

**Pastor's  
Corner**

Dear Friends in Christ, on the third Sunday of Lent, Father Ravi preached about the need for Catholics to show a profound respect for the “temple” of God. On one level, Father was referring to the way we are called to respect our bodies, that is, by keeping it undefiled from certain kinds of sins, especially as they relate to the sixth commandment. St. Paul put it this way: “Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been purchased at a price. Therefore glorify God in your body” (1 Cor. 6:19-20). On another level, however, Father was addressing the way we are supposed to act whenever we encounter Jesus hidden in the tabernacles found within our sacred places (e.g., our parish church, chapels, other places of worship, etc.) Everyone should refrain from speaking to one another in church. Everyone should try to keep a spirit of recollection and silence. Everyone should be respectful to both the Lord and his/her neighbors. Regrettably, this has not happened within our parish community. I must admit that I have been greatly disappointed and disturbed by the great noises that often resonate within our church *before* and *after* many Masses - noises that make our church resemble more like a marketplace than a solemn place of worship.

What does our faith teach in regards to talking in Church? Is it a sin? Are we disrespectful to the Lord and others when we act in this manner? Colin B. Donovan, STL, addressed these questions when he wrote the following response: “Assuming that what is being said is not itself sinful, it is morally neutral to talk. However, *Catholic moral teaching tells us that "circumstances" change the moral character of actions. Talking in Church when not demanded by necessity is at least venially sinful for the following reasons:* 1) **It is the Lord's House**, which Jesus taught was "a house of prayer" (Mt 21:13) and thus should be used according to its purpose. **This is a violation of justice against God**, for whom we should have reverence. 2) **It is a violation of justice against actual neighbors who are trying to pray.** Again, necessity permits talking, just as it permits practicing the music before Mass and so on. *However, most conversations are trivial and take place elsewhere at another time. This puts them in the category of unnecessary.* The truth of this is shown by the strict guard for silence maintained in the chapels of the Roman basilicas where people are praying. Even in the areas where the tourists are viewing the architecture and art, talking above a whisper is not permitted. This is an accurate reflection of the Catholic respect for the church and for others. 3) **Finally, it is a violation of charity, since as Christians we should be going "out of ourselves" to look after others first.** If a person crassly and knowingly disregarded others trying to pray, or worst of all did so with malice or contempt, it could even be a mortal sin against charity. *These are basic principles of Catholic moral theology and need no other authority than that”* (cf. EWTN website, my emphasis added).

I humbly ask everyone to please refrain from *all unnecessary* and *trivial conversations* and *talking* within our church *before* and *after* Mass. **If you must talk, please do it in the foyer or outside the church. If necessity requires that you speak inside the church, please do it quietly.** If everyone observes these basic principles, we will be showing respect not only to our neighbors, but especially to our Lord Jesus Christ, who is truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. By refraining from *all unnecessary* and *trivial conversations* and *talking*, everyone can assist in making our church into a solemn place of worship, instead of what it often resembles today, a boisterous marketplace!

Pax Christi, *Fv. Thomas*

**Mass Intentions  
for the Week**

**Monday: March 19<sup>th</sup>**

8:00am - †Pietro Di Donato  
7:00pm - †Tom Flaherty

**Tuesday: March 20<sup>th</sup>**

8:00am - †John Henry & Albertina  
Fernandes  
7:00pm - For the Grace of Healing -  
Intercession of St. Padre Pio

**Wednesday: March 21<sup>st</sup>**

8:00am - †Angelino Tavares  
7:00pm - †Nadia Zanatta;  
†Susan Mathew

**Thursday: March 22<sup>nd</sup>**

8:00am - †Giuseppe Antonio Bava  
7:00pm - †Rosa Dascoli

**Friday: March 23<sup>rd</sup>**

8:00am - †Raul Pinto  
7:00pm - †Deceased Members of the  
Thuraisingham Family

**Saturday: March 24<sup>th</sup>**

8:30am - †Luigi Joe Venditti  
5:00pm - †Jose & Maria Marques

**Sunday: March 25<sup>th</sup>**

9:00am - For the People of Our Parish  
10:30am - †Cosimo Antonio &  
Vincenzo Leoncini  
12:00pm - †Mario & Pina Petrucci

***Stations of the Cross***

During Lent, please come and journey with us as we pray the *Stations of the Cross* (bilingual) on Friday evenings at 6:30pm.



***La Via Crucis***

Durante la Quaresima, vieni e partecipa alla *via crucis* (bilingual) il venerdì alle 18:30.



**WEEKLY OFFERINGS**

Last Week's Collection \$6,234.00  
Building Funds \$ 345.00

Thank You For Your Generosity



Easter Sunday is but two weeks away (April 1). In our First Reading from the prophet Jeremiah, we hear God tell us, "I will forgive their evildoing and remember their sin no more." To affirm that forgiveness, St. Paul has this to say in the Second Reading: "He (Jesus) became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him." There is a connection between

these two statements which present forgiveness as the way to salvation.

The Lenten season is one of penance, reflection, prayer, almsgiving, and fasting, perhaps even in that order, so we can better prepare ourselves for Easter Sunday and beyond. Lent reminds us that God is gracious and merciful. God's divine mercy is a central theme of Lent.

One might say that the priceless gift of God's mercy is highlighted and celebrated in the Church in the Sacrament of Reconciliation (confession). That should be a key part of our Lenten journey. As mentioned only two weeks remain on that journey so getting to reconciliation is important if we have not done so already.

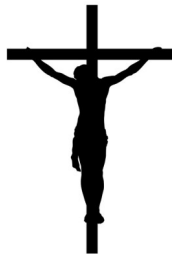
Sacramental confession allows God's loving mercy and His grace-filled absolution to be confirmed to us through a priest. God sees us with love, mercy, and an abundance of forgiveness. Christ, through the priest, helps us to let go of anything that gets in the way of our relationship to God. St. Isidore wrote, "Confession heals, confession justifies, confession grants pardon of sin. All hope consists in confession. In confession there is a chance for mercy."

Il brano del Vangelo odierno segue immediatamente la narrazione dell'ingresso trionfale del Signore a Gerusalemme. Tutti sembrano averlo accolto: persino alcuni Greci, di passaggio, andarono a rendergli omaggio.

Questo è il contesto in cui Giovanni comincia il racconto della Passione. Come in natura, il chicco di grano muore per generare una nuova vita, così Gesù, con la sua morte, riconduce tutto quanto al Padre. Non è l'acclamazione del popolo che farà venire il Regno, ma il consenso del Padre. Il ministero e l'insegnamento di Gesù testimoniano che egli è venuto da parte del Padre. Aprirci a lui, significa passare dalla conoscenza di quanto egli ha detto o fatto all'accettazione della fede. La voce venuta dal cielo ci riporta alla Trasfigurazione (cf. la seconda domenica di Quaresima). Ma qui, chi sente questa voce, o non la riconosce per nulla, o la percepisce come una vaga forma di approvazione. Eppure tale conferma era proprio destinata a loro. Questo è anche un richiamo per noi: se non siamo pronti ad ascoltare la parola di Dio, anche noi resteremo insensibili.

Tutti coloro che vogliono seguire Cristo, che accettano questa nuova via, scelgono di porsi al servizio di Cristo e di camminare al suo fianco. Il significato pregnante di queste parole - essere sempre con lui dovunque egli sia - ci è stato presentato nell'insegnamento e nel nutrimento spirituale della Quaresima. All'avvicinarsi della celebrazione dei misteri pasquali, portiamo in noi la certezza che servire Cristo significa essere onorati dal Padre.

**OUR LADY OF THE AIRWAYS PRAYER GROUP**



*"He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed."*  
- 1 Peter 2:24

The OLA Prayer Group invites you to an hour of prayer and meditation on:

**Monday, March 26<sup>th</sup>**

**Theme: The Five Wounds of Jesus**

After the 7pm Mass. All are welcome to attend.

**Today is ShareLife Sunday!**

Living the Gospel locally and around the world... *"It is important that we continue to support the ShareLife appeal, to provide for the needs of the marginalized both here in our communities and around the world.*



*Sometimes the results are obvious and sometimes they're invisible, but always they make a tangible difference in the lives of the people we are helping. Please prayerfully consider how you can be supportive today on ShareLife Sunday."* - Thomas Cardinal Collins, Archbishop of Toronto. Thank you for your generosity.

**OFFICE OF VOCATIONS**



Unless a seed first dries out and dies, it cannot be planted in the earth to grow. Unless we die to our selfish ways, we cannot expect to be people who will *"lay down their lives for their friends"*. If you think God is calling you to lay down your life as a priest, religious or deacon for His Church, call **Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Toronto 416-968-0997.**

**OLA Youth**



**EDGE** *Are you in grade 6, 7, or 8?*

All students in **grade 6 - 8** are welcome to our next **EDGE Night** on **Friday, March 23rd**, from 7pm - 9pm.

*All grades 9 - 12 are invited!* **LIFE TEEN**

All Teens in grade 9 - 12 are welcome to our next **Life Night** on **Saturday, April 7th.**

**'Life Teen'** begins with the **5:00pm Mass**  
**6:00pm: Dinner** (in the parish hall)  
**6:30pm - 8:30pm: Life Night**

*Follow us on Instagram: [ourladyairwaysyouth](https://www.instagram.com/ourladyairwaysyouth)*

For youth ministry info, please contact 905-677-4615 or email: [OLAYouthministry@hotmail.com](mailto:OLAYouthministry@hotmail.com)