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PALM SUNDAY

As he rode along, the people were spreading their cloaks on the road; the whole multitude of his disciples began to praise God aloud with joy for all the mighty deeds they had seen. - Lk 19:36, 37b

BLESSED FRÉDÉRIC OZANAM

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

WITH HEARTS AND HANDS WE SERVE

PASTOR

Fr. Ricardo Davis — ext. 8
fr.rick@blessedozanam.ca

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office@blessedozanam.ca — ext. 0

SACRAMENTAL INQUIRIES

firstcommunion@blessedozanam.ca — ext. 7
confirmation@blessedozanam.ca — ext. 6

YOUTH MINISTRY

youth@blessedozanam.ca — ext. 6

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

socialcommittee@blessedozanam.ca

COMMUNICATIONS

communications@blessedozanam.ca

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

ssvp@blessedozanam.ca — ext. 5

OUR PARISH SCHOOLS

St. Joseph CES	905-294-4045
St. Julia Billiart 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

WEEKEND MASS

Masses are celebrated at St. Br. André CHS, located at 6160 – 16th Ave., on Saturdays at 5 p.m. and Sundays at 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 12 p.m.

WEEKDAY MASS

Mass is celebrated every Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday at 12:10 p.m. at the Rhenish Church of Canada, located at 2667 Bur Oak Ave. (Bur Oak & 16th Ave.)

CONFESSION

Saturdays from 4:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. or any other time by appointment. Please contact Fr. Rick to make arrangements.

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Palm Sunday – April 10, 2022

Holy Week & Easter Schedule

Holy Thursday
Mass at 7:30 p.m.

Good Friday
Services at 12 p.m. and 3 p.m.
Stations of the Cross
following each service.

Easter Vigil
Mass at 8 p.m.

Easter Sunday
Mass at 9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m. & 12:00 p.m.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
Blessed Frederic Ozanam Council 17065

40 lbs for Lent Update:

This is the final weekend to donate perishable and non-perishable food to be given to the Markham Food Bank.

Last week's donation was 172 lbs. bringing the total to 1,685 lbs.!

Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity!

Wheelchair Program:

The Knights of Columbus cannot be more pleased with the results of your generosity for this cause. This program has never been done before at this parish, so we are all the more excited to let you know that we raised **$1013** in a single weekend.

A BIG Thank-you to you all so very much. Thank you, Fr Rick, for supporting this cause. What an amazing community we have!

Divine Mercy Novena:

The Divine Mercy Novena begins on Good Friday and lasts for 9 days. In preparation, the Knights will be distributing prayer cards before all Masses beginning with the Good Friday Services.

The prayer will be recited 20 minutes before the beginning of each Mass/service on the following dates:

- Good Friday, April 15th
- Holy Saturday, April 16th
- Easter Sunday, April 17th
- Wed. & Thurs., April 20th & 21st – weekday Masses at the Rhenish Church at 11:45 a.m.
- Saturday, April 23rd

Please refer to the Holy Week/Easter schedule for times.

SPRING SPIRITUAL RETREAT
MT. CARMEL MONASTERY
NIAGARA FALLS, ON
Friday, May 20 – Sunday, May 22, 2022
A PORTION OF THE PROCEEDS WILL BE DONATED TO OUR CHURCH BUILDING FUND.

Features include:

- 2-night stay (single or double occupancy.)
- 3 meals per day.
- Daily Mass, prayer, and Labyrinth Walk; session with Fr. Christopher Kulig.
- Workshops and interactive social activities.
- Guided stretching and Catholic meditation with fitness instructor, Indira Noro.
- Free time for excursions, sight-seeing, outlet shopping.
- Car pooling can be arranged. Free parking and Wi-Fi.

Inclusive rate per person - $425 (double), $495 (single)
For additional information, please contact the coordinator at sylvia@authenticallyevolving.com.

Click HERE for the registration form.
Limited spaces available.

Good Friday Pontifical Collection for the Holy Land

The Good Friday Collection, on April 15, 2022, is requested by the Holy See to help maintain the Christian sites of the Holy Land and to support the Church in the pastoral, educational, and social works that contribute to a sustained Christian presence in the land where Jesus the Christ once walked.

This Pontifical Collection will be taken in the parishes during the Good Friday celebration. Those who are unable to attend the service are still able to contribute online by going to canadahelps.org and searching for "Commissariat of the Holy Land", or by Interac e-transfers to terresainte@bellnet.ca. Receipts will be issued.

On behalf of the Custody of the Holy Land,
I sincerely thank you for your support,
Fr. Robert Mokry, OFM
Commissary of the Holy Land in Canada

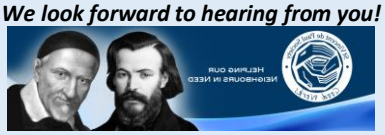
Are you looking for a meaningful form of service? We are seeking new members – parishioners who are looking for the opportunity to put their faith into action.

Help us serve our neighbours in need by sharing your interests and talents in:

- Social Justice Advocacy
- Spiritual Facilitation
- Event Coordination
- Graphic Design

If you are interested in learning more about the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, please contact us at ssvp@blessedozanam.ca or call us at (289) 554-0556 ext. 5.

We look forward to hearing from you!



Spring Spiritual Retreat at Mt. Carmel Monastery in Niagara Falls

Dave Robinson photography

A restorative experience for your mind, body & soul.

A portion of the proceeds go to Blessed Ozanam's building fund

Friday, May 20th - Sunday, May 22nd

<u>What retreat will include:</u> (Itinerary details to follow)

- **A 2 Night stay - Double or Single occupancy accommodations (shared room with single beds)**
- **3 delicious meals per day (first meal upon arrival Friday dinner, last meal Sunday lunch)**
- **Daily Masses, Prayer Sessions and Labyrinth Walk**
- **Workshops & Interactive Social Activities – Session with Fr. Christopher Kulig**
- **Guided stretching & Catholic Meditation with Fitness Instructor Indira Noro**
- **Free Time for Excursions/Site Seeing/Outlet Shopping - Free Parking and Wifi**

Authentically Evolving

Inclusive Rate per person is $425 (double occupancy) and $495 (single occupancy)
A $150 deposit will be required <u>by May 2nd</u> and balance due Monday, May 16th.

If you are interested, please complete the REGISTRATION FORM (limited spots available)

To view Mount Carmel Monastery grounds watch this video: https://youtu.be/_IPn4YnvCek

If you have any questions, please contact Co-ordinator: Sylvia@AuthenticallyEvolving.com or at 416 580-6063

Society of St. Vincent de Paul
Blessed Frédéric Ozanam Conference

14 John Lyons Rd., Markham, ON L3P 3H4
ssvp@blessedozanam.ca | (289) 554-0556 ext 5

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul (the Society) is a lay Catholic organization whose mission is to live the Gospel message by serving Christ through our neighbours in need. Members of the Society (also known as Vincentians) are committed to turning concern into action, and we provide our services with love, respect, justice, and joy. Being a member of the Society requires compassion and Vincentians put their faith into action by contributing their time and talents to the various needs of the community; our Neighbours in Need (NiNs) all have unique circumstances – so all skills and talents are valuable in our mission to help.

Unless noted as a requirement, all volunteer opportunities at the Society can be fulfilled by either full or auxiliary members. Youth members (ages 12-18) are also welcome!

We are looking for volunteers who have interest or talents in the following:

Social Justice Advocacy

- Social Justice Representatives (SJR) assist neighbours in need by bringing to light systemic issues in the community. SJRs participate in monthly Social Justice Committee meetings where local parish representatives gather to coordinate initiatives such as monthly reflections and awareness campaigns.

Spiritual Facilitation

- Spiritual Facilitators support activities that enhance the spiritual growth of their fellow Vincentians. Using readings from biblical sources, they lead meditations and discussions connecting Vincentian values and practices with our respective Faith journeys.

Event Coordination

- Interested Vincentians can support the planning, execution, and marketing/communications of Society initiatives such as Bundle Up weekends and Christmas collections.

Graphic Design

- Interested Vincentians can support the effective marketing of the Society's events by designing digital or print materials such as posters, signages, and flyers to help draw the attention and engagement of parishioners.

"No work of charity is foreign to the Society" – this is a rule that Vincentians live by. We support all members of the community regardless of their background, creed, or religious affiliation. In the same light, we welcome volunteers with diverse skills, interests, and abilities.

If you are interested in putting your faith into action by sharing your time and talents with the Society, please fill out our Volunteer Interest Form here. A member of the Society will follow-up with you in 2-3 business days.

If you cannot access the form, feel free email us at ssvp@blessedozanam.ca or call us at (289) 554-0556 ext 5.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Welcome Statement

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul – Blessed Frédéric Ozanam conference is an equal opportunity organization, and we welcome volunteers with diverse abilities. We currently host our monthly meetings via Zoom with live transcription enabled. However, if you have any other accommodation requirements, please let us know and we will do our best to ensure you can engage and participate in our charitable work.

April 10, 2022 — Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

IS 43:16-21; PS 126:1-6; PHIL 3: 8-14; JN 8:1-11

Two very different responses to our Lord's passion are highlighted during the Gospel reading from Luke today: the response of Simon of Cyrene and the response of Jesus' acquaintances. Of Simon we are told, "They took hold of a certain Simon, a Cyrenian, who was coming in from the country; and after laying the cross on him, they made him carry it behind Jesus." Whether Simon entered willingly and compassionately into this service or whether he took up the Cross of Christ with a grudge, we don't know. What we do know is this: Simon did his part faithfully. He stayed near to Christ, carrying the Cross until our Lord reached Golgotha, the site of His crucifixion. We also know that Simon's family was among the first early Christians. Staying near to Christ, embracing the Cross (quite literally), transformed his life and the life of his family.

In contrast, near the end of this Gospel account, we are told of another reaction to Jesus' passion and death, namely that "all His acquaintances stood at a distance." They knew Jesus! They had heard him preaching and teaching, witnessed His signs and miracles, maybe even benefitted personally from them. Perhaps they did not participate in mocking Him or calling for His crucifixion. But they chose to stay a safe distance from Him when the going got tough. Unlike Simon, they refused to go too near to Christ.

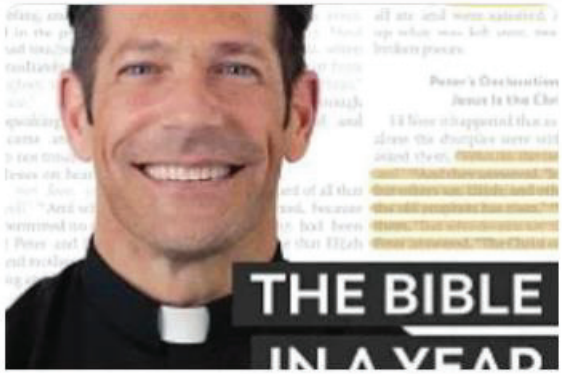
Where will you place yourself this week? Keeping your distance from all the pain and suffering Christ endured? Or close by, staying near to Him as Simon did? It is when we go near to Christ that we can be transformed by Him. It is by embracing the crosses in our lives, stewarding them well rather than trying to run from them, that we become His true disciples.

— Stewardship Reflections by *Catholic Stewardship Consultants*

STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

Loving God, I come to you in thanksgiving
knowing that all that I am and all that I have is a gift from you.
In faith and love, help me to do your will.
I am listening, Lord God.
Speak your words into the depth of my soul,
that I may hear you clearly.
I offer to you this day all the facets of my life,
whether it be at home, at work, or at school –
to be patient, to be merciful, to be generous, to be holy.
Give me the wisdom and insight
to understand your will for me
and the fervor to fulfill my good intentions.
I offer my gifts of time, talent, and possessions to you
as a true act of faith,
to reflect my love for you and my neighbour.
Help me to reach out to others as you, my God,
Have reached out to me.
Amen.

Prayer used with permission from Stewardship and Development Office, Archdiocese of Chicago.



BIBLE IN A YEAR PODCAST

Ascension Press and Fr. Mike Schmitz are walking listeners through the Bible in a year, one day at a time.

CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER

Stewardship CORNER

"...I tell you, Peter, before the cock crows this day, you will deny three times that you know me." (Luke 22:34)

How many times have you heard someone make a disparaging comment about God or our Catholic faith? How did you react? Do you remain quiet not to cause a disturbance? Or, because you don't want people to think negatively about you? Or, because you don't think you know enough about the Catholic faith? Pray for the courage to speak up and enter into a respectful dialogue when the opportunity arises. Joyfully share your faith with others.

That we may open our hearts to receive more fully all of God's simple and abundant blessings.

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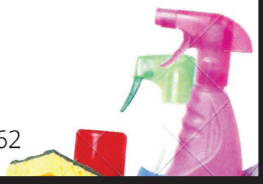

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