Dear Parishioners:

As we near Advent, I wish to inform you of some wonderful initiatives we have planned as we prepare our hearts and minds for Christmas.

Blessed Trinity Parish and St. Edward's Parish will co-join for an Advent Retreat, to be held, Monday, Dec. 5^{th} – Wednesday, Dec. 7^{th} , at 7 p.m., at Blessed Trinity Parish (3220 Bayview Ave.).

The Retreat begins each night with Mass at 7 p.m. Fr. Tomasz Skibinski, Rector of Redemptoris Mater Seminary, Toronto, will offer the retreat. The final night, Wed., Dec. 7th, following Mass, the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be held with a number of priests available to hear confessions.

Fr. Edward Murphy, the pastor of Blessed Trinity, and I, hope to co-join for a Lenten Retreat, next year, here at St. Edward's Church. I trust this initiate between our parishes will bring more people together.

As you know, Favin Alemao, and his brother, Ryan, were ordained deacons at their home parish of St. Francis de Sales, in Ajax, last Sunday. The parish of St. Edward's was well represented at the Mass and reception! This weekend, Deacon Favin will offer his first homily at our parish, where he served as a seminarian-intern two years ago. The Catholic Women's League will provide refreshments, following the 11 a.m. Mass. I thank them! Favin's brother (Deacon Ryan), will preach at our parish on January 8th, the Feast of the Epiphany. Congratulations to both on their ordination! They will be ordained to the Priesthood, Mother's Day weekend, May 13, 2017.

I also welcome all parishioners to attend our Advent "Reflection and Carols" Service on Saturday, Dec. 10th, at 6 p.m. Please refer to the flyer in this week's bulletin. A number of choir members and musicians will participate.

In addition, I also wish to invite all the seniors of the parish for our second annual "Seniors' Lunch", Wednesday, Dec. 7th at 12:00 noon. In order to appreciate the numbers, a sign-up sheet will be available after all weekend Masses; should a senior need to bring a care-giver, they are most welcome.

Finally, My thanks to the Knights of Columbus, who will host the "Angel Tree" Program this year, along with the help of the St. Vincent de Paul Association, Patricia Murphy-Masse and Mary Ellen Herron-Mead. This program helps to provide toys and gifts for the needy children of our community, as well as those served by St. Paul's Basilica (downtown). Hopefully, it will bring more joy to these children at Christmas.

Speaking of children, the parish Knights of Columbus will also host, once again, the Children's Christmas party, Sunday, Dec. 18th, in the parish hall, following the 11 a.m. Mass. All children and parents of the parish are welcome.

As you can see, much is happening at the parish over the next few weeks. Let us keep one another in prayer. God Bless

Fr. Pat



Monday, November 21st, 20168:30 a.m.All Holy Souls of PurgatoryTuesday, November 22nd, 20168:30 a.m.+ Marguerite Rose LeBlancWednesday, November 23rd, 20168:30 a.m.In Thanksgiving

Thursday, November 24th, 20168:30 a.m.+ Mary Clarke

Friday, November 25th, 2016 Multi-intention 8:30 a.m. + Betty Scholes + Juan Chin

+ Paddy Skerry

Saturday, November 26th, 20164:30 p.m.+ Edward Laughlan

Sunday, November 20th, 2016

8:00 a.m.	+ Antolin Visco & Zanida Visco's Health
9:30 a.m.	+ For the Gasparini Family
11:00 a.m.	+ Jean Lapena

Calling all Children!

Children from Grades 3 – 12 are welcome to sing at the Christmas Eve Children's Choir, December 24th at the 4:30 p.m. Mass.

If interested, church musicians Clea Soare and Marc Michalak will prepare the children at 3 rehearsals prior to Christmas Eve.

Rehearsal Dates: Thursday, Dec. 8, Dec. 15, and Dec. 22. **Rehearsal Time:** 6 – 7 p.m. in the Church

To sign-up, parents may contact choir Director, Marc Michalak at: marcfmichalak@gmail.com

Vocation Discernment Retreat:

The Office of Vocations invites single Catholic men, 17 years and older to attend a Vocations Discernment Retreat from Dec. 9 to 11, 2016 at Manresa Spiritual Renewal Centre, Pickering. (Starts on Friday at 7:00 p.m.). This is a good retreat for men who are at crossroads in discerning God's desired Vocation for them. The retreat offers Guided reflections, Holy Mass, Adoration, confession and the assistance of a vocations team. Suggested donation is \$150 to help cover costs.

For more information please call **416-968-0997** or **email** vocations@archtoronto.org

Looking for Catechists for Sacraments

St. Edward the Confessor Parish is looking for volunteer catechists for the Sacraments. Catechism classes for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Holy Communion take place on Sunday mornings following the 9:30 a.m. Mass. Catechism classes for the Sacrament of Confirmation take place either on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m., or Saturday mornings at 10:00 a.m. If you are interested in supporting our sacramental programs, contact Kimberly Go at: stedwardyouthministry@gmail.com

Traditional Lessons and Carols Service St. Edward's Church Saturday December 10th at 6:00 p.m.

Take a break from the hustle and bustle of the Holiday season. Join the choir and musicians of St. Edward's parish for a reflective evening of sacred music. We will present a glorious selection of Advent music. Join in singing well known Christmas hymns. Light refreshments to follow. All are welcome! There will be no admission fee. A free-will offering would be appreciated for the work of the Sisters of Life.

If you've ever thought of joining the choir, we are admitting singers strictly for the preparation of the Lessons and Carols Service. Attendance at 3 rehearsals will be required. Please email marcfmichalak@gmail.com for more information.

Day of Confessions

The Archdiocese has asked all churches to hold a day of Confessions during Advent. We shall host it on Friday, Dec. 16th, at various times of the day to allow parishioners the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Fr. Pat has set the following schedule for St. Edward's Parish:

> 7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

POINSETTIAS, CRAFTS & MORE SALE Saturday, Dec. 3rd, from 1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4th, from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. In the Church Hall

Please **pre-order** poinsettia plants by **Sunday**, **Nov. 27**th. There are 5 sizes and 4 colours to choose from. Order forms available at the Welcome Table. Orders will be collected after all the Masses, this weekend and next weekend. For additional information, please contact Susan Barry at 416-223-5261.

Are You Considering a Religious Vocation?

"Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom." Can you lead others to make this request of our Lord and King? Give your life to Jesus and others are sure to hear, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise." If you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, **contact Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Toronto at: 416-968-0997** or **email**: vocations@archtoronto.org

Prescription Eye Glasses Needed

Please consider donating your **used** prescription eye glasses to Dr. Andrew Simone. His organization, Canadian Food for Children, sends food, clothing, eye glasses and other supplies to developing countries all over the world. You may leave your glasses in the designated basket provided on the table in the foyer.

Used Postage Stamps For The Leprosy Mission of Canada

The Leprosy Mission of Canada is working towards the day when leprosy is eradicated. How may we help you might ask? At. St. Edward's Parish, we are going to collect used postage stamps, especially international and Christmas stamps. The Leprosy Mission of Canada sells these stamps to collectors, using the monies collected for education, medicine and research. The Leprosy Mission asks that we trim the stamps, leaving no less than $\frac{1}{4}$ " and no more than $\frac{1}{2}$ " paper border. Stamps may be deposited in the designated basket in the foyer. Thank you for caring.

Knitting Group

The seniors' knitting group is still very active with their projects for Out of the Cold and Tiny Shroud Ministry. They are in need of donations of wool to make warm items for those in need. For more information, contact Marie Heard at 416-222-5139.

New Sunday Missals

The new St. Joseph Missals will be available after each Mass, for persons wishing to obtain their own copy. Each Missal costs \$5.00. There will be a special table in the foyer reserved for the sale of missals.