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ADMINISTERED BY THE BASILIAN FATHERS

A TIME OF RECONCILIATION

By Elizabeth Chesley-Jewell

On this Fourth Sunday of Lent we are presented with the Parable of the Prodigal Son. Lent is a time of reconciliation, where we have the opportunity to repair what has been broken in our relationships so that we can fully enter into a new life with Christ. Today let us pause and reflect on the times we ourselves have acted as the prodigal son, the older obedient son and the forgiving Father. What choices can we make in our daily interactions and relationships to move from hurt to peace, from death to life?

We can ask ourselves in what ways are we like the prodigal son who requested his father's inheritance so he could live a life of frivolity. Have I sought ease and money over positive relationships and integrity? Have I taken the love and mercy of another for granted, possibly more than once? Acknowledging my error only when I have nothing else left? During this season of Lent what are the ways I can let go of my own greed and selfishness so I may humbly strengthen my relationships with those I love?

We can ask ourselves in what ways are we like the older son who was angry when his younger brother was welcomed back without punishment. Do I look down on the failings of others? Do I place a person's worth, including my own, on their ability to be obedient? While integrity and right judgment are important qualities, do I often act self-righteous and disregard the suffering and humanity of others? During this season of reconciliation how can I reach out to someone who I have previously alienated or spoken of without compassion?

We can ask ourselves in what ways are we like the father who welcomed his son home without hesitation. Do I show unconditional love to others? Am I able to set aside my own hurt to alleviate the pain and suffering of another person? Do I recognize the blessings and unconditional love I have received from God or do I allow cynicism to take away my joy? During this season of Lent, as we journey towards a new

birth, how can I show unconditional love to those closest to me, regardless of their faults?

Sunday's Readings: 1 Samuel 16.1, 6-7, 10-13, Ephesians 5.8-14, John 9.1-41

LENTEN BOOK CLUB

Lent is always a wonderful excuse to slow down and live more intentionally, more prayerfully. It's a time for connection and transformation. Come for an evening of great conversation with light food and refreshments. Please join the Lenten Book Club for our discussion of the book *Sacred Fire* by Ronald Rolheiser on **Monday, March 7 at 7:00pm in the parish hall**. No pre-registration is required. If you can, please read the book. If you run out of time to read, come anyway.

LENTEN TWILIGHT RETREAT

You are cordially invited to attend The University of St. Michael's College Annual Lenten Twilight Retreat on **Tuesday, March 8, 2016** hosted at St. Basil's Parish. The retreat leader is Fr. Mike Lehman, CSB. Welcome and dinner begin at 5:30pm. To register, please call 416-926-7260 or email smc.alumni affairs@utoronto.ca.

R.C.I./CREED: RELIGIOUS PLURALISM

Join our members of the Elect, Candidates, and their Sponsors on **Wednesday, March 9 at 7:00pm** as we explore the topic of religious pluralism. What does it mean to be Catholic amidst the practice of other religions in our globalized world? How does Roman Catholicism respond and relate to other religious traditions? This presentation, by **Dr. Reid Locklin** of the USMC Christianity and Culture programme, serves as a basic introduction to the core tenets of inter-religious dialogue. We begin at 7:00pm in the main church for evening prayer, followed by discussion in the parish hall. All are welcome; no pre-registration is required!

**PIANO CONCERT:
DR. ADAM ŻUKIEWICZ IN RECITAL**

On **Saturday, March 12 at 7:30pm**, Dr. Adam Żukiewicz, Assistant Professor of Piano at the University of Northern Colorado, returns to St. Basil's to perform a concert of solo music on the sanctuary grand piano. Music to include Beethoven's Sonata in E minor, Op. 90, portions of Trnka's Cervnova Nokturna, and Liszt's Sonata in B minor.

Admission is free, donations are welcome to the music program of St. Basil's.

CARDINAL TURKSON LECTURE

Mark your calendars! The University of St. Michael's College is delighted to announce that Cardinal Peter Turkson will deliver the Kelly Lecture on **Monday, March 14, 2016, at 7:00pm** in St. Basil's Church. Cardinal Turkson, who serves as President of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace and is Archbishop Emeritus of Cape Coast, Ghana, will begin his visit to the SMC campus on Sunday, March 13, presiding at the 4:30 Mass at St. Basil's. For tickets, please visit the University of St. Michael's College website.

HE THIRSTS FOR YOU

Set in Biblical Samaria, the story of the woman at the well comes alive in this one-woman, one-act play "He Thirsts For You." Who will you listen to, the well of empty promises, or the One who gives Living Water?

Written and performed by Elisa Lollino, this one-act play will take place during our special extended Prayer Service for R.C.I.A. on **Wednesday, March 16 at 7:00pm** in the church.

All are welcome to attend. RSVP's helpful but not required.

LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY:

Sunday, February 28, 2016 \$6,527.10



MASS INTENTIONS

MARCH 6th-12th

Sunday

9:00am-
10:30am-
12:00pm-
4:30pm-

Fourth Sunday of Lent

David Joseph & Maria Elizabeth Myung
Pro Populo
Grazia and Paolo Scoppi (+)
Doreen Yamashita (liv.)

Monday

7:30am-
12:10pm-

Saints Perpetua & Felicity

Anne Gregoire (+)
Helen Maria Eustachiwna (+)

Tuesday

7:30am-
12:10pm-

Saint John of God

Sr. Doryne Kirby (+)
Ruben Manalo (+) and Jim Cahill (+)

Wednesday Saint Frances of Rome

7:30am-
12:10pm-

Russell Hinds (+)
Lina Ciavarella (+)

Thursday

7:30am-
12:10pm-

Pat- sister of Sr. Frances, FCJ (+)
Mr. Stefan & Mrs. Anna Papez (+),
and Daisy May McCraig (+)

Friday

7:30am-
12:10pm-

Pro Populo
Carmen D'Cruz (+)

Saturday

5:00pm-

Nancy Sidle (+)

PRAY FOR THE SICK, especially, Bohdanna Kovals'kyj, Mary O'Brien, Sharon Han, Ancoreta Amigleo, Don Alvaro, Rita Moran, Clare deMello, Edna Fernandez, Kenneth Heath, Marina Kazakis, Luz Manalo, Betty Hill, Hsien Tang Pan Wong, Robert Benn, Claire Fidler, Helen Lau, Gloria Lau, Sr. Mary Sibbald, Kam Fung Tem, Angel Martinez, Margaret-Mary McKenzie, and Joe Torres.

PRAY FOR THE DECEASED, especially Liam Dolan.

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