



Sat. Feb. 18
 5:00pm + **Alfredo Mirabelli**
 Sun. Feb. 12
 8:00am + **Michelina & Vera Battaglini**
 9:15am **For the People of the Parish**
 10:30am + **Gabriel Emanuel D'Onofrio**
 12:00noon + **Elias Kharouba**
 Mon. Feb. 20
 10:00am + **Ida Odorico**
 Wed. Feb. 22
 7:00 **Intentions of Evelyn Sullivan**
 Thurs. Feb. 23
 7:00pm + **Pasquale Agozzino**
 Fri. Feb. 17
 9:00am + **Pia Ferri**

Feast Days This Week

Tues. Feb. 21 – **St. Peter Damian**, bishop, doctor of the Church
 Wed. Feb.22 – **Chair of St. Peter**, apostle
 Thurs. Feb. 23 – **St. Polycarp**, bishop, martyr

Family Day - The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, February 20, 2017 for Family Day. As well, there will not be an evening Mass. However, there will be a morning Mass at 10:00am

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!

Youth Group – meets Friday evening at St. Andrew School from 8:15 to 10pm. Feb/Mar Schedule:
 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

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.

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.

Lent begins Mar. 1 in 1 1/2 weeks! How am I going to observe Lent this year? How am I going to make this a time for penance and repentance, for almsgiving, prayer and fasting? what attitudes that are not pleasing to God do I need to change?

Lent is a time when Jesus wants to renew all the members of God’s family and prepare others to be baptized into the Church. Two words describe the Lenten season clearly: Baptismal and Penitential
Baptismal: Lent is centered on baptism. For us who have been baptized into Christ, it is a time for renewing our baptismal covenant. We are to continue to die with Christ to sin and live with him for God. This renewal – which is an ongoing, lifelong task, is a time of final preparation.

Penitential: Lent is also a period of repenting and doing penance. It is a time when Jesus calls us to be serious in living out our baptismal promises. We are called to root out sin from our lives, to turn back to the ways of Jesus Christ. We are invited to fast and do penance as part of our daily carrying of the cross. We are also encouraged to build up God’s Kingdom by placing God’s will at the centre of our lives.

Family Prayer – Lent is a good time for us to look at our family prayer and to work to improve it. We need to ask ourselves: When do we pray as a family? Do we pray at any of the traditional times – morning, evening, night and mealtimes? Do we pray at other times? Have we abandoned family prayer in our home? Most families admit that they don’t have enough time to pray or that they want to grow in prayer but don’t know how. Lent is a time we can begin to improve, to move ahead from where we are now in our personal and family prayer life. The six weeks of Lent can be a time of real progress if we are open to God’s Spirit.

Baptism Class – will be held this Friday, February 24th at 7:00pm for the parents and the Godparents of the children being baptized in March.

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.

Elevator Update– Great News! The elevator slab reinforcing work is complete. The construction of the shaft wall and machine room is underway. Installation of the elevator component should start in the next few weeks.

Prayer Line – Due to the increased number of prayer requests, the prayer line needs volunteers who will dedicate their prayer time to meet the needs of our community. Please consider volunteering in our prayer ministry, and bring the gifts of peace, strength, hope and healing to those in need. Please call the office and leave your name and phone number if you would like to volunteer at 905-893-7879.

Christmas Drive – Some Responses

"Thank you very much for all the gifts we received. My husband cried and thanked God for all that you did for us."

"I would like to thank all the wonderful, amazing people at St. Padre Pio for providing my son and I something so special for the holidays. I cannot thank you enough."

"I just want to thank you so very much for everything! I'm speechless and can't thank you enough... You are way too kind and giving."

"Words cannot express my gratitude for your extreme generosity and care and support this Christmas season."

"Thank you so much for making my Christmas with my family memorable."

"Thank you from the bottom of my heart for all that you have given to my family. This year has been very difficult to pay bills and buy food. With your gifts, it brought laughter and tears to our family.... You don't know how much this means to us."

"It's like a dream to get a precious gift from someone you don't know who they are. But you all made me and my little son happy."

Longo Gift Cards -are available for purchase in the gift store. They are available in denominations of \$25, \$50, \$100 and \$500. Longo's supports our parish by donating a percentage of the cards purchased to our mortgage fund. If you shop at Longo's why not purchase a gift card from the store and in doing so, help your parish. If you require large purchases for your company event etc., please call Maria in the Parish Office at 905-893-7879 ext. 5221

Stained Glass Windows

There are still four large windows available, based on the life of Christ. They are:

- Teaching the Multitude- 8 portions available
- Feeding the 5,000 – 9 portions available
- The Transfiguration – 10 portions available
- Pentecost – 9 portions available

Each window will be sold in 10 portions at a cost of \$6,500 per portion. The entire window is \$65,000. A plaque will be placed below the window, once your portion has been paid in full. This is a wonderful way to honour those who are still living or to remember those who have died. For more information, please contact the Parish Office.

Items for Completion of the Church

- Church: Stained-glass windows
- Narthex: Acoustical Ceiling Panels
Ushers' Room, Electrical Room and Supply Room to be completed
- Back Sacristy: Upper Storage Room with stairs
- Basement: Meeting Rooms and Kitchenette
Washrooms
Hall and Stage
Kitchen
Storage
- Outside: Outdoor amphitheatre at rear of church
Top coat for paving
Two wells at sides of church – rocks
Landscaping (trees, shrubs, plants, flowers)

If you or someone you know would like to assist in any way with these projects, please contact the Parish Office at 905-893- 7879.

Envelopes - Please destroy any envelopes you may have from previous years. Since donations are posted from envelope number, this will ensure that you receive the proper credit from your current envelope number for your income tax receipt. 2017 envelopes are available for pick up from an usher before any weekend Mass.

INVITING ALL WOMEN: - 8th Annual Women of the Word Forum

On Sunday, April 23rd from 10am to 2:30pm
Come share the day in fellowship with hundreds of women, while nourishing your mind, body and spirit. Keynote Speaker: Dr. Josephine Lombardi
Theme: The Road to Joy
Cost: \$55 (includes continental breakfast and lunch)
At: The Royalton Hospitality Inc.
For tickets: wowblessingstoronto.com