

IN OUR PARISH

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 20th in order to allow us time to organize the decor of our beautiful church during this most holy and joyous season.

**Thank you for supporting Share Lent 2016!**

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. If you did not have a chance to make your donation, you can still place your Share Lent envelopes in the offertory or donate directly at devp.org/give.

Concert at Ascension of Our Lord: Pergolesi's Stabat Mater

You are invited to a performance of Pergolesi's Stabat Mater which will be performed this Sunday, March 20th at 3 p.m in our church.. The concert will feature celebrated vocalists, Audrey Larose-Zicat, soprano, and Sonia Loyer, mezzo-soprano, as well as our own director of music, David Szanto, at the organ. The work is a breathtaking homage to the sorrows of the Blessed Mother during the crucifixion of her son... an exquisite way to begin our Holy Week devotions. Admission is free; there will be a freewill offering.

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 March 25, 2016. Our parish, once a year on Good Friday, is called to support Christians in the Holy Land. Many Christians in the Holy Land depend on the collection for their lives. As a Pontifical collection requested by Pope Francis, the annual Good Friday Collection offers a direct link for parishioners to be witnesses of peace and to help protect the Holy Places. When you donate on Good Friday, you are supporting Christians in the Holy Land. "He, who does acts of mercy, let him do them with cheerfulness." Rm 12, 8

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

**Engulfment and Abandonment**

The opening line of the Psalm for this Sunday is electrifying. How could Christ, how could the Psalmist or anyone, cry out, "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?"

Well, think about it this way. In brokenness, a person can fear that if he draws near to others, they will take him over. That fear of engulfment is one side of a pendulum swing that winds up on the other side in a sense of abandonment. If in brokenness you move away from others because you fear engulfment by them, you will make those others distant from you. And then you can feel the distance you have put between you and them as their abandonment of you. And so there is a vacillation between the fear of engulfment and the fear of abandonment. When you sense that others are getting close, you have a fear that they will engulf you; and when you feel your distance from them, you have a fear that they have abandoned you.

It is possible to waver in this way where God is concerned too. We can fluctuate between fear of engulfment by God and fear of abandonment by him. We can long for God; but we can be afraid of his goodness at the same time. The beauty of his holiness highlights for us our own sins, which we hate and cling to anyway. And so our fear of being engulfed by God leads us to flee into our own darkness; our sins cause us to turn away God. Then, finding ourselves distant from God, we conclude that God has abandoned us. And so in our hearts we cry the Psalmist's line.

But God is love, and love never abandons anyone. On the contrary, God's love is so great that he takes on our human nature, and on the cross he bears our sins. Our sins borne for us by Christ on the cross fills him with our blindness to the presence of God. Under the weight of our sins, he shares our sense of abandonment by God too.

And so it is the ever-present love of God in Christ for us that leaves Christ to cry out on the cross, "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?"

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

**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.

Join us on **Holy Thursday** evening as we celebrate the solemn Mass of the Lord’s Supper at 7:30 pm. We watch as Jesus shares 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 7:30 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**2016 WAY OF THE CROSS**

All are welcome to join in procession through the streets of downtown Montreal with prayers, meditations and songs, led by Archbishop Christian Lépine on **Good Friday, March 25**. Departure at 9:30am from Notre-Dame-de-Bon-Secours Chapel (400 St-Paul St. East, Old Montreal). Contact Communion and Liberation at 514-667-5709 or secretary@clonline.ca

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, **April 8th** and ends Sunday afternoon, April 10th. Cost is \$130. Registration before April 1st . Contact 514-626-9462 or 514-633-1172, or visit www.montrealretreats.org.

St. Michael's Choir School Concert

St. Ignatius, with St. Veronica's parish in Dorval, will be hosting the 100 voice Toronto's St. Michael's Choir School at Loyola High School Eric Maclean Centre for the Performing Arts(2477 West Broadway) on the evening of **April 6th**. 7:30pm.The concert will be a benefit for the Syrian Refugee Sponsorship Program. Tickets \$25, Info: smcs.concert.mtl@gmail.com

HOLY WEEK MASSES**AND SERVICES****Saturday, March 19th 2016**

St. Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church
(2 Sam 7:4-5,12-14,16; Rom 4:13,16-18,22;
Matt 1:16,18-21,24)

5:00 John Pozza by his wife, Gloria

Sunday, March 20th 2016

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
(Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Luke 23:1-49)
10:00 Danielle Keefler by her Family

Monday, March 21st 2016

Monday of Holy Week
(Isaiah 42:1-7; John 12.1-11)
9:00 Dr. Edward O'Brien

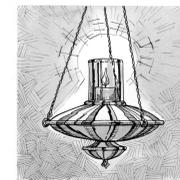
by Twink & Tom Rogers

Tuesday, March 22nd 2016

Tuesday of Holy Week
(Isaiah 49:1-6; John 13:21-33; 36-38)
9:00 Brunet & MacCauley Families
by Brian & Effie Cordeiro

Wednesday, March 23rd 2016

Wednesday of Holy Week
(Isaiah 50:4-9; Matthew 26:14-26)
9:00 Agnes MacLellan
by Louise MacLellan



This week the Sanctuary lamp will burn in memory of Leonardo Umale by the Family

**Paschal Triduum****Thursday, March 24th 2016****Holy Thursday**

7:30 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper
(Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; 1 Cor 11:23-26; John 13:1-15)
Danielle Keefler by the Family

Friday, March 25th 2016**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, March 26th 2016**Holy Saturday****7:30 pm Easter Vigil**

(Gen 1:1-2:2; Ex 14:15-31, 15:20; Is 55:1-11
Romans 6:3-11; Mark 16:1-8)
John Pozza by Gloria Pozza

Sunday, March 27th 2016**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)
Dr. Edward O'Brien by Twink & Tom Rogers