

St. Monica's 2014 Lenten Parish Mission: Journey to Joy
Led by Richard Boileau, OFS

“Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances,” writes the Apostle Paul. Is it possible to do so? The answer is yes, with grace, insight and effort. But how can we even speak of joy in the middle of a penitential season? We can, by reminding ourselves of the destination of our journey. The destination is not death but new life. It's the Resurrection, the central event of our faith.

The world talks a lot about happiness. It's a fundamental desire of the human heart. Meanwhile, the church talks about joy. There are helpful lessons in both realms. But for the world, suffering is an obstacle to happiness. That's why we talk about spiritual joy as being different. Our Lenten mission is designed to prepare us for Easter, to greet with joy the Risen Christ by walking through the valley of darkness, highlighted by Holy Week, with the joy of Christmas still alive in our hearts.

My invitation to you is to look this year at Lent as a preparation to experience a deeper joy than what you may have experienced in the past. On Monday evening, we'll journey to places within ourselves to hear and respond to an invitation to authenticity, freedom from fear and friendship with God. On Tuesday evening, we'll look at the reality of suffering that threatens our grasp of joy. On Wednesday, we'll translate authenticity and freedom, balanced by a mature understanding of suffering, into a powerful discovery of joy that can only be experienced by continuing the journey outside of ourselves, by reaching out to others as the ultimate place for finding true joy as channels of God's love.

Can you hear God saying to you, “Go, I send you on a journey; and on that journey, be attentive.” Our Lenten journey, the walk of this entire community, is one of deeper understanding of the workings of our soul, and the true nature of joy. It's a journey to the truth of who we are, to the fullness of our particular mission and to the joy that God promises to those who trust in his mercy and friendship.

Bring your family, friends and neighbours to share in this celebration of faith, hope and joy. We all need to discover the essence and source of that perfect joy!

ONE HUMAN FAMILY, FOOD FOR ALL (Week 4)

In Haiti, women are striving for economic security by implementing income generating projects such as plant nurseries to produce and transplant seedlings. This initiative leads to Food Sovereignty which enables them to produce their own food and feed themselves. The women offer training to other women so they can learn how to set up nurseries to produce fruit trees and trees for reforestation. The Haitian women gain valuable experience and earn money so they can be more financially secure.

Development and Peace is instrumental in supporting the women of Haiti. In the global world, 79% of women work in the agricultural sector and in food production. They are the key to achieving food security. **PLEASE NOTE** that normally, the collection of SHARE LENT for Development and Peace takes place on the 5th Sunday of Lent. This year however, it is also the first Sunday of the month when we have our Maintenance Collection. To compensate, the **SHARE LENT COLLECTION WILL BE HELD ON THE WEEKEND OF “PALM SUNDAY”, April 12 / 13.**

INTENTIONS MARCH 29 TO APRIL 6, 2014

Saturday, March 29 **Lenten Mass**

4:00 **In Loving Memory:** Leona Clarke, Edgardo Poce, Leonard & Terry Winslade, Marianna & Antonio La Posta, Winifred Newman, Luigina Ciciarelli, Vittoria Caucci & Chiara Sparapani

Sunday, March 30 **Fourth Sunday of Lent**

8:30 John Caporicci By Anna Supino

11:00 Donata & Maria Mascia By Anna Mascia
and Antonio Mariani

Monday, March 31 **Weekday Mass**

8:00 Giacomo Fiori By Berardina Fiori & Family

Tuesday, April 1 **Weekday Mass**

8:00 Byrnell Wylie By wife Linda & Family

Wednesday, April 2 **St. Francis of Paola**

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

Thursday, April 3 **Weekday Mass**

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

Friday, April 4 **St. Isidore**

8:00 Alessandro Palladini By wife Franca Palladini &
Family

Saturday, April 5 **St. Vincent Ferrer**

4:00 Morley, Lilly and son By Louise Oke
Jamey Oke

Sunday, April 6 **Fifth Sunday Of Lent**

8:30 **In Loving Memory:** Joseph Onesi, Natalina Donati
Ceccucci, Vincenzo & Antonietta La Posta, Deceased
members of the Cullen Family.

11:00 John Caporicci By the Giangaspero Family

Your Generosity...

Thank you for your on-going support of our parish...Collection for the weekend of March 22 /23, 2014 totalled \$2,979.80

Poverty Meal: Faith and Justice Committee is hosting a poverty meal on Friday, April 4, at 6 p.m. followed by an interactive presentation on food security. In order to help us organize this meal, please **sign the "Poverty Meal" sheet at the back of the church after mass.**

Action Communiterre Looking For Gardeners

Come learn, grow and share with us by joining one of our 7 collective gardens! Even if you have no experience, you can garden 4 hours per week from May to October. For only 10\$ per year, become a member and garden with us. It's a great opportunity to enjoy the outdoors, to garden with your neighbours and to bring fresh produces home. **Call 514-484-0223** for more info and to register. Office located at 6244 Sherbrooke West. We are open between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. from Monday to Friday.

ADULT FAITH ENRICHMENT

St. Monica's Parish Lenten Mission

Journey to Joy - Richard Boileau, OFS, specialist in Franciscan spirituality, will lead us in a Lenten series of reflections on *simplicity*, *gratitude* and *generosity* as a path to deep spiritual joy. This journey within to the true self, to God and to others in light of the example of St. Francis of Assisi will take place over three evenings beginning this coming **Monday, March 31 to Wednesday, April 2 from 7 to 9 p.m. in the church.** Please join us, and bring a friend to share in this enriching Lenten experience!

Theologia Catholic Book Ministry

Mrs. Samia Boghdady of Theologia Catholic Book Ministry will be at St. Monica's Parish on Monday March 31 and Tuesday, April 1 from 7 to 9 p.m. with books and other media that will complement the theme of our Lenten Mission. We are grateful to Mrs. Boghdady for making these resources available to us for this special event.

Video Divina

Fr. Raymond will present the movie **Les Misérables** on **Friday, April 11 at 7 p.m.** in the parish rectory. As this is the last movie of the "Meeting Jesus at the Movies" series, you are invited to bring refreshments of your choice to share with the group. Popcorn will be provided. All are welcome!

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

PASTORAL HOME CARE VISITORS

On Tuesday, April 8, there will be a general meeting at 8:30 a.m. in the parish rectory.

FAIR TRADE PRODUCTS

On sale after Mass **weekend of April 5/6**
Items: Coffee & Chocolate and collection of Loonies and loose change.