

# OUR LADY OF THE ANNUNCIATION PARISH MOUNT ROYAL, QUEBEC



## LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

### **Sunday Mass:**

Saturday (vigil)	5:00 pm
Sunday	10:00 am

### **Weekday Mass:**

Tuesday to Friday	8:30 am
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**Reconciliation:** Saturday 4:30-4:45 pm;  
Sunday 9:30-9:45 am, or anytime on request.

## BAPTISM

Baptisms are celebrated on the third Sunday of the month at 12 pm. It is necessary to arrange an appointment with Fr. Robert for preparation.

## MARRIAGE

Please contact the parish before setting the wedding date.

## VISITING THE SICK

Please contact Fr. Robert if you or a family member is homebound or in the hospital. He will gladly visit.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

**Pastor:** Father Robert Clark  
**Email:** fr\_robertclark@hotmail.com

**Secretary:** Mary Ohanessian

**Telephone:** 514-738-1080  
**Email:** info@annunciationparish.ca

**Parish Catechetical Leader:**  
Mary Ohanessian  
**Email:** faithed@annunciationparish.ca

**Office Hours:** Please see inside for details

**Office Entrance:** 1125 Alexander Road

**Mailing Address:** 75 Roosevelt Ave.,  
Mont-Royal, QC H3R 2G9

**Website:** www.annunciationparish.ca

**Music Director:** Lavrenti Djintcharadze

### Wardens:

2020: Fiore Egiziano, John T. Sullivan;  
2021: John Issa, Kurt Reckziegel;  
2022: Karolina Weclas, Lori-Ann Zemanovich.

As I read Matthew's gospel for today I was met with mixed emotions. The further I read into it, the more energized I became. I felt like I was in the locker room at halftime during a big game and our Head Coach was rallying the team. It was as if our Head Coach was reminding us of the plays that we had all practiced with guidance and encouragement. The further I read, the more excited I became. I especially loved the second half of the reading when he is getting us to recognize that all people are the same. This is as important in today's world as it has ever been. It speaks to racism, sexism, and every other -ism that drives disconnection within our society. It's a clear message that everyone was created by God and at the core of each person is the sameness that must be recognized (as we get out there for the second half of the game). It is a great halftime speech to pump up the team.

But, then I read the last line, "So be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect." My heart kind-of sank a bit. "How can I be perfect?" I don't think I can play the second half of the game without missing a shot, making a bad pass, or dropping the ball. It seems like a lot of pressure and I needed to sit with this for a bit to see if I could come to a better understanding.

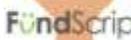
As I thought about it, I think the meaning of "perfection" that we all think about in today's culture is not the same as what Jesus is talking about in Matthew's gospel. In our society today, we all feel the pressure of performing at a high level. We seem to almost expect a "no mistake" performance from our children in school and on the playing field, with our jobs, and our finances, and in our relationships. It seems to be an evolution of our modern way of living that has progressively gotten more intense throughout the last 200 years of history. But, this cannot be what Jesus meant. His "perfection" and our "perfection" have two different meanings. I think that Jesus is talking about living within our True-Self (as Thomas Merton talked about). Our True-Self is at the core of who we are and is rooted in love because it is a gift from God – a perfect gift from God. Each of us has a True-Self, but sometimes we act out of our false-self – the one that is based on ego. When we act out of our false-self we are easily offended and see others as different from us. This "othering" is what leads to the dualism that Jesus calls us to avoid in today's gospel. But, if we act out of our True-Self, out of Love, then we see all people as having the same True-Self core, which is to say God. There is no other way to see another person than as the same, regardless of gender, race, age, color, religious belief, or political affiliation. The false-self is imperfect, but the True-Self is perfect. Great speech Coach!

Tom Lenz

Creighton University's Department of Pharmacy Practice



**FUNDSCRIP FORMS** are due this weekend. Father Robert will be happy to address any questions you have, **as well as collect your forms and payments.**



**SHROVE TUESDAY:** Lent is around the corner and we will end Ordinary Time with our traditional **Pancake Supper**, on Tuesday February 25<sup>th</sup>, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm.

Drop in to feast on pancakes and sausages before beginning our Lenten fast. Admission: non-perishable food items for our Multicaf boxes. Donations of maple syrup and dessert are much appreciated. **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** Please let us know if you have time earlier in the afternoon to flip pancakes. **CFE FAMILIES,** class is cancelled.



**ASH WEDNESDAY:** Please join us the next day as Lent begins with the distribution of ashes on Wednesday February 26 at 8:30 am or 7 pm. The Mass is only 30 minute long so please make attendance a priority. CFE families: Attendance required.

**SKATING PARTY** Several parents have expressed a desire to get to know other families in the community and suggested a skating party! Join us this Sunday February 23<sup>rd</sup> in the parish hall after Mass. We will make our way together to the Rec Centre. **Don't care to skate?** Help prepare hot chocolate and cookies for everyone! Please contact the office if you can help. CFE PARENTS: This activity counts!



**LOOKING FOR A WAY TO CONTRIBUTE TO OUR 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY?** You can make a donation using our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary envelopes found in the pews or bring in some prosecco which we will share during our Anniversary brunch on April 19<sup>th</sup>.

# Preparing for Easter

Like John the Baptist, we are each meant to prepare the way for the Lord, each in our own way and together as a community. Our three traditional Lenten practices – fasting, praying and almsgiving – help purify our souls, making a welcome home for the Holy Spirit.



## RECONCILIATION

**SERVICE: Wednesday March 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:15 pm** Open to all. Come support the children who will be making

their first confession! After a short Liturgy of the Word, several priests will be available to hear your confession. Been a while since your last confession? A little nervous? Don't let that stop you from receiving God's love through this sacrament!

A step by step guide through confession is available on the communion rail,



## GET YOUR BUCKET

**Lenten buckets** are available again this year. If you are fasting (ex. not eating sweets) or making some other sacrifice during Lent (ex. skipping your favorite television program), take a bucket from the communion rail home with you this Lent (one bucket per household please). We invite you to put the money you save because of

your sacrifice into the bucket. Return your bucket to the parish office at Easter. In previous years, the money has gone to local families in need.

## TAKE ST JOSEPH HOME!

As part of this year's vocation theme, we invite parishioners to pray for vocations in their home with a small statue of St. Joseph, provided by the parish. Sign-up sheets are available at the back of the church.

**WAY OF THE CROSS** Please join us on Fridays during Lent at 8 am as we pray the Stations of the Cross together. Please enter by 71 Roosevelt.

## CELEBRATING MARY OUR

**MOTHER:** Please join our very own Greg Doyle as he leads a rosary before Sunday Mass during the season of Lent. We will meet in front of the icon of Mary at 9:30 am. Bring your favorite rosary or use one of ours! A signup sheet is available if you would like to lead us in this prayer.

## Prayers:

**For the sick:** Rick Auclair, the Beauregard family, Jean-Pierre Belair, Mike Callard, André and Marie Coupal, Chuck Lawton, Nona Moussa, Marchita Obregon, Patricia Paul, Winston Redman, Hilda Rejwan, Nevine, Jacques Viau, Marina Zogalis.

**For vocations:** 'Be Holy, for I, the LORD, your God, am holy!' Embrace the call to holiness, and everyday will bring new adventures of following where Christ leads. (Leviticus 19:2) If you feel that God is calling you to the priesthood, please contact the Diocesan Vocations Office at 514-903-6200 for information.

## OFFICE HOURS NEXT WEEK

Tuesday, 9 am to 4 pm.  
Friday, 9 am to 12 pm.

**STEWARDSHIP:** Our collection last week was for \$1672. **Thank you** for your offerings in support of our parish as a place of Christian worship, instruction and mission.

*"But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you..."*  
(Matthew 5:44)

Love your enemies, easier said than done, no doubt. But, remember, the foundation of stewardship is prayer. When we are in close communication with God, it opens our heart and it turns our attention away from "me" and moves it towards God and others. It allows us to have a little more empathy for "our enemy." When we pray for others, even "our enemies," maybe it softens their hearts as well.

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday February 22, 2020 – Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time

5:00 pm the Arzt-Seeberger families *Hannelore Siewke*

### Sunday February 23, 2020 – Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time

10:00 am Robert Joseph Fowlie *Anne Macyshyn*

### Tuesday February 25, 2020

8:30 am Evelyn McMenamin *the Estate*

### Wednesday February 26, 2020

8:30 am Pro Populo  
7 pm Dr. John Neemeh *his family*

### Thursday February 27, 2020

8:30 am Coleman and McMenamin families *the Estate*

### Friday February 28, 2020

8:30 am Evelyn McMenamin *the Estate*

### Saturday February 29, 2020 – First Sunday of Lent

5:00 pm Pro Populo

### Sunday March 1, 2020 – First Sunday of Lent

10:00 am Marcella Magrin, Giovanni Volpato & Giancarlo Volpato *the family*



The Sanctuary Lamp signals the Presence of the Lord Jesus in the Tabernacle and burns for seven days. Have the Sanctuary Lamp memorialized in the name of a sick person, a deceased loved one, or a special intention for a donation of \$20. The amount is eligible for a tax receipt. Please contact the office to arrange a memorial for the Sanctuary Lamp.

This week the lamp burns for Rick Auclair as he continues to recover from surgery




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 \$1,145,000

**FEBRUARY**

**23 SKATING PARTY**, all are welcome, even if you do not skate.

**25 SHROVE TUESDAY: PANCAKE SUPPER**

**26 ASH WEDNESDAY 8:30 AM AND 7 PM**

**MARCH**

**1 COFFEE SUNDAY**

**8 SPRING FORWARD**

**17 CFE RESUMES**

**18 RECONCILIATION SERVICE**

.See inside for details.



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**Holy Father's Prayer Intention for February**

**Listen to the Migrants' Cries**  
 We pray that the cries of our migrant brothers and sisters, victims of criminal trafficking, may be heard and considered.

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