



## From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners and Friends:

I am profoundly grateful for the generosity of our parish community when it comes to the willingness of so many people to be involved in various ministries: members of the Pastoral Council, Finance Council, altar servers, lectors, Liturgy of the Word for Children, Eucharistic ministers, ushers, musicians, cantors, choir members, the liturgical décor team, those who take Communion to the sick in private homes and nursing homes, those who assist with funeral receptions, the catechists and everyone involved in sacramental preparation for children and adults and the "gardening angels."

Words of gratitude go out to the Knights of Columbus for their charitable projects and support of the parish. Thanks to the Catholic Women's League for inviting speakers to address important contemporary issues. Thanks to "Feed the Hungry" for their quiet but steady outreach, and to Development & Peace for keeping us mindful of third-world needs as well as promoting the role of women in global peacekeeping initiatives. We continue to pray for the two refugee families we are sponsoring, hoping that they will soon arrive safely in Canada.

I also acknowledge the members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society who continually support needy families in our community and provide extra help at Christmas. It was very challenging to assemble the Christmas hampers without heat due to a broken boiler in the Parish Centre, but the work was completed and everyone tried to maintain a positive attitude. Our parish community also continued their support of local migrant workers at the annual Christmas Day dinner.

I am thankful for those who contribute generously to the Sunday offertory collection, the Building and Maintenance Fund as well as numerous second collections in addition to ShareLife and the Family of Faith Fundraising Campaign. Because of the contribution of a generous parish donor last summer, concrete was laid to create greater accessibility at the west doorway of the church and landscaping was completed to enhance the main entrance. Thank you to all who have contributed their time and talent in any way to support the needs of our parish.

St. John the Evangelist Church runs like a well-oiled machine largely because of the efforts of our parish staff. Fr. Francisco has been a wonderful addition to our parish family and has worked very hard to reach out to the Spanish-speaking people of Durham Region and build up the community. Thanks also to Deacon Ray DelCastilho for his ministry in the Parish.

Fr. Francisco and I are both grateful to Vicki Morgan (Parish Secretary), Susan Douglas (Lay Pastoral Assistant), Troy Sabaot (Parish Caretaker), Gail Stewart (Rectory Cook & Housekeeper), Cathy Dykeman (Parish Home Catechism Coordinator) and Sue McGee (Parish Book Keeper) for all that they do. Thanks also to Audrey and Ian, our student evening receptionists for their support.

Finally, Fr. Francisco and I wish to express our thanks for your wonderful hospitality, delicious meals, tasty treats and generous Christmas gifts. We pray that the Christmas Season was joyful and peaceful for you, and that God may abundantly bless you and those you love throughout the New Year!

**Fr. Damian Ali, Pastor**



**St. John the Evangelist  
Pancake Breakfast**  
Hosted by the Pastoral Council and the  
CWL

Lent is just around the corner! Please join us for breakfast and fellowship on Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018 after the 9 a.m. or 11 a.m. mass

Tickets are \$5.00/person or \$15.00/family  
**Tickets will be sold after masses on the 20/21 and 27/28 of January.**

**CWL General Meeting** -- All CWL members and ladies of the parish are invited to attend our General Meeting on Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30 p.m., main room of the parish centre. The agenda includes disbursements - where we give our money away to our charitable donations! Anyone requiring transportation, please contact Lisa Maltby at 416-509-5675

**CANADA'S CATHOLICS GO TO WAR 1914-1918**  
Tuesday, February 6, 2018 at 7:30pm  
In the church

**Dr. Mark McGowan will discuss his latest book: The Imperial Irish-Canada's Irish Catholics Fight the Great War, 1914 - 1918. Catholics in general were unfairly questioned regarding their loyalty during the Great War. Some of this occurred because of events that were happening outside of Canada. The sacrifices made by Catholics in Canada helped establish our place within the Dominion and gave a strong voice for those advocating for Catholic schools.**

**A Big Thank You from The St. Vincent de Paul Society for Christmas 2017**

*Through the generosity of St John the Evangelist Parish, the St. Vincent de Paul Society was able to provide gifts and food vouchers to nearly 200 seniors and families this Christmas. This campaign is a huge undertaking and wouldn't be possible without you.*

*The S.V.D.P. would like to thank the students and staff of the following schools for their devoted help.*

*All Saints Catholic Secondary School for the many gifts and food vouchers they donated.*

*With the help of St. Marguerite d'Youville, St. John the Evangelist, St. Luke the Evangelist and St. Bernard's Catholic Schools, SVDP was able to fill many Christmas Boxes for Seniors. St. John's School had a craft day that raised money and proceeds were used to supply SVDP with Walmart gift cards.*

*We would like to give a heartfelt thank you to our parish sponsors for helping our families with Christmas gifts. Through donations SVDP was also able to help an additional 10 families and deliveries were made right up until Christmas Eve.*

*Appreciation is expressed for all the knitted items donated for the Seniors as well as to the many volunteer drivers, the Knights of Columbus for their help, parishioners and SVDP members who assisted with pickups from the schools and helped pack and deliver the Christmas hampers. None of this would have been possible without you.*

*Thank you to all who contributed to our Coin Bank Collection - your coins do make a difference! GOD BLESS YOU!*



### Masses For The Week

Sat. Jan 13 – 5:00pm

**+Werner Kuenzle**

*req. by Jenny Kuenzle & Family*

Tue. Jan 16 – 8:20am

**+Janet Burke**

*req. by Jill West & Family*

Wed Jan 17 – 7:00pm

**+Anton Janezic**

*req. by Boris Stebih*

**+Muriel Burns**

*req. by St Vincent de Paul Society*

**+Pete Culham**

*req. by St. Vincent de Paul Society*

**+Reg Winstall**

*req. by The Rosary Group*

**+Reg Winstall**

*req. by Babette & Peter D'Arcy*

Thur. Jan 18 – 8:20am

**+K.C. Joseph**

*req. by Volunteers at Whitby Shores*

Fri. Jan 19 – 8:20am

**+Rosa Parente**

*req. by Tello & Fiorella Siciliano*

Sat. Jan. 20 – 5:00pm

**+Maria Mazzonna**

*req. by Mike & Uliana Lomagno*

### World Day of Migrants and Refugees Sunday, January 14, 2018

The theme announced by His Holiness Pope Francis for the 2018 World Day of Migrants and Refugees is "Welcoming, Protecting, Promoting and Integrating Migrants and Refugees". In his message, Pope Francis reminds us that "every stranger who knocks at our door is an opportunity for an encounter with Jesus Christ, who identifies with the welcomed and rejected strangers of every age..."

A special Mass commemorating the 104th World Day of Migrants and Refugees will be celebrated on Sunday, January 14, 2018 at 1 p.m. at the Good Shepherd Chaldean Catholic Cathedral, located at 2 High Meadow Place in North York. Bishop Wayne Kirkpatrick will be the homilist for this Liturgy. A reception will follow with a number of dignitaries in attendance. All are welcome.

### World Day for Consecrated Life: Friday, February 2, 2018

On Friday, February 2, 2018, the Church celebrates the World Day for Consecrated Life. We are blessed to have more than 900 religious men and women from about 100 different congregations serving in the Archdiocese of Toronto. This World Day for Consecrated Life is a wonderful opportunity for us to thank God for the gifts of these religious sisters, brothers and priests and to pray for God's blessing upon them in their efforts to faithfully live the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity and obedience.

On Sunday, January 28, 2018, at St. Paul's Basilica, 83 Power St., at 3 p.m., Bishop Kirkpatrick will preside at the Mass in celebration of the vocation and witness of these special men and women religious who are such a vital and important part of the life and ministry of the Church in our Archdiocese. All are welcome to attend.

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** - January 18-25, 2018 marks the annual celebration of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. This year's theme, "Your right hand, O Lord, glorious in power" is taken from Exodus 15:6.

The Second Vatican Council's decree on Ecumenism states that "prayer is the soul of the ecumenical movement." Therefore, please consider attending this year's Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Ecumenical Prayer Service.

This ecumenical prayer service will be led by Cardinal Thomas Collins (homilist), Anglican Archbishop Colin Johnson, Coptic Orthodox Bishop Anba Mina, and other religious leaders on: Sunday, January 28, 2018, 3 p.m. at Metropolitan United Church, 56 Queen St. East (at Queen and Bond St.). Parking is available. Refreshments to follow. For more information, please contact the Office of Ecumenical and Interfaith Affairs at (416) 934-3400, ext. 344 or ext. 527 or [vkwok@archtoronto.org](mailto:vkwok@archtoronto.org). Office

### Celebration of Marriage Mass with Cardinal Collins – February 11, 2018 - 3 p.m.

As part of Marriage Sunday 2018 celebrations, Cardinal Thomas Collins will preside at a special Mass to honour couples celebrating milestone anniversaries in 2018. If you (or a couple you know) are celebrating a 25th, 40th, 50th or 60th+ wedding anniversary this year, they are invited to join in this special celebration. The Mass will take place at 3 p.m. on Sunday, February 11 at Blessed Trinity Parish (3220 Bayview Ave - North York). A reception will follow Mass. All are welcome to attend - couples celebrating milestone anniversaries are asked to register online to ensure reserved seating. Registration and other important information can be found at: [www.archtoronto.org/marriage](http://www.archtoronto.org/marriage) or by calling (416) 934-3400, x 523.

#### Prayer Group

Meet Wednesdays at 1pm in the Parish Centre

#### Date    Topic

Jan 17	Hope – Fr. Tom Forest
Jan 24	In His Sandals – Mother Angelica
Jan 31	Taking Authority – Fr. Mark Goring
Feb 7	The Joy of the Gospel – Bishop Respect
Feb 14	Empty to be Filled – Peter Herbeck (Ash Wed)

#### Looking Ahead

##### **Wed Jan 17**

1pm Prayer Group, PC main

7:30pm Baptism Prep, St. Joseph's Room

##### **Thu Jan 18**

7pm – 9pm RCIA, PC 1

730pm CWL General Mtg, PC main

##### **Sat Jan 20**

9am – 10:30am Confirmation Session 2, PC all

11am – 12:30pm Confirmation Session 2, PC all