

PARISH BULLETIN ST. MONICA'S CHURCH

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Dear Fellow Parishioners and well-wishers of St. Monica's Parish,

The year 2024 will be a milestone year for our Church as we will be celebrating 75 years since the introduction of St. Monica's Church in our community. It will also be a year of giving back to ensure St. Monica's Church remains a safe place of worship for another 75 years to come. Therefore, we are pleased to inform you that we will be launching a Fundraising Drive-in support of our Church.

Our Mission is: "Preserving the Past and Building for the Future"

To meet the expenses required for the repairs of the Rectory and St. Monica's Church, the committee has set a target goal to secure \$250,000 in 2024, which is the amount estimated to complete the anticipated required work. Major work will need to be done at the Rectory which will include an assessment and repairs to the plumbing, heating, and ventilation systems, and cracks that are appearing in the walls of the Church, as well as repairs to the Rectory flooring, washrooms, and external columns.

Your financial contribution in support of this great cause is greatly appreciated – irrespective of your general amount donated. Numerous exciting activities and initiatives are being planned – details will be shared in the coming months.

### **SEASON OF CREATION**

Today starts the 4<sup>TH</sup> Week of the Season of Creation, Let Justice and Peace Flow. I give thanks to God for all creation and being wonderfully made. I ask for the grace to see creation as God does, in all its splendour and suffering. I ask for the grace to look closely to see how my life choices impact creation, the poor and the vulnerable. I ask for the grace of conversion towards ecological justice. I ask for the grace to reconcile my relationship with God, creation, and humanity through my actions. I pray for the earth and the vulnerable of society.



#### ST. MONICA'S FOOD PANTRY - CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE

# > 🎇 JOIN US IN SPREADING CHRISTMAS JOY! 💸

As the Season of Giving approaches, our church's <u>Food Pantry</u> is gearing up for the annual **Christmas Basket** distribution, set to take place during the <u>second week of December 2023</u>. We need your help to make this year's event a resounding success!

## > WHAT TO DONATE?

Please consider donating <u>non-perishable food</u> items such as **canned goods**, **pasta**, **rice**, **canned fruits**, **vegetables**, **and other essential pantry items**. Additionally, any **toiletries**, **or festive treats** are greatly appreciated.

## > WHERE TO DROP OFF DONATIONS?

You can drop off your donations in the <u>designated collection bins</u> located at the <u>church entrance</u>. Look for the marked bins and share the spirit of Christmas with those less fortunate.

> Thank you for your generosity and love. Let's make this Christmas a <u>season of compassion and unity</u>, spreading joy throughout our parish and beyond.

**ORANGE SHIRT DAY** > Next weekend we will commemorate <u>Orange Shirt Day</u>. To show solidarity with our Indigenous brothers and sisters, you may wish to wear something orange.

- ST. MONICA'S PARISH COUNCIL > St. Monica's Parish Council is launching a survey which started September 9<sup>th</sup> and ending on October 1<sup>st</sup>.
- > Your answers will help us to better understand and meet your needs as parishioners of Saint Monica's. It's a short questionnaire, easy to understand, and includes a section for additional comments.
- > Please come to the back of the church after Mass to pick up a printed copy, or kindly give us your email address to receive the online version. After completing the printed version, please return it and place it in the box at the back of the church.
- > We very much appreciate your cooperation, and we welcome your comments.
- > We also thank you kindly for taking the time to fill out the survey by October 1st.

**FAITHFIRST – SACRAMENTAL CLASSES >** First Reconciliation / First Communion preparation classes will begin after Thanksgiving. If your child is in **Grade 3 or higher**, and would like to prepare for these Sacraments, please send an email to <a href="mailto:faithfirst@stmonica.ca">faithfirst@stmonica.ca</a> or call the office at (514) 481-0267.

- > Confirmation preparation classes will also begin after Thanksgiving. If your child is in **Grade 6 or higher**, please send an email to <u>faithfirst@stmonica.ca</u> or call the office as soon as possible to register.
- > Once these Sacramental classes are up and running, then programs for **Grades 1, 2, 4 & 5** will be announced.
- **ST. MONICA'S BOOK CLUB & FAITH-SHARING GROUP >** St. Monica's Book Club and a faith-sharing group will begin meeting again soon. The book club meets on Tuesday evenings, and we will be discussing Richard Rohr's classic <u>Falling Upward</u>, in which ageing is seen as an awakening to a deeper, simpler spirituality. Faith-sharing convenes for 7-week sessions in the Fall and in Spring on Thursdays from 2-3:30. We share on Scripture and on Macrina Wiederkehr's commentary from <u>Abide: Keeping Vigil with the Word of God</u>. If you are interested in joining either or both, please contact Barbara DeLorenzi at (514) 486-5884. Book purchases are necessary in both cases.

<u>LAST WEEKEND</u> <u>Sept. 23/24</u> – <u>Big Garage Sale</u> – 4705 Prince of Wales Street – <u>10am to 4pm</u>. All proceeds will go to St. Monica's Parish. One of our Wardens / Parishioner has organized this sale to help with fundraising due to extra costs that resulted in both the Church and the Rectory.

### MASS INTENTIONS 23 SEPTEMBER to 1 OCTOBER, 2023

Saturday, 4:00pm – September 23, 2023: MEMORIAL – Saint Pius of Pietrelcina

Terry & Leonard Winslade

Peter Duffy

Do & Bob Parsons

Do & Bob Parsons

Fabio D'Alessio aunt, Berardina Fiori & family

Sunday, 9:00am – September 24, 2023: 25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Mario Cipriani wife, Maria & family

In Gratitude & Thanksgiving Anonymous

Sunday, 11:00am - September 24, 2023: 25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Moreno Sacchetti Argisa Coccia & family

The Cullen Family

Deceased Members of the de Josez Family

Jane Cullen

Brigitte

Tuesday, 8:30am – September 26, 2023: FEAST – St. John de Brébeuf, St. Isaac Jogues & Companions Secondary Patrons of Canada

For All Parishioners Intentions

Wednesday, 8:30am – September 27, 2023: MEMORIAL – Saint Vincent de Paul

Isa, Ivio & Mark Mazzella family

Antoinette Pisaturo Maria Pisaturo & family

Thursday, September 28, 2023 – Saint Wenceslaus

8:30am - Mario Matta Olga Santini Matta & son

**7:00pm** – Natalino Cappello Olga & family

Friday, 8:30am - September 29, 2023: FEAST - Saint Michael, Saint Gabriel & Saint Raphael

(Living) Olivia & Adrian BrightStella & Gil LeeAldo ToniniTonini familyDeparted Soul of Michael SaldanhaAnonymous

Saturday, 4:00pm – September 30, 2023: MEMORIAL – Saint Jerome

For All Parishioners Intentions

Sunday, 9:00am - October 1, 2023: 26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Pietro & Feni Di Meglio Elena Di Meglio & family

Domenico Stinziani family

Natalino Cappello Felicia Venanzi-Giancola

Sunday, 11:00am - October 1, 2023: 26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Francesco & Teresa Supino daughter

Joseph Onesi Ida Onesi & family

(Living) Brigitte de Josez Brigitte