

Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 18, 2018



MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS: MARCH 17 TO MARCH 25

(L) indicates a living intention

Saturday	Mar. 17	Fifth Sunday of Lent	
4:30 pm	Mabel Oliveira		The Oliveira family
Sunday	Mar. 18		
9:00 am	Wayne Watkins		Joy Vinson
11:00 am	Our Parishioners		
Monday	Mar. 19		
8:30 am	Max Fernandes		Mr. & Mrs Braganza
Tuesday	Mar. 20		
8:30 am	Mark Julius Coelho		Pat & Donny
Wednesday	Mar. 21		
8:30 am	Vito & Lina Marcario & Lino De Marco		Rina Della Rocca
Thursday	Mar. 22		
8:30 am	Jonathan Reed		Chris Coll
Friday	Mar. 23		
8:30 am	Mabel Oliveira		Lise Emsley
Saturday	Mar. 24	Palm Sunday	
4:30 pm	Walter Gerbec		Bill & Maureen Kelly
Sunday	Mar. 25		
9:00 am	Pina Pendino		The Family
11:00 am	Our Parishioners		

SANCTUARY LAMP (Week)

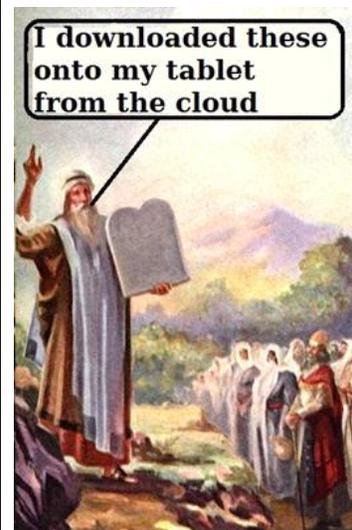
March 18: Mary Whyte, requested by Maria G. Cabral

March 25: Shelamma Joseph, requested by her son & family

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

"We are worried and forever discouraged, since instead of taking God's promises seriously, we prefer to trust in ourselves and our limited perceptions of the world. Our most urgent need is to increase our faith. . . The only real problem in the end is lack of faith. All other problems, confronted with faith, are not so much problems as occasions of human spiritual growth. 'Everything is a grace,' said St. Thérèse, not long before her death. Even the worst difficulties, lived in faith and hope, sooner or later turn to our advantage, disclosing hidden treasures more beautiful and precious than any we could have devised on our own. The day we understand this will mark a great victory. We will be at peace with life. We will be more accepting of ourselves and our personal histories— more accepting, too, of others and more at peace with them. No longer will we find it necessary to spend our lives looking for others to blame or inventing scapegoats responsible for our unhappiness."

~ Fr. Jacques Philippe



**SOLEMNITY OF ST. JOSEPH
PATRON OF THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH AND OF CANADA: MARCH 19**



Joseph of Nazareth is a "just man" because he totally "lives by faith." He is holy because his faith is truly heroic. Sacred Scripture says little of St. Joseph, and does not record even one word spoken by him. And yet, even without words, he shows the depth of his faith, his greatness. Joseph is a man of great spirit. He is great in faith, not because he speaks his own

words, but above all because he listens to the word of the Living God, listens in silence. We see how the word of the Living God penetrates deeply into Joseph's soul. Do we know how to listen to the word of God?

~ Pope St. John Paul II

ST. JOSEPH'S DAY is a big feast for Italians because in the Middle Ages, God, through St. Joseph's intercessions, saved the Sicilians from a very serious drought. So in his honour, the custom is for all to wear red, in the same way that green is worn on St. Patrick's Day. Today, after Mass (at least in parishes with large Italian populations), a big altar ("la tavola di San Giuse" or "St. Joseph's Table") is laden with food contributed by everyone. Different Italian regions celebrate this day differently, but all involve special meatless foods: minestrone, pasta with breadcrumbs (the breadcrumbs symbolize the sawdust that would have covered St. Joseph's floor), seafood, Sfinge (or zeppole) di San Giuseppe, and, always, fava beans, which are considered 'lucky' because during the drought, the fava thrived while other crops failed.

The table which is always blessed by a priest will be in three tiers, symbolizing the Most Holy Trinity. The top tier will hold a statue of St. Joseph surrounded by flowers and greenery. The other tiers might hold, in addition to the food: flowers (especially lilies); candles; figurines and symbolic breads and pastries shaped like a monstrance, chalices, fishes, doves, baskets, St. Joseph's staff, lilies, the Sacred and Immaculate Hearts, carpentry tools, etc.; 12 fishes symbolizing the 12 Apostles; wine symbolizing the miracle at Cana; pineapple symbolizing hospitality; lemons for "luck"; bread and wine (symbolizing the Last Supper); and pictures of the dead. There will also be a basket in which the faithful place prayer petitions.

The cry "Viva la tavola di San Giuse!" begins the feasting and is heard throughout the day. When the eating is done, the St. Joseph's altar is smashed, and then three children dressed as the Holy Family will knock on three doors, asking for shelter. They will be refused at the first two, and welcomed at the third, in memory of the Holy Family's seeking a place in the inn. This re-enactment is called "Tupa Tupa," meaning "Knock Knock."

The day ends with each participant taking home a bag that might be filled with bread, fruit, pastries, cookies, a medal of St. Joseph, a Holy Card and/or a blessed fava bean. St. Joseph, pray for us.

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EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AND HEALING PRAYER SERVICE: March 19, 7:30 pm. We invite you to join us for a beautiful evening of healing of Mind, Body and Soul.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR MAR. 10/11

Offerings: \$4,654.50 Helping Others: 2,192.00

Next special collection: **March 18: Development and Peace**

PRAYER ATTRIBUTED TO POPE CLEMENT XI OF ROME

Lord, I believe in You: increase my faith. I trust in You: strengthen my trust. I love You: let me love You more and more.

I am sorry for my sins: deepen my sorrow. I worship You as my first beginning, I long for You as my last end, I praise You as my constant helper, and I call on You as my loving protector. Guide me by Your wisdom, correct me with Your justice, comfort me with Your mercy, protect me with Your power.

I offer You, Lord, my thoughts: to be fixed on You; my words: to have You for their theme; my actions: to reflect my love for You; my sufferings: to be endured for Your greater glory. I want to do what You ask of me: in the way You ask, for as long as You ask, because You ask it. Lord, enlighten my understanding, strengthen my will, purify my heart, and make me holy.

Help me to repent of my past sins and to resist temptation in the future.

Help me to rise above my human weaknesses and to grow stronger as a Christian.

Let me love You, my Lord and my God, and see myself as I really am: a pilgrim in this world, a Christian called to respect and love all whose lives I touch, those in authority over me or those under my authority, my friends and my enemies.

Help me to conquer anger with gentleness, greed by generosity, apathy by fervour.

Help me to forget myself and reach out toward others. Make me prudent in planning, courageous in taking risks. Make me patient in suffering, unassuming in prosperity.

Keep me, Lord, attentive at prayer, temperate in food and drink, diligent in my work, firm in my good intentions.

Let my conscience be clear, my conduct without fault, my speech blameless, my life well-ordered. Put me on guard against my human weaknesses. Let me cherish Your love for me, keep Your law, and come at last to Your salvation.

Teach me to realize that this world is passing, that my true future is the happiness of heaven, that life on earth is short, and that the life to come is eternal.

Help me to prepare for death with a proper fear of judgment, but a greater trust in Your goodness. Lead me safely through death to the endless joy of heaven. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mary, Mother of God, Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Mother of Love, help me to see God's love for me today like I've never seen His love for me before!

Amen.

BECKET PANTRY NEEDS: K.D., soap, kleenex, toothpaste, jello/pudding, toilet paper. Thank you for your generosity!

FAITH FIRST: Eucharist Gathering #6 **Tuesday, March 20th**

A PRAYER REQUEST FOR SYRIA

Excerpt from letter of Fr. Mounir Hanachi, Rector, Salesians of Don Bosco, Damascus, Syria

I am writing this as the capital of Syria is going through very difficult moments in these days. So many missiles and mortars are being launched on the capital city from Ghouta, ...by Islamic fundamentalist groups who are trying to make Syria a part of their Caliphate...are causing a large number of deaths - of children and civilians, and so many schools have already been closed. A curfew has been ordered all over Damascus. We too, of the Salesian Oratory, have suspended all our activities.

I hope my voice reaches you all. I wish to break this absolute silence over this tragedy that the people of Syria are living through...I entrust myself to you all, dear friends, during this time of Lent, a time of prayer and return to God the Father. We are continuing to support the families in difficulty.

Prayers, offerings of love and sacrifice, especially in this lenten season, and especially the Holy Rosary prayed together, are the weapons which Our Lord and His and our Mother recommend so much to us. So, let us be united together, because today more than ever the Church is called to help the sufferings of the world!