

"THE WISDOM OF THE HEART":**MESSAGE OF POPE FRANCIS FOR THE 23rd WORLD DAY OF THE SICK 2015**

Over the next two Sundays, as we move toward the beginning of Lent, we see how central the **healing ministry** was in Jesus' life and mission. Every February 11, on the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, the Pope writes a special message to all those who are sick or suffering in any way, and to those who care for them. Here is part 1 of Pope Francis 2015' message – **part 2 will follow next week!**

"Dear Brothers and Sisters: On this, the 23rd World Day of the Sick, I turn to all of you who are burdened by illness and are united in various ways to the flesh of the suffering Christ, as well as to you, professionals and volunteers in the field of health care. This year's theme invites us to reflect on a phrase from the Book of Job: "I was eyes to the blind, and feet to the lame" (*Job 29:15*). I would like to consider this phrase from the perspective of "*sapientia cordis*" – **the wisdom of the heart**.

This "wisdom" is no theoretical, abstract knowledge, the product of reasoning. Rather, it is "pure, peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, without uncertainty or insincerity." (*James 3:17*) It is a *way of seeing things infused by the Holy Spirit* in the minds and the hearts of those who are sensitive to the sufferings of their brothers and sisters and who can see in them the image of God. This "*wisdom of the heart*", a gift of God, is one of the fruits of the World Day of the Sick.

Wisdom of the heart means serving our brothers and sisters. Job's words: "I was eyes to the blind, and feet to the lame", point to the service which he offered to those in need. His moral grandeur found expression in the help he gave to the poor who sought his help and in his care for orphans and widows. Today, how many Christians show, not only by their words but by lives rooted in a genuine faith, that they are "eyes to the blind" and "feet to the lame"! They are close to the sick in need of constant care and help in washing, dressing and eating. This service, especially when protracted, can become tiring and burdensome. It is relatively easy to help someone for a few days but it is difficult to look after a person for months or even years, in some cases when he or she is no longer capable of expressing gratitude. And yet, what a great path of sanctification this is! In those difficult moments we can rely in a special way on the closeness of the Lord, and we become a special means of support for the Church's mission.

Wisdom of the heart means being with our brothers and sisters. Time spent with the sick is holy time. It is a way of praising God who conforms us to the image of his Son, who said: "I am among you as one who serves." With lively faith let us ask the Holy Spirit to grant us the grace to appreciate the value of our often unspoken willingness to spend time with these sisters and brothers who, thanks to our closeness and affection, feel more loved and comforted. Let us be aware of the great lie that lurks behind phrases which so insist on the importance of "quality of life", that they make people think that lives affected by grave illness are not worth living!"

2015 Lenten Prayer and Reflection Booklets

The 2015 Lenten Prayer and Reflection Booklets are available for you to purchase at the main entrance of the church. The adult, family and children's editions are priced at **\$2.00** each. Please put your payment in the **Missalette and Newspaper Payment Box**.

NEXT WEEKEND**FAIR TRADE PRODUCTS**

ON SALE AFTER ALL WEEKEND MASSES.

(FEBRUARY 14-15, 2015)

LOONIES and SPARE CHANGE WILL ALSO BE COLLECTED.



**PASTORAL HOME CARE * REFLECTION GROUP MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2015 AT 8:30 A.M. IN THE RECTORY BASEMENT**

MASS INTENTIONS FOR FEBRUARY 7 TO 15, 2015

Saturday, February 7: Our Lady's Saturday

4:00 Gabriele & Antonia Poliziani By Daughter
Jerry Vietri By Luigi & Lucia Di Nardo

Sunday, February 8: Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 **In Loving Memory:** Leona Clarke, Alba & Luigi Paliotti, Emma & Colombo Salvati, Deceased members of the Cullen Family, Luigi Girolomo.

11:00 Erasto Lopez By the Sierra Alonso Family
Thomas Francoeur By Sr. Lorraine Lebert

Monday, February 9: Weekday Mass

8:00 Vittoria & Giuseppe Caucci By Teresa Caucci
Nicolas Troli By Mom & Dad

Tuesday, February 10: St. Scholastica

8:00 Anna & Lorenzo Forlini By Louise Forlini

Wednesday, February 11: Weekday Mass (World Day of the Sick)

8:00 Helen Mary Richardson By Richard & Patricia Haber

Thursday, February 12: Weekday Mass

8:00 Dorothy Rice By the Rice & Walder Family
Joseph Detillo By Violet Connelly

Friday, February 13: Weekday Mass

8:00 Piera Carboni By Cousin Dina & Family

Saturday, February 14: St. Cyril and St. Methodius

4:00 Angelo Caucci By Teresa Caucci
Maria Nudo By Elvira Nudo

Sunday, February 15: Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 Antonio & Assunta Ienco By the Family
Kathy Felli By Rosa & Luigi Salvati

11:00 **In Loving Memory:** Deceased members of the Charles J. McDonald Family, Joseph Onesi, Luigi & Rosa Mammone.

Your Generosity...

Thank you for your on-going support of our parish...Collection for the weekend of January 31-February 1, totalled \$2,354.70. Special collection for Maintenance totalled \$1,410.00.

ARE YOU USING ONE OF THESE NEW 2015 SUNDAY DONATION BOXES!

PLEASE, if you have one of these new 2015 donation boxes (#102, 112, 122, 189, 207, or 251) **PLEASE** call the office at 514-481-0267 with your name, address and phone number so that we can record your box. Thank you.

COOL (Children of Our Lord) YOUTH RETREAT

Friday, March 13 at 6:30 pm until Saturday, March 14 at 5:30 pm

To Register Contact: stmonicasyouth@gmail.com or call Claire at 514-482-7493

Suggested Donation \$20 (includes dinner Friday, Breakfast & Lunch on Saturday). In partnership with NET Ministries of Canada <http://www.netcanada.ca/>

ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES

There will be two masses offered on Ash Wednesday, February 18. The usual morning mass will be offered at 8:00 a.m.; and a second mass will be celebrated at 7:00 p.m. Ashes will be distributed at both masses.

ADULT FAITH ENRICHMENT UPCOMING EVENTS

Bible Study

Please join us for the last session of our bible study, **The Spirituality of the Sacraments: *On Earth as it is in Heaven***, with **Pastor Brent Walker on Wednesday, February 11 from 7 to 9 p.m.** in parish hall.

Video Divina

Fr. Raymond's movie series "Looking at Life through the Lens of the Sacraments" continues with the movie **Philomena** on **Friday, February 20 at 7 p.m.** in the parish rectory. Free admission and popcorn, and stimulating discussion to follow! All are welcome!

God Calls You By Name: Become Who You Are!

When do you feel most alive, most yourself? Come join **Catherine Cherry and Fr. Ray Lafontaine**, on **Wednesday, February 25 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.** in the parish hall, and discover the "Name" God gave you, your "personal vocation" - that which you are and do no matter what you are doing. Our "Name", our "personal vocation", becomes the signpost, the lighthouse that guides all our decisions and actions. When we live it, we are on track, and even in stormy waters, we are safe. We can live God's call to abundant life!

Free babysitting available upon request at registration.

Please register by **February 23**.

Please refer to our website and the posters at the Church entrances for additional information. If registration is required, kindly use the appropriate sign-up sheets at the main church entrance or contact Anna at the office.

*Ash
Wednesday*