

# Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Stand up, take your mat and go to your home."

## MASSES THIS WEEK AT ST. MICHAEL'S

*Psalter III -- Year B*

**MON. February 23** *St. Polycarp*

9:15 AM St. Michael's School Mass in the Church

12:05 PM † **DONNA BEAUDOIN**

--*The Barr Family*

**TUES. February 24**

9:30 AM Notre Dame School Mass at the School

12:05 PM † **ED BIBEAU**

--*Fr. Francis P. Duffy Council #1970 KofC*

**WED. February 25 ASH WEDNESDAY**

12:05 PM † **FR BILL FIRTH**

--*Bob*

&

7:00 PM † **SHANNON LEES**

--*The Parish Family*

**THURS. February 26**

10:00 AM Mass at Extendicare

12:05 AM † **GEORGE WONG**

--*Wong, Lee & Thomas Families*

**FRI. February 27**

12:05 PM † **JEAN BOLAN**

--*Katherine*

7:00 PM Stations of the Cross

& Benediction

**Saturday, February 28**

5:00 PM † **MARGARET TERRANOVA**

--*Paula Bissonette*

**Sunday, March 1**

9:00 AM † **DECEASED MEMBERS OF  
THE PARLETTE FAMILY**

--*The Family*

11:00 AM **MISSA PRO POPULO**

Next Weekend's Readings **1st Sunday in Lent**

1<sup>st</sup>: Genesis 9.8-15 2<sup>nd</sup>: 1 Peter 3.18-22

Gospel Mark 1.12-15

**FYI** The grade two students from St. Joseph's, St. Michael's, Notre Dame, as well as those in our Home Catechism programme will be receiving the Sacrament of First Reconciliation next week. Please keep them in your prayers as they continue to prepare for their faith.

## REFLECTION

Great faith and forgiveness are at the center of today's gospel reading. A paralyzed man had four friends of deep faith. So great was their faith in Jesus that they lowered their friend on his mat from the roof of the house where Jesus was. In ancient times, people believed that diseases and deformities were caused by either the sins of the person or his/her parents. Forgiveness of those sins would render the person healthy again. Jesus' problem came when he forgave the man his sins. The Jewish leaders considered the action blasphemous because only God could forgive sins. They didn't recognize Jesus' authority as the Son of God.

**Reflection for Families** Whether our children are in preschool, grade school, high school or college, we will always hope they make good choices in choosing friends. Today's gospel helps children of all ages recognize the value of true, faithful and believing friends. Even when we consider our own friends and the people with whom we spend our time, we thank God for the people who share our values and faith. We know it's true that people who share faith with us understand the struggles of raising children today and can be there to support us.

## COLLECTION REPORT

☞ **A Summary of Your Generosity** ☞

February 15 Offertory \$4270.

Donations to Restoration Fund \$990.

*Thank you for your support!*

## EVENTS/MEETINGS THIS WEEK

**Tues. 24**—7:30 PM KofC Officer & Committee Mtg. at Columbus Community Centre

**Wed. 25**—12:30 Legion of Mary in Parish Centre

**Thurs. 26**—1:00 PM Seniors Progressive Euchre at Columbus Community Centre

**Thurs. 26**—7:00 PM Prayer/Meditation Group in PC

## PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Margaret Gray, Peg Lees, Tanya Green, Tracey, Shawn Pentland, Lisa Dunn, Ed Godawa, Jean Ellis, Marg Stimers, Rosemary Roth, Lisa Sampson, James Thatcher, Charles Potier, Shirley Ferguson, Marisca, Arlene Brown, Debbie Hale, Stanley Johnston, Jessica Gerber, Richard Philips, Isabel Hogan, James Fullerton, Lynn Fabris, Mary Beyette, Jean Winters, Theresa Ferguson, Charles Bateman, Bob Pickett, Matilda Eikens, Noreen Mark, Antoinette Brisson, Julie Black, Stan Johnston, Fred Williams, Denise Palermo, Mark Martel, Diane Bartlett, Greg Heenan, *May the Lord's healing hand touch them.*

## MURAL RESTORATION

Name plaques can now be ordered through the office. Call Ria at 905 372-6844 to order yours today! Why not leave a note to let future generations know you've contributed!

## Stations of the Cross Benediction

There will be Stations of the Cross and Benediction every Friday during Lent (*beginning Feb. 27*), from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM in the Church. This is just one other opportunity in making your Lenten journey more meaningful. Try to mark at least one of these Friday's for you to spend some *extra time* in the presences of the Lord.

## SHROVE TUESDAY

The Knights of Columbus are hosting a  
**PANCAKE SUPPER ON TUESDAY.**

**FEBRUARY 24 FROM 5:00 PM TO 7:00 PM.**

Cost for Adults \$5.00—Children 5-12 \$2.50

**All are Welcome to the Columbus  
Community Centre**

## ASH WEDNESDAY – FEBRUARY 25

**Two Mass times – 12:05 & 7:00 PM**

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Season of Lent. It is a season of penance, reflection, and fasting which prepares us for Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday, through which we attain redemption.

The ashes are made from the blessed palms used in the Palm Sunday celebration of the previous year. While the ashes symbolize penance and contrition, they are also a reminder that God is gracious and merciful to those who call on Him with repentant hearts. His Divine mercy is of utmost importance during the season of Lent, and the Church calls on us to seek that mercy during the entire Lenten season with reflection, prayer and penance.

## Sacrament of Confirmation

For those students in Grade 7, or older, and in the public school system, and who would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, please contact the office ASAP at 905 372-6844 to register. Confirmation is Sunday, May 31, 2009.

## St. Vincent de Paul Society

The St. Vincent store in Bowmanville is always happy to receive clothing, bedding and small appliances. **Presently there is a great need for these items.** If you have any donations, it's as simple as making a call to St. Vincent de Paul phone line at 905 373-9391 and leave a message. Volunteers will arrange to pick up your slightly used goods. Thank you for thinking of those less fortunate at this time.

## Lenten Journey with St. Paul

**WHEN:** Tuesdays (March 10, 17 & 24, 2009)

**TIME:** 7:30 PM to 8:45 PM

**WHERE:** St. Michael's Parish Centre

**Facilitators:** Henriette & Laszlo DeRoth

Don't miss this opportunity to learn and deepen your knowledge about the first Christian communities. We will have prayers and reflections on the Lenten Sunday readings from the Letters of St. Paul. Take this opportunity in preparing yourself for Easter!

## World Day of Prayer – March 6



*World Day of Prayer* is a worldwide movement led by Christian women of many traditions who call the faithful together on the First Friday in March each year. Written by the women of Papua New Guinea, the 2009 service will focus on indigenous women and children's

concerns as their communities struggle to maintain their history and culture in an ever-changing world. This year **TRINITY UNITED CHURCH** (just down the street) will host this event—**Friday, March 6 at 2:00 PM.** Speaker will be Rev. Nancy Lester. Everyone is welcome.

## Cursillo

Men's Cursillo is March 19-21, 2009 and the Women's Cursillo weekend is Nov. 12-15, 2009.

Please take a moment to read today's insert!

## Volunteer Screening Initiative

*Responsible Faith Ministry.* The Diocese of Peterborough has launched this programme to appropriately screen all church volunteers. A committee has been formed here at St. Michael's, and more details regarding the process of volunteer screening will be forthcoming. Thank you.

## Villa St. Joseph Upcoming Events

**Personal Retreat Day's** are on February 24, 25, 26 or 27. Choose one, two or all week for personal **Day of Stillness.**

The Villa is once again offering their **Lenten Reflections** on Wednesdays, beginning March 4 from 7:00 to 8:00 PM. Call 905 372-2741 to register.

## Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend

Your wedding was just one day. The sacrament of matrimony is for life. You can add more sparkle to your sacrament by participating in a marriage encounter weekend. **ALL** married couples are invited to sign up now for the May 15-17 weekend to be held in Peterborough. Contact Ken & Kathy Reid, 905-372-5097, or email [ravensreid@sympatico.ca](mailto:ravensreid@sympatico.ca).