



Sat. Feb. 11

5:00pm **For the People of the Parish**

Sun. Feb. 12

8:00am + **Natale Zomparelli & Trieste & Santa Sirizzotti**

9:15am + **Antonio & Isabella Virglio & Romanelli family**

10:30am + **Rino Mazzuca**

12:00noon + **Ricky Martinez**

Mon. Feb. 13

7:00pm + **Mariana Simonetta**

Tues. Feb. 14

9:00am + **Maria Romano**

Wed. Feb. 15

7:00 + **David Edwards, Intentions of Daniel Hunter**

Fri. Feb. 17

9:00am + **Giosue Carducci**

Feast Days This Week

Tues. Feb. 14 – **St. Cyril**, monk, and

St. Methodius, bishop

Fri. Feb. 17 – **The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order**

Marriage Sunday – Cardinal Collins has designated the weekend of Feb. 11 & 12, 2017 as Marriage Sunday in the Archdiocese of Toronto. The event provides an opportunity to honour husband and wife while saluting the faithfulness, sacrifice and joy that comes with the marriage covenant. To those preparing for marriage, newlyweds and those that have been companions on the journey for decades, we offer our prayers and best wishes in a special way this weekend.

Blessing for Marriages

"Almighty and eternal God, you have so exalted the unbreakable bond of marriage that it has become the sacramental sign of your Son's union with the Church as His spouse. Look with favour on these married couples, whom you have united in marriage, as they ask for your help and the protection of the Virgin Mary. They pray that in good times and in bad they will grow in love for each other; that they will resolve to be one of heart in the bond of peace.

Lord, in their struggles, let them rejoice that you are near to help them; in their needs, let them know that you are there to rescue them, in their joys let them see that you are the source and completion of every happiness. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen"

Valentine's Day Bake Sale

This weekend, after all masses, the youth group will be having a Valentine's Day bake sale! Stop by and get all the sweets and goodies that you might need for your loved ones. All proceeds will go to the St. Padre Pio Youth Group.

Youth Group – meets Friday evening at St.

Andrew School from 8:15 to 10pm.

January/February Schedule:

Feb. 11-12 – Valentine's Bake Sale

Feb. 17 – Sports Night

Feb. 24 – Game Show Night

Mar. 3 – Mass at church (7pm) followed by Stations of the Cross

Mar. 10 – Movie & Pizza night

Mar. 17 – March Break – No Youth group

Mar. 24 – Drama, Games Night

Mar. 31 – Sports Night

First Reconciliation – We offer our congratulations to the children of St. Padre Pio School who will be receiving their First Reconciliation this Monday, February 13th at 7:30pm in the church. Also, a special thank you to the teachers and families who helped to prepare the children for this sacrament.

The Catholic Women's League will hold their General Meeting this Monday, Feb. 13 at 7:30pm in the Narthex. We welcome all new members and encourage you to attend this meeting. Refreshments will be served to celebrate the incoming executive.

Baptisms will be celebrated next Sunday, February 19, 2017 at 1:15pm. Parents and guests should be at the church by 1pm

Family Skate– Knights of Columbus invite everyone to St. Padre Pio Parish Family Day skate on Sat. Feb. 18, from 8:30 to 9:30pm. Join other families from our parish for FREE skating at Al Palladini. We guarantee fun and refreshments. Please bring a non-perishable food item in support of the Vaughan Food Bank. See you there!

Tuesday, February 14 – St. Valentine's Day

History tends to be confusing and vague, but despite several different possibilities for his identity, it is believed that the actual Valentine who inspired this holiday was a priest during the reign of the Roman Emperor Claudius II.

Valentine, or Valentinus is credited, along with St. Marius and his family, with assisting the Christian martyrs during their persecution by Claudius. At that time it was a crime to provide aid and comfort

to Christians. Claudius had also issued an edict forbidding marriage. He believed married men made poor soldiers because they grew attached to their families. Therefore, to guarantee a steady supply of soldiers for his empire, Claudius abolished marriage and cancelled all engagements.

Valentine invited young lovers to come to him in secret, where he joined them in the sacrament of matrimony. Claudius learned of this 'friend of lovers', and had Valentine brought before him. The emperor, impressed with the young priest's dignity and conviction, attempted to convert him to the Roman gods to save him from otherwise certain execution. Valentine refused to renounce Christianity and instead attempted to convert the emperor, thereby signing his death warrant.

Thrown into a dungeon, and tended by a jailer named Asterius, the young priest had only the barest necessities of his life. His one comfort while awaiting execution was his friendship with Asterius' blind daughter. She befriended the kindly priest by bringing him food and delivering messages for him. In the last days of his life, Valentine through his deep and abiding faith miraculously restored the sight of his jailer's daughter. He also converted Asterius and his daughter to Christianity, an act that would result in their eventual execution by Claudius.

On the eve of his execution the priest wrote a farewell message to the girl and signed it "from your Valentine," a phrase that would live long after the author died. He was beaten and beheaded on February 14th, 273 AD, outside the Faminian Gate (now the Porta del Popolo but known for a time as the Porta Valentini) in Rome. According to a legend, a pink almond tree, a symbol of abiding love, blossomed near his grave.

In the 4th century, Pope Julius I built a church in honour of St. Valentine. In the 7th century, Pope Honorius I restored it and it became a very popular pilgrimage site.

The Valentine has become the universal symbol of friendship and affection shared each anniversary of the priest's execution – St. Valentine's Day. St. Valentine has also become the Patron of those couples who are engaged to be married.

Rosary Group – we invite all parishioners to come together as a group to recite the Holy Rosary every Friday in the chapel after the 9:00am Mass.

World Day of the Sick

The ministry of Jesus to the sick is central to the life of the Church. Pope John II in announcing this day stated: "I consider most appropriate indeed, the bestowal upon the entire ecclesial community of an initiative which, as already practiced in some nations

and regions, has brought forth precious pastoral fruit." Each year this observance occurs on February 11, the memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes. This day highlights the healing ministry of the Church. It reminds us that service to the sick and suffering cannot be neglected. It recognizes the great efforts of doctors, nurses, health care institutions and pastoral care givers to restore health to those afflicted with illness and disease. "Jesus went forth healing the blind, the lame, the cripples, those afflicted with pain and illness." *Lord Jesus, our brother, you showed your love for the sick by your concern for them. Help us to see you and serve you in the sick. Bless these men and women who are dedicated to helping and healing the sick. Guide them in their labours, and give them a greater share in your love. Reward their service by the peace and joy of your Holy Spirit, and by the everlasting happiness of heaven. Lord Jesus, we praise you, for you are our Lord for ever and ever. Amen.*

Statement re: Violence in Quebec City Mosque

"We join with the voices of many other faith communities across the country in condemning the heinous acts of violence that took place in a Quebec City mosque on Sunday, Jan. 29. Our thoughts and prayers are with all those impacted by these tragic events. Despite the darkness of these violent acts, let us bring light and hope to all those we encounter, demonstrating through our example that we can work collectively to build a peaceful and prosperous country." Thomas Cardinal Collins, Archbishop of Toronto

Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG)

Parishioners are encouraged to sign up for Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG). It is a convenient, easy and automatic way to support your parish.

Donations can be made to your weekly offering and/or the mortgage fund.

All donations are tax deductible and can be stopped at any time. Donations will be withdrawn from your account on the 20th of every month. This allows the parish to meet its monthly obligations such as hydro, heat, payroll etc. Thanks to all of our parishioners who give so generously.

Tax Receipts are available to be picked up for 2016 for donations over \$50.00. [Family of Faith donations will be sent to you from the Family of Faith Office.](#)