

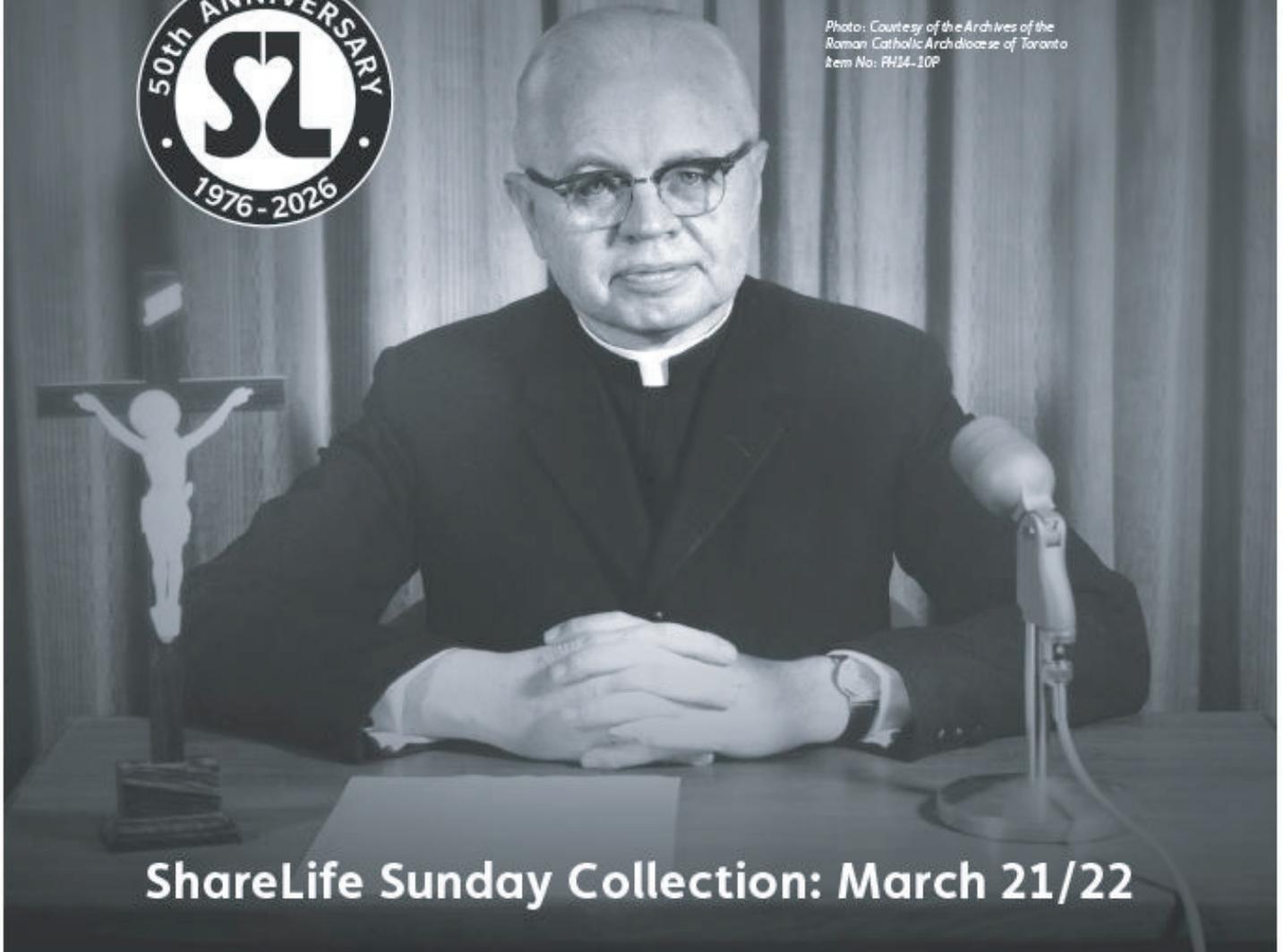
Living the Gospel



"We believe that every human being is unique and priceless. We hold that human life must be respected at every stage of its development from the first mysterious moment of conception to the declining days of advanced age."

- Archbishop Philip Francis Pocock,
A Declaration on Behalf of Life, March 19, 1976

*Photo: Courtesy of the Archives of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Toronto
Item No: PH14-10P*



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St. Martin De Porres Parish

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Phone: -284-9192 St. Vincent de Paul Society 416-284-6131

FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE LENT



1st Reading:
1 Ezekiel 37.12-14

2nd Reading:
Romans 8.8-11

Gospel:
John 11.1-45

Regular Mass Schedule Weekday Masses:

Daily morning mass is celebrated Tuesday to Friday at 8:30 am

Weekend Schedule: Saturday (Vigil) Mass 5:00 pm
Sunday Masses: 9:00 am, 10:30 am & 12:00 noon

<https://smartindeporressc.archtoronto.org/eg/>

Raising from Death to Life

In today's Gospel we encounter the great mystery of the raising of Lazarus from the dead. This apparent death of Lazarus was not in vain for Jesus says it occurred so "that the Son of God may be glorified through it." After raising Lazarus from the dead, Jesus instructs the crowd to "unbind him, and let him go"

This "unbinding" signifies that Jesus doesn't just raise him from the dead but also sets him free. So too, through God's great gift of forgiveness, He raises us from the death of sin and leads us to interior freedom. This Lent, let us seek God's forgiveness by availing ourselves to the sacrament of Reconciliation before Easter. The Catechism says that "the sacrament of Reconciliation with God brings about a true "spiritual resurrection," restoration of the dignity and blessings of the life of the children of God, of which the most precious is friendship with God" (CCC 1468).

Moreover, after Lazarus was freed it says that many people believed in Jesus. Likewise, after we receive God's forgiveness and live in freedom and friendship with God, we should be true stewards of God's gifts and evangelize those around us. Through the grace of the sacrament we will have the necessary strength to offer our time and talents to our parish community. So this Lent let us not remain in the death of sin but turn to Jesus and receive the life and freedom of forgiveness.

Summary

Just as Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, He raises us from the death of sin and leads us to interior freedom through His forgiveness. This Lent, let us seek God's forgiveness by availing ourselves to the sacrament of Reconciliation before Easter. Through the grace of the sacrament we will have the necessary strength and grace to offer our time and talents to our parish community.

Mass Intentions for the Week of Mar 21/ Mar 22, 2026

Saturday Mar 21st
5:00 pm

Sunday Mar 22nd
9:00 am

†May Ong

10:30 am

- For All Parishioners of SMDP

12:00 pm

†Terry Gallagher

†Ruby Malijan

Monday Mar 23rd
8:30 am

Tuesday Mar 24th

8:30 am

Wednesday Mar 25th

8:30 am

Thursday Mar 26th

8:30 am

†Giuseppe Corrado

Friday Mar 27th

8:30 am

Our Lady of Sorrowful (Mac Linhao)

Parish Weekly fact

This past week, on March 19th, we celebrated the Feast of Saint Joseph, the principal Patron Saint of Canada.

410 years ago, missionary father Joseph Le Caron celebrated the first Mass at Huronia on August 12, 1615. He named St. Joseph as the patron of the country in his memory dated March 19, 1624: "We held a great solemnity where all the inhabitants and several native peoples were present, by a vow we made to St. Joseph, whom we chose as our patron saint of the country and protector of this newborn church"

Pope Gregory XVI officially approved St. Joseph as the Patron Saint of Canada. Pope Pius IX declared St Joseph patron and protector of the universal Church on December 8, 1870.



Lenten Confessions will be held on Wednesday, March 25th at 6-8 p.m.

HOLY WEEK

St. Martin De Porres Parish



PALM SUNDAY

MARCH 28 Saturday
5:00 PM Vigil Mass

MARCH 29 Sunday
9:00 AM • 10:30 AM • 12:00 PM



HOLY THURSDAY

APRIL 2 6:30 PM Mass
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament



GOOD FRIDAY

APRIL 3 12:00 PM • 3:00 PM

HOLY SATURDAY

APRIL 4 6:30 PM Mass



EASTER SUNDAY

APRIL 5 Masses
9:00 AM • 10:30 AM • 12:00 PM



Do Your Duties Gladly

***You must put on the armor of God if you are to resist on the evil day; do all that your duty requires and hold your ground.
(Ephesians 6:13)***

The history of salvation records the struggles between good and evil in the hearts of men and women. Jesus is the Incarnation of God, enabling us to be faithful to the demands of God's truth, love, and justice. Evil is the energy of Satan and our own selfishness, bringing fragmentation into our own lives and broken relationships with others. The battle between good and evil continues to this very day; each of us participates in this struggle.

Where, it may be asked, does this spiritual warfare take place? The answer is that the salvation of the world advances or retreats according to how we fulfill our daily obligations. If we would help to advance the kingdom of God, we must pick up the cross of self-denial and strive to follow in the footsteps of Christ.

We need not search very far for opportunities to carry our crosses. Everyday life itself is hard enough for most of us. The most difficult cross we will ever carry is to do our daily duties and to do them happily for the love of God. Knowing that God is with us, and that our attitude is important for salvation history, should help us to smile more often. And think what a difference it would make to the people we rub shoulders with daily if we were a bit more joyful! It might even happen that a few of them will ask why we are so happy. They will believe the Good News we share with them because we ourselves will be good news for them.

Suggested Practices

1. Do not procrastinate.
2. Fulfill your daily obligations and smile a bit more while you do so.

HEALING
of life's hurts

Mass and Special LENTEN Healing Service

**HOLY WEEK TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2026,
7:00-9:00 PM**

Jesus suffered pain and rejection to gain our salvation. We too may be burdened with a lot of pain and hurts accumulated through life. Our saviour invites us to bring our life's hurts to Him for healing and peace.

A special healing prayer service will be held on Holy Week Tuesday, 7:00-9:00pm. It is appropriate for adults, not children.

SACRAMENTAL PREP NEWS



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

- Registration's date has expired

CONFIRMATION

- Registration is on April 07th at 6p.m.

R.C.I.A

- Registration is closed



Let us Pray! For the sick members of our Parish and for those who love and minister to them.

KAPIT BAHAY

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except Tues

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