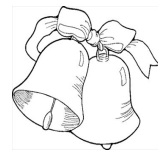


IN OUR PARISH

**Ring in the Gloria**

On Holy Thursday and during the celebration of the Easter Vigil and on Easter itself, we welcome back the chanting of the Gloria which is not sung during Lent. As a sign of our joy, all who will be attending Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper, the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday Mass are invited to **bring along a bell to be rung during the chanting of this great hymn of praise.**



**Flowers for Easter**

You are invited to make a donation in the name of loved ones toward the purchase of flowers to decorate the church for the Easter season. Donations should be received by March 30th in order to allow us time to organize the decor of our beautiful church during this most holy and joyous season.



**Benedict Labré House: Thanks to Our Volunteers**

On Sunday March 22, we served approximately 90 people lunch at Benedict Labré. The day was cold, however the praises were high. Richard, from Benedict Labré said that we have the most efficient team he has seen. With additional donations from our generous congregation, we bought underwear, socks, office paper, cooking oil, sugar, pepper and eggs. Thank you to all of you who cooked, donated money or served. You make a difference in these people's lives.

**DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE** wishes to thank all those who made a gift to the Share Lent campaign on the Fifth Sunday of Lent, Solidarity Sunday. Thank you! Through your generosity, the money collected in our parish will help serve the needs of our sisters and brothers in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Middle East. Share Lent donation envelopes are still available at the doors of the Church for those who wish to make a donation and have not yet done so.

**Good Friday Pontifical Collection for the Holy Land**

The Pontifical Collection for the benefit of the Holy Places is scheduled this year on Good Friday April 3, 2015. As we respond to this appeal, the visit of Pope Francis in the Holy Land from May 24 to 26, 2014 vividly comes to mind and we revisit the words of Scripture that marked his prayer at the Holy Sepulchre: "I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has risen, as He said. Come; see the place where the Lord lay." (Matthew 28: 5-6) By giving to the Holy Land, we strengthen our bond of friendship with our fellow Christians who live in the land of Jesus. For those among you who make use of the Sunday envelopes, you will find one specifically for this purpose in your packet.

**Volunteers Needed in the Parish to Help with Data Entry**

Can you spare an hour or two per week to help in the Parish Office? We are looking for volunteers to help with data entry on Wednesday mornings between 10am and noon. If you can help, please email Effie at [ascensionaccounts@yahoo.com](mailto:ascensionaccounts@yahoo.com) or drop by the office on a Wednesday morning. Thank you for being generous with your time and talents.



The focus on Passion or Palm Sunday is usually on the palms or greenery that people waved as they accompanied Jesus into the city. But there was another item or "prop" in the scene which receives less attention – the cloaks of the disciples and people. For many people the cloak was a precious item, one of their few possessions, and putting it on the ground or on the back of an animal meant the risk of damage, or worse still, of losing it in the confusion.

Jesus was about to enter into the events that would result in his crucifixion. He knew that the time was close, but the people did not. For him the cloaks may have foreshadowed the cloths that would soon wrap his body as Joseph of Arimathea placed him in the tomb. As the crowd used their cloaks as a means of recognizing his status and dignity, so Joseph would later bring a shroud to wrap Jesus and give him dignity in death and burial.

What would we have done in the crowd that day as Jesus rode by? Thrown our cloaks on the ground or wrapped them more tightly around ourselves?

There is no right or wrong answer to these questions. What matters is what the cloak represents in our lives. It may represent the identity our job or profession cloaks us in, which hides the real person from others. It could be a job which we cannot put at risk because without it our family would have serious difficulties. The cloak might be our self-control, exercised to the point where we find it hard to respond spontaneously to the needs of others. It could be a sense of inferiority or superiority which shapes how we want to appear to others. Our cloak could be something we genuinely need for our physical or mental health, and which we truly cannot risk losing.

Whatever the cloak is and whatever we would have done with it when Jesus passed by, it is our understanding that matters. If we kept it because we genuinely need it for our well-being or that of others, then gratitude for the cloak in our lives is our response to Jesus riding on the colt. If the cloak is something we use to create an image, to hide behind or to separate ourselves emotionally from others, then we need to consider how we could let it go. If we choose to cast our cloak in front of Jesus we need to do it with freedom and joy, as a genuine gift, knowing who he is and what the cloak represents for us. It would be better to keep the cloak than to surrender it just to follow the crowd. If we followed the crowd on Palm Sunday we might have been tempted to do the same later in the week, when the crowd demanded that Jesus be crucified.

## Passion Sunday

29th March 2015



### **Reflections on Holy Week...**

*We enter into a week made holy forever by the self-surrendering love of Jesus - for us all. All week, we remember how he loved us. Whatever we do, no matter how busy or "distracted" we might be, we can let the power of this week be in the background of our daily reflections. No matter what we experience this week, we can let it become a "holy" week, letting all be touched by the graces of this week.*

Come and join us on **Holy Thursday** evening as we celebrate the solemn Mass of the Lord's Supper at 8:00 pm. We watch as Jesus share:

His last Passover meal with His friends. We hear Jesus giving us the Sacrament of the Eucharist. He tells us, "Do this in remembrance of me." We experience the Washing of the Feet as sign and symbol of the service we are called to live.

**Good Friday** is the most solemn day of the year, a day of fasting and abstinence, a day of prayer. It is "Good" Friday, the day when God did wonderful things for us by the suffering and death of his Son. Out of his death God has brought us light and life, making it possible for us to be saved. This is indeed a good day for the world. Cancel any plans to treat this as a day off from work or school. Join us at 3:00 pm for the Liturgy of the Passion of the Lord as we unite our pains, fears, and suffering to the cross, sacrificing all for the Kingdom of God.

Be with us at 8:00 pm next Saturday for the **Solemn Easter Vigil** -the most important celebration of the Church year and first Easter Mass, or join us at 10:30 Mass on Easter Sunday morning as we celebrate the Life that makes all life worth living. We rejoice because Christ has been raised from the dead and because we are renewed in him.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **Montreal English Catholic Cursillo Movement: Men's Retreat**

Serving the English-speaking population within the diocese of Montreal, St-Jean-Longueuil, Valleyfield, St-Jérôme and St-Hyacinthe, Cursillo will be hosting a spiritual and a personal retreat for men, which will run from **Thursday evening, April 9, until Sunday afternoon on April 12** at Ermitage Ste-Croix (21269 Gouin Blvd. West, Pierrefonds) This Cursillo retreat will shed some light for you to better understand yourself and to realize that God is always with us. We hope to see you there! For more info contact Fadi at 514-467-5405.

#### **St. Monica Parish: Video Divina**

Fr. Raymond's movie series Looking at Life through the Lens of the Sacraments continues with the sacrament of Holy Orders/Consecrated Life. We will view two episodes of the Nothing Sacred series on **Friday, April 10 at 7pm** (6405 de Terrebonne St., Montreal). Free admission and popcorn, and stimulating discussion to follow! Contact Fr. Raymond Lafontaine at 514-481-0267 x23 or fr.raymond@videotron.ca.

## Passion Sunday

29th March 2015

### **HOLY WEEK MASSES**

#### **Saturday, March 28th 2015**

(Ezekiel 37:21-28; John 11:45-57)

5:00 Agnes Maclellan by Louise Maclellan

#### **Sunday, March 29th 2015**

##### **Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**

(Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Mark 14:1-15:47)

10:00 Danielle Keebler by her Family

#### **Monday, March 30th 2015 No Mass**

Monday of Holy Week

(Isaiah 42:1-7; John 12.1-11)

#### **Tuesday, April 1st 2015**

Tuesday of Holy Week

(Isaiah 49:1-6; John 13:21-33; 36-38)

5:00 Erika Letonje by Dieter Halbwidl

#### **Wednesday, April 2nd 2015**

Wednesday of Holy Week

(Isaiah 50:4-9; Matthew 26:14-26)

9:00 Mary Harty by the Ouellette Family

### **ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK**

MONDAY 6:00PM

**Christian Meditation** in the Choir room

For information call 514-931-5536

TUESDAY 7:30 PM

**Choir Practice** in the Choir Room

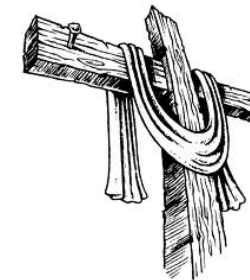
WEDNESDAY

**Mass** for residents of **Westmount Manor**

SATURDAY 3:00pm-4:00pm

**Sacrament of Reconciliation (Individual Confession)** in Church

### **AND SERVICES**



### **Paschal Triduum**

#### **Thursday, April 2nd 2015**

##### **Holy Thursday**

**8:00 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper**

(Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-15)

#### **Friday, April 3rd 2015**

##### **Good Friday**

**3:00 pm The Passion of the Lord**

(Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Heb 4:14-16, 5:7-9; John 18:1-19:42)

#### **Saturday, April 4th 2015**

##### **Holy Saturday**

**8:00 pm The Easter Vigil**

(Genesis 1:1-2:2; Exodus 14:15-31, 15:20; Isaiah 55:1-11

Romans 6:3-11; Mark 16:1-8)

#### **Sunday, April 5th 2015**

##### **Easter Sunday**

**10:30 am Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord**

(Acts 10:34,37-43; Col 3:1-4; John 20:1-18)