

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

1st Sunday of Lent

AT THE BEGINNING of his ministry, Jesus responded to the Holy Spirit's direction and went into the desert to be tempted by the devil. Through his willingness to enter a weakened state, Jesus showed his love for us and the ways in which we can find strength. Through him, in him and with him, we can find renewal, freedom and the joy we seek.

Who has not been in a weakened state – emotionally wrought, spiritually tired, or physically suffering? Who has not been just plain worn down? Do you have your own launch sequence when seeking comfort? Do you deliberately walk by the bakery on your way to work? Or that bar? Do you flirt with the stranger at the coffee shop? Does the pressure let up a bit? Does the relief from your discontent last?

Yet here is our God, who loves us, knowing our dark ways, showing us the way to lasting comfort and freedom: serving only the Lord. On our own? No. In our weakness, God is strong for us. This Lenten season is our 40 days. Let us embrace the Eucharistic love that will create a clean heart in us and renew in us a steadfast spirit. May we allow the Holy Spirit to restore the gladness of our salvation. Let us allow God to lead us out of our desert.

(Reflection of Johanne Brownrigg, from Living with Christ)

PARISH LENTEN MISSION

St. Edward's and Blessed Trinity parishes, jointly, will present a Lenten Mission, to be held at **Blessed Trinity from Monday, March 20th to Wednesday, March 22nd, 2017**. **Fr. Errol Fernandes, world renowned Jesuit priest**, will preach beginning with 7:00 p.m. Mass each evening. You are invited to follow Fr. Errol's daily reflections, which can be found on his Blog: <https://errolsj.blogspot.com/>. Come and spend the evenings preparing and reflecting as we enter into the heart of Lent. Confessions will be heard on Thursday, March 23rd at 7:00 p.m. at Blessed Trinity. A number of priests will be available, including Fr. Pat.

Poor Box

Don't forget the poor. The St. Vincent de Paul poor box is located in the lobby. Please be generous. The St. Vincent de Paul of our parish works faithfully to serve the needs of the less fortunate. Thank you for opening your hearts.

Mass Intentions

Monday, March 6th, 2017

8:30 a.m. + Louisa Lobo

Tuesday, March 7th, 2017

8:30 a.m. + Bernadette Carvalho

Wednesday, March 8th, 2017

8:30 a.m. + Leonard Houlahan

Thursday, March 9th, 2017 Multi-intention

8:30 a.m. + Leonardo & Caterina Renda

Friday, March 10th, 2017

8:30 a.m. + Elva Campagne

Saturday, March 11th, 2017

4:30 p.m. + Maria Augello

Sunday, March 12th, 2017

8:00 a.m. + Hector Joseph

9:30 a.m. Special Intention

11:00 a.m. + Frank, Nunsia & Vince De Santis

FRIDAYS IN LENT

Besides the regular morning Mass at **8:30 a.m.**, there will be:

6:30 p.m. – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
7:00 p.m. – Stations of the Cross
7:30 p.m. – Mass

Confirmation Retreats

The Confirmation Retreats will be held at St. Edward's on:

Tuesday, March 7, 2017 from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. for St. Edward's School (plus private and public school candidates).

and

Friday, March 10, 2017 from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. for St. Antoine Daniel School and St. Cyril School (plus private and public school candidates).

Knitting Group

The seniors' knitting group is still very active with their projects for Out of the Cold and Tiny Shroud Ministry. They are in need of donations of wool to make warm items for those in need. For more information, contact Marie Heard at 416-222-5139.

Banns for Ordination

Rev. Mr. Favin Alemào is to be ordained to the Sacred Order of Presbyter for **Archdiocese of Toronto** on **May 13, 2017** at **St. Michael's Cathedral, Toronto.**

Please remember him in our prayers.

Canon Law obliges Catholics to reveal any impediment to sacred orders to the bishop or pastor.

Special Workshop Conscience Rights and Conscientious Objection in the Workplace: A Catholic Response to Euthanasia and Assisted Death

Thursday, March 9th, 2017

7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Charbonnel Lounge,

University of St. Michael's College – 81 St. Mary Street

Conscience protection for healthcare professionals: 193 letters in support of healthcare professionals as well as Catholic hospitals and hospices that conscientiously object to referring or participating in euthanasia and assisted suicide were signed by parishioners on the weekend of Feb. 18/19. For parishioners who would like more information and to sign online, go to canadiansforconscience.ca. Please encourage others to do the same. Thank you on behalf of the Coalition for HealthCARE and Conscience.

PHONE: 416-353-4224 **EMAIL:** bioethics.usmc@utoronto.ca



**Now accepting EDGE Registrations!
For students in Grade 6 - 8**

Registration forms are available for pick-up at the youth ministry table in the lobby. Completed forms with enclosed cash/cheques are to be dropped off at the parish office anytime during office hours. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Youth Director, Kimberly Go, at stedwardyouthministry@gmail.com.

55+ Club

All men and women, 55+ and up, are welcome to join our meetings, every Wednesday, from 1 – 3 p.m. A variety of activities are planned for the New Year.

Join the Parish Knights of Columbus!

St. Edward's Parish Knights of Columbus is celebrating more than a year in Formation. It is open to new members, men (age

18 and older) who wish to join a great community of Catholic men, eager to serve the church. For more information, contact the Grand Knight, Peter Bernotas at 416-460-7089. We meet the second Thursday of each month.

Coins for Life 2017

Parishioners are welcome to take home a coin box during Lent in support of the work of Campaign Life. This also supports the Annual March for Life in Ottawa. This can be a great spiritual exercise during Lent in support of pro-life. Boxes will be made available after all Masses on a table in the lobby.

ShareLife

"Living the Gospel" by supporting ShareLife agencies...

As we begin our ShareLife campaign, we are encouraged to "Live the Gospel," in all that we do. How do we demonstrate that in our community? Living the Gospel may mean helping single mothers to care for their newborn children, or being available to families facing difficulties, or welcoming refugee families to our community. Over the past forty years, countless individuals have experienced this compassionate care offered by our agencies as an archdiocese we continue to demonstrate our Catholic commitment to serving the needs of the greater community and around the world.

Please help us celebrate our ShareLife's 41st anniversary by supporting our annual Archdiocesan appeal during this Lenten season! – Thomas Cardinal Collins, Archbishop of Toronto

Come & See Weekend – March 17 to 19, 2017

Come and See Weekend – Friday, March 17 (Begins at 7 p.m.) to Sunday, March 19, 2017 at St. Augustine's Seminary. Inviting single Catholic men 18 years and older, to cultivate a deeper prayer life and relationship with Jesus Christ; leading to a better discernment of God's call for their lives. Time for prayer, reflection and information on the process of becoming one of Christ's disciples as a Catholic priest. Please contact Fr. Pat or the Office of Vocations at: 416-968-0997; email: vocations@archtoronto.org

Chiara Lubich & the Family

The Focolare Movement invites you to an afternoon dedicated to **"the renewal of family life in the light of Chiara's Spirituality of Unity"** featuring some aspects of her thought and the impact it has had on families.

Sunday, March 12, 2017 – 1:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

St. Edward the Confessor Parish Hall

75 Churchill Avenue, North York