

HAPPY 30TH ANNIVERSARY, DEACON RICHARD!

On June 16, Dr. Richard Haber celebrated 30 years of ministry in our parish as a permanent deacon. On behalf of the pastoral team and all the members of St. Monica's Parish, we extend our deep gratitude to Deacon Rick for his faithful and generous gift of himself in the many ministries in which he has been involved, and especially for his liturgical gifts of preaching, teaching, and as coordinator of the baptismal ministry. We are also proud of the way Richard bears witness to his faith in his professional life: as a pediatrician caring for sick children, and as a professor and mentor to young physicians. We pray that God will continue to bless Rick, his wife Patricia-Ann, his six children and eight grandchildren, and all those he loves with health, strength and joy in the Lord!! Please come and join us for coffee and cake after the 11 a.m. Mass this weekend to celebrate him!

"NEW BEGINNINGS"

Today's Gospel contains two important teachings. The first is about **reconciliation**. Jesus shares with **all** believers the power of "binding" and "loosing". We can bind up by stewing in our anger, waiting for the other to take the first step, spreading our resentment around the community. Or we can set free by taking the risk of seeking reconciliation. The problem with the "if I just ignore it, maybe it will go away" approach to conflicts is that it rarely works! Problems are meant to be solved, conflicts resolved, and relationships reconciled. If two people can't do that, the next step is not to retreat but to advance with the help of others. If that fails, then we call in the community for help. These are difficult steps, but if we fail to address conflict, it festers until the relationship breaks down. We can do better.

To do this we need not just our own efforts, but the power of **prayer**: "where two or three are gathered in my name, I am present." Jesus teaches us that there is strength in numbers. Instead of stewing over the wrong someone did you, pray about it, and ask others to pray with you and for you. Then meet with the person and discuss the problem. The more we cling to hurts, the longer we hold grudges, the easier it is to lose perspective and make matters worse by harsh words or deeds that are difficult to take back. Families and communities that learn to deal creatively with conflict emerge stronger and more united. An inspiring thought to begin a new pastoral year together!!

FAITH FIRST REGISTRATION REGISTER SOON * SPACE IS LIMITED

Register soon for Faith First. Classes begin September 27 & 28, 2014. All new and returning students must register **as soon as possible to guarantee a spot**. Cost of the program is **(\$80)** for one child, \$100 for 2 children, and \$125 for 3 or more. Please note that your child will not be denied access to the program if you are unable to pay the fee. For further information, please contact Jennie Parsons-Armstrong at (514) 481-0267 or by email at jennie.armstrong@bell.net.

*****NEW*** ST MONICA'S YOUTH GROUP**

Who? Youth in grades 7-10 When? Friday nights from 7:30-9:15 Where? The Church Hall.

Launch party Friday October 10th! Register at

www.surveymonkey.com/s/St_Monica_Youth_Group



**Join the
Youth Group**

We are looking for adult leaders and youth leaders (18-25) to volunteer to make this group possible. Three training sessions will be offered starting Friday September 12th at 7:30 pm so you'll be prepared to make a difference in the lives of the youth at St. Monica's. Is God calling YOU to this ministry?

For further information email stmonicasyouth@gmail.com or call Claire at 514-482-7493 (evenings).

SPECIAL COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND FOR "MAINTENANCE" SEPTEMBER 6 & 7

MASS INTENTIONS AUG. 30 TO SEPT. 7, 2014

Saturday, September 6: Our Lady's Saturday

4:00 Robert Ng Yuan Wing By Pauline & George Wong

Sunday, September 7: 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 Antonietta & Vincenzo La Posta By Concetta La Posta
Emma & Colombo Salvati By Salvati Family

11:00 **In Loving Memory:** Joseph Onesi, Luigi & Rosa
Mammone, Giuseppe & Vittoria Caucci, Domenico
Abbate, Deceased members of the Cullen Family

Monday, September 8: Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00 Pietro, Giovanna, Americo By Vincenzina & Michele
& Argeo Forlini Ferrara

Tuesday, September 9: St. Peter Claver

8:00 Luigi Campanelli By Franca, Marisa, Angela, Gina
& Franco
Aline Liautaud By the Family

Wednesday, September 10: Weekday Mass

8:00 Cruciano Nardinocchi By his mother Edda

Thursday, September 11: Weekday Mass

8:00 Luigi, Antonio & Sanda Onesi By Settimia Onesi
Maria Mastropaolo Masella By Libera Masella

Friday, September 12: The Most Holy Name of Mary

8:00 Anna & Lorenzo Forlini By Louise Forlini
Eric Rosentzweig By Cynthia Reverente

Saturday, September 13: St. John Chrysostom

4:00 **In Loving Memory:** Leonard & Terry Winslade, Natalina
Donati Ceccucci, Mike Kilbertus, Deceased members of
The Charles J. McDonald Family, Alessandro Palladini,
Giovanni Caucci, Lucille Wong, Lucy Gagliardi.

Sunday, September 14: Exaltation of the Holy Cross

8:30 Ettore Lanni By wife Virginia & Family
Giustina & Giuseppe Micone By the Ambrosio Family
11:00 Vincenzo Saluzzi By Maddalena Saluzzi &
Family
Jean Pratte By Wife & Children

Your Generosity...

Thank you for your on-going support of our parish... Collection for the weekend of August 30/31 totalled \$2,900.00. Special Collection for Feast of St. Monica totalled \$1,222.00.

Adult Faith Enrichment Upcoming Events

Registration to Join A Faith Sharing Group

Registration to join one of our Faith Sharing groups will take place after each Mass on **September 20 & 21**. This year, our reflections are inspired by excerpts from book **Prism of Love: God's Colours in Everyday Life**. Groups meet for 14 sessions throughout the year at convenient weekday or weekend times & locations. For info and to register by October 5, please contact Anna through the parish office or at anna.diodati@stmonica.ca

From Death to New Life

This series of workshops is for persons dealing with a significant loss, such as the death of a loved one, divorce or other difficult change. Practical tools will be presented in talks, reflections and discussions led by Deacon Richard Boileau who has more than 20 years experience in helping people through bereavement.

Fridays, September 19 to November 28 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. The cost for the series is \$90. For info and registration: email Richard at rboileau@gmail.com or call (514) 697-9813.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A.)

If you desire to renew your faith, complete your Sacramental Initiation, enter into Full Communion with the Catholic Church, or to know more about our faith, please contact Glenda Cadogan through the parish office for information about our program. The group meets on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. in the rectory, beginning September 24, 2014.

St. Monica's Contemplative Prayer Group

St. Monica's Contemplative Prayer Group meets every Tuesday evening at 7:00 PM in the parish rectory beginning September 9. After listening to a talk on the spiritual journey, we meditate together for up to half an hour. Please join us! For information, please contact Audrey Booth or Pat Brabant through the parish office.

Video Divina

This year, Fr. Raymond's film series, **Looking at Life Through the Lens of the Sacraments**, will explore how each of the sacraments helps us see reality, as reflected in the movies, in a new light. Join him on **Friday, September 26 at 7 p.m.** in the parish rectory for the first movie of the series, **The Spitfire Grill**. Free admission and popcorn, and stimulating discussion to follow! All are welcome!

Please refer to our website and the posters at the Church entrances for additional information.