

SOLEMNITY OF MARY THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

PASTOR'S CORNER



“God bless you” is a common phrase, often heard in the aftermath of a sneeze. The phrase originated in the Middle Ages when people feared that a sneeze opened the door to the Devil. This enunciation was supposed to drive him away. The phrase persists, though its original meaning belongs to history. We believe, nonetheless, that it has retained its salutary benefit. In the best sense, a blessing is a gift of God’s grace. It is the touch of His hand on our life, His intimate presence that nourishes and strengthens us. Moreover, the desire to bless is universal. Even people who do not believe in the supernatural order, nonetheless believe in blessings. The expression, “May the force be with you” became a popular secular blessing after the movie *Star Wars*. So at the beginning of the New Year, I want to offer you ten simple rules, which I hope will be a great blessing for you. They are short, so try to memorize them, and then slowly repeat them every morning for your own sake for the next 365 days:

1. I will give something away today.
2. I will try to be gentle, kind and patient in every situation.
3. I will look at a stranger and smile.
4. I will laugh often...at myself as well.
5. I will show that gratitude is my daily attitude.
6. I will pray not to lose the way.
7. I will work with a sense of creating something very important and unique.
8. I will plan as though I will live forever, because I will.
9. I will live as though I will die tomorrow, because I will on some tomorrow.
10. And finally, every Sunday, I shall receive the Giver of the gift of my life.

Fr. Slawek

YOUR HEALTH : As cold and flu season approaches, to ensure the health of the entire community, parishioners are encouraged to stay home from Mass and parish functions if they are experiencing symptoms of the flu virus, colds, etc. Respect and concern for the common good takes precedence. Thank you for your cooperation! To minimize risks please use the hand sanitizers that are located at each entrance!

ATTENTION ALL PARISHIONERS—Reception of Holy Communion

It has come to my attention that some people, receiving on the hand, carry the Sacred Host back to their seats. This is forbidden. Please be sure to consume Jesus, truly present in the Sacred Host, right after you receive Him. You must consume the Host in the front of the church, right after receiving. There are people who wish to steal consecrated Hosts for the sake of rituals. If you see anyone walking away without having consumed the Sacred Host please alert one of the Ushers, the Sacristan—Anthony or Fr. Slawek.

JANUARY 1, 2023



Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

Jesus teaches us to put the needs of the poor ahead of our own, our needs, even if legitimate, will never be so urgent as those of the poor, who lack the necessities of life.

Pope Francis

The year 2022 has just gone by and we thank God we were able to serve our neighbours in need by ways that the Society of St. Vincent de Paul does. All this was made possible with your help, our fellow parishioners. We look forward for your continued support in the year 2023. "Thank You" from The Saint Vincent de Paul Society and our Neighbours in Need for your generous donations

We wish you a Happy New Year filled with love, peace, joy and prosperity!

A silent Ignatian weekend retreat for men.

Friday, January 27 to Sunday, January 29, 2023
7 p.m. - 1 p.m.

As faithful, we are aware of the universal call to holiness. All Christians in any state or walk of life, are called to holiness. On this retreat we consider our own wholeness as we approach this call. Am I complete and harmonious within myself?

or am I somehow divided or lacking or even broken? Through praying with scripture and through entering into silence we begin to see the person whom God sees, and the person God desires us to be—the person God calls to holiness.

Facilitated by Fr. Jim Kelly, SJ. A
Suggested offering of \$245 per person.
Includes 2 nights' accommodation, meals, program and spiritual direction.

Manresa Jesuit Spiritual Renewal Centre
2325 Liverpool Rd., Pickering
REGISTER: <https://manresa-canada.ca/>
CONTACT: registration@manresa.ca

MASS INTENTIONS



Tuesday, January 3

9 a.m. Private Intentions.

Wednesday, January 4

9 a.m. Repose of the soul of Joe Armeni req. by Bob & Joan Cook.

Thursday, January 5

9 a.m. Intention of Imelda & Winston Chen.

Friday, January 6

9 a.m. Repose of the soul of Linda Rixon req. by Gordon Rixon.

Saturday, January 7

6 p.m. Repose of the soul of Margaret Manuel req. by the Sebastian family.

Sunday, January 8

9 a.m. Intentions of all Parishioners.

11 a.m. Repose of the soul of Silvestro De Laurentis req. by the De Laurentis family.

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH OFFERING DECEMBER

DECEMBER 4, 2022

Regular Envelope Offering	\$ 6715.80
Flower Offering	\$ 1,040.00

DECEMBER 11, 2022

Regular Envelope Offering	\$ 4,090.00
Building Fund Offering	\$ 1,332.00
Flower Offering	\$ 80.00
Advent Retreat	\$ 919.00

DECEMBER 18, 2022

Regular Envelope Offering	\$ 3,625.00
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Thank you for your continued generosity

CHURCH BULLETIN ADVERTISING

Liturgical Publications will be setting up the advertisements for our church bulletin. The advertising will begin in January 2023 & support the bulletin service. Please support the bulletin and advertise your product or service.

Call Liturgical Publications at 905-624-4422

**Look for something
positive in every day,
even if some days
you have to look
a little harder.**

