

In the Line of Melchizedek . . .

Fifty years ago, prostrate before the Bishop, Father Terence D'Souza, committed himself to service to the church in the presbyteral order (priestly) order. The bishop chose him for this service, and like anyone who enters into lifelong commitment, he could not have imagined where it would take him. This is an act of faith that lies at the root of vocation.

One of the memorable phrases in the prayers of the rite are: "May God who has begun this good work in you, bring it to completion." To be faithful as a minister of God's Word and a steward of the sacraments through the many changes of time and place is indeed a wonderful blessing.

Father D'Souza had the distinction also of becoming a member of the Papal Household, a Monsignor, along with Fr. Joseph Shiels and Fr. Ambrose Sheehy. The title, "Monsignor", represents a concrete connection with the See of St. Peter, a bond to the universal mission and reality of the Church, something which Monsignor D'Souza has experienced very directly.

His Eminence, Gerald Emmett Cardinal Carter, called Monsignor to establish this parish. From the seeds of a small number of parishioners, we are now part of one of the largest Catholic parishes in Canada. Each change and development within the parish required new skills and energy, for which we are the grateful beneficiaries.

We give thanks for the many blessings that Monsignor has received throughout his priestly ministry so far, and for the graces of the countless encounters with people through sacrament, prayer, counselling and pastoral accompaniment. May the good Lord who has begun this great good work in him, continue to nourish him in priestly service. *Ad multos annos.*

In Christ. *Fr. Bob, Fr. Steve & Fr. Jose*

FEASTS THIS WEEK

Thursday **St. Agnes**, virgin, martyr, *Memorial*

LOOKING AHEAD

17 - 24 Jan. **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.**
 19 Jan. **Parent and Candidate Meeting** for the Sacrament of **Confirmation.** In the Church.
 7pm
 26 Jan. **First Reconciliation** for **St. Valentine's School** at St. Francis Xavier Parish
 9:30am
 27 Jan. **First Reconciliation** for **St. Pio.** At St. Francis Xavier Parish.
 9:30am
School at St. Francis Xavier Parish
 29 Jan. **First Reconciliation** for **St. Veronica's School** at St. Francis Xavier Parish
 9:30am
 3 Feb. **First Reconciliation** for **St. Jude's School** at St. Francis Xavier Parish
 9:30am
 5 Feb. **First Reconciliation** for **St. Gertrude's School** at St. Francis Xavier Parish
 9:30am
 5 Feb. **Mass & Holy Hour.** 1st Friday Holy Hour resumes.
 7pm
 6-7 Feb. **Confirmation Inscription.** All Masses.
 9 Feb. **First Reconciliation** for **St. Hilary's School** at St. Francis Xavier Parish
 9:30am
 10 Feb. **First Reconciliation** for **San Lorenzo's School** at St. Francis Xavier Parish
 9:30am
 12 Feb. **First Reconciliation** for **St. Matthew's School** at St. Francis Xavier Parish
 9:30am
 13 Feb. **Catholic Women's League - Valentine Dance**
 6:30pm
 15 Feb. **"Family Day"** in Ontario.

17 Feb. **Ash Wednesday.** Masses are 8am, Noon, 6pm, 7:30pm, 8:45pm
 21 Feb. **Rite of Election**, of RCIA catechumens. First step toward Baptism.
 21 Feb. **CWL - Public Speaking Contest.** In the Parish Hall
 12noon
 13 - 21 Mar. **MARCH BREAK!**
 19 Mar. **Solemnity of St. Joseph.**
 21 Mar. **Fr. Hansoo Park**, Vocations Director, preaching at all Masses.
 25 Mar. **Solemnity of the Annunciation.**
 22 - 26 Mar. **ShareLife Week** in Catholic schools.
 28 Mar. **Palm Sunday.**
 29 Mar. **Tenebrae** following the 7pm Mass. A service of scripture and song, on the Lord's Passion. Provided by alumni of St. Michael's Choir School.
 7:30pm
 1 - 3 Apr. **Triduum.** The most solemn days of the Church year: Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday.

AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

Episcopal Ordinations

On Tuesday, January 12th, at 3pm in St. Peter's Cathedral in London, Ontario, **Bishop William McGrattan** was ordained (consecrated) by Bishop Ronald Fabbro, Bishop of London, Bishop John Sherlock, retired Bishop of London, and Bishop Murray Chatlain, Bishop of Mackenzie-Fort Smith (a classmate of the new bishop). Bishop McGrattan will serve as the Auxiliary Bishop of the Central Pastoral

Region for the Archdiocese. He will also be responsible for ethnic communities and lay movements.

On Wednesday, January 13th, at 3pm in St. Michael's Cathedral in Toronto, **Bishop Vincent Nguyen** was ordained by Archbishop Thomas Collins, Bishop John Boissonneau and Bishop Peter Hundt, auxiliary bishops of our archdiocese. Bishop Nguyen remains as Chancellor of the Archdiocese, Moderator of the Curia and, in addition, is Bishop of a newly constituted eastern pastoral region. He is also Episcopal Vicar for the Permanent Diaconate (Deacons).

In both cases, the principal consecrators and co-consecrators were assisted by a large number of bishops from across Ontario and the country.

Bishop McGrattan has served as rector of St. Peter's Seminary in London, Ontario. Bishop Nguyen has been serving as Chancellor for Spiritual Affairs. Bishop Nguyen has among his ancestors one of the canonized Vietnamese Martyrs.

May God bless these successors of the apostles charged with giving witness by their lives to the Good News of Jesus Christ!

Haiti Earthquake Relief

Late night on Tuesday, January 12, 2010, the Caribbean nation of Haiti was hit by a 7.0 magnitude earthquake, its strongest in more than 200 years, causing massive damage and loss of lives. An estimated three million people may have been affected by the quake and aftershocks are still being felt. Tens of thousands of people appear to have lost their homes and many perished in several collapsed buildings. As rescue efforts continue and emergency response teams work with the victims of this disaster, relief efforts are underway around the world.

The ShareLife Office is accepting monetary donations to support disaster relief efforts in Haiti assisting in the provision of food, shelter, clean water, and medical supplies for those affected by the earthquake. Working through the Catholic Church's official relief body, Caritas Internationalis, funds will be channelled through our partners to Caritas Haiti.

Those wishing to help through a financial contribution may do so in the following ways:

- Online through ShareLife's website: www.sharelife.org
- By phone through the ShareLife office :1-800-263-2595 or 416-934-3411
- Through the parish, making cheques payable to:
ShareLife – Parish Name – Haiti Earthquake Relief

We offer our prayers for the thousands of families affected by the earthquake. Thank you for your ongoing efforts to serve those in need, both here at home and around the world.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

This week mark's the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, a tradition that is just now a little over 100 years old. Jesus, in John's Gospel, in His great prayer before His passion, prays to the Father that, "they may all be one, as You and I, Father are one."

This passage speaks to our profound Communion in Christ Jesus experienced in all of the sacraments. Insofar as this communion is broken, we need to pray for its fulfillment.

Here is a short text from the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity:

During this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity we pray that all Christians may enter more deeply into the mystery of God's wonderful revelation as it comes to us in Holy Scripture. We beseech the Holy Spirit to help us better comprehend the Word of God and to direct us on our common journey of faith until we will all be gathered again around the one table of the Lord.

AROUND THE PARISH

CWL Valentine Dinner Dance

Valentine's Day is coming up. Share the love!! Have you booked your dinner to celebrate the event?

The Catholic Women's League is inviting everyone to attend its Valentine Dinner Dance on Saturday, February 13, 2010 at the Parish Hall. *Good food, good music and lots of raffle prizes.*

Tickets for \$35 each will be sold after the weekend Masses. Come one, come all!

Sound Engineers "Holy Roadies"

Now that the busy time of Christmas has ebbed away, we will be resuming our preparations to implement sound engineering for our music ministry. Expect to be contacted soon by the parish office.

The purpose of this ministry is to invite everyone in the congregation to join in singing the parts of the Mass and the hymns that compose such a significant part of our offering of the Eucharist each week.

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.

Welcoming Back Ryan Alemao

Next weekend our seminarian who is at Serra House this year, Ryan Alemao, will be returning to the parish for the second semester. Be sure to welcome Ryan! Every encounter he has with our parish community will help him both to discern his vocation and provide him with helpful experiences in preparing for a life of priestly ministry.

Parish to Host "Project Andrew"

Project Andrew is a program of the Office of Vocations where young men who have left high school have an opportunity to come together in an informal atmosphere and share time and a meal with our local auxiliary bishop, Bishop John Boissonneau. In a media-saturated world, the quiet call of vocation can be hard to hear and easy to mistrust. Is God calling you? Take some time to listen. Maybe Project Andrew will help you to open some doors. Or maybe, you would just like to speak with one of the priests here at the parish. Christ is calling priests. He

invites us to a priesthood that is His and not ours, a blessing for all.

Are you Getting Married Overseas?

A significant number of requests come to the parish by people seeking to be married outside of the Archdiocese of Toronto, some in very far away places.

Most of these situations involve what may seem like complicated aspects of Church law. As the number of marriages here at the parish has more than doubled in the last year, it is becoming much more important that people with the expectation of being married elsewhere approach one of the priests here in the parish much earlier.

If both bride and groom reside in the Archdiocese of Toronto, then only the Archbishop of Toronto has the power to authorize their marriage and they are bound by the local legislation of the Archbishop to approach the priest at least one year in advance of the marriage.

The reason for most of the laws concerning marriage is to ensure that every couple is properly prepared for marriage. It is also very beneficial if the priest doing the preparation has continued contact with the couple after marriage, so that the sacramental bond may be supported well.

There are many other questions and, of course, many circumstances. Your priests are working hard to respond as best we can. Please remember that there are now many other couples who are also looking for that support. A more detailed explanation of relevant Church law will be posted soon on our website.

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.**

What's So Special About the Gospel of...

A series of four free lectures presented by St. Basil's Parish, Toronto and St. Mike's Continuing Education. Schedule for the first two sessions are the following:

Wednesday, January 20, 2010 – 7:00pm

"The Synoptic Gospels and the Gospel of Mark" (Dr. Colleen Shantz, Asst. Professor, New Testament, St. Michael's Faculty of Theology, Toronto School of Theology)

Tuesday, February 9, 2010 – 7:00pm

“The Gospel of Matthew” (Rev. Scott Lewis, sj – Associate Professor, Regis College, Toronto School of Theology)

Tuesday, March 9, 2010 – 7:00pm

“The Gospel of Luke, Scribe of the Gentleness of Christ” (Rev. Thomas Rosica, csb, CEO Salt & Light Television Network, Lecturer New Testament, Toronto School of Theology)

Tuesday, May 11, 2010 – 7:00pm

“The Gospel of John, the Beloved Disciple” New perspectives on his gospel, his community and his vision. (Rev. Thomas Rosica, csb, CEO Salt & Light Television Network, Lecturer New Testament, Toronto School of Theology)

All Lectures takes place at St. Basil’s Parish Hall, 50 St. Joseph Street, starting at 7:00pm with refreshments to follow. There is no charge but reservations are required. Call 416-926-7110 to reserve.

Women’s Lenten Retreat Weekend

February 12-14, 2010

Queen of Apostles Renewal Centre, Mississauga

The centre team will preach this retreat. Come join us to rest, renew, pray and grow in your personal relationship with Jesus.

For more information or to make a reservation, please call 905-278-5229.

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

New Beginnings for Widowed, Separated and Divorced Persons

Have you suffered the loss of a spouse through death, separation or divorce?

Are you looking for strength to deal with your grief?

For more information, please contact New Beginnings at 416-921-1163 ext. 2246.

Special Live-in Weekend Retreat

February 5-7, 2010 – Scarboro Missions, 2685 Kingston Road, Scarborough

Mini-Renewal Presentations

Ist Tuesday Evening of the month – 8:00pm

St. Bonaventure’s Church (St. Francis Room), 1300 Leslie Street, Toronto

February 9, 2010 – *Dealing with Loneliness in a Couple’s World*. Speakers: Mr. John Dubeau & Mrs. Stephanie Ozorio

March 2, 2010 – *The Power of Forgiveness*. Speaker: Rev. Paul Cusack, CP

April 13, 2010 – *“Let’s Talk About Divorce”: Helping Children Cope*. Speaker: Ms. Liisa Kuuter, M.Sc., MFT

Widow/Widower Support Group

March 19-April 30, 2010 – 7 week session, Friday evenings at 7:30pm

St. Bonaventure’s Church, 1300 Leslie Street, Toronto

Support for Recently Separated or Divorced Catholics

Catholic Family Services of Toronto is offering a ten-week group program for adult men and women who are dealing with the many struggles involved in the process of separation and divorce. Participant will receive support and guidance as they move through this difficult period of transition. Some topics include: coping with loss and finding support, dealing with anger and shame and finding new beginnings. The groups will run on **Tuesdays** starting **February 16, 2010 (evenings) and February 23, 2010 (days)**.

Location: Catholic Family Services of Toronto (North Branch) 5799 Yonge Street, Suite 300 (located in the Newtonbrook Plaza – southeast corner of Yonge Street & Cummer).

For further information, please contact the facilitator, Mario Esposito at (416) 222-0048.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, 16 Jan.	5:00 pm	Special Intentions - Ornella Dias
Sunday, 17 Jan.	8:00 am	Special Intentions - Tomines Family
	9:00 am	<i>Pro Populo</i>
	10:30 am	+ Mrs. M. D’Silva
	Noon	+ Lena Mendes
	1:30 pm	+ Idalina Nogueira
	7:00 pm	Special Intentions - Dimple Chaudry
Monday, 18 Jan.	7:00 pm	+ Alphonsus Lambe
Tuesday, 19 Jan.	8:00 am	+ Tarcisio Matteazzi

	Noon	+ Danny Dwyer
Wednesday, 20 Jan.	8:00 am	Special Intentions – Barbara Miranda
	7:00 pm	+ Lourdes De Andrade + Judy Felipe + Cecilia Santos + Nora Lawrence + Irene D’Souza
Thursday, 21 Jan.	8:00 am	Special Intentions - Adelaide Coutinho
	Noon	+ Clarence Fernandes
Friday, 22 Jan.	7:00 pm	+ Hilary Vaz
Saturday, 23 Jan.	9:00 am	+ Kingsley Thomas