

**RAISING THE BAR!**

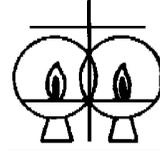
The Gospel of this Sunday is giving us the incredible demands of Jesus on his disciples. He is raising the standard of virtue to a seemingly impossible level. "Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you! If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes your goods, do not ask them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you."

Whoa! This is impossible. This could destroy our legal system; this could eliminate the job of policemen and all the lawyers as well. Aren't we supposed to defend ourselves? Aren't we supposed to protect ourselves from abuse, hate and from our enemies? How can Jesus say that? It is impossible to live that way!

Yes, you are right! Naturally speaking it would be totally impossible, but Jesus is asking us to raise our way of life to a divine way of life. We are not created just for this earth; actually we have been created in the image of God and destined to live in the Kingdom of God. So, if we listen carefully, those laws are made for those who wish to live in the Kingdom of God. Don't we repeat every day: "Thy Kingdom come!"

But there is a way to understand what Jesus is saying, if we pay attention to the last sentence of the paragraph: Do to others as you would have them do to you! Wouldn't you like to be forgiven by your enemies? Wouldn't you like to be blessed even by those you have cursed or abused? Wouldn't you like to be loved by those that you have stricken or insulted? Wouldn't you like to be forgiven if you have stolen something in the past? Wouldn't it be wonderful if everybody would forgive everything to everybody else? We would not need any court of law! We would not retaliate or repay back eye for an eye and tooth for a tooth!

Wouldn't it be great? Yes, it would be the Kingdom of God here on earth! That is what Jesus came to establish two thousand years ago! But how far are we from such a wonderful reality! When will this Kingdom come? Maybe I can start from my own heart!

**MASS INTENTIONS****Saturday, Feb. 23, 2019****St. Polycarp**

8:00am Rajamony & Posper  
6:00pm Rocco Li Trenta

**Sunday, Feb. 24 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:30am Lucia Fernandes  
10:00am MESSA CON PIÚ INTENZIONI  
11:30am MULTIPLE INTENTIONS MASS  
1:00pm Father Aldo Uderzo  
**4:00pm** Rodante Arriola  
6:00pm MISA CON INTENCIONES MULTIPLES

**Monday, Feb. 25**

8:00am Marianne Freiburger  
7:00pm Aquilina Lorenzana (Father Mario's mother)

**Tuesday, Feb. 26**

8:00am Mercedes & Cristiano Ventura  
7:00pm Domenico Colussi

**Wednesday, Feb. 27**

8:00am Maria Innasimuthu  
6:30pm (*Novena in honor of Mother of Perpetual Help*)  
7:00pm MULTIPLE INTENTIONS MASS

**Thursday, Feb. 28**

8:00am Special intentions for Katarina Hanzek  
7:00pm Luciano Checchia

**Friday, Mar. 1**

8:00am Father Aldo Uderzo  
7:00pm Giordano Nasato  
7:30pm *HOLY HOUR OF ADORATION of the Blessed Sacrament for vocations*

**Saturday, Mar. 2**

8:00am Crisanta Aranujuez  
6:00pm Giuseppina, Nanino, Tonino & Vincenza Carfagna

**Sunday, Mar. 3 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:30am Maria, Angela, Giuseppe & Luigi Pietroiusti  
10:00am MESSA CON PIU INTENZIONI  
11:30am MULTIPLE INTENTIONS MASS  
1:00pm Lucia Fernandes  
**4:00pm** Vincenzo Gasparro  
6:00pm MISA CON INTENCIONES MULTIPLES

### **YOUTH MINISTRY**

André Tyson is the new pastoral coordinator for the youth and he will continue the ALPHA JUNIOR group (next meeting March 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm). The new EDGE program (next meeting March 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30pm), for all those who are going to receive their Confirmation this year.

### **NOTIZIE IN ITALIANO**

**GRUPPO DI PREGHIERA CARISMATICO**  
ogni mercoledì all' 1:30 pm nel Salone Fr. Zanon.

### **AVISOS EN ESPAÑOL**

La Familia Misionera invita a todos a continuar nuestro caminar cristiano, participando en nuestras oraciones de todos los Martes a las 7:35 pm en el Salón Scalabrini. Los esperamos.

El Miércoles 27 de Febrero, 2019 (11:00 am) el Rvdo. Padre José Plascencia celebrará la Santa Misa en la Capilla de Radio María Canadá (1247 Lawrence Avenue West, Toronto, ON M6L 1A1). Pueden escucharla en vivo: <http://www.radiomaria.ca> Español.

El Miércoles 27 de Febrero (7:45 pm – 9:00 pm) estamos invitados a participar en el Curso de Biblia con el Rvdo. Padre José Plascencia en el Salón Scalabrini. Por favor traer su Biblia y un cuaderno para tomar notas. Los esperamos.

La Renovación Carismática Católica los invita a participar en la Santa Misa y la Adoración Eucarística el Viernes 1 de Marzo, por ser el primer Viernes del Mes.

El Café de la Amistad nos ofrece la oportunidad de una mayor convivencia entre la comunidad hispana. ¡Ven y disfruta los diversos platillos típicos que allí nos ofrecen! Hoy estará a cargo del grupo de la Renovación Carismática Católica Hispana

**NEW PARISHIONERS** welcome! Please take the time to register at the office during office hours.

**INCOME TAX RECEIPTS** can be picked up at the office. Thank you for your generosity throughout the year.

### **ADULT SPIRITUAL FORMATION GROUP**

Thursdays at 7:30pm in Zanon Hall with Fr. Walter. "The Age of Divine Mercy": A journey in the footsteps of St. Maria Faustina Kowalska February 14<sup>th</sup> – April 4<sup>th</sup> inclusive.

### **ASH WEDNESDAY**

Lent will start on Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>. Masses will be at 8:00am, 5:30pm, and 7:00pm. During lent, there will be Stations of the Cross every Friday at 6:30pm.

### **PARISH MARRIAGE RENEWAL WEEKEND.**

Couples who want to renew their marriage are invited to register for this weekend, which will start on Friday, March 8, from 6:30pm to 9:00pm; on Saturday, March 9, from 8:30am to 8:00pm and Sunday, March 10, from 8:30am to 5:00pm. The cost is \$50.00 per couple and we will serve 2 lunches and snacks. Registration forms are available at the parish office. Please call (905) 272-1454.

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY** is looking for any retired parishioners who would like to become new volunteers and help the poor. Retired married couples are encouraged. Your commitment time is 5-7 hours a month. Please call 905-272-0840 (and press the # button to skip the voicemail) and leave a message.

**COME and SEE WEEKEND** Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup> to Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, at St. Augustine's Seminary. Single catholic men 17 years and older, are invited to cultivate a deeper prayer life and relationship with Jesus Christ.. Please call 416-968-0997 or register online at [www.vocationstoronto.ca](http://www.vocationstoronto.ca)

**THE CATHOLIC MOMS GROUP** has started their journey with great joy and success. Next meeting will take place on March 19, at 10:00am & 8:00pm in Zanon Hall. Please call if you want to participate. All moms are welcome.

**WORD OF LIFE** meeting of the Focolare Movement will be held every 4th Friday of the month at 7:30pm in Zanon Hall. The next meeting is Friday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>. There will be reflecting and sharing of experiences on the Gospel Passages.

**FILIPINO RETREAT** with Fr. Joseph on Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup> in the Main Hall from 9:00am to 3:00pm. The theme of the retreat is Self-Knowledge & Know Thyself.