

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 19, 2023



ST. MARY STAR OF THE SEA ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

MASS INTENTIONS

1 Sam 16:1b,6-7,10-13a | Ps 23:1-3a,3b-4,5-6 | Eph 5:8-14 | John 9:1-41
SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 2023 (5:00 PM)

†Vicky Menezes



SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 2023 (9:00 AM) [Livestream \(Click Here\)](#)

†Luigia Bertolo

SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 2023 (11:00 AM)

For the People of the Parish

MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2023, 2022 (9:00 AM)

2Sm 7:4-5a,12-14a,16 | Ps 89:2-5,27,29 | Rm 4:13,16-18,22 | Mt 1:16,18-21,24a

†Josef and Marianna

TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2023

Ezekiel 47:1-9,12 | Psalms 46:2-3,5-6,8-9 | John 5:1-16

NO MASS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 2023 (9:00 AM)

Isaiah 49:8-15 | Psalms 145:8-9,13cd-14,17-18 | John 5:17-30

Special intention of Paola De Campo

THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 2023 (9:00 AM)

Exodus 32:7-14 | Psalms 106:19-23 | John 5:31-47

†Anthony Menezes

FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 2023 (9:00 AM) **STATIONS OF THE CROSS 7 PM**

Wisdom 2:1a,12-22 | Psalms 34:17-21,23 | John 7:1-2,10,25-30

Special intention of Kenny Lobo

SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 2023 (9:00 AM)

Isaiah 7:10-14;8:10 | Psalms 40:7-8a,8b-11 | Heb 10:4-10 | Luke 1:26-38

†Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Fendon

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Wed. & Thurs. 9:30 am - 10:30 am
Friday 9:30 am to 12:00 noon

DAILY DEVOTIONS (after Mass)

Tuesday – Sts. Anne & Joachim
Wed. – Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Thursday - St. Jude
Friday – Sacred Heart of Jesus
Saturday – St. Michael
Confessions: Sat. 9:30 to 10:30 am

Support Your Parish:

1. Drop off or mail your regular weekly offertory contribution to the parish office.
2. Contribute to your parish offertory by credit card. You can make a one time or recurring contribution to your parish's offertory or other special funds.
3. Contribute through Pre-Authorized giving (PAG). You can obtain a form from the parish office or [click here](#) to download the form.
4. You can contribute to the offertory via on-line banking. Email campaign@archtoronto.org

PASTOR'S BLOG

In last week's blog, I mentioned and focused on your prayer life, whether you are just beginning that life of prayer and intimacy with our Lord Jesus and for those who are looking to go deeper in that intimacy with our beloved friend.

But I would be doing you a great disservice if we just focused on prayer. This is why the season of Lent as a time of renewal brings to focus fasting and almsgiving (works of mercy/charity) as well. One without the other two is not effective in growing in holiness and authentic Christian living. But don't just take it from me, read this little teaching/sermon from St. Peter Chrysologus:

Prayer knocks, fasting obtains, mercy receives

There are three things, my brethren, by which faith stands firm, devotion remains constant, and virtue endures. They are prayer, fasting and mercy. Prayer knocks at the door, fasting obtains, mercy receives. Prayer, mercy and fasting: these three are one, and they give life to each other.

Fasting is the soul of prayer, mercy is the lifeblood of fasting. Let no one try to separate them; they cannot be separated. If you have only one of them or not all together, you have nothing. So if you pray, fast; if you fast, show mercy; if you want your petition to be heard, hear the petition of others. If you do not close your ear to others you open God's ear to yourself.

When you fast, see the fasting of others. If you want God to know that you are hungry, know that another is hungry. If you hope for mercy, show mercy. If you look for kindness, show kindness. If you want to receive, give. If you ask for yourself what you deny to others, your asking is a mockery.

Let this be the pattern for all when they practice mercy: show mercy to others in the same way, with the same generosity, with the same promptness, as you want others to show mercy to you.

Therefore, let prayer, mercy and fasting be one single plea to God on our behalf, one speech in our defence, a threefold united prayer in our favor.

Let us use fasting to make up for what we have lost by despising others. Let us offer our souls in sacrifice by means of fasting. There is nothing more pleasing that we can offer to God, as the psalmist said in prophecy: *A sacrifice to God is a broken spirit; God does not despise a bruised and humbled heart.*

Offer your soul to God, make him an oblation of your fasting, so that your soul may be a pure offering, a holy sacrifice, a living victim, remaining your own and at the same time made over to God. Whoever fails to give this to God will not be excused, for if you are to give him yourself you are never without the means of giving.

To make these acceptable, mercy must be added. Fasting bears no fruit unless it is watered by mercy. Fasting dries up when mercy dries up. Mercy is to fasting as rain is to earth. However much you may cultivate your heart, clear the soil of your nature, root out vices, sow virtues, if you do not release the springs of mercy, your fasting will bear no fruit.

When you fast, if your mercy is thin your harvest will be thin; when you fast, what you pour out in mercy overflows into your barn. Therefore, do not lose by saving, but gather in by scattering. Give to the poor, and you give to yourself. You will not be allowed to keep what you have refused to give to others.

Fr Michael

COMMUNITY MEAL

Every Friday at 4:30 pm. Packaged meals will be distributed at the West side entrance of the Church on Peter Street.

NO Community Meal on Good Friday, April 7, 2023
Last Meal of the Season on Friday, April 28, 2023

SSVP - FEBRUARY SUMMARY

During February, our team made 16 visits, and distributed \$1910 in grocery card vouchers, and \$74 in bus tickets. We also ordered 3 beds for Neighbours in Need from our Saint Vincent de Paul warehouse. Thank you for allowing us to continue this ministry. May you have a fruitful and blessed Lenten season.

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE : Standing for the Land in Honduras

Honduras' diverse ecosystems, fertile lands and rich natural resources attract many profiteering enterprises that overexploit the land to no benefit of local communities. In today's readings, we are challenged to see in new ways. At Development and Peace we are reflecting on the significance of Standing for the Land. What would it mean to see with the eyes of the poor who depend on the land, and must defend it? Development and Peace supports Equipo de Reflexión, Investigación y Comunicación (ERIC – Radio Progresso), a Jesuit organization that helps communities in their struggle for land and territory and investigates human rights abuses. In Ephesians, Paul encourages us to expose the works of darkness, to make them visible to the light. In solidarity, and listening to the witness of the poor in the Global South, the dangers become visible for us, and we can act to foster life against forces that would oppose it. Learn more at devp.org/lent.

FIRST SHARELIFE SUNDAY MARCH 26, 2023

More than 40 Catholic organizations and social service agencies are supported through your generosity. Without your contributions, more than 150,000 people would not receive the hope offered through the vital work of these agencies.

Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.

THIS WEEK'S VOTIVE LAMP DEDICATIONS

TABERNACLE

Special intentions
Special intentions

SACRED HEART OF JESUS

Special intentions
Special intentions

INFANT JESUS

Special intentions
Special intentions

OUR BLESSED MOTHER

In loving memory of Edith Krajewski
Special intentions

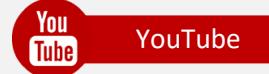
ST. JOSEPH

In loving memory of Giuseppe Racco

SSVP HELPLINE: 647-628-2058

Leave your name, number and a brief message and someone will get back to you at the earliest.

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