

**"DO WHATEVER HE TELLS YOU"**

*"Three mysteries mark this holy day: today the star leads the Magi to the infant Christ; today water is changed into wine for the wedding feast; today Christ wills to be baptized by John in the river Jordan to bring us salvation."*

This Epiphany antiphon reminds us of the deep connection between the Gospel events we have recalled the past three Sundays. The star leads the Magi to the newborn Christ, revealed as a light to the nations; the voice from heaven reveals Jesus' true identity as God's beloved Son, on whom his Spirit rests; and Jesus' changing of water into wine at the wedding of Cana becomes the first "sign" by which he inaugurates the Messianic age. All three events are ***theophanies***: manifestations of the Divine, revelations of Jesus' mission as *Light of the World, as Messiah and Saviour, as Son of God*.

Water becomes wine; the ordinary becomes extraordinary. The marriage of a young couple points to the mystical marriage between Christ and the Church, to be achieved in fullness when "Jesus' hour" comes at Calvary. At Cana, we see the first sign of this: Jesus manifests his glory, and his disciples "believe in him." In Jesus, the old covenant between heaven and earth is transformed into something new.

What about us? Sometimes we move through life with a sense of monotony or heaviness, not seeing how God wishes to break through the ordinary moments of life, and transform our existence into something *extraordinary*. Jesus comes to fill our water jars with the new wine of his indwelling presence. As at Cana, Mary invites us to listen to the Lord, to "do whatever he asks of us." She helps us to discover that our everyday life carries within it extraordinary potential. Filled with the new wine of Christ, we rediscover our taste for life, our capacity to feast with Christ, the Bridegroom. For Jesus gives himself to us with a love beyond measure, espouses us in love and fidelity, chooses us as his own.

As we re-enter "Ordinary Time", let us ask the Lord to make us faithful stewards: ready to do whatever Jesus asks of us, eager to share the good wine he provides with all who thirst. Then our "ordinary" lives will become truly "extraordinary", as we come to know the God who turns scarcity into abundance, mourning into celebrating, ***water into wine***.

**MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS****FOR THE WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES 2016**

**[January 17, 2016]** *"Migrants and Refugees Challenge Us. The Response of the Gospel of Mercy"*

*Dear Brothers and Sisters,*

...In our time, migration is growing worldwide. Refugees and people fleeing from their homes challenge individuals and communities, and their traditional ways of life; at times they upset the cultural and social horizons which they encounter. Increasingly, the victims of violence and poverty, leaving their homelands, are exploited by human traffickers during their journey towards the dream of a better future. If they survive the abuses and hardships of the journey, they then have to face latent suspicions and fear. In the end, they frequently encounter a lack of clear and practical policies regulating the acceptance of migrants and providing for short or long term programs of integration respectful of the rights and duties of all. Today, more than in the past, the Gospel of mercy troubles our consciences, prevents us from taking the suffering of others for granted, and points out way of responding which, grounded in the theological virtues of faith, hope and charity, find practical expression in works of spiritual and corporal mercy.

...Dear brothers and sisters, migrants and refugees! At the heart of the Gospel of mercy the encounter and acceptance by others are intertwined with the encounter and acceptance of God himself. Welcoming others means welcoming God in person! Do not let yourselves be robbed of the hope and joy of life born of your experience of God's mercy, as manifested in the people you meet on your journey! I entrust you to the Virgin Mary, Mother of migrants and refugees, and to Saint Joseph, who experienced the bitterness of emigration to Egypt. To their intercession I also commend those who invest so much energy, time and resources to the pastoral and social care of migrants. To all I cordially impart my Apostolic Blessing.

*From the Vatican, September 12, 2015, Memorial of the Holy Name of Mary* **POPE FRANCIS**

## MASS INTENTIONS JANUARY 16 TO 24, 2016

### **Saturday, January 16: Our Lady's Saturday**

**4:00** Chiara Forlini, Luigi Sparapani & By Teresa Caucci  
Angelo Caucci  
Gerry McLaughlin By Connie & Family  
Gabriele & Antonia Poliziani By Maria De Ciccio  
Petronilla Mora-McLean By Mora-Farmer Family

### **Sunday, January 17: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**8:30** Vincenzo & Antonietta La Posta By Concette La Posta  
Vincenza Forte By Piccolino Family  
**11:00** In Loving Memory : Ettore Lanni by Wife & Family,  
Deceased members of the Cullen Family.

### **Monday, January 18: Weekday Mass**

**8:00** Mary & Harry Keenan By Lillian Bibby

### **Tuesday, January 19: Weekday Mass**

**8:00** Nicola Santini By Olga Santini Matta

### **Wednesday, January 20: St. Fabian, St. Sebastian**

**8:00** Tony Johnson By Kathleen Rogers & Family

### **Thursday, January 21: St. Agnes**

**8:00** For Parishioners Special Intentions

### **Friday, January 22: St. Vincent**

**8:00** For Parishioners Special Intentions

### **Saturday, January 23: Our Lady's Saturday**

**4:00** In Loving Memory: Aniello D'Addio, Ignazio Ciampini,  
Danny DuPont, Pasquale D'Addio, Alessandro Palladini.

### **Sunday, January 24: Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**8:30** Victor Weiss By Rosa & Luigi Salvati  
**11:00** Fioravanti Rotiroti By the Rotiroti Family  
Michael Collins By Sr. Violette Blais, SRJM  
Luigi Mammone By Ida Onesi & Family

### **Your Generosity...**

*Thank you for your on-going support of our parish...* Collection for the weekend of January 9/10, 2016 totalled \$2,938.75

### **COOL Youth Group Bowling Night**

Friday, January 22, 2016

7:30-9:30 pm at the Rosebowl  
(Cavendish and St. Jacques)

Contact Claire for more information

[stmonicasyouth@gmail.com](mailto:stmonicasyouth@gmail.com) or

514-482-7493



### **YOUTH RETREAT**

Friends, Food, Fun, Faith

Friday, March 11 at 6 pm to Saturday, March 12 at 6 pm

Youth ages 12-18, in Partnership with NET Canada,

[www.netcanada.ca](http://www.netcanada.ca)

St. Ignatius Parish, 5455 West Broadway

Suggested donation of \$20.

Contact Claire to register or for more information

[stmonicasyouth@gmail.com](mailto:stmonicasyouth@gmail.com), 514-482-7493

### **ADULT FAITH ENRICHMENT UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **Coffee and Conversation**

Join us on **Sunday, January 24 from 9:50 to 10:50 am**, in the rectory dining room to view the **NOOMA** film "**Noise – Why are we so afraid of silence?**" Free babysitting is available for pre-school aged children, and all are welcome.

### **FAIR TRADE PRODUCTS ON SALE NEXT WEEKEND**

**(JANUARY 24, 2016)  
AFTER ALL WEEKEND  
MASSES.**

**LOONIES and SPARE  
CHANGE WILL ALSO BE  
COLLECTED.**

### **TAX RECEIPT PICKUP & Donation Boxes**

Tax receipts for donations made in 2015 to St. Monica's parish will be available for pickup at the back of the church at all weekend masses of February 6/7, 13/14, and 20/21.

Also, we encourage those who had Sunday Donation Boxes in 2015 to pick up their new 2016 box at the back of the church. Please take only the box with your name and number on it.

For those who would like to have a donation box, please call the office at 514-481-0267 to reserve a box for you.

### **WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY JANUARY 18 TO 25, 2016**

Encourages Christians of all denominations to meet, to participate in various liturgical and other community activities, and to pray together that all may be one, as Christ desires.