

CALLED TO BE HOLY

At St. Monica's, every September marks a new pastoral year that invites us to explore our faith by considering a theme that is relevant to our lives. This year, our theme is **Called to be Holy ... "Be Holy, for I Am Holy"**. (1 Peter 1:16) What a happy coincidence it was that, as we were deciding on this theme, Pope Francis released his latest apostolic exhortation, **Rejoice and Be Glad: The call to holiness in the contemporary world!** With this resounding confirmation, we wasted no time in putting together a program that we are proud to share with you.

God, through the Holy Spirit, calls His creation to be Holy; to be who He created us to be in His own image. By calling us, and He calls us all the time, God isn't asking us to change who we are. He is asking us to awaken to the reality that, in Christ, we are already Holy. In accepting this God-given grace, we unite with God to become more fully who we are.

Pope Francis tells us that the call to holiness is both personal and communal, and that it pushes us to actively build the kingdom of God. Holiness therefore, necessitates a committed relationship with God. In relationship with God, and by His grace, it is natural that we come to imitate Him. This imitation evolves as we mature in our faith, and we are then able to choose to bring holiness (God) in all that we do. Not only are we transformed, but so is everyone and everything we interact with. By acknowledging that the kingdom of God (the grace of holiness) is already within us, we can't help but leave a piece of heaven wherever we go!

Our Liturgical and Adult Faith Education programs intend to look at the different ways that we can awaken to our call to be holy. Our opening retreat in October invites us to respond to Jesus' invitation to "*Come and see*" his dwelling place, and over four evenings in November, Fr. Lloyd will consider with us the living of the seven lively virtues as the foundation and fulfillment of the holy, happy and satisfying existence for which God creates us. We will examine the role that holiness (God's and ours) plays in the midst of the messes in our lives, and come to appreciate the holiness of our planet; the living creation of God that has a dream of its own and is waiting for us to align with it so that we might be more successful in making the changes necessary to maintain the integrity of our home. Fr. Raymond and members of his diocesan team will present our Lenten Mission on Pope Francis' **Rejoice and Be Glad** apostolic exhortation to highlight the Pope's perspective on the subject of holiness, and we will end the year with a workshop in May which will help us understand how we give and receive love so that we are more able to honor the *holy* in ourselves and others. Our year-long activities: the Book Club, Faith Sharing Groups, Bible Study, Contemplative Prayer Group and Video Divina, will offer you many opportunities throughout the year to awaken to your holiness in relationship with God, others and with creation.

The Adult Faith Education Brochure, graced by the beautiful artwork of Mary Southard, CSJ, and containing the detailed information for all our events, will be available for you to pick up as of September 29. Let us, this year and together, respond to God's call to be holy as He is Holy, and to rediscover who we are in Christ!

Adult Faith Enrichment – Upcoming Events:

St. Monica's Book Club: Our Book Club meets every other week, on **Sunday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in the parish rectory**, beginning next **Sunday, September 16**. This year we are reading "The Jesuit Guide To (Almost) Everything" by Fr. James Martin, SJ and "Sacred Fire: A Vision for a Deeper Human and Christian Maturity" by Fr. Ron Rolheiser, OMI. Please register by **September 12**. You can purchase the first of the two books at the initial meeting if you reserve a copy at registration. For information contact Barbara DeLorenzi at bookclub@stmonica.ca or through the parish office.

Video Divina: Join Fr. Lloyd on **Friday, September 21 at 7 p.m.** in the parish rectory for the first film of this year's Video Divina series "The Human Journey to Wholeness". We will be viewing the film "**The Road Home**". Free admission and popcorn, with discussion to follow. All are welcome!

MASS INTENTIONS SEPTEMBER 8 TO SEPTEMBER 16, 2018

Saturday, Saturday, September 8: The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

4:00 Franco & Rosalino Sparapani by Teresa Caucci
Ignazio Ciampini by wife Ernesta
Filomena Caucci Forlini by Pia & Dat Caucci

Sunday, September 9: Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 Franco Sparapani by the family
Rosolo Ricci by the Ricci family
Difazio & Iacovone families by the children

11:00 **IN LOVING MEMORY:** The Cullen family, Silvano Zilli

Monday, September 10: Weekday Mass

8:00 The Ciampini family by Louise Forlini
Letizia Caporicci by Michele

Tuesday, September 11: Weekday Mass

8:00 Rafael Chung Kyu Lee by his family

Wednesday, September 12: The Most Holy Name of Mary

8:00 Sabatino Santache by Maria Teresa Palucci

Thursday, September 13: St. John Chrysostom

8:00 Maria Cardilli & Italo Falcone by Luisa & Angelo Falcone

Friday, September 14: The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

8:00 Sabatino Santache by Maria Teresa Palucci

Saturday, Saturday, September 15: Our Lady of Sorrows

4:00 **IN LOVING MEMORY:** Alessandro Palladini, Leonard & Terry Winslade, Giovanni Masella

Sunday, September 16: Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 Antonio & Marianna LaPosta by Connie LaPosta
Giuseppe Fiori by wife & family
Ying Kwan Tse by Bernard Yeung & family
11:00 Adelina Guaiani by Arnaldo Guaiani
Vincenza Forte by the Forte family
Sister Mary Ellen Collins SNJM by Ghislaine Lebeau SNJM

Thank you for your ongoing support of our parish.

Collection for the weekend of **September 1 - 2, 2018**

totalled \$ **2,206.00**.

SUMMARY – AUGUST 2018 INCOME & EXPENSES

Budget Estimates for the Year 2018	\$316,200.00
Monthly Revenue Goals	\$ 26,350.00
Current Month Sunday Collections	\$ 8,851.00
Current Month Online Collections	\$ 1,008.00
Year to date ALL Revenues	\$ 169,424.00
Difference: Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 15,256.00

St. Monica's Faith Sharing Groups:

This year, our reflections are from the book **Treasured and Transformed: Vision for the Heart, Understanding for the Mind** by Fr. Daniel J. O'Leary. Groups meet for 14 sessions throughout the year at convenient times and locations. To join a group, or to attend a session before joining, please fill out the registration form at the church entrance. Someone will be available to address your questions about the program after each Mass next weekend. The cost for the year, including book and printed materials, is \$30. For information, please contact Anna at the office.

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 (514) 481-0267 ext. 22.

Faith First

The 2018-2019 Faith First session will begin on **September 29-30**. If you have not yet registered your child, please fill out a registration form as soon as possible. Forms are available at the entrances to the church, at the rectory and on our website www.stmonica.ca. For further information, please contact Jennie Parsons-Armstrong at the rectory (514-481-0267 ext. 26).

On A Mission Together

The Archbishop of Montreal, Msgr. Christian Lepine, invites everyone to Mary Queen of the World Cathedral on **Friday, September 14** on the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.
5 – 6 p.m. Mass
6 – 7 p.m. Potluck supper (bring your own food).
7 – 9 p.m. Prayer, testimonies, message from the Archbishop, sharing and presentation of the Diocesan Merit Award for recipients.

Loyola High School

Loyola will be hosting an Open House for all prospective students on Saturday, **September 15th**, 2018 from **9 a.m. until noon**. If you are interested in a Catholic Education for your son, come and meet the students, teachers and administrators who make up the Loyola family. Tour our school, learn about our sports teams, explore the labs, Fine Arts and Robotics facilities. Financial aid is available to students who qualify. To learn more visit www.loyola.ca/admissions

