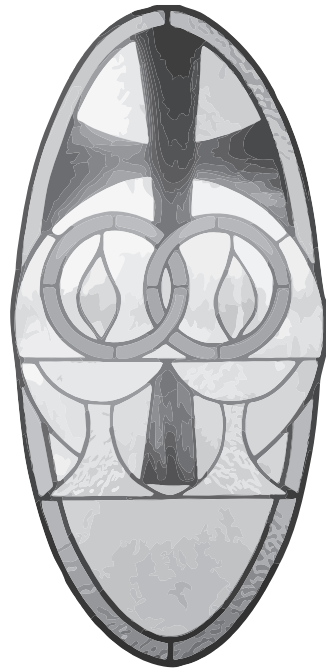


The Church's liturgy is our great teacher. As the weeks pass it reviews the great issues of our existence, and the Word of God points the way forward. In today's world, marriage is in crisis, and the break-up of families leaves many young people seriously deprived in their formative years. Without the guidance of Christ we would be at a loss to find the truth that should guide us. In today's reading from Mark, Jesus is asked whether divorce was permissible. In the time of Jesus, although divorce was permitted (see Deut 24: 1-4) the proper grounds for divorce were debated. Jesus bypasses this debate, and speaks of what marriage is in the plan of the Creator – 'in the beginning'. Citing today's first reading from Genesis, he makes the startling assertion that true marriage is more than an arrangement entered into by two human persons; it involves God – 'What God has united, man must not divide'.

One of Pope John Paul II's contributions to the Church's life was his series of addresses on human love and sexuality, given at his weekly audiences (1979-1984). Explaining how it is that Jesus can make such an assertion, he interprets today's reading from Genesis. This seemingly simple text speaks with great depth and subtlety of what it means to be human. The solitude of Adam, finds no companion in the animal kingdom - because, made in the image of God, Adam has in him a depth that they will never fill. It is only in the sharing of human companionship that this mysterious depth in the human person can be filled. The Creator provides for Adam the perfect companion: 'This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh'. Paradoxically, this companionship becomes life-giving in self-donation, and destructive in selfish exploitation. The true beauty of human sexuality shines out as this self-donation finds expression in the body language which is part of God's creation; Jesus quotes the Genesis text, 'the two become one'. The body language of sexuality is not only the expression of authentic self-donation, but also the source of new human lives – marriage is a sharing in the work of the Creator. Though the account of Jesus welcoming the 'little children' is a separate incident, it follows on well from the discussion of marriage relationships today. Marriage breakdown is a very complex pastoral problem. But the great ideal Jesus puts before us must never be forgotten.

We begin reading from the Letter to the Hebrews, a treatise written to give heart to Jewish converts, who were tempted to lapse into a mood of anticlimax and nostalgia, in a world that seemed little changed after the Resurrection. Its message is straightforward; the things of old Israel were only shadows; now – by faith – we possess all that these shadows promised. Today's passage is a fine description of the Paschal Mystery that should be central to Christian faith. Jesus is 'crowned with glory and splendour' after he has shared life with us. His death has been a source of life for all mankind - after sharing our 'imperfect' world and its 'suffering' he has given us a share in his 'glory' and 'holiness'. He is forever our 'leader' and our 'brother'.



The two shall become one flesh

John Thornhill sm
www.theemmausseries.com

Matrimony - a beautiful vocation so misused today.
Celibacy - a beautiful gift so misunderstood today.
Whether we do God's work in pairs or as a single person in ministry or in a community, we do God's work because He calls us.

If you feel God is calling you to a Church vocation, contact Fr. Chris Lemieux.
416-968-0997 vocations@vocations.ca www.vocationstoronto.ca

Readings ~ Genesis 2:7ab, 15, 18-24 ~ Hebrews 2:9-11 ~ Mark 10:2-16

PARISH

Mass Intentions This Week – October 5 to 11

Please join us as we pray for the following announced intentions...

	Intention(s):	Offered by:
Monday, 9am	✠ Rose Flanagan	The Flanagan/Pool family
Tuesday, 9am	✠ David Dietzel	Jim & Winnie Magee
Wednesday, 9am	... of Silvana Del Valle	Her parents
Thursday, 9am	✠ J. J. Barnicke	Jim & Winnie Magee
Friday, 9am	✠ Lena Badali	The family
Saturday, 9am	✠ Maureen Lynch	OLS School Staff
5:15pm	✠ Edwina Lamontagne	Lise Lamontagne & John Cairns
Sunday, 8am	✠ For the needs of our parish and faithful parishioners ✠	
9:30am	✠ Bruno Pavan	Anna & Anthony Fazio
11am	✠ Sam Arrigo	His mother
12:30pm	✠ Nicholas & Elizabeth Fanuzzi	The family

► This Weekend Confirmation – Registration Sunday

The parish office will be open to process registrations & collect fees after all Sunday Masses.

Young Singers Welcome! Will this be the year you join our Music Ministry?



Our Lady of Sorrows is blessed with 2 vibrant choirs for young people. The Youth Choir is for grades 3–6 and rehearses Thursdays from 4–5pm. The Chamber Choir, for grades 7–12, rehearses Thursdays from 5–6pm. We sing alternating Sundays at the 9:30am Mass. Supervision is available at the church from 3:15–6:00pm. For more info, please email Michele DeBoer at micheledeboer@yahoo.ca or call 289-521-3710.

► This Weekend Life Chain – Corner of Bloor & Islington, Sunday, 2–3pm

Join fellow parishioners in witnessing to the sanctity of life on behalf of the most vulnerable members of our society. **Let's make 2015 "the year everyone showed up!"**

Stretch & Flex – Join us! – Running Room, 2nd Floor, Tuesdays, 6–7pm

Only \$10 per session. Bring a bottle of water, a yoga-type mat and wear comfy clothing! Please note that Stretch & Flex **will not take place** on Tuesday, October 20.

Rosary Group – mornings suspended; Fridays, 2pm, above Running Room

Take this opportunity to pray the Holy Rosary every evening at home with your family!

75th Anniversary Ministry Day – Saturday, November 7

Join us for this celebration of 75 years of ministry and a look ahead to what OLS ministry might be for the next 75 years! Please RSVP with your ministry leader or the parish office. All those who are currently volunteering in a ministry or who wish to join one are welcome to attend. The program will be led by the Archdiocesan 'Formation for Discipleship' team and will include snacks and a luncheon. **We will confirm details in the coming weeks.**

Project Hope \$3 Million Emergency Refugee Settlement Campaign Continues

The 100-day campaign has a goal of settling 100 refugee families within the GTA as soon as possible & will prioritize those fleeing war & violence in areas of greatest need, including Syria & Iraq, regardless of religious affiliation. If you'd like to support the campaign financially, please visit www.archtoronto.org or call 416-934-3411 or drop a cheque in the regular Sunday collection, payable to: OLS – Project Hope – Refugee Sponsorship. **Thank you so very much!**

"All that is good, all that is true, all that is beautiful brings us to God. Because God is good, God is beautiful, God is the truth." – Pope Francis at the World Meeting of Families, September, 2015

COMMUNITY

Study Group on Laudato Si' at St. Gabriel's – October 5

A study group on Pope Francis' encyclical Laudato Si', led by Fr. Stephen Dunn, CP, and Dr. Dennis O'Hara will be held Monday evenings. The group will meet six times, studying one chapter at each meeting. St. Gabriel's Parish, 670 Sheppard Ave. East. Free, but donations gratefully accepted. For more info, call 416-221-8866 or email fatimalee@bellnet.ca

The Global Village: Our Responsibility to Engage Conference – Oct. 8, 8:30 am

A conference in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Vatican II document Nostra Aetate (In our time). Speakers will share their thoughts on the importance of engagement and breakout sessions will focus on the implementation of the spirit of the document in culture, environment, politics, and economics today. University of St. Michael's College, The Coop at Brennan Hall, 81 St. Mary St. For more info, email info@cjdt.org or visit www.cjdt.org

St. Joseph's College School Open House – October 13, 7pm

Grade 8 female students and their parents/guardians are invited to an information evening and open house. St. Joseph's College School is located at 74 Wellesley Street West, Toronto.

De La Salle College "Oaklands" – Open House – October 14, 7pm

Explore one of Canada's oldest and most respected educational institutions, encouraging values of character and service, as well as academics, leadership and the arts. Founded in 1851 and inspired by the teachings of St. Jean-Baptiste de La Salle, the college continues to educate young men and women in a Christian atmosphere, developing a strong sense of religious and moral values. Visit us and experience the close-knit community of students, parents, alumni and staff at work! 131 Farnham Ave. Call 416-969-8771, ext. 223 for info.

Call for Volunteers at Birthright, a pro-life crisis pregnancy service

Birthright needs your help – counselling, odd jobs, administrative or marketing. Volunteers – men and women – are needed to assist those facing an unplanned pregnancy, to provide support and comfort as well as practical solutions. Training is provided. Please help us to "love them both... mother and child." More info at 416-469-1111 or toronto@birthright.org

New Beginnings Inspirational Talk Monday, Oct. 19, 6:30 pm

"The Role of Spirituality/Religiosity in the Movement through Loss and Grief" with Dr. Ken Fung, M.D. F.R.C.S. takes place at the Catholic Pastoral Centre, 1155 Yonge St. 4th Floor. Dr. Fung will explore the benefits of spirituality and religiosity in our movement through loss and grief, illustrating how the pathways of faith – experienced, affiliative, searching, and owned – inspire well-being. **There is no cost for this event and all are welcome to attend.**

Project Rachel Retreat – October 23–25

"Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord." – Psalm 25

Are you longing for mercy from the One who brings peace & healing? We can help. This weekend retreat is for women whose hearts have been broken by abortion. Private & confidential. Call 416-629-8264 or email projectrachel@stmarysrefuge.org

25th Annual Mass of Memory – Sunday, Oct. 25, Music@3pm, Mass@3:30

We remember the many victims of the Irish Famine of 1847 who died of typhus on arrival in Toronto, the many who gave their lives in service of the Irish in the summer of 1847 in Toronto and all our departed family & friends who passed away in the last year in the Irish community. This special Mass takes place at St. Paul's Basilica, 83 Power St., with a reception to follow. Proceeds will be directed to the basilica's Breakfast Club for children. The principal celebrant will be Fr. John Reddy, CSB and the homilist will be Fr. Patrick Fitzpatrick CSSp.