Ash Wednesday Lent Begins this Wednesday, March 1st

THE JUBILEE YEAR of Mercy finished in November – and now, just three months later, God's mercy is front and centre again in the Entrance Antiphon: "You are merciful to all, O Lord, and despise nothing that you have made." Lest we forget God's mercy, each Lent offers a minijubilee that calls us to remember God's mercy to us, to open ourselves to that mercy, and to pass it on to our sisters and brothers.

Far from being a time of penance imposed, Lent is a time of receiving God's gift: "You have given your children a sacred time for the renewing and purifying of their hearts" (Preface II of Lent). Yes, that is the remarkable thing about God's mercy. We don't earn it: it arises from the womb of God, suggesting God's profound attachment to us, God's instinctive tenderness to us. In short, the compassionate divine presence.

Praying, "Have mercy, O Lord, for we have sinned," we evoke God's attachment to us and let God renew intimacy with us. That renewal "works" only if it also renews our bonds with others. Today's liturgy cautions us that the only display of renewal that matters is being merciful as the Father is merciful. To help us become ambassadors of reconciliation, the season asks us to fast from food and fury; share ourselves and our riches; and pray for our world.

(Reflection of Bernadette Gasslein, from Living with Christ)

LENTEN SCHEDULE ASH WEDNESDAY - WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1st

Mass with Distribution of Ashes

8:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 7:30 p.m.

Note: following the 12:10 p.m. mass, people are welcome into the parish hall for a cup of warm soup, courtesy of the 55+ Club.

FRIDAYS IN LENT

8:30 a.m. Mass

6:30 p.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross

7:30 p.m. Mass



Monday, February 27th, 2017 Multi-intention

8:30 a.m. + Tom Callaghan

Tuesday, February 28st, 2017

8:30 a.m. Birthday Wishes for Angela Kim

Wednesday, March 1st, 2017

8:30 a.m. + Rose Augustine Kocharakkal

12:10 p.m. + Tom Callaghan 7:30 p.m. + Tom Callaghan

Thursday, March 2nd, 2017

8:30 a.m. + Walter & Pat

Friday, March 3rd, 2017

8:30 a.m. + Annabel Marchildon

7:30 p.m. Protection of Unborn Children

Saturday, March 4th, 2017

4:30 p.m. + John Seward MacLean

Sunday, March 5th, 2017

8:00 a.m. + Yung Fu & KeeSau Yuan

9:30 a.m. + George vanMierlo 11:00 a.m. + Marie Callaghan

Special Workshop

Conscience Rights and Conscientious Objection in the Workplace: A Catholic Response to Euthanasia and Assisted Death
Thursday, March 9th, 2017
7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Charbonnel Lounge,

University of St. Michael's College – 81 St. Mary Street

Conscience protection for healthcare professionals:

193 letters in support of healthcare professionals as well as Catholic hospitals and hospices that conscientiously object to referring or participating in euthanasia and assisted suicide were signed by parishioners on the weekend of Feb. 18/19. For parishioners who would like more information and to sign online, go to canadiansforconscience.ca. Please encourage others to do the same. Thank you on behalf of the Coalition for HealthCARE and Conscience.

PHONE: 416-353-4224 EMAIL: bioethics.usmc@utoronto.ca

World Day of Prayer

World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome you to join in prayer and action for peace and justice. St. Edward's will be hosting this event this **Friday**, **March 3** rd , **12:00** – **2:00 pm.** This year, we are praying for the Philippines. All are welcome.



Now accepting EDGE Registrations! For students in Grade 6 - 8

Registration forms are available for pick-up at the youth ministry table in the lobby. Completed forms with enclosed cash/cheques are to be dropped off at the parish office anytime during office hours. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Youth Director, Kimberly Go, at stedwardyouthministry@gmail.com.

Confirmation Retreats

The Confirmation Retreats will be held at St. Edward's on:

Tuesday, March 7, 2017 from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. for St. Edward's School (plus private and public school candidates).

and

Friday, March 10, 2017 from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. for St. Antoine Daniel School and St. Cyril School (plus private and public school candidates).

Join the Parish Knights of Columbus!

St. Edward's Parish Knights of Columbus is celebrating more than a year in Formation. It is open to new members, men (age 18 and older) who wish to join a great community of Catholic men, eager to serve the church. For more information, contact the Grand Knight, Peter Bernotas at 416-460-7089. We meet the second Thursday of each month.

Poor Box

Don't forget the poor. The St. Vincent de Paul poor box is located in the lobby. Please be generous. The St. Vincent de Paul of our parish works faithfully to serve the needs of the less fortunate. Thank you for opening your hearts.

IRISH CONCERT

In anticipation of St. Patrick's Day, Eithne Heffernan, renowned Irish Harpist, will offer a special concert of Irish Celtic and Religious music on:

Saturday March 4th, from 5:45 p.m. – 6:45 p.m. (after a short break following the 4:30 p.m. Mass.)

(Eithne will also play the Harp at the 4:30 p.m. Mass)

PARISH LENTEN MISSION

St. Edward's and Blessed Trinity parishes, jointly, will present a Lenten Mission, to be held at **Blessed Trinity from Monday, March 20th to Wednesday, March 22nd, 2017. Fr. Errol Fernandes, world renowned Jesuit priest, will preach beginning with 7:00 p.m. Mass each evening. You are invited to follow Fr. Errol's daily reflections, which can be found on his Blog: https://errolsj.blogspot.com/. Come and spend the evenings preparing and reflecting as we enter into the heart of Lent. Confessions will be heard on Thursday, March 23rd at 7:00 p.m. at Blessed Trinity. A number of priests will be available, including Fr. Pat.**

Coins for Life 2017

Parishioners are welcome to take home a coin box during Lent in support of the work of Campaign Life. This also supports the Annual March for Life in Ottawa. This can be a great spiritual exercise during Lent in support of pro-life. Boxes will be made available after all Masses on a table in the lobby.

55+ Club

All men and women, 55+ and up, are welcome to join our meetings, every Wednesday, from 1-3 p.m. A variety of activities are planned for the New Year.

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.