

Pastor's Corner

Dear Friends in Christ,

St. Peter Canisius once wrote: "Never was a whimpering bit of humanity so powerful that, while lying on His bed of straw, He could command the very stars to direct whom He wished to visit Him Never a child so wise or so rich as this little Infant who

was full of grace and incarnate truth. Never anyone so marvelous as to be at once so small and so great, true God and true Man, the Uncreated Word and weak human flesh, mighty King and a lowly slave. Never had any child so emptied himself of all that he really was in order to become a tiny, speechless, naked, unknown babe.... Christmas Day is nothing if not a day of universal joy.... All faithful Christians should rejoice that their Creator and Lord has taken on human flesh and begun His reign over the hearts of men, not only as God, but also as the Son of Man among the children of men."

On behalf of the entire pastoral team at Our Lady of the Airways Parish - Fr. Canisius Raj, Enza Lamberti and Mike Caslin - I pray that the loving peace and joy emanating from the Infant Child Jesus may be upon you and your loved ones. Merry Christmas everyone!

Pax Christi, Fr. Thomas



As a mother, I remember well those first fleeing taps that signaled the kicks of my growing baby and knowing that one day, soon, the baby would arrive. After all the preparation and waiting, we would welcome an everyday miracle into a home that would perhaps never be truly ready enough.

This Advent, we hear once more how Elizabeth greeted Mary, and we feel the Christ child move, already within us through the grace of baptism. Christ guickens within us in anticipation as we clean, shop, bake, write cards or emails, practise for the pageant and wrap gifts. But sometimes we feel like the child is not leaping with joy but rather lagging a little. We miss loved ones and are burdened by imperfect relationships. We can feel that no matter how hard we work, something is lacking. It is so easy to become caught up in the material aspects of the season. We forget that all we need to do is be ready.

This Sunday, we are so close to the fulfillment of the promise contained in today's readings. What does fulfillment mean for us? For Elizabeth, it meant she was assured of God's blessing. This Christmas, let us, with Elizabeth, lay claim to that promise and may we all find some small moments to leap for joy.

(Maureen Wicken, Living with Christ)

Oggi il vangelo ci rivela come si sono realizzati la venuta del Messia e il mistero della redenzione che essa contiene.

La persona di Maria, la sua fede, il suo "sì", la sua maternità, sono le vie scelte da Dio per fare visita ai suoi e portare la salvezza a tutti gli uomini. Il centro dell'avvenimento evangelico di questo giorno si sviluppa, dunque, attorno a Maria: lei è la più profonda e più radicale via dell'Avvento. Si capisce la ragione della visita a sua cugina Elisabetta nel messaggio dell'angelo (Lc 1,36). Ella si dirige rapidamente verso il villaggio in Giudea, perché la grazia ricevuta da sua cugina Elisabetta, che diventerà mamma, la riempie di gioia. Il suo saluto ha un effetto meraviglioso su Elisabetta e sul bambino. Tutti e due si impregnano di Spirito Santo. Elisabetta sente il bambino sussultare dentro di sé, come fece tempo prima Davide davanti all'arca dell'Alleanza, durante il suo viaggio a Gerusalemme (2Sam 6,1-11). Maria è la nuova arca dell'Alleanza, davanti alla quale il bambino esprime la sua gioia. Dal bambino l'azione dello Spirito è trasmessa anche ad Elisabetta, cosa che la conduce a riconoscere la Madre del suo Signore. Sotto l'ispirazione dello Spirito, conosce il mistero del messaggio dell'angelo a sua cugina Maria, e la riconosce "felice" in ragione della fede con la quale ella l'ha ricevuto. La testimonianza di Elisabetta è la più antica testimonianza della venerazione della prima Chiesa per la Madre del Salvatore.

Vocations Corner...



Are you called to follow in the footsteps of Vocations Mary as a priest or religious or deacon to carry the Good News of God's great Love? If you think

God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, call Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Toronto 416-968-0997. Email: vocations@archtoronto.org

Web: www.vocationstoronto.ca

Eucharistic Adoration



Our parish has Eucharistic Adoration in the church every Friday from 8:30am to 7pm. Can you spare a few moments from your busy schedule to come and spend some time before Jesus in prayer and adoration?

2019 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES ARE READY FOR PICK-UP!



Parishioners are asked to pick up their 2019 Offertory Envelopes in the chapel. It

is important that you discard all previous envelopes when the New Year commences. Please enter your full name and address on the first few 2019 envelopes so that we may allocate donations correctly for income tax purposes.

If you do not have offertory envelopes and would like a box, please fill out a request form found in the church foyer or in the parish office.

Retrouvaille Weekend: Jan 25 - 27, 2019 Help for Troubled Marriages

If you are thinking of separation or divorce or you are already separated, but want to try again then Retrouvaille can help. This program will give you the tools to help get your marriage back on track. It will also give you the

opportunity to rediscover one another and examine your lives together in a new and positive way.

> Phone: 416-281-6007 Email: info@torontoretrouvaille.com Web: www.torontoretrouvaille.com

ETTE YOUTH CORNER OLIFE TEEN

Are you in grade 6, 7, or 8?

All students in grade 6 - 8 are welcome to our next EDGE Night on Friday, Jan. 11th, from 7pm - 9pm.

> EDGE Registration Fee: \$25 January 2019 to June 2019 Session

For registration info, please contact 905-677-4615 or email: OLAyouthministry@hotmail.com

Calling all "OLA Teens" in grades 9 - 12! Are you looking for service hour opportunities?

Please join us for our next LIFE TEEN - Hangout & Community Service on Saturday, January 19th, from 2pm - 4pm. Follow us on Instagram: ourladyairwaysyouth

OLA Young Adults

Programs and Events for ages 19 - 39. Follow us on Twitter: @Airways YA