And our creation is that we are God's children. As God's children we are given a definite dignity, a dignity that cannot be lost or taken. When St. Paul proclaims nothing but Jesus Christ and his crucifixion, he is proclaiming the love of the Father for his daughters and sons. And so, when a Christian lives with this knowledge in one's heart, one lives a life consistently shining forth God's light and love to the world.

Pope Francis has described evangelization, the proclamation of the Good News, as being a work that resembles attraction. Our work in spreading the Good News is not about arguing or convincing others of some reasonable logic, but of shining forth the beauty of our faith in Christ Jesus; that every word we speak or action that we do emerges from our heart knowledge of being God's children. If we were not God's children the sacrifice of the cross would make no sense. When we know this in our minds and hearts we sort of "cross a line of no return." The person cannot live as they once lived, but now must live according to God's law of love written on their hearts. A child of God lives as Isaiah describes in the First Reading: "Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless into your house; [and] when you see the naked, to cover them?" This Sunday we are again given a beautiful gift—to be who God has made us to be, that is, to be God's beloved children. And in this

all our good works will give glory to our Father in heaven.

God Bless & Take Care! *J.N. John*

Celebrating the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes – February 11th

Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes | Tues, Feb 11, 7pm | Mass in the Church and an Indoor rosary procession, followed by a potluck reception (please bring food to Lynch Hall by 6:45pm).

Communal Celebration for the Sacrament of the Sick | Wed, Feb 12, at 3pm in the Church | Celebrating the Day of Prayer for the Sick | Anyone with a serious or chronic illness, seniors and those preparing for surgery are welcome.

Lourdes 2019-20 Car Raffle Thank you for your support!



Thank you to everyone who helped make this year's Raffle a success, and congratulations to the winners!

Results will be posted on the Bulletin Boards in the main church on Sunday, on our website later in the week (www.lourdes.to), and in next week's bulletin.

Your support of this year's Raffle has gone towards the renovations of the Welcome Spaces of the church – helping us to become an even more welcoming and vibrant parish where all who come can receive and deepen the gift of God's love. Thank you!

Mass Intentions

Monday, February 10

8:00 am Thanksgiving [Cherrel Doroja]
 12:10pm Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Lourdes [Joseph Kaposi]
 5:15 pm WEENA LEJARDE + [Benedicto Family]

Tuesday, February 11

8:00 am PRECY LYNN O. PULBOSA's Intention [Jesusa Ortiz]
 12:10 pm Felipe Calapatia + [Calapatia Family]
 5:15 pm Anthony Cinquina + [Cathy Cameron]

Wednesday, February 12

8:00 am IMELDA UDARBE + [Mollette Estabillo]
 12:10pm PASTORA ANTOLIAGA + [Estela Antoliaga]
 5:15 pm BERENICE CAMPAYNE + [Family]

Thursday, February 13

8:00 am David Sequeira + [Family]
 12:10pm Antero & SIMEONA Agner + [Oliver Family]
 5:15 pm Joseph Kaposi's Intention [Lydia & Mike Sherlock]

Friday, February 14

8:00 am CHARLENE OGLE + [Sr. Hazel]
 12:10pm Ricardo Maquidato + [Ruby]
 5:15 pm Special Intention [Helen O'Brien]

Saturday, February 15

8:00 am CHARLENE OGLE + [Sr. Hazel]
 12:10pm Rosalio De Ramos & EDITHA Angeles +
 [Araceli & Family]

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

*Aproniano Semblante, Emily Lumanog, Celia Correa
 Gabriel Zakhem, Julian Brereton, Jean Boatswain
 Thomas O'Brien, Felan Ane Whitfield
 Irene Autida, Fr. Fernando Suarez*

Black History Month

Black History Month Celebration | Sun, Feb 16 | Praise Songs at 4pm followed by Mass in the Church at 4:30pm | Chief Celebrant and Homilist: Rev. Father Michael Meunier (Missionary of Africa).

Black History Month Day of Reflection | Sat, Feb 15 | 10am to 2pm in Lynch Hall | Will include sharing and prayer on writings on the sexual abuse crisis in the Catholic Church by Pope Francis, Bishop Robert Barron and Fr Thomas Berg.

St James Town Youth Centre Steel Orchestra and Singing Group | Fri, Feb 21, 7pm at Our Lady of Lourdes Church. Concert in honour of Black History Month. All are welcome.

Bulletin Corrections

We value the accuracy of the information printed in the weekly bulletin. If you notice an error or typo, we would be grateful if you let us know by emailing bulletin@lourdes.to so that we can update the online

version (available at lourdes.to/bulletin) and rectify the error in the following week's print bulletin. Thank you!

Parish Events

Alpha | Tuesdays 6-8pm in Lynch Hall.

Seniors Day Program | Ages 55+ | Fri, Feb 21 | 1-3:30pm, Lynch Hall and Library room.

Lent 2020

Ash Wednesday | Wed, Feb 26 | Masses at 8am, 12:10pm, 5:15pm and 7pm.

Way of the Cross | Fridays throughout Lent at 7pm beginning Fri, Feb 28.

Lenten Penance Service | Wed, March 18 at 7pm.

Lenten Parish Mission | March 23, 24, and 25 at 7pm each evening in the Church | Theme: "Written on my Heart" Presenter: Michael Swan.

Social Outreach

Volunteer Tax Clinic | Sat, March 14, 10am-3pm | Please call the Parish Office at 416-924-6257 for an appointment. A drop-off service is also available for the homebound – please contact the office.

Bereavement Ministry Kick-Off Meeting | Thurs, Feb 13, 7:15pm in Loyola Hall | Open to all who may be interested in volunteering for this new ministry in the Parish. RSVP: bill@lourdes.to / 416-924-6257 x2556

New Day Hospice Program Seeking Volunteers | In partnership with Hospice Toronto we are currently developing a day program for those with palliative diagnosis or a chronic illness. The program is tentatively scheduled for Thursdays 10am-3pm in the Parish Halls, beginning in the coming months. | The next volunteer training sessions begin Thurs, Feb 27 | If interested, please contact: bill@lourdes.to or 416-924-6257 x2556. Thank you.

To live for God only, for God everywhere, for God always. – St. Bernadette