

“Jesus said to her, “Give me to drink”. (John 4:7)

Every year, Christians are reminded of Jesus' prayer for his disciples that “they may be one so that the world may believe.” Hearts are touched and Christians come together to pray for their unity. Congregations and parishes exchange preachers or arrange special ecumenical celebrations and prayer services. The event that touches this off is the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Traditionally the week of prayer is celebrated between 18-25 January, concluding on the feast of the conversion of St. Paul. To prepare for the annual celebration, ecumenical partners in a particular region (this year, **Brazil**) are invited to produce a basic liturgical text on a biblical theme. Then an international editorial team of the World Council of Churches (WCC) and the Pontifical Council for Christian Unity refines this text to ensure that it can be prayed throughout the world, and to link it with the search for the visible unity of the church.

This year, the Brazilian Church has invited us to reflect on the conversation between Jesus and the “woman at the well.” (John 4:1-42) This encounter between Jesus and the Samaritan woman invites us to try water from a different well, and also to offer a little of our own. In diversity, we enrich each other. The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is a privileged moment for prayer, encounter and dialogue. It is an opportunity to recognize the richness and value that are present in the other, in those who are different, and to ask God for the gift of unity.

“Whoever drinks of this water keeps coming back,” says a Brazilian proverb. A refreshing glass of water, coffee, or tea are trademarks of **acceptance, dialogue and coexistence**: the biblical gesture of offering water to anyone who arrives, as a way of welcoming and sharing, is a universal gesture of **hospitality**. The image emerging from the words “give me to drink” speaks of **complementarity**: to drink from someone else's well is the first step towards experiencing another's way of being. This leads to an exchange of gifts that enriches. When the gifts of others are refused, much damage is done to society, and to the Church.

Jesus is a foreigner who arrives tired and thirsty. He needs help and asks for water. The woman is in her own land; the well belongs to her people. She owns the bucket and has access to the water. But she is also thirsty. They meet and that encounter offers an unexpected opportunity for both of them. “Give me to drink” presupposes that both ask for what they need from each other. It compels us to recognize that persons, communities, cultures, and religions need each other. Differences compel us to change our attitude, to commit ourselves to seek unity in the midst of our diversity, to be open to a variety of forms of prayer and Christian spirituality.

This weekend, we welcome back to our pulpit **Pastor Brent Walker**, who will preach the homily at all Masses, and introduce the Bible study he will be leading over the next four Wednesdays on the spirituality of the sacraments. Thank you, Pastor Brent!

THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL: “The living Gospel Series” With Sr. Kay Duffin, cnd

"In his Apostolic Exhortation, THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL, Pope Francis insisted on the knowledge of and prayerful reflection on the Gospels. Towards this end, Sr. Kay Duffin cnd. will offer ten (10) sessions on 'The living Gospel Series' an audio visual presentation of the De Sales Catholic Adult Education Program. These will be offered, depending on interest, Monday afternoons and evenings beginning January 26, until Monday March 30. They will be held at the De Seve Residence, 1450 De Seve Street in Ville Emard. The cost is \$25 for the series. You are asked to bring a Bible. Times: afternoons 1:30 - 3:00 pm; evenings 7:00 - 8:30 pm. Please contact Sr. Kay at 514-762-1844; kayduffin2@gmail.com

51ST INTERNATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS (IEC)

You are invited to join a Canadian delegation in attending the next International Eucharistic Congress (IEC), which will be held in Cebu, Philippines. In addition to the Congress, several visits are included in this trip, scheduled from **January 20th to February 4th, 2016**. We will spend 4 days in Hong Kong, and 10 days in Cebu, Philippines, staying in 4-Star Hotels. Departure is from Montreal with Air Canada. Price: \$4370.00/pers. Double Occupancy. For more information and free brochure: 514-288-6077

MASS INTENTIONS FOR JANUARY 17 TO 25, 2015

Saturday, January 17: St. Anthony

4:00 Angelo Caucci By Teresa Caucci
Antonio Bei By Gabriella & Family

Sunday, January 18: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 **In Loving Memory:** Leona Clarke, Nizida Sala Verona Arbesu,
Deceased members of the Cullen Family, Alba & Luigi Paliotti, Emma &
Colombo Salvati, Stella Smith
11:00 Frank & Marcia McNally By the Family
Ernest Clark By Judy Young

Monday, January 19: Weekday Mass

8:00 Chiara Forlini & Luigi Sparapani By Teresa Caucci

Tuesday, January 20: St. Fabian and St. Sebastian

8:00 Theresa, Julian & Gary Rooney By Gary Rooney

Wednesday, January 21: St. Agnes

8:00 Luigi, Antonio & Sanda Onesi By Settimia Onesi

Thursday, January 22: St. Vincent

8:00 Carolina Santini By Olga Santini Matta

Friday, January 23: Weekday Mass

8:00 Special Intention for By Terry Stimpson &
Deacon Dennis Stimpson Suzie Stimpson-Budde

Saturday, January 24: St. Francis de Sales

4:00 Pietro Di Meglio and By Elena Di Meglio & Family
Luisa & Giovanni Coppa
Gerry McLaughlin By Connie McLaughlin

Sunday, January 25: Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 For the souls of the Faithful Departed By Maura Dacuycuy & Family
Luigi Mammone By Ida Onesi & Family
11:00 **In Loving Memory:** Fioravante Rotiroti

Your Generosity...

Thank you for your on-going support of our parish...Collection for the weekend of January 10-11, 2015 totalled \$3,340.90

I OFFERED A PRAYER TO GOD

I asked for strength and *God gave me difficulties to make me strong.*

I asked for wisdom and *God gave me problems to solve.*

I asked for prosperity and *God gave me brawn and brains to work.*

I asked for courage and *God gave me dangers to overcome.*

I asked for patience and *God placed me in situations where I was forced to wait.*

I asked for love and *God gave me troubled people to help.*

I asked for favors and *God gave me opportunities.*

I asked for everything so I could enjoy life.

Instead, He gave me life so I could enjoy everything.

I received nothing I wanted, *I received everything I needed.*

My prayers have all been answered. - Unknown

C-O-O-L CHILDREN OF OUR LORD

COOL (Children Of Our Lord) Youth Group

Friday Nights at 7:30 pm in the Church Hall

FOOD – FUN – FAITH – FELLOWSHIP

Come and bring a friend!

For more info contact Claire – 514-482-7493 or

stmonicasyouth@gmail.com



Join the
Youth Group

ADULT FAITH ENRICHMENT UPCOMING EVENTS

Bible Study

The Spirituality of the Sacraments: *On Earth as it is in Heaven*, with Pastor Brent Walker. Join us on Wednesday evenings, January 21 & 28 and February 4 & 11 from 7 to 9 p.m. in the parish hall for a unique journey in which we will experience Scripture in a sacramental way - God's infinite grace expressed in concrete words and signs, and most perfectly in Jesus, the Incarnate Word - and also explore the biblical roots of the Church's seven Sacraments. Please register by **January 19**.

Coffee and Conversation

In this session of NOOMA, we will view "SHELLS – Are we so busy that we miss out on what we're supposed to be doing?" Join us on **Sunday, January 25, from 9:50 to 10:50 am**, in the rectory dining room. Babysitting is available upon request.

Please refer to our website and the posters at the Church entrances for additional information. If registration is required, kindly use the appropriate sign-up sheets at the main church entrance or contact Anna at the office.

DID YOU TAKE ONE OF THESE NEW 2015 SUNDAY DONATION BOXES!

New boxes #102, 112, 122, 189, 207, 251 were recently picked up. If you have one of these boxes, please return as soon as possible the **BLUE** registration form. You can deposit it the Sunday collection basket, mail it, or call the office 514-481-0267 with your name and address. Thank you.