

St. John Fisher Parish



300 Balmoral Drive, Bramalea, Ontario L6T 1V6

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Email: stjohnfisherparish@gmail.com Website: www.stjohnfisherbr.archtoronto.org

Instagram & Twitter address: StJohnFisherBrampton

PASTOR: Fr. Regulo Imperial

IN RESIDENCE: Fr. Rudy Imperial

PARISH HOURS:

Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

SUNDAY MASS:

Saturday: 5:30 p.m.

Sunday: 9:00, 10:30 a.m. & 12 noon

WEEKDAY MASS:

Monday to Friday: 9:00 a.m.

First Fridays: 7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY DEVOTION: Devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Help & Benediction: 7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: 9:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

PRAYER GROUP:

Thursday's 7:00 p.m. Parish Hall-Upper room

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE:

Saturday: 4:30 to 5:00 p.m.

SACRAMENT OF INITIATION (BAPTISM):

By appointment only. Baptismal instruction required. Contact the Rectory.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

Archdiocese policy requires making arrangements one year prior to the date of marriage. Preparatory course is required.

COMMUNION SERVICE:

For the sick. Contact the Rectory.

PARISH SCHOOLS:

St. John Fisher, 330 Balmoral Drive 905-793-8900

St John Henry Newman, 698 Balmoral Drive 905-792-2268

Georges Vanier, 28 Finchgate Boulevard 905-792-2251

Holy Name of Mary, 115 Glenvale Boulevard 905-791-5007

St. Thomas Aquinas, 25 Corporation Drive 905-791-1195

WELCOME TO NEW PARISHIONERS:

New Parishioners are asked to register. Cards are available at the back of the church.

SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

While we are unable to celebrate public masses, Fr Regulo Imperial will offer his daily, private masses for the following intentions:

Monday, February 15th

9 a.m. – † Elizabeth Betty O'Sullivan req by Colleen Pereira

Tuesday, February 16th

9 a.m. – For the souls of Joseph Henvey, Mr & Mrs Shaw, R. Currie, all members of the Henvey & O'Shere Yamey families, Mr & Mrs P. Donnelly and all members of the Family, J. Boyle, Mr & Mrs J. Reilly, Mr & Mrs O'Neill, Mr & Mrs P. Sharpe & Jamiey, Mr & Mrs A. Donnelly JNP

Wednesday, February 17th

9 a.m. –

Thursday, February 18th

9 a.m. –

Friday, February 19th

9 a.m. – † Elizabeth Betty O'Sullivan req by Colleen Pereira

Saturday, February 20th

5:30 p.m. – † Victor De Gannes req by Jeannette & Bill Morgan

Sunday, February 21st

9 a.m. – † Ponniah Amirthanathan requested by Eruthayathas

10:30 a.m. –

12 p.m. –



DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES AND RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

February 17th: 8:30 - 10:30 am & 6:30 - 8 pm

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE The priest leads the prayer service, blesses the ashes, and sprinkles them on the head of each person without saying anything. ▶ The distribution of Holy Communion will follow. ▶ The service ends with prayer and general blessing.

▶ Only 9 people are allowed in the church at any time (plus the Celebrant). ▶ The small group in attendance will be asked to stand, appropriately distanced, in front of the sanctuary. ▶ No one may sit or kneel so that cleaning of pews is not required in between these services. ▶ Please follow the instructions from the ushers. They will regulate attendance by allowing for the departure of one group and the entrance of the next one. ▶ Don't forget to wear a face mask covering nose, mouth, and chin, and to sanitize hands before entering the worship area.

If you are symptomatic, have a compromised immune system or have a greater risk of infection, please stay home.

Holy Communion available Sundays from 10 - 11:30 am.

Communion is food for our soul

and therefore, essential for our faith and well-being.

▶ First-come, first-served. If the session you hope to attend is full, we kindly ask you to wait in your cars for the next available service.

Please use this time to pray and meditate on this year's challenges.

Cardinal Collins continues to dispense the faithful from their Sunday obligation. If you are symptomatic, have a compromised immune system or have a greater risk of infection, please stay home.



Weekly Offertory: \$3,300

Thank you for your generosity!

The Church depends on your generous offerings to continue the work of God. If you are able, please consider continuing your Sunday offering by:

① mailing it to our parish office ② dropping your envelope in our secured, outdoor mailbox or in the donation box inside the church ③ giving online through the Archdiocese of Toronto website (Donate Now).

I thank you very much for your generosity. I continue to remember you in my private daily mass for your safety and protection from this pandemic. I am with you in asking God to bring us back to our normal life and normal Mass celebration.

Fr Regs



MARRIAGE SUNDAY - FEBRUARY 13/14

This weekend is Marriage Sunday in the Archdiocese! It highlights the importance of the sacrament of marriage and complements World Marriage Sunday celebrations that take place across North America.

"Marriage is a precious sign, for when a man and a woman celebrate the sacrament of marriage, God is, as it were, 'mirrored' in them; he impresses in them his own features and the indelible character of his love. Marriage is the icon of God's love for us."
From Pope Francis' Amoris Laetitia

Let us celebrate the tremendous contributions of married couples who continue to strengthen our faith community. Let us also pray and extend loving support to those who have lost a spouse or are struggling from a broken relationship.

www.archtoronto.org/marriage



FIRE PREVENTION MEASURES UPDATE

On behalf of our Church, I signed a contract with MERCER Fire Protection to do the following: ① Fire Panel and Devices Replacement ② Fire Safety Plan ③ Fire Alarm System Annual Inspection ④ Emergency Lighting Annual Inspection ⑤ Fire Extinguishers Annual Inspection. The Total for all of this is: \$26,766.31 (including HST).

Construction has begun.

I am grateful to report that parishioners have donated \$20,000 towards this project. We do still need a bit more. Thank you for considering a sacrificial gift to get us to the final amount. MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALL! Fr Regs

Lift Jesus Higher Rally Theme: Consuming Fire
Saturday, February 27th – 1-3:30 pm & 7-9:45 pm
No registration needed. Free Live stream event from Ann Arbor, Michigan. See the schedule at ljhr.ca.



31ST ANNUAL ORDINANDI DINNER (VIRTUAL) ▶ Sponsored by the Serra Foundation of Canada & the 6 Serra Clubs in our Archdiocese ▶ **Tuesday, March 2nd from 7-8 pm** ▶ All are invited to join in celebrating new priestly vocations and seminaries. ▶ Free to view on the Archdiocese of Toronto YouTube channel. ▶ Donations are welcome and will help cover the costs and support St Augustine's Seminary, Redemptoris Mater Seminary, the Office of Vocations & Serra House.





FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Beloved People of God:

Leprosy, or Hansen's disease, was one of the most repugnant and probably one of the most feared diseases among ancient people. In fact, in the Book of Leviticus of the Old Testament there were directives on how to deal with people suffering from this disease: The leprous person should warn others of their condition by wearing torn clothes, crying out "*unclean, unclean*" when they saw people and isolate themselves by dwelling outside the city. The people in turn should not go near them or touch them because if they did, it rendered themselves unclean. The leper was the supreme outcast in the time of Jesus.

How do you categorize a leper? No physical home to return to because their families have rejected them. No social home because the community has ostracized them. No religious home because the Mosaic law forbade them to participate in worship. They were totally homeless.

In today's world we could hardly ever encounter a leper. We only see pictures of a leprous person in books or magazines. Here is a simple way to understand the message. "Leper" spelled backwards is R-E-P-E-L or repel.

Today's readings are not really about lepers. They refer to people we repel and how we can reach out to them. In today's culture we go by appearances. The advertisements tell us that "*Looking good is everything*". We always want to look good. Pimples, boils, wrinkles, and rashes are small things, yet the thought of such afflictions can worry us to no end. If we only want to associate with good looking people what will happen to those who are emotionally or mentally ill, the physically challenged or deformed, our neurotic neighbour, the non-stop talker, the odd dresser, those who have different sexual orientation, the unappealing. What about our alcoholic husband or father, drug addict children, the feeble or elderly, and the rejects in our family? All those others who are made by us to wear the unfair label *abnormal* and those who practice their faith differently or the priest that we don't like. How shall we treat them or deal with them?

Let me give you a comparison. What is the reaction of the Muslim world about the offending nature of the cartoons depicting the Prophet Muhammad? Najeeb Siddiqui of Toronto wrote this letter to the Toronto Star: "*Before we Muslims go crazy with emotions and start killing innocent people and burn or damage properties, we should look at the life of the honorable man we are making this fuss about. He was tortured, ridiculed, and abused by the people of his time to stop him from preaching his message. He never hurt those who threw stones at him. He never burnt their homes. He never even cursed at them. Instead, he asked Allah to forgive their mistakes and show them the path of Islam. So, if he was so utterly forgiving, why can't we try to be like him?*"

My friends, in this same manner, we Christians need to turn to Jesus and find out through his examples how we should act and deal with people who are outcasts in our society - be it by disease or by their status in the community.

Moved with pity, Jesus touches the leper. By touching this person Jesus makes God's nearness visible, like the name Emmanuel: "*Jesus with us.*" By touching this person Jesus shows that the kingdom of God is open to all people and that we must accept everyone.

The people we exclude, Jesus would include. He teaches us something about human touch as well as about His divine touch. The real leper is hard to find, but the people we cannot accept, the rejected, people we don't like or keep at a distance, are perhaps the people who eat with us at the same table or even share a common roof with us. Or perhaps they are the people standing or seated beside us in this church. Jesus wants His Church to be a house of welcome, open to anyone. But sometimes we close the doors of the Church through our indifference. Everybody is welcome into the Church in the same manner as the king invited into his banquet the crippled, the blind, the deaf, the tax-collectors, the lepers, prostitutes, and sinners. We sometimes limit the members of the Church organizations to the people we like and the people of our own status. We are embarrassed or might question the presence of some people in our celebration or affairs whom we think are sinners or are divorced or are not married in the Church.

Mother Teresa was asked to speak to the audience at Oslo, when she received the Nobel Prize. She told them of a starving Hindu family in Calcutta she visited with a parcel of rice. Instead of allowing the hungry children to eat, the mother of the family thanked Mother and told her to leave. Mother Teresa stood outside their hut and she saw the lady taking the same parcel of rice and entering the hut of her neighbour. She came out after a while with only half the parcel. When Mother questioned her, she said: "*Our Muslim neighbours are also starving and I gave them half the rice.*" Mother Teresa then asked the renowned audience this question: "*Do you know if your neighbours are starving? Perhaps not for rice, but for love?*"

That starving mother in the story was touched by Mother Teresa and the mother in turn touched her starving neighbour. We have been touched by God in one way or another. Let us also touch other people with our love and concern.

Fr Regulo Imperial, the Pastor



Today's Gospel says that "*Jesus was moved with pity when He saw a leper*". Are you moved with love and compassion when you see the outcasts of today's society?

Today, Jesus continues to call forward men and women to minister as He did. If you think God is calling you to a Church vocation, contact Fr. Matthew McCarthy, Vocations Director, ArchToronto 416-968-0997 / vocations@archtoronto.org / www.vocationstoronto.ca

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