

The parable of the Pharisee and the tax collector speaks so clearly to us that it needs little commentary. We can recognise the deep implications Luke saw in this story, when we situate it within the compilation made by the evangelist - that we have followed during the past weeks. As Jesus courageously takes the road to meet his fate, he is giving his final instructions to the disciples he will leave behind. Faith, he has taught them is an obedient openness to God's coming in their lives, and to the plan of God about to reach its moment of climax. Their prayer should be the living expression of this faith, teaching them to trust in the Father who will show his care for them - whatever the difficulties they may have to face. In the end they should see themselves as God's 'unprofitable servants'. Today's short parable sums up what his teaching should have brought home to them - in a few words, everything depends, in the end, not on our own efforts, but upon the grace and mercy of God. It is this outlook that has shaped the lives of the outstanding disciples of Jesus, one after the other, down through the ages.



The Pharisees are a tragic group in the gospel story. Theirs was a movement of popular piety that aimed to promote a revival of Israel's traditions. Many of them were honourable; and not a few found faith in Christ. This parable, however, highlights the issue that brought some of them into conflict with Jesus. These people thought they were 'at rights with God', and faithful to the God of the covenant, through their strict observance of the externals of the Law's requirements. Luke has already described Jesus' criticism of the Pharisees for preferring external observance to 'justice and the love of God' (11:42), and for a love of money that had no thought for almsgiving (16:14). The Pharisee in the story is pleased with himself, because he does more than the Law requires in his fasting and the tithes he gives. He brings these practices of his to the Lord, as establishing his claim on God's favour. His spirit of self-sufficiency is echoed ironically in the telling of the story - in his prayer, he is speaking 'to himself'.

The only attitude on our part, that opens a genuine meeting with God, is one of humility. We should stand naked before the Lord, aware that there is nothing we can bring to God that is not, in the first place, his gift. All that we bring before him that is truly our own is our sinfulness.

The tax collector, on the other hand, 'went home at rights with God' because of the humble confession that made up his prayer. The generous mercy of God is emphasised by the fact that a repentant tax collector would probably bring before God an impossible situation, as far as recompense was concerned. Despised by his people for being the agent of the occupying power, and constantly tempted to take advantage of his position by defrauding the people, he was bound to make restitution of the amount unjustly taken, plus twenty per cent.

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PARISH

Readings ~ Sirach 35:15-17, 20-22 ~ 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18 ~ Luke 18:9-14

Mass Intentions This Week — October 28 to November 3

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

	Intention(s)	Offered by
Mon., 9am	✠ Istvan Foldi	Joseph Foldi
Tue., 9am	✠ Leon Bacardi	Friends
Wed., 9am	✠ John Lynskey	Margaret Tipping
Thu., 9am	✠ John Keane	The Family
Fri., 9am	All Saints' Day (no announced Masses)	
Sat., 9am	All Souls' Day Special commemoration of faithful parishioners whose funerals took place this year	
5:15pm	✠ Franklin Cordova	The Family
Sun., 8am	...our parish and faithful parishioners	
9:30am	✠ members of the McKee and Chua families	Louisa McKee
11am	✠ members of the Goseco, Feliciano and Valencia families	Linda Feliciano
12:30pm	✠ members of the Dubrovskis family	The Family

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

► This weekend — Saturday, 8:30am—6:15pm & Sunday, 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!

Lectors+Wannabes Lector Workshop — Sat., Nov. 16, 11am—1pm

The practical suggestions you take away from this workshop will help you to be a better lector by next Sunday. Whether you're a new lector or have been a lector for years, you will learn something new to make you an even better lector. Contact the parish office to register.

The Holy Rosary is prayed daily, after 9am Mass and Fridays, 2pm

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

ROMERO — He started a revolution without guns, without an army, without fear. Because one man's faith can be the most powerful weapon of all. Starring Raul Julia 'at his very best.' Join in the discussion & social afterwards. Refreshments served, proceeds to St. ShareLife

Society of St. Vincent de Paul 'Adopt a Family' — Help in all possible ways

Once again our parish's St. Vincent de Paul group is asking parishioners to provide a family in need with special gifts at Christmas. The are covered by our group has expanded to include the Berry Rd./Stonegate area, allowing us to assist even more families. If you are interested in helping, please contact carolmurray@rogers.com or call 647-859-4805 by December 2.

Confirmation Registration — This weekend after all regular Masses

Parish staff will be available in the parish hall to process registrations and collect fees.

PLEASE NOTE | Registrations for First Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation will be accepted until Friday, November 15.

2013 Advent Fair — November 9, 9:30am—5pm, Nov. 10, 9am—2:30pm

Call for 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 volunteer form.

Update Restore, Renew, Rejoice!

Last June's revised plans included a newly conceived & designed accessible entrance and elevator at the south end of the church, along Cliveden Ave., and received very positive feedback from parishioners. Subsequently, a 'Request for Approval' was submitted to the Archdiocese. Their assent having recently been received, Larkin Architect will commence work on detailed drawings for the project. The drawings will ultimately need to be presented to and approved by the Archdiocesan Building Committee before any actual work can begin. As the above progresses and over the next few months, the OLS Building Committee will meet regularly with Larkin to review and finalize details.



This is your opportunity to point out any specific issues or deficiencies (i.e. lighting, electrical) with our current building you'd like to ensure are being addressed as part of this project. Please email this information to dolores@sorrows.ca as soon as possible. Non-email users, please submit your observations in writing to Dolores, care of the parish office.

We anticipate launching our combined Capital+Archdiocesan Campaign in the spring of 2014. We are hopeful that the renovations will begin in the spring or summer of 2014, and will be completed in time to celebrate the parish's 75th Anniversary in 2015!

On our parish website you'll find a recap of the feedback received, and a revised Frequently Asked Questions & Answers. Visit the site at www.sorrows.ca and please contact the parish office by email or phone if you have any questions or comments. Thank you!

COMMUNITY

Celebrate Your Marriage: Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend!

Married couples, you deserve to cherish being together, to rediscover each other and to focus on ways to make your relationship even better. Away from daily pressures, enjoy 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

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

Participants will explore the four major sections of the Catechism of the Catholic Church through presentations, multimedia, reading, discussion, prayer & reflection. Participants deepen their understanding of Catholicism and ways 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

Bishop Allen Academy — Info. Evening+Open House — Nov. 6, 6:45pm

Grade 8 Students and their parents are cordially invited to attend! A French immersion session will be held at 6:15pm. Learn about the Advanced Placement Program, Enrichment Classes, Early and Middle French Immersion, Gifted Program, Leadership Development, Athletics, Music, Drama and much more. All are welcome to attend.

'From Pope to Saint' Pilgrimage to Italy — April 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