

IN OUR PARISH

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick



Developed from the practice of the apostles (Mk 6.13) and of the early Church (Jas 5.14-15), this sacrament has been renewed in recent years and is a sacrament is for the living. It is a ritual of healing appropriate not only for physical but also for mental and spiritual sickness. During the reception of the sacrament, the priest lays his hands on the sick person's head and then rubs blessed oil on the person's forehead and hands, saying a brief prayer.

Who can be anointed? The Church offers the sacrament of anointing to those who are seriously or who are feeble because of old age. This includes those who suffer from serious chronic illnesses; patients before serious surgery; elderly people who are weak; sick children old enough to understand and be comforted by the sacrament. Those who have a serious mental illness and who would be strengthened by the sacrament may also be anointed.

Thursday, February 11th marks World Day of the Sick 2016. The theme this year is *"Entrusting Oneself to the Merciful Jesus like Mary: "Do whatever he tells you" (Jn 2:5)* To mark this occasion, the Sacrament of the Sick will be offered in our parish at Saturday and Sunday Mass next weekend (February 6th & 7th). All who feel they are in need of the graces and strength of the sacrament are invited to receive the sacrament.

Benedict Labré House: Thanks to Our Volunteers

On Sunday January 24th, we served approximately 100 people lunch at Benedict Labré. We were able to leave extras for meals later in the week. We received many compliments on the Shepherd's pies and Peach cobbler (a big hit). Our cooks are excellent! With additional donations from our generous congregation, we bought 100 pairs of socks and 30 men's briefs.

Your additional contributions buy items that are sorely needed either by Benedict Labré house or their clients. Thank you to all who cooked, donated money or served. You make a difference in these people's lives. Our next meal will be April 10.

Ascension Choir Concert

The members of our Parish Choir are hoping you will accept our invitation to join us next **Sunday, February 7th, at 3:00pm** for an afternoon of magnificent and inspiring music. That is the date for **"Exultate!"** our concert of sacred choral music and organ works. There is no admission fee; however you are invited to make a freewill donation. Refreshments will be offered following the concert.

You can support our wonderful music program by placing an ad in the program to be distributed at the Concert or, as a benefactor by making a donation. Specially marked envelopes are available at the back of the church. For more info. re: donations contact Mary Rivard-David at 514 932-0927 or by email at claudemary@sympatico.ca



REFLECTION



Truly Something

The Second Reading explains that a lot of people who look as if they are truly something are really nothing.

We are accustomed to a disconnection between appearance and reality when it comes to the greatness of people. We know that someone can be very rich and be a complete jerk. Someone can be very famous, a great scientist or a great beauty in the movies, and be a pathetic human being. Someone can be very powerful, in a company, in a nation, and be a totally rotten person. So we know that you can have riches, or fame, or power, and yet be a thorough-going loser.

What we are less accustomed to thinking about is the disconnection between the appearance of greatness and the reality when it comes to spiritual things. And that is what the Second Reading calls to our attention. Someone can be rich in religious experiences, prophesying or speaking in tongues, and yet just be a self-aggrandizing jerk. Someone can be famous for self-sacrificial care of the poor, and still be only a pathetically swollen ego of a person. Someone can have the power even to do miracles, healing the sick or moving mountains, and nonetheless be rotten to the core with arrogance and pride. You might look as if you were truly something, as far as your spiritual life goes. You might have spiritual riches, fame, or power, and still be nothing, as the Second Reading says. But if even those who speak in tongues or care for the poor or heal the sick can be nothing, then what on earth does it take for a person to be truly something?

The Second Reading explains it: it takes love.

No human person can be anything unless he is in the image of his Creator. But God is a consuming fire of love. And so, without love, no matter what other kind of apparent greatness you may have, in reality you are nothing. You are only something if, like God, you are on fire with love.

True love is not a warm feeling of affection which tries to please everybody and never rock the boat. Rather, it is like God's love: willing to get killed in order to bring true good to those it loves. And, like God's love, it embraces everybody. That kind of love is truly something! And we are nothing unless we have it.

Eleonore Stump, <http://liturgy.slu.ed>

IN THE DIOCESE

Sacred Heart School Winter Gala - Celebrating 155 Years

The Sacred Heart School of Montreal will hold a fundraising Winter Gala on **Friday, February 5**, in celebration of its 155th anniversary, at the historic Ritz Carlton Hotel in Montreal. An exciting evening is planned with dinner and dancing, a live auction & raffles. Tickets can be purchased online at the school's website at: www.sacredheart.qc.ca. All proceeds benefit the school's implementation of 21st-century classroom technology, an ongoing project that will culminate with the introduction of Chromebooks with Google Apps for Education for all students, starting in the Fall of 2016.

St. Monica's Parish**The Two Feet of Love in Action: Social Justice and Charitable Works**

Our Lord invites us through the prophet Micah, "To act justly, to love tenderly, and to walk humbly with God." Love builds upon a foundation of justice. Charity implies giving what is mine to others, but justice calls us to give to others what is rightfully already theirs because of who they are as children of God. Please join us **Wednesday, February 17 from 7:00 to 9:00 PM** in the parish hall(6405 Terrebonne, Mtl.) with **Brian McDonough** to learn how justice and love interact with each other to promote the common good! For information and to register by **February 15**, contact Anna at (514) 481-0267 ext. 22 or anna.diodati@stmonica.ca.

St. Monica's Parish: Video Divina

Join Fr. Raymond for **The Long Walk Home**, the fifth film of this year's "Movies with a Mission" series, on **Friday, February 26** at 7 p.m. in the parish rectory(6405 de Terrebonne St., Mtl.). Free admission and popcorn, and stimulating discussion to follow! For information, contact Fr. Raymond Lafontaine at (514)481-0267 ext. 23 or fr.raymond@videotron.ca.

Getting to Know the Gospel

Who is the Jesus that you love and admire? Is he the Jesus of the Gospels? On Monday evenings from **January 25 to March 14**, 7:15pm-9pm at the CND Mother House (2330 Sherbrooke St. West, Montreal) Sr. Kay Duffin cnd, will offer sessions on the Jesus as he is portrayed in the Gospels of Mark, Matthew, Luke and John. The series, *Getting to Know the Gospel* by Scott M. Lewis, SJ as advertised in *Living with Christ* will be used as well as the Gospel text. Cost is \$20. If interested, please contact Sr. Kay at 514-762- 1844 or kayduffin2@gmail.com.

Montreal Directed Retreats

Be refreshed in mind, body and spirit. . . Silent directed weekend retreat at La Maison de Prière Notre-Dame (180 De Normandie Blvd., Longueuil). Begins Friday evening, February 26 and ends Sunday afternoon, February 28. Cost is \$130. Registration before February 12th. Contact 514-626-9462 or 514-633-1172, or visit www.montrealretreats.org.

MASSES

Saturday, January 30th 2016

(2 Samuel 12:1-7, 10-17; Mark 4:35-41)
5:00 The Quinlan Family
by Hugh & Kathleen Quinlan

Sunday, January 31st 2016

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
(Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19; 1 Cor 12:31-13:13; Luke 4:21-30)
10:30 Teresa Sullivan by Milda Ruffo

Monday, February 1st 2016 No Mass

(2 Samuel 15:13-14, 30, 16:5-13; Mark 5:1-20)

Tuesday, February 2nd 2016 No Mass

The Presentation of the Lord
World Day of Consecrated Life
(Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 2:22-40)

Wednesday, February 3rd 2016 No Mass

St. Blaise, St. Ansgar
(2 Samuel 24:2, 9-17; Mark 6:1-6)

Thursday, February 4th 2016 No Mass

(1 Kings 2:1-4, 10-12; Mark 6:7-13)

Friday, February 5th 2016 No Mass

St. Agatha
(Sirach 47:2-11; Mark 6:14-29)

Saturday, February 6th 2016

St. Paul Miki and Companions
(1 Kings 3:4-13; Mark 6:30-34)
5:00 Anne & Ron Blizchuk
by Maureen & Ron Blizchuk

ACTIVITIES

MONDAY 6:00 PM
Christian Meditation Choir room.
For information call 514-931-5536

THURSDAY 7:30 PM
Choir Practice Choir Room

You are not forgotten

If you, or a loved one, are not able to come to church, we would be happy to come to you, have a little chat and bring you the Lord in Holy Communion. Let us know by calling the parish office (932-3131) and we will get to you ASAP.

Parish Donations

Parish donations can be made ONLINE through CanadaHelps. Donations may be made using Visa, MasterCard, American Express, PayPal or Interact. You receive your Tax e-receipt immediately. Go to the parish website (www.ascensionofourlord.ca) and click on the main page button "EVERY DOLLAR HELPS" for instructions. Thank you for your generosity.

2015 Tax Receipts

Your income tax receipts for 2015 donations are ready. You can pick them up at the back of the church, arranged in alphabetical order. Thank you.

2016 Donation Envelopes

If you have not already done so, please remember to pick up your box with your donation envelopes for this year.