



Monday Memo

Diocese of Thunder Bay

News ♦ Notices ♦ Upcoming Events

March 2, 2020

An invitation to St. Agnes Children's Choir: St. Agnes invites students in grades 2 and up to join our children's choir. There is no cost to join; music and training provided. We will rehearse weekly on Saturday evenings from 6-7pm. This spring we will be leading masses for Good Friday, Easter Sunday, and on Mother's Day at the 11 a.m. masses. We will also be performing a spring concert of Pop music in May. I hope you can join us and bring a friend! Please email or text to enroll in the choir, or just show up! Dawn Kim B.Mus.Ed., Children's choral conductor, St. Agnes parish 807-708-6777 / dawnjeannettekim@shaw.ca

Catholic Men's Luncheon: Guest Speaker: Romano Taddeo, Topic: D.O.O.R.S. "The Least Known Ministry in the Diocese" Come and learn about this vital ministry of facilitating protection and resettlement for refugees. March 4th, 2020, 12 – 1:30 pm at the DaVinci Centre. Admission is \$15.00 at the door. RSVP as soon as possible with Doug McClure at bumba3712@gmail.com or call 807-708-4143.

Pasta Night: at St. Theresa's in Kakabeka Falls ... Saturday, March 7th, 6 p.m. Three different pastas, Caesar salad, garlic bread, yummy dessert -- all for \$15 adults, \$8 children 6-12, \$2 children 5 and under. Limited seating, get your tickets early, from 475-5438, or 577-8296.

A Lenten Evening of Reflection on March 9, 2020. Hosted by the Our Lady of Mount Carmel Community at Corpus Christi Parish. The evening begins with Mass at 7:00 celebrated by Fr. Terry Sawchuk, followed by a spiritual talk and an opportunity for confession. All are welcome!

Unlocking the Mysteries of the Bible: Beginning on March 11th and continuing on March 18, 25, April 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29. Location: Holy Angels Church Hall, Schreiber. Many people want to read about the Bible because they know it is God's Word, but give up because it is so complicated. The unlocking the Mystery of the Bible study program helps you to get the "big picture" of the Bible by showing how fourteen narrative books of the Bible tell the complete story from Adam and Eve to Christ and the Church. \$10 registration fee for workbook. Please register before Wednesday, March 4, by contacting the Parish Office at 824-2010 or holyangelsschreiber@gmail.com

St. Joseph's Table/ Tavola S. Giuseppe: St. Dominic's Church Hall, after each Mass - March 21st & 22nd, 2020. Please call Melina for more information at 577-3001.

Parish Mission with Chris Bray: Chris Bray is a Catholic speaker and musician whose ministry has spanned North America from several #1 hit songs on Christian radio in Canada, to headlining the March for Life on Parliament Hill, World Youth Day, Steubenville Toronto and presenting to tens of thousands each year at conferences, retreats, schools, and churches. Chris presents the Gospel message in an engaging and life changing way that renews the soul and the entire parish community. For times of the mission, please visit Corpus Christi website (<http://corpuschristi-tbay.ca>)

Free to a good home! 77 hard cover Glory & Praise hymnals, comprehensive edition, in excellent shape, with one set of 3 accompaniment books. Phone 577-8296.

Chrim Mass Choir We extend an invitation to any choir member to come and sing at this year's Chrim Mass, which will be Thursday, April 2 beginning at 7 pm. at St. Patrick's Cathedral. A practise will be held the week before, Wednesday, March 25 from 7 - 9 pm. Please contact Laurie Colomiso at 623-1373, if you wish copies of hymns in advance or any further information.



Happy first full week of Lent!

Approximately 10 years ago I had what I refer to as a life changing Lent. I went to daily Mass, and God changed me. Every year since then, I have tried to recreate that experience. Each Lent, I wrestle with the question, “What am I going to give up for Lent? How can I make this a Lent to remember, a Lent to be transformed?” Recently, I watched a video called *How to Live this Lent for Others* by Fr. Mike Schmitz. Fr. Mike spoke about spiritual maturity, which, he says, comes down to making a switch from “discipline to generous.” Fr. Mike explains that “discipline is necessary to be a disciple.” It is a good characteristic to have, and a necessary virtue. However, to be disciplined is all about me. There is a “next step”, which is generous. If I am generous, I am giving something to another or doing something for another. Fr. Mike invites us to move away from the solitary virtue of discipline, to the more mature, relational virtue of generosity. He challenges us to ask the Lord, “Is this what you want from me at this moment?” We know through Church teaching that God wants us to focus on prayer, fasting, and almsgiving during Lent. We have guidelines on how God wants us to live. Rather than having the attitude of hunkering down and being determined to give this up or do something each day, Fr. Mike tells us to converse with the Lord. “Everyday I am going to give you this much time in prayer or this much money to someone each week. Even on days I don’t feel like it, I want to give this to you.” So we aren’t just checking off a box- yay me, I did this or that. We should foster that spirit of giving. Fr. Mike teaches that discipline doesn't expand our hearts, generosity does. Discipline on it's own doesn't deepen a relationship, but generosity can. We must cultivate both, the solitary virtue of discipline in order to have the heart that can be generous. Then we will love God more and love our neighbour more.