

Blessed Frédéric Ozanam

R O M A N C A T H O L I C P A R I S H

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WEEKDAY MASS

St. Brother André CHS (Chapel)
6160 - 16th Avenue, Markham
Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9:00 a.m.

WEEKEND MASS

St. Brother André CHS
6160 - 16th Avenue, Markham
Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

OUR PARISH SCHOOLS

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St. Julia Billiard CES	905-471-8221
St. Kateri Tekakwitha CES	905-471-4477
Sir Richard W. Scott CES	905-472-3964
St. Brother André CHS	905-294-7671

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 Frédéric Ozanam Parish Markham

www.blessedoanam.ca



“I am the Good Shepherd....

They know my voice.”

Our Eyes as Windows to our Souls

Most all of us worry about aging, especially in how it affects our bodies. We worry about wrinkles, bags under our eyes, middle-age fat, and losing hair where we want it only to find it on places where we don't want it. So every now and then, when we look in a mirror or see a recent photograph of ourselves, we are shocked at our own faces and bodies, almost not recognizing ourselves as we see an old face and old body where we are used to seeing a young one.

Your eyes are the windows to your soul. The things you spend time looking at are the things you'll spend time thinking about. If you focus your eyes on your Heavenly Father, your heart will be filled with truth and beauty.



But examining ourselves for signs of aging isn't a bad practice, except that we should be looking for things other than wrinkles, loose skin, hair loss, and weight gain. With these bodily things, nature eventually has its way. Where we should be looking for signs of aging is in our eyes. It's there where the real signs of aging and senility reveal themselves.

If we were to set up a mirror and stare straight into our own eyes, what would we see? Are our eyes tired, unenthusiastic, cynical, lifeless, dead? Do they radiate mostly anger and jealousy? Is there any fire there? Are they so deadened so as to be incapable of being surprised? Have they lost their innocence? Is there still a child buried somewhere behind them?

The real signs of senility are betrayed by the eyes, not the body. Loose skin merely reveals that we are aging physically, nothing more. Bodies age and die in a process as inevitable and natural as the changing of the seasons, but dead eyes signify a more deadly senility, something less natural, a fatigued spirit. Spirits are meant to be forever young, forever childlike, forever innocent. They are not meant to deaden and die. But they can die through a lack of passion, through the illusion of familiarity, through a loss of innocence and wonder, through a fatigue of the spirit, and through practical despair.

Despair is a curious thing. Mostly we despair not because we grow weary of the shortcomings and sufferings in life and, at last, find life too much to take. Rather we despair for the opposite reason, namely, we grow cynical of joy. Joy lies in experiencing life as fresh, as novel, as primal, as a child does, with a certain purity of spirit. This type of joy is not pleasure, though there's pleasure in it. Pleasure of course can be had without joy but that kind of pleasure is the product of a lack of wonder and reverence in experiencing. That kind of pleasure is initially experienced as a victory, as a throwing off of naiveté, as liberation; but it soon turns into defeat, into dullness, boredom, and a deadened eros. Our palate loses its itch for tasting. Our enthusiasm dies and a certain fatigue of the soul sets in. There is nothing left in us that's fresh and young, and our eyes begin to show this. They lose their sparkle, their childlikeness.

A good look in the mirror for most of us, sadly, reveals much the same, a lifeless face that's not really ours and dull eyes, our own, but hidden beneath a lying glass. Somewhere the fire has gone out; our eyes and face are devoid of wonder and innocence.

What's to be done? We need to take a good long look at ourselves in a mirror and study our eyes, long and hard, and let what we see shock us enough to move us towards the road of unlearning, of post-sophistication, of wonder, or renewed innocence. Here's the counsel: Go to a mirror and stare into your eyes long enough until you see there again the boy or girl who once inhabited that space. In that, wonder will be born, a sparkle will return and, with it, a freshness that can make you young again.

Our eyes don't grow tired, rather they get buried. That's what causes the blank, passionless stare. Bodies tire, but eyes are windows to the soul and they are forever eager to see. One of the contrasts between Christianity and Buddhism has to do with the eyes. The Buddhist saint is always depicted with his or her eyes shut, while the Christian saint always has them open. The Buddhist saint has a sleek, harmonious body, but his or her eyes are heavy and sealed with sleep. The Christian saint's body is wasted to the bone, but his or her eyes are alive, hungry, staring. The Buddhist's eyes are focused inwardness. The Christian's eyes are staring outwards, hungry, full of wonder.

Fourth Sunday of Easter
May 12, 2019

Save the Date

Gala Dinner Dance
Saturday, October 26, 2019

Mass Intentions
FOR THE WEEK

Monday, May 13, 2019 – No Mass – Fr. Joseph at Priests' Retreat
Wednesday, May 15, 2019 – No Mass – Priests' Retreat
Friday, May 17, 2019 - St. Brother André CHS Chapel
7:00 p.m. ☩ Effie Goveas
Saturday, May 18, 2019 – St. Brother André CHS
5:00 p.m. ☩ Amando Cruz
Sunday, May 19, 2019 – St. Brother André CHS
10:00 a.m. ☩ Onching Centeno
12:00 p.m. Pro Populo

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Pass the Care Forward
Memorial Dove Release and Walk
Sunday May 26, 2019 – Amica Unionville

Begins at 11 a.m. with registration, memorial ceremony, and dove release. Ceremony starts at noon followed by a walk along the Rouge River in Unionville. Coffee and lunch are provided. Children's memorial activities available. Join us to honour the memory of a loved one who has died while providing funds to carry on the services for other bereaved families. You and your family will receive one dove to release with the group for every \$200 you have been able to raise in sponsorship. The dove release and walk is for you and your family to enjoy and the funds are *passed forward* to care for another family in need. For information: www.evzcares.org.

JPII Culture Centre,
Port Burwell.

Week 1: July 14–20; **Week 2:** July 21–27; **Week 3:** August 25–31.

With a hired cook and kitchen staff to prepare three hot meals each day, Family Camp is a wonderful opportunity for Catholic families to relax together in a wholesome environment of shared vacation time. Daily opportunity for Mass and confession. Private individual cabins, a pool, walking trails, and great outdoor space. COST: \$850 per family. Financial sponsorship may be available. EMAIL: info@famfi.ca - WEBSITE: www.famfi.ca.



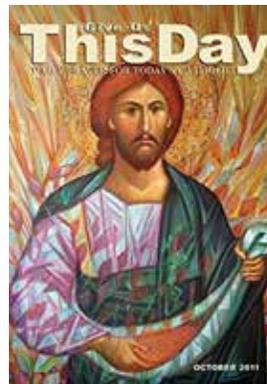
Dear God,
Thank you for your endless provisions of grace and mercy. We come to you today to lift up every woman who answers to the name of "mom." We ask that you supply each one with the strength they need for those difficult days. Give them wisdom to know when to

encourage and when to correct their children. Supply them with an extra dose of patience. Remind them that children are a heritage and a reward from You, and shower them with special moments they can cherish. Lord, we also ask that you draw them close to you daily. Remind them of their worth in Your eyes - that they, too, are cherished children of a loving Father. We pray for contentment in this very special calling. May every mom realize that this is a mission from You, one that brings truly great rewards in the end. Amen.

Give Us This Day:
Daily Prayer Booklet

Subscription for Sept 2019-Aug 2020

For a second year, this monthly guide to enhance your morning and evening prayer will be available. Readings each day include morning and evening prayers, scripture passages and a reflection, as well as the readings for the day's Mass. (Note that the American lectionary is followed.) Sample copies for June will



be available for \$2 at Masses on the weekend of May 18-19. An order form is enclosed in the sample booklets. Completed order forms, together with payment of \$40 (cash or cheque payable to St. Patrick's Church), must be returned to the office, c/o Dianne, before June 16, 2019. Shirley Ellman (email: sellman30@gmail.com) coordinates the monthly distribution of these booklets at our weekend Masses.



Blessed Frederic
Ozanam
Council 17065

Charter Night

Dinner and Dance
FINE FOOD, LUSCIOUS WINE AND GREAT MUSIC



Date : Saturday, June 29th 2019

Registration : 6:30 P.M. - 7:15 P.M.

Dinner : 7:45 P.M.

Location : St Barnabas Catholic Church
Church Hall
10 Washburn Way

Scarborough, Ontario M1B 1H3

Ticket(s) : \$40.00/ Per Person



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