

A Word from the Pastor . . .

As you can see, activities at the parish are picking up again. Monsignor D'Souza will be here next weekend to celebrate the Noon Mass for his 50th anniversary of priestly ordination. The Alpha Course and the Christopher Leadership Course are also being offered again.

This weekend and last, I have put a note in the bulletin requesting your family photos in digital form. This will help me and the other priests to be better at putting faces to names. We have a very large community; it is important that we as your clergy strengthen our ability to forge deeper connections.

First Reconciliation is coming up for students from our schools. A note below makes it clear that we are closing off applications for First Holy Communion by January 17th – next Sunday. For those who are enrolled in public or private schools or who are in grades above grade 2, please just make sure that your grade and school are indicated on the application form. We will make sure that you are properly accommodated and supported.

I have been working on plans and agendas for our new committees. I will try to erect four committees in the coming months: the Finance Council, the Pastoral Council, the Building Committee (sub-committee of the Finance Council), and the Development Committee (sub-committee of the Finance Council). There are some medium and long-term maintenance issues that need to be addressed (HVAC and roofs especially), and in the short-term I would like to initiate a religious goods store accepting electronic payment with an ability to offer parishioners the opportunity to donate to the parish by debit.

It will be June before we know it!

In Christ. *Fr. Bob*

FEASTS THIS WEEK

Tuesday **St. Marguerite Bourgeoys**, religious, *Memorial*

LOOKING AHEAD

13 Jan. 9:30am Feast Day School Mass at **St. Hilary School**

17 Jan. Noon **50th Anniversary** of Ordination to the Priesthood of **Monsignor Terence F. D'Souza, C.H.H.** Msgr. will celebrate the **Noon Mass** at the Parish. You are most welcome to join him.

19 Jan. 7pm **Parent and Candidate Meeting** for the Sacrament of **Confirmation**. In the church.

26 Jan. 9:30am **First Reconciliation** for **St. Valentine's School** at St. Francis Xavier Parish

27 Jan. 9:30am **First Reconciliation** for **St. Pio School** at St. Francis Xavier Parish

29 Jan. 9:30am **First Reconciliation** for **St. Veronica's School** at St. Francis Xavier Parish

3 Feb. 9:30am **First Reconciliation** for **St. Jude's School** at St. Francis Xavier Parish

5 Feb. 9:30am **First Reconciliation** for **St. Gertrude's School** at St. Francis Xavier Parish

6-7 Feb. **Confirmation Inscription**. All Masses.

9 Feb. 9:30am **First Reconciliation** for **St. Hilary's School** at St. Francis Xavier Parish

10 Feb. 9:30am **First Reconciliation** for **San Lorenzo's School** at St. Francis Xavier Parish

12 Feb. 9:30am **First Reconciliation** for **St. Matthew's School** at St. Francis Xavier Parish

13 Feb. 6:30pm **Catholic Women's League - Valentine Dance**

17 Feb. **Ash Wednesday**

21 Feb. 12noon **Catholic Women's League - Public Speaking Contest**. In the Parish Hall

AROUND THE PARISH

Mass for the 50th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood of Monsignor Terence D'Souza, C.H.H.

Next Sunday, January 17th, at the Noon Mass, Monsignor Terence D'Souza, will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. All are welcome.

Urgent: First Holy Communion Form Submission Deadline

Parents of child who have requested to receive the sacrament of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion and are not attending a Catholic school or are beyond the grade 2 level, will be contacted within the next two weeks regarding the Sacramental Preparation Program. If you have not already submitted a request, please do so by the end of this week. **The absolute deadline is January 17, 2010.**

Alpha Course is Starting Again

More than ten million people all over the world have completed the Alpha course during the last fifteen years.

Alpha is an opportunity to explore the Christian faith in a relaxed, friendly and fun setting over the course of twelve thought-provoking weekly sessions. There is **no** cost for participating.

Each weekly session begins at 7:00pm with an informal dinner, followed by a DVD presentation, and ends with a small group discussion and interaction. Alpha is a place where no question is too simple.

To learn more about the course, please call David Chown at 905-848-9836. Please reserve your spot for the introductory Dinner on Wednesday, January 13, 2010.

Christopher Leadership Course

Once again we are hosting the Christopher Leadership Course starting on Thursday, January 21, 2010 for 11 weeks in the Upper Hall.

If you are interested, please contact Nella at 416-410-5205 or call the Parish Office at 905-890-5290.

Family Pictures for Parish Database

Are you able to provide a digital family picture to go with your information in the database? Late last spring the data from the parish surveys was entered onto our new database. The database provides the opportunity to include a photo with family and individual files.

The database itself is used only by staff and priests at the parish who are accessing it for administrative or pastoral reasons. Providing a photo will make it much easier for all of us here at the parish to know more of the parish by name.

Perhaps down the road we will to another parish photo album so that we can to recognize one another more easily.

Please e-mail your photos to:

marilou@stfrancisxavierchurch.ca or
joanita@stfrancisxavierchurch.ca.

Be sure to include your name and mailing address in the e-mail.

Lay Pastoral Visitors Training

Saturdays, February 13, 20, 27, 2010 – 9:30 am to 3:00 pm
St. Francis Xavier Parish, Mississauga

The Office of Formation for Discipleship will be offering the Lay Pastoral Visitors Training beginning in February 2010. This training is designed to prepare lay persons to become Lay Pastoral Visitors in the ministry of spiritual and religious care of shut-ins and the sick of our parish communities. Registration fee is \$20.00

For further information, contact Sally Amaral at (416) 721-3741.

AROUND THE COMMUNITY

World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life

Sunday, January 31, 2010 – 3:00 pm
St. Paul's Basilica, Toronto

His Grace, Archbishop Collins will preside at a special Mass in celebration of the vocation and witness of these special men and women religious who are such a vital and important part of the life and ministry of the Church in our Archdiocese. **All are welcome to attend.**

Auditions for St. Michael's Choir School

Established in 1937, St. Michael's Choir School continues a long and proud tradition of educating the young men who provide the music for St. Michael's Cathedral.

St. Michael's Choir School fosters a lifelong devotion to sacred music and the desire to share this music with our community.

Auditions for boys not currently enrolled in a Toronto Catholic District School Board school, can be arranged by contacting the Choir School at 416-397-6367 or by visiting our website at www.smcs.on.ca

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, 9 Jan.	5:00 pm	Special Intentions – Bernard Gomes & Family
Sunday, 10 Jan.	8:00 am	<i>Pro Populo</i>
	9:00 am	+ Emiliana Carlos
	10:30 am	Special Intentions – Rodrigues Family
	Noon	+ Nestor Misquita
	1:30 pm	+ Deceased in Caramancion & Juan Family
	7:00 pm	Special Intentions – Dimple Chaudry
Monday, 11 Jan.	7:00 pm	+ Philomena D'Sa
Tuesday, 12 Jan.	8:00 am	+ Shery Feraren
	Noon	+ Melita D'Souza
Wednesday, 13 Jan.	8:00 am	+ Joseph & Clytie Furtado
	7:00 pm	+ Elviro Sr. Ibanez + Yvonne Jeremiah + Tony Khor Special Intentions – Gloria Sarroca Special Intentions – Zamora Family
Thursday, 14 Jan.	8:00 am	+ Vicente Lo
	Noon	+ Evangeline Manio
Friday, 15 Jan.	7:00 pm	+ Deceased in Lobo Family
Saturday, 16 Jan.	9:00 am	+ Andrew Micheal McNicoll