

A very typical human situation: a corrupt judge, pestered by a persistent widow, finally gives in to her, not because he is won over to acting justly, but because she is going to 'worry him to death'. We see an unfamiliar side of Jesus in this parable; he is not long faced - he can speak of human foibles with an ironical humour. The story was all too common in the world that Jesus knew. The widow who cannot get a fair hearing, probably concerning her inheritance, represents 'the poor' with whom Jesus identifies. He is certainly not likening his Father to the judge of the parable, but using the parable as the basis of an 'even more so' argument, such as we find in other parables. Having caught their attention with his ironical little story, Jesus is presented by Luke as emphasising the trust in God that should motivate the prayer of his disciples.



Will not God see justice done?

The sequence of Luke's compilation leading to this text helps us to understand the implications of Jesus' teaching. Between the teaching on 'faith' that we have considered on the last two Sundays, and today's reading, is a passage concerning 'the coming of the kingdom of God' and the day of 'the Son of Man's return'. Faith, we have seen, is an expectant openness to God's action in our midst. Our Opening Prayer this Sunday is linked with the openness we should have, as we look forward to the day 'when the Son of Man comes'.

If the first concern of a lively faith is being alive to God's action in our lives, our prayer should begin and end in recognition that our lives have their real meaning in the unfolding of the plan conceived before all ages in the loving designs of God. This plan - the great virtue of Christian hope assures us - will certainly be realised; and in its realisation, all things will be turned to good. Of course, our personal needs and the concerns of those dear to us should be brought constantly before God in our prayer; but this should be done in the knowledge that these things are part of the plan of God, revealed in all its mercy and generosity in the coming of the Saviour, and realised through a providence that touches every detail of our lives and those who are dear to us. Prayer, Jesus is teaching us, is a living out of our faith; and, at the same time, our faith grows and matures through our life of prayer.

Our reading from the letter to Timothy is a good complement to the lesson of the gospel - urging us to a greater familiarity with the Scriptures. The whole story of the 'inspired Scriptures' is the unfolding of God's plan and the great promise it brings to Christian hope. This story of the Scriptures is important in the life of the Church 'for teaching, for refuting error, for guiding people's lives and teaching them to be holy'.

Scholars assure us that the last words of the gospel are not pessimistic. Jesus knows that he will find faith when he comes - in 'the chosen ones who cry out to God day and night' - but his words are a warning for those who need it.

John Thornhill sm
www.themmasseries.com

God will answer the prayers of those who cry out. Ask for men and women to respond to the call to service as priests and religious.

If God is calling you to a consecrated life in His church, contact Fr. Chris Lemieux. 416-968-0997 vocations@vocations.ca www.vocationstoronto.ca

Readings ~ Exodus 17:8-13 ~ 2 Timothy 3:14 - 4:2 ~ Luke 18:1-8

PARISH

Mass Intentions This Week - October 17-23

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

	Intention(s):	Offered by:
Monday, 9am	✠ Doris Vogtle	Joe Conrath
Tuesday, 9am	✠ Elienne Giroux	Christine, Carmen & Matthew
Wednesday, 9am	✠ Jenny Caden	Jacoba Clancy
Thursday, 9am	✠ George Thompson	Jacoba Clancy
Friday, 9am	... of Richard Balkota	Luba
Saturday, 9am	✠ Mary Theresa McElroy	OLS Senior Choir
5:15pm	✠ Mirta & Pat Poce	The Poce family
Sunday, 8am	☞ For the needs of our parish and faithful parishioners ☞	
9:30am	60th Wedding Anniversary of Ted & Jean McConvey	Mrs. McConvey
11am	✠ Leo Arrigo	Wife, Maria
12:30pm	✠ Charles Moreland	Kevin & Maureen Reilly

Rosary Group - now prayed before 9am Mass + Fridays, 2pm, Parish Hall
Five decades daily, fifteen decades on Fridays followed by the Chaplet of Divine Mercy.

"No one can live continually in sin and continue to say the Rosary: either they will give up sin or they will give up the Rosary" - Bishop Hugh Doyle

Children's Liturgy of the Word Join Us!

This program for young parishioners (4-10 years of age) takes place on Sundays at the 9:30am Mass. All are welcome!



COMING SOON It's almost time to 'Bundle Up' for St. Vincent de Paul!

On the weekend of October 29/30, volunteers will assist with the collection & loading of securely tied or sealed bags or boxes of gently used items (think: shoes, clothing, coats, bedding, draperies). Larger items (i.e. furniture & appliances), computer hardware and toys cannot be accepted.

World Mission Sunday - Mercy Changes the World

NEXT SUNDAY is World Mission Sunday. Every parish across the world will celebrate this unique Sunday. It is a global sign of the Universal Church and Mission. Your prayers and donations will help support churches, hospitals, schools and vocations in countries where the Church is beginning, where it is new. Please be as generous as possible to the collection for the Propagation of the Faith, for more than 1200 dioceses in Asia, Africa, Latin America, the Pacific Islands and some of our Canadian dioceses that depend on the World Mission collection. Visit www.missionsocieties.ca for more and please pray for the missions and be generous on World Mission Sunday.



ShareLife Your Contributions at Work in Our Archdiocese

Although the ShareLife campaign takes place from Lent until the end of July, the work of our agencies continues year round, fulfilling the principle in the Pastoral Plan of Catholic Outreach in Justice and Love. For the month of October, your support of ShareLife is helping to educate seminarians and candidates for the Diaconate in the Archdiocese of Toronto, who will one day carry out their ministry parishes. Thank you for providing for the education of future clergy in our archdiocese!



"If I ever become a Saint-I will surely be one of 'darkness'. I will continually be absent from Heaven-to light the light of those in darkness on earth." - St. Teresa of Calcutta

COMMUNITY

St. Joseph's College School Open House - October 19, 7pm
Grade 7/8 female students and their parents/guardians are invited to the Informal Evening and Open House to be held at St. Joseph's College School, 74 Wellesley St. West

Holy Hour Begins October 20, after the 12:15pm Mass - Open to all
This Holy Hour for Chastity & Vocational Discernment takes place every Thursday at St. Thomas Aquinas Chapel, Newman Centre Catholic Mission, 89 George St. (at Uoft). For more information, visit www.newmantoronto.com or www.angelicwarfareconfraternity.org

Holy Name of Mary College School Open House - Oct. 22, 10am-2pm
We invite you to visit us to find out more about our school. Talk to current students, faculty members, school administrators and parents and get a true sense of student life at HNMCS. For more information visit www.hnmcs.ca or call Giselle Fernandes at 905-891-1890 ext. 103.

Michael Power/St. Joseph Catholic Secondary School Open House
Oct. 26, 6:30pm at 105 Eringate Drive, Etobicoke - visit www.tcdsb.org/school/OpenHouses

St. Mary of Egypt Refuge: Project Rachel Retreat - Oct. 28-30

"Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth." - Psalm 12
Do you need to rest your burden? We can help. This weekend retreat is for women whose hearts have been broken by abortion. Private and confidential. Call 416-629-8264 or email projectrachel@stmarysrefuge.org



Lay Pastoral Visitors Training Saturdays, Oct. 29, Nov. 5 & 12, 10am-3:30pm

These sessions will prepare participants to provide pastoral visits and/or bring Holy Communion to parishioners who are confined in their homes, nursing homes and hospitals due to illness or infirmity. This training is also an ideal enrichment for those already serving in this ministry. Please bring your own lunch. Sessions take place at St. Peter's Church, 830 Bathurst St. Registration deadline: Oct. 25. Call 416-934-3400, ext. 523 or visit www.bit.ly/formationreg

26th Annual Mass of Memory - Sunday October 30, 3pm

St. Paul's Basilica 83 Power St. (Power & Queen St. East) hosts this annual Mass in memory of doctors, nurses and Torontonians who died serving those escaping the famine in Ireland (1847). Sacred/Celtic prelude by Harpist Eithne Heffernan at 2:45pm. Celebrant/Homilist Fr. Pat O'Dea. Reception immediately following in the church hall. Info Mariead 416-264-5363.

Bishop Allen Academy Open House - November 2, 7pm

721 Royal York Road, Etobicoke - visit www.tcdsb.org/school/OpenHouses

St. Augustine's Seminary Come & See Weekend - November 4-6

We invite single Catholic men 18 years+, to cultivate a deeper prayer life & relationship with Jesus Christ; leading to a better discernment of God's call for their lives. There will be time for prayer, reflection & info on the process of becoming one of Christ's disciples as a Catholic priest. Contact Fr. Nino or the Office of Vocations at 416-968-0997 or vocations@archtoronto.org



Workshop on the Art of Discernment - November 5, 9am-4:30pm

This workshop is presented by a team of men and women religious and a married couple. Hosted at Loretto College, 70 St. Mary Street. The suggested donation of \$30 includes lunch. Contact Frances Harrison-Atell at fharrison-atell@csj-to.ca or call 416-467-2642.

