

MARRIAGE: THE POWER OF LOVE AND MERCY

As we resume "ordinary" time and our sequential reading of the Gospel of Luke, we are presented with a scene of great power and tenderness. A "sinful woman" enters a stranger's house, anoints Jesus' feet with perfume, washes them with her tears, dries them with her hair, and experiences Jesus' forgiveness and compassion. We do not know this woman's name, or what her "sin" was; nor does it matter ultimately. She is healed, set free, restored to her dignity. Yet it is the Pharisee, the host in whose home this scene is happening, who is in need of conversion. He looks at the woman only to judge her – and by extension, he judges Jesus. In contrast, Jesus looks at this woman with mercy: he sees one who expresses much love, because she has experienced Jesus' healing forgiveness.

When I celebrate a marriage, I often comment that whoever came up with the line "love means never having to say you're sorry" (first heard in the 1970 film *Love Story*) was obviously never married! No, love means **often** saying we are sorry – sometimes, even before we know what we have done wrong! More to the point, love means always being ready to forgive. The witness of married couples – their trust, fidelity, openness to life, perseverance, generosity, and hospitality – is a powerful one indeed. So let us pray for all the married couples in our parish, especially those who this weekend celebrate special wedding anniversaries. May our loving God keep them faithful and constant in their love for each other.

Let us also remember all those who have lost a spouse – to death, divorce, or separation – and those who are still waiting for their life's partner. May we, as parish community, become family for one another, as together we bear witness to the life-giving, self-sacrificing love of Christ for us.

DONATE TO ST. MONICA'S PARISH ON-LINE AT: WWW.STMONICA.CA

We are grateful for your support of St. Monica's Parish. Online Giving allows you to make contributions to our church without writing checks or worrying about cash donations. This site communicates directly with **CanadaHelps** and lets you create monthly recurring contributions. You may also make one-time donations to special causes. The St. Monica's web site does not store either your personal or credit card information. **CanadaHelps** takes care of it all. On the website www.stmonica.ca, for more details about **CanadaHelps**, clic on the word **here** .

If you would like to modify your contribution amount or change the timing of your gift, sign-in to your **CanadaHelps** account and then head over to the *Your Monthly Donations* tab. You can review your donation history and print your receipts as well from the *Your Donations & Receipts* page. Thank you again for your support.

**ST. MONICA'S PARISH REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP FUND**

Thank you for supporting our Refugee Sponsorship Fund Campaign--we are close to reaching our goal. If you would like to donate, there are envelopes at the back of the church marked "St. Monica's Refugee Fund". When making your **donation by cheque**, it is very important to make it out to **ST. MONICA'S PARISH REFUGEE FUND**. You can deposit the special envelope for this purpose in the regular Sunday collection basket or at the parish office as soon as possible. Once again, thank you.

DISCOVER YOUR GIFTS, FALL CONFERENCE PLANNED

Discovering how many gifts of the Spirit the Father is filling his Church today is "the most beautiful experience," says Pope Francis. We're set to discover these gifts this fall, here in Montreal! Explore different opportunities to grow personally and as a missionary community in recognizing and sharing these gifts. Consider attending the second Parish Vitality Conference being organized by the Office for English Pastoral Services, Nov.10-12. More details will be available in the coming weeks.

MASS INTENTIONS JUNE 11 TO 19, 2016

Saturday, June 11: St. Barnabas

- 4:00 Italo & Anna Mariani and Italo Falcone By Luisa & Angelo Falcone
Angelo Caucci By Teresa Caucci
Giacomo Fiori By his wife Berardina & Family

Sunday, June 12: Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 8:30 Leonardo Ricciardi By son Antonio Ricciardi
Ermando Giuseppie Nudo By wife Elvira Nudo
Ursula Lafontaine By Rosa & Luigi Salvati
- 11:00 **In Loving Memory:** Beatrice Gagnon, Deceased members of the Cullen Family

Monday, June 13: St. Anthony of Padua

- 8:00 Christina Garingi By Ida Onesi & Family
Carlina, Antonio, Rosa and Domenico Turini By Pietrina Turini
Bernardo Tumambing By Nora & Family

Tuesday, June 14: Weekday Mass

- 8:00 Giovanni, Pietro, Americo & Argeo Forlini By Michele & Vincenzina Ferrara

Wednesday, June 15: Weekday Mass

- 8:00 Ignazio Ciampini By wife Ernesta Ciampini & Family

Thursday, June 16: Weekday Mass

- 8:00 Ramondo & Cora Spatola By Graziella Buscemi Spatola

Friday, June 17: Weekday Mass

- 8:00 Aniello D'Addio By his wife Franca D'Addio

Saturday, June 18: Our Lady's Saturday

- 4:00 **In Loving Memory:** Giovanni & Palma Farinelli, Domenico Forliano, Alessandro Palladini, Leonard & Terry Winslade, Nicola & Teresa Pitaro, Pietro Di Meglio.

Sunday, June 19: Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 8:30 Agnese & Guglielmo Teodori By Vivian & Joseph
Antonio Ricci By Wife & Family
Roberto Ugarte By his Parents
- 11:00 Ettore Lanni By Wife & Family
Domenico Abbatiello By Wife & Family
Loreto & Paolina Ciambella By their daughter Gabriela

Your Generosity...

Thank you for your on-going support of our parish... Collection for the weekend of June 3/4, 2016 totalled \$4,040.45. Collection for Maintenance totalled \$1,148.00.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION WEEKEND!

On the weekend of June 18-19, at all three of our Masses, St. Monica's Parish will be celebrating the many volunteers who so generously share their time and talent, and help to make St. Monica's a vibrant and welcoming faith community. If you serve in any ministry at St. Monica's – liturgy, faith formation, social outreach, food pantry, pastoral care, maintenance, etc. - this invitation is for you! No need to pre-register – just come to your usual weekend Mass about 10-15 minutes early and sign in. There will be a special blessing and gift for each of you at Mass, and cake and coffee in the hall after Mass to celebrate you! We look forward to celebrating as one community the many gifts of the Spirit present through our volunteers. Thanks and God bless you!

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WORLD SOCIAL FORUM IN MONTREAL - ENVIRONMENT

Following on last Sunday's World Environment Day focus, one activity you can engage in, especially this year, is the World Social Forum with its focus on the environment. Until this year, it has been held annually in the Global South, and has attracted up to 100,000 visitors. This year, it will be hosted in Montreal, August 9-15. Development & Peace is a partner. Many Church agencies and Orders are also involved. For more details: <https://fsm2016.org/en/>

SPRING CLEANING DAY

Next Saturday, June 18

At St. Monica's Parish



9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Sign-up sheets are at the back of the church to register.