

St. John Fisher Parish



300 Balmoral Drive, Bramalea, Ontario L6T 1V6

Telephone: 905-793-6610 Fax: 905-793-7721

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.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



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, March 15th

9 a.m. –

Tuesday, March 16th

9 a.m. –

Wednesday, March 17th

9 a.m. –

Thursday, March 18th

9 a.m. –

Friday, March 19th

9 a.m. –

Saturday, March 20th

5:30 p.m. –

Sunday, March 21st

9 a.m. –

10:30 a.m. –

12 p.m. –

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.

Last day to order is March 15th!



EASTER CHOCOLATE FUNDRAISER

The Catholic Women's League of St John Fisher invites all parishioners to buy Easter Chocolates from Purdy's Chocolatier. We earn 25% of all sales (before tax) and **all** proceeds will go directly to our church. Please visit this link to order:

<https://fundraising.purdys.com/1317381-84099>.

You can order & pay directly through the Purdy's website. Or you can email stjohnfishercwl@outlook.com. We will email you a copy of the catalog (PDF) & you can order through the CWL. All orders must be prepaid and are subject to 13% tax. Orders will be available for pick up from Saturday, March 27th (Palm Sunday).



Offertory

March 7th: \$4,127

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).



YOUR FINANCIAL HELP IS URGENTLY REQUIRED

Dear Parishioners: I know it seems like I am always asking for money and in some ways, I am. Our church is getting older and requires a lot of maintenance. As you know, we are currently upgrading our Fire Prevention Measures and still need a bit more money to pay off the \$26,766.31 price tag.

This week, we were forced to do some repairs in the parish hall because of burst pipes due to the recent severe cold weather. This was an unexpected expense.

I know that now is not the right time to ask because many of you are facing your own financial struggles brought on by the pandemic, but I must ask so that our precious church is not neglected and further in debt.

For those of you who have a little money to spare, please consider donating any extra amount, no matter how small. The young boy who offered Jesus his five barley loaves and two small fish didn't think his offering was too small.

GOD CAN MAKE SMALL GIFTS DO GREAT THINGS.

I am grateful for whatever you can offer to get us over our latest financial hurdle.

Humbly yours, Fr Regs



St. Paul reminds us that we are

“created in Christ Jesus for good works”.

If you think God's plan for you could be a vocation in His Church, contact Fr. Matthew McCarthy, Vocations Director, ArchToronto 416-968-0997 / vocations@archtoronto.org / www.vocationstoronto.ca

VIRTUAL COME & SEE WEEKEND – for men 17+ years.

Via Zoom hosted by the Office of Vocations.

March 26 (7-9 pm) / March 27 (10 am-5 pm).

The weekend offers a way for men to discern a possible call to the priesthood. Register: www.vocationstoronto.ca

Questions: vocations@archtoronto.org



Inaugural Mass celebrating the 500th Anniversary of the arrival of Christianity in the Philippines

Tuesday, March 16th at 11 am.

Three ways to watch:

www.ph500toronto.com / www.facebook.com/500yocTO

<http://bit.ly/GiftedtoGive>

Women of the Word Toronto presents:

Chat with Cardinal Collins: Thursday, March 18th / 7-8 pm

Registration required for this Zoom meeting.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZYqdu-rqTgsHtBjmhxfNqRrURUWO-WERq>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.



FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends/People of God:

Traditionally, the **4th Sunday of Lent** has been known as Laetare Sunday, taken from the entrance antiphon which tells us to rejoice. We are halfway through our days of Lenten penitence. Pink or rose-colored vestments are worn by the priest. However, the mood of the first reading and responsorial psalm does not echo that of rejoicing. The chosen people failed God and ridicules the prophets. The Babylonian captivity was their punishment. The singers of the psalm are sitting by a stream, but they can do no more than weep because they long for their homeland.

Undoubtedly, there is a bitterness in the psalm: How can we sing a song of the Lord in a foreign land. What does it mean for us to pray this psalm? Jesus promised: *Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted.* May we have the courage to sing this psalm in the midst of this pandemic and may we also be able to know the comfort that only our Creator can offer us.

Life is difficult. Even if we are God-fearing, even if we pray every day, even if we are good. Our faith in God does not remove suffering and adversity from our lives. But our faith does give us the strength and courage to face the very real challenges of life.

The Bible reaffirmed that God's promise to Israel was certain, but that human fidelity was also part of the equation. Because Israel had failed to keep its side of the covenant, had practiced idolatry and injustice, and had ignored the prophets, it had cut itself off from God's ever-present help. That situation was a result of their own making.

But there was hope. God inspired Cyrus the Persian to restore Israel. There is always that pattern of promise and deliverance in the Bible.

In our present situation in North America, Canadians always believe that God keeps our land glorious and free! We are complaisant of the fact that God takes good care of us. Now that the vaccine has arrived, we see some light at the end of the tunnel.

This moment in history was given to all of us, especially people in the government, politicians, businesspeople, and Christians. This is a particularly specific time for soul-searching that can lead to social reform and even national calls for repentance. In times of great social stress, people have always prayed for God's help and guidance. God will not allow us to go back to normal without having first accomplished God's will for us. The aftermath of any disaster should result in the transformation of who we are, and what is our relationship with God and with one another.

Today's Gospel describes Christ's coming as light into the darkness. Light is what enables us to see clearly who we are, especially in relationship to one another, and what we must do to fulfill God's plan.

Today God offers us a deliverance, a bailout so to speak, not in the form of a billion or trillion dollars, but in the person of His Son lifted on the CROSS. *"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."* Jesus is the light. To ignore light is to retreat into darkness. Nations, cultures, and individuals that have chosen darkness, even if they flourish for a short time, have always stumbled, and collapsed. At the same time, enlightened societies that have devoted their energies to peace, justice and human development have been blessed by God.

LET US CHANGE FOR THE BETTER!

Fr Regulo Imperial, the Pastor

FAIRNESS FOR CHURCHES

Throughout the pandemic, most places of worship have adhered to government direction on COVID restrictions and limiting gathering sizes. As the province begins to reopen, we are calling on the Ford government to take a fair and equitable approach to the return to worship.

- ❶ Capacity limits in places of worship should reflect a percentage of pre-pandemic capacity, not an arbitrary limit like 10 people in grey "lockdown" regions.
- ❷ The province should engage directly with faith leaders to understand the essential nature of our work and to more fully understand how places of worship are operating safely and responsibly throughout the province.

Cardinal Collins has asked us all to email the Premier and your MPP! We need to let Queen's Park know that Ontarians support a fair and equitable approach in re-opening places of worship. Visit: aplacetoworship.ca

LIFEBOAT

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. - JOHN 3:17 NIV

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