

**A**nother riveting narrative from John's gospel. More than once, Jesus was condemned for healing on the Sabbath. In this reading, one such incident is described at length, in a way that calls to mind words of this gospel's Prologue: 'The Word was the true light, and his own people did not accept him'. The courageous refusal of the 'man born blind' to be intimidated by the authorities of the synagogue, when even his family refuse to stand by him, has given us one of the most memorable incidents in the gospels. Like the story of the Samaritan woman, this incident is recounted in a manner that gives expression to a profound meditation upon the saving work of Christ.

The Saviour himself intones the theme of this meditation: 'I am the light of the world'. The powerful symbolism of light often finds expression in the Scriptures. It is often appealed to in the Psalms, the confession of faith of the ordinary people in old Israel – God's Word is 'a light on the path' of life (Ps 119); Yahweh himself is Israel's 'light and salvation' (Ps 27). The contrast between light and darkness is often appealed to in the New Testament, as in today's reading from Ephesians.



I was blind and now I see

The tragedy of spiritual blindness is vividly exemplified in the refusal of the Pharisees to be open to what was confronting them in the signs given through the ministry of Jesus – as their empty reasoning is made to look foolish by the straightforward honesty of the man they are trying to intimidate. 'You can be his disciple', they declare in their frustration, 'We are disciples of Moses'. And, as he responds to their arguments, pointing out that his miraculous healing shows that Jesus is surely 'a prophet' and that he must have 'come from God', the man who was born blind is progressively 'enlightened' – to be finally welcomed by Jesus into the company of his disciples, making his confession, 'Lord, I believe you are the Son of Man' – the very title that was to seal the fate of Jesus before the Sanhedrin.

As he urges the Ephesians to a life of authentic discipleship, Paul contrasts a life of 'goodness, right living and truth' with the 'shameful' things done in the dark. The story of the 'man born blind' and his courage in the face of great odds reminds a community with deep roots in old Israel of the challenge of genuine discipleship.

It is now well recognised that the meditation upon Christian faith and life that gave us John's gospel was made against the background of the Church's sacramental life. It may well be that today's narrative – with its progressive reference to anointing, washing and confession of faith – is influenced by the baptismal practice of the community. In the early centuries, the instruction of the catechumens concerning the Church's sacramental life was an 'enlightenment'. It is interesting to note, at a time when the catechumenate is assuming an increasing importance in the life of the church, that these instructions made frequent use of John's gospel.

*John Thornhill sm*  
www.theemmausseries.com

**"We must work the works of Him who sent me while it is day."  
Are you being called to a life as an ordained or a consecrated person?**

If God is calling you, contact Fr. Hansoo Park  
416-968-0997 vocations@vocations.ca www.vocationstoronto.ca

**PARISH**

Readings ~ 1 Samuel 16.1, 6-7, 10-13 ~ Ephesians 5.8-14 ~ John 9.1-41

**Mass Intentions This Week – March 31 to April 6**

Please join us as we pray for the following announced intentions...

	Intention(s):	Offered by:
Monday, 9am	... of Angela Olkovich	Mike & Lydia Sherlock
Tuesday, 9am	✠ Angelo Curto	The Jalea family
Wednesday, 9am	✠ Delia Montoya Ortiz	Delia Urosevic
Thursday, 9am	✠ Emilio Ragnoni	Jovita Ragnoni
Friday, 9am	✠ Nick Villani	
Saturday, 9am	✠ members of the Goseco, Feliciano & Valencia families	Linda Feliciano
5:15pm	✠ Lovey Moran	Paul & Irene Kumli
Sunday, 8am	✠ Lovey Moran	Howie Moran
9:30am	✠ Lorenzo Menecola	Marilyn Kieffer
11am	For the needs of our parish and faithful parishioners	
12:30pm	✠ Lovey Moran	The Flynn family

**Rosary Group – stay and pray daily, after 9am Mass + Fridays, 2pm**

Five decades daily, fifteen decades on Fridays followed by the Chaplet of Divine Mercy.

**Stretch & Flex – all are welcome! – Tuesdays, 6:30–7:30pm in the parish hall**  
\$10 per session. Bring a yoga-type mat, perhaps a bottle of water and wear comfy clothing!

**Scripture Classes** Wednesdays, 10am + Thursdays, 7pm – **all are welcome!**  
Morning class in the parish hall, evening class at OLS School, 32 Montgomery Rd., Room 411.

**Next Weekend Almost time to 'Bundle Up' for St. Vincent de Paul!**  
Volunteers will be ready to collect gently used clothing and household items (think: shoes, bedding, draperies and small household goods) on Saturday, 8:30am–6:30pm & Sunday, 7:30am–5pm in the parking lot. Please place your donations in securely tied bags. **Thank you so much!**

**Fridays in Lent Stations of the Cross – 7:30pm, for approx. 20–25 mins.**

**Archdiocesan Day of Confessions – Wednesday, April 9, 5:30–6:30pm**  
**All-Day Lenten Confessions – Saturday, April 12, 9:30am–5pm**

"Jesus in the confessional is not a dry cleaner: it is an encounter with Jesus, who waits for us just as we are. Is going to confession like a torture session? No! It is going to praise God, because I, a sinner, have been saved by Him. And is He waiting to beat me? No, He waits with tenderness to forgive me. And if tomorrow I do the same? Go again, and go and go and go. He always waits for us." —Pope Francis



**Attention OLS Youth Are you ready to step up and serve?**  
Please consider joining our amazing community of young parishioners in their mission to serve at Sunday Mass. For more info, contact ministry coordinator Kristen Scanlan via email at kristen@sorrows.ca today!

**Victoria Scholars – Tenebrae Responsories – Sunday, April 13, 4pm**  
Tenebrae (Latin for "darkness" or "shadows") is a meditation on Christ's suffering. In this deeply moving service, readings trace the story of Christ's passion, the singular beauty of Msgr. J.E. Ronan's music portrays his pathos, while the power of silence and darkness suggests the drama of the Lenten season. **There is no charge for this event.**

**MAKE LENT COUNT**  
PRAY · ACT · GIVE

**COMMUNITY**

Read Lumen Fidei at www.sorrows.ca today!

**Together we are continuing to work wonders...**

"Help one another. This is what Jesus teaches. This is what I do. And I do it with my heart...I love doing it because this is what the Lord has taught me. But you too must help us and help each other always. And thus in helping each other we will do good for each other." —Pope Francis



**This is ShareLife Sunday – Please give generously, You can work wonders!**

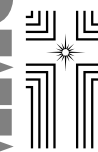
**This Weekend Belgian Chocolate Easter Eggs – \$3 each/two for \$5**



FertilityCare Toronto, a ShareLife Charity, helps couples to plan their family using the Creighton Model FertilityCare System and to improve women's health and fertility using NaProTECHNOLOGY. Please help support the Centre by buying a few of these hand-made delicacies! Visit www.fertilitycare.ca

**Campaign Life Coalition – National Pro-Life Conference – April 4–5**

This two day event begins with an evening banquet on Friday, April 4, 5pm followed by a full day conference on Saturday, April 5, 7:30am–5pm. Adult Package for both banquet+conference is \$139. The Student Package is \$99. All meals included. Woodbine Banquet and Convention Hall, 30 Vice Regent Blvd. To register, call 416-204-9749 or email clc@campaignlifecoalition.com – more info available at www.campaignlifecoalition.com



**Estate Planning Seminar – Queen of Heaven Cemetery**

This informative session takes place in the St. Anthony Chapel of the Mausoleum on April 5, 9am. For more information, call 905-851-5822. RSVP to Frank Jannetta by calling 416-733-8544 or via email at fjannetta@ccat.on.ca

**17th Annual Art Show and Sale – Sat., April 5, 10am–4pm**

Over 30 artists and artisans will be in attendance, appealing to a wide range of interests. Admission is \$10, and includes a draw for an original painting by Marlene Bulas. Kingsway-Lambton United Church (Prince Edward & The Kingsway). **Proceeds to Toronto charities.**

**Events @ Catholic Pastoral Centre, 1155 Yonge St.**

**Living with Loneliness** – a talk by Dennis Costello – April 1, 7pm  
**On Marriage & Annulment** – a talk by Fr. Brian Clough – May 6, 7pm  
These events are **free of charge** and pre-registration is not necessary.



Archdiocese of Toronto

**Living with Separation+Divorce** – Tuesdays, Apr. 15–Jun. 17, 6:30–8:30pm  
For adults looking for a support group to help them cope with the difficulties of being separated or divorced. **Registration required.** Call 416-921-1163 or email info@cfstoronto.com

**2014 Royackers Lecture Homelessness, Housing and Hope in Toronto**

Regis College, the Jesuit School of Theology at the University of Toronto, presents Dr. Stephen Hwang from the Centre for Research on Inner City Health in the Keenan Research Centre of the Li Ka Shing Knowledge Institute of St. Michael's Hospital. April 2, 7:30pm, St. Joseph Chapel, Regis College, 100 Wellesley St. W. For more information and free online registration, call 416-922-5474, ext. 221 or visit www.regiscollege.ca/Royackers

**KofC Kingsway – Fish & Chip Dinner – St. Clement Parish, April 11, 5pm**



Tickets available at St. Clement Parish after each Mass this weekend and next. Early bird tickets are \$10/ adult, \$6/child. \$15/adult, \$10/child at the door. Wine will be available. Cheese pizza available for children. Proceeds to St. Francis Table. **We hope to see you there!** Visit www.kingsway3387.ca