

A very typical human situation: a corrupt judge, pestered by a persistent widow, finally gives in to her, not because he is won over to acting justly, but because she is going to 'worry him to death'. We see an unfamiliar side of Jesus in this parable; he is not long faced - he can speak of human foibles with an ironical humour. The story was all too common in the world that Jesus knew. The widow who cannot get a fair hearing, probably concerning her inheritance, represents 'the poor' with whom Jesus identifies. He is certainly not likening his Father to the judge of the parable, but using the parable as the basis of an 'even more so' argument, such as we find in other parables. Having caught their attention with his ironical little story, Jesus is presented by Luke as emphasising the trust in God that should motivate the prayer of his disciples.

The sequence of Luke's compilation leading to this text helps us to understand the implications of Jesus' teaching. Between the teaching on 'faith' that we have considered on the last two Sundays, and today's reading, there is a passage concerning 'the coming of the kingdom of God' and the day of 'the Son of Man's return'. Faith, we have seen, is an expectant openness to God's action in our midst. Our Opening Prayer this Sunday is linked with the openness we should have, as we look forward to the day 'when the Son of Man comes'.



Will not God see justice done?

If the first concern of a lively faith is being alive to God's action in our lives, our prayer should begin and end in recognition that our lives have their real meaning in the unfolding of the plan conceived before all ages in the loving designs of God. This plan - the great virtue of Christian hope assures us - will certainly be realised; and in its realisation, all things will be turned to good. Of course, our personal needs and the concerns of those dear to us should be brought constantly before God in our prayer; but this should be done in the knowledge that these things are part of the plan of God, revealed in all its mercy and generosity in the coming of the Saviour, and realised through a providence that touches every detail of our lives and those who are dear to us. Prayer, Jesus is teaching us, is a living out of our faith; and, at the same time, our faith grows and matures through our life of prayer.

Our reading from the letter to Timothy is a good complement to the lesson of the gospel - urging us to a greater familiarity with the Scriptures. The whole story of the 'inspired Scriptures' is the unfolding of God's plan and the great promise it brings to Christian hope. This story of the Scriptures is important in the life of the Church 'for teaching, for refuting error, for guiding people's lives and teaching them to be holy'.

Scholars assure us that the last words of the gospel are not pessimistic. Jesus knows that he will find faith when he comes - in 'the chosen ones who cry out to God day and night' - but his words are a warning for those who need it.

John Thornhill sm
www.theemmausseries.com

INTERNET POPE FRANCIS: A MAN OF MANY FIRSTS — <http://bit.ly/GOb9hA>

PARISH

Mass Intentions This Week — Oct. 21 to 27

Please join us as we pray for the following announced Mass intentions:

	Intention(s)	Offered by
Monday, 9am	✠ Colette Keogh	Peggy & Paul Hughes
Tuesday, 9am	✠ John Lynskey	Lee & Tom Inglis
Wednesday, 9am	✠ Rina & Donato Bratty	The Family
Thursday, 9am	✠ Mary Doyle	Lee & Tom Inglis
Friday, 9am	✠ John Lynskey	Kathleen Stanley
Saturday, 9am	✠ Helena & Jozef Sacha	Darek Sacha
5:15pm	✠ Isilda Goncalves	The Family
Sunday, 8am	...our parish and faithful parishioners	
9:30am	✠ Francesco Valle	Pina Valle
11am	✠ Horace McCubbin	Adele McCubbin
12:30pm	✠ Don Sbrolla	Rena & Denis Guerard

Attn: Wannabe Lectors Lector Workshop — Sat., Nov. 16, 11am—1pm

Come, with your gift of speech. Lunch will be provided. Contact the parish office to register. "As I rest on your shoulders O Lord, lift me up to more than I can be to make full use of your ability in me."

Youth & Young Adult Ministry News

Thanks to everyone who supported our corn roast! We raised over \$700 in support of the Out of the Cold program, which provides many daily services for our city's homeless. Special thanks to **Joe & Anne Fusco** for graciously donating the delicious corn!
 ► Youth & Young Adults are invited to our **Halloween Event** on Sat., Oct. 26. We will attend the 5:15pm liturgy together and then proceed to the parish hall for a social. If you're interested, please RSVP to Abigail Lofte, Youth Minister, through the parish office or abigail.lofte@gmail.com or 647.861.5197 or Facebook at <http://on.fb.me/15r1pW0>

FINAL Year of Faith Movie Night — Saturday, Nov. 2, 7pm

Come out to the final Year of Faith Movie Night. Discussion and social to follow.

Rosary Group — Stay and Pray — daily, after 9am Mass & Fridays, 2pm

Five decades daily, fifteen decades on Fridays followed by the Chaplet of Divine Mercy.

Bundle Up for St. Vincent de Paul! — Meet the truck in our parking lot

Saturday Oct. 26, 8:30am—6:15pm & Sunday Oct. 27, 7:30am—5pm
 Items most in need include: new/gently used textiles, clothing, shoes, bedding, draperies and small household goods; clean and in good condition. Donations should be inside tied-up plastic bags or sealed cartons. Volunteers will be available to assist. **Sincere thanks!**

Help Wanted! Our St. Vincent de Paul group is looking for a few new members

If you are interested in making a difference in the lives of people who are constantly struggling to make ends meet, please contact the parish office. **Help in all possible ways.**

Scripture Classes — Wednesdays, 10am & Thursdays, 7pm

All are welcome on Wednesdays in the parish hall meeting room and on Thursdays at OLS School, 32 Montgomery Rd. Our topic is the Gospel of St. John. Bring your Bible!

Stretch & Flex — Not 'just for ladies' anymore! — Tuesdays, 6:30—7:30pm

We meet in the parish hall; everyone is welcome to join. \$10/session. Wear comfy clothing!

COMMUNITY

First Reconciliation and First Eucharist Registration Weekend

- This weekend after all regular Masses
- Confirmation Registration Weekend**
- Next weekend after all regular Masses

Homilies on these weekends will address parents and candidates as they begin the sacramental process. All are **strongly** encouraged to attend. Parish staff will be available in the parish hall to process registrations and collect fees. **Please note** that this year's registration deadline is **Friday, Nov. 15.**

2013 Advent Fair — Nov. 9, 9:30am—2pm, Nov. 10, 9am—2:30pm

Call for vendors, bakers and volunteers! This much-anticipated annual event features crafts, jewelry, CDs & cards, religious books, baked goods and much more! Grab a snack at our café and enjoy! Call the parish office for a vendor information packet or volunteer form.

4th Annual Mass to End Woman Abuse — Oct. 22, 7pm, OLS

Catholic Family Services of Toronto and Our Lady of Sorrows Parish will host this special event in our church. Light refreshments will follow. Let's gather as a parish family to pray for all families who are affected by violence. **Woman abuse hurts us all.**

Celebrate Your Marriage: Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend!

Married couples, you deserve a weekend to cherish being together, to rediscover each other and to focus on ways to make your relationship even better. Consider giving each other or another couple that you know the gift of a weekend away from daily pressures and time to be with each other and with God on a Marriage Encounter Weekend. Visit www.wmwe.org
Upcoming Weekend Date: November 1—3. For further information or registration please call Cora & Mike Bryce at 905-896-2958, or email cora-mikebryce@sympatico.ca

Solemn High Mass — Feast of Christ the King — Oct. 27, 3:15pm

To be celebrated according to the Extraordinary Form of the Roman Rite at the Newman Centre's St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, 89 St. George St. (the church is located directly behind the Newman Centre). Organized by the St. Patrick's Gregorian Choir. 416.731.4485 for info.

Exploring the Catechism: Faith Alive! — Wednesdays, 7:30—9:30pm

Participants will explore the four major sections of the Catechism of the Catholic Church: Profession of Faith, Celebration of the Christian Mystery, Life in Christ and Christian Prayer. Presentations, multimedia, reading, discussion, prayer & reflection will provide a way for participants to deepen their understanding of Catholicism and to live their faith more eagerly as disciples of Jesus Christ. Hosted by St. Benedict Parish, 2194 Kipling Ave. Call 416-934-3400 ext. 523, email formation@archtoronto.org or visit www.archtoronto.org/discipleship



Holy Name Parish 100th Anniversary — Concert — Oct. 22, 7pm

Centennial celebrations continue as the **University of Notre Dame Glee Club** performs. For more information, call 416-466-8281 or visit www.holynametoronto.com

"From Pope to Saint" Pilgrimage to Italy — Apr. 24—May 3, 2014

Once-in-a-lifetime! Be in Rome for the canonization of **Blessed John XXIII & Blessed John Paul II** and visit the shrines of Italy. Tour is organized by the **Knights Watchmen for Christ**, a charity initiative promoting pilgrimages to deepen faith in Christ. For more info, email knightswatchmen@yahoo.com or visit <http://pilgrimages.com/knightswatchmen>