World Day of the Poor (November 18)

Blind Beggar Bartimaeus suffers from social exclusion in world of progress.

I find it moving to know that many poor people identify with the blind beggar Bartimaeus mentioned by the evangelist Mark (cf.10.46-52). Bartimaeus "was sitting by the roadside to beg" (v.46); having heard that Jesus was passing by, "he began to cry out and say, 'Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me." (v.47) "Many rebuked him, telling him to be silent; but he cried out all the more," (v.48)

The Son of God heard his plea and said: "What do you want me to do for you?" The blid man said to him, "Master, let me receive my sight." (v. 51)[...] Bartimaeus is a poor person who finds himself lacking things as essential as sight and the ability to work for a living. How many people today feel in the same situation! Lack of basic means of subsistence, marginalization due to a reduced capacity for work, various forms of social enslavement, despite all our human progress[...]

How many poor people today are like Bartimaeus, sitting on he roadside and looking for meaning in their lives! How many of them wonder why they have fallen so far and how they can escape! They are waiting for someone to come up to them and say: "Take heard; rise, he is calling you." (v. 49)

Sadly, the exact opposite often happens, and the poor hear voices scolding them, telling them to be quiet and to put up with their lot. These voices are harsh, often due to fear of the poor, who are considered not only destitute but also a source of insecurity and uprest, an unwelcome distraction from life as usual and needing to be rejected and kept afar. We tend to create a distance between them and us, without realizing that in this way we are distancing ourselves from the Lord Jesus, who does not reject the poor, but calls them to himself and comforts them.

This excerpt is from Pope Francis' Message for the Second World Day of the Poor; November 18th, 2018, the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time.

EDGE is back at St. Edward's Fridays 7 – 9 p.m.

All students in grades 6, 7 and 8 are invited! For more information and to register, contact Jessica Bews at: stedwardyouthministry@gmail.com

CWL

The CWL Poinsettia & Christmas Fair will be held Saturday, November, 24^{th} , 1:00-6:00 p.m. and Sunday, November, 25^{th} , 9:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m. This is the final weekend to pre-order poinsettias; please visit the CWL table in the foyer after all Masses this weekend to place your order.



Monday, November 19, 2018

8:30 a.m. 35th Wedding Anniversary of Jasmin & Wilfred Carvalho

Tuesday, November 20, 2018

8:30 a.m. + Efren Laserna Sr.

Wednesday, November 21, 2018

8:30 a.m. + Vittoria Barrina

Thursday, November 22, 2018 Multi-intention

8:30 a.m. + Giovanni Fiasche

+ Joseph Fitzpatrick

Special Intention for Shawn Mahood

Friday, November 23, 2018

8:30 a.m. + Adamson Cruz & Felino Tayag

Saturday, November 24, 2018

4:30 p.m. + Vincenzo & Anna Saracino

Sunday, November 25, 2018

8:00 a.m. All Souls in Purgatory 9:30 a.m. + Rosa & Vincenzo Spinelli

11:00 a.m. + For the souls of Emerson & Leonor Cornelio

Continuation of Father David Series "Rejoice and Be Glad!"

The Pope believes that holiness is not only possible for everyone but that God calls all of us to holiness. Father David Warren will continue to lead us in an exploration of the Pope's letter on **Tuesday**, 20th from **10:30 to 11:30 a.m.** in the parish hall. All are welcome. This is the last session.

"The Child is Father of the Man"

In preparation for Advent, Fr. David Warren will lead us in a re-reading of the stories of the birth of childhood of Jesus on four Tuesday evenings (November 13, November 20, November 27, and December 4) from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the parish hall.

The stories of the birth and childhood of Jesus tell us more about the Man than they do about the Child.

Discover the Man in the Child Jesus this Christmas.

NOVEMBER

The month of November offers us an opportunity to pray for our deceased. As well, we are encouraged to pray for the souls in purgatory. During the month of November, parishioners are welcome to write the names of their beloved deceased in the Book of Remembrance near the altar. They will be remembered at all Masses throughout the month of November.

Dear Parishioners:

A special thank you to all who visited the religious articles table last weekend and offered donations for the various items that were for sale; proceeds went to support the Hanna family who we sponsored to Canada last June. The total raised was close to \$3,000; the family is very grateful for your generous support as they continue to settle in Toronto.

On that note, next weekend (on the Feast of Christ the King) we will introduce our annual Development and Peace Campaign; the theme for this year is: "Share the Journey"; it highlights the root causes of forced migration. No one should be forced to flee their home.

The main call to action for the Development and Peace Campaign this year is the signing of an Action card that will be mailed to the Canadian government asking to do more to tackle the root causes of forced migration.

Some of the causes for migration include violence, persecution based on religion or ethnicity, extreme poverty, and often environmental causes (drought, famine, natural disasters, such as climate change, etc.)

I invite parishioners to read the enclosed pamphlet highlighting this initiative. Action cards will be provided in the pews next weekend. Thank you for your interest and support.

I wish to acknowledge the Development and Peace Committee of our parish and I thank them for their great work in helping us to be more informed of social justice initiatives.

God Bless. Let us keep one another in prayer.

Fr. Pat

Senior's Christmas Luncheon

The Senior's Christmas Luncheon will be held on a weekend this year! Please note the date: Saturday, December 8th at 11:30 a.m. More details will follow. There is no cost for this event. Fr. Pat wishes to thank and honour the seniors of our community for their great work and dedication to their faith and to the Church. In order to appreciate number attending, please sign up following Masses this weekend and next.

New Sunday Missals

The new St. Joseph Missals for 2018 – 2019, will be available after each Mass, for persons wishing to obtain their own copy. Each Missal costs \$5.00.

Children's Christmas Choir

Marc Michalak, Choir Director, invites young people, ages 6 – 14, to join a special Christmas choir that will sing on Christmas Eve (Dec. 24th) at the 4:30 p.m. Mass.

Registrations and a Parent Meeting will take place at the first rehearsal, Saturday, Dec. 1st, in the lower hall, at 12:00 noon.

Rehearsal Dates:

Sat., Dec. 1st 12:00 Noon (Parent Meeting)

12:30 – 1:30 p.m. (Rehearsal)

Sat. Dec. 8th **3:30 – 4:30 p.m.** Rehearsal (Lower Hall) Sat. Dec. 15th **3:30 – 4:30 p.m. Rehearsa**l (Lower Hall) Sat. Dec. 22nd **3:30 – 4:30 p.m. Rehears**al (Lower Hall)

Contact Marc Michalak at: marcfmichalak@gmail.com

Senior Residence Mass - November

Wednesday, Nov. 21st – Del Manor – 10:30 a.m. Parishioners are welcome to attend.

Vocations

If we dare to trust God with our lives, great things happen. Give God your total self for, when the end of times comes, the wise and those who work for justice will shine forever, Dedicate your life to furthering the reign of God. If you feel God may be calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon in His Church, call Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Toronto 416-968-0997. email vocations@archtoronto.org

www.voctionstoronto.ca

Catholic Media & the World Day of the Poor November 18th

To commemorate the World Day of the Poor (November 18, 2018), Catholic media throughout the Archdiocese of Toronto have partnered to prepare an online page summarizing their activities in drawing greater attention to this important date in the life of the church. To learn more about programs and other initiatives leading up to November 18, please visit: www.archtoronto.org/dayofpoor for more information. Please join us in prayer and outreach as the global lifts its collective voice to support the poor among us.