

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	8:30 am
Wednesday	7:00 pm
Thursday & Friday	8:30 am

Reconciliation: Saturday 4:30-4:45 pm;
Sunday 9:30-9:45 am, or anytime on request.

BAPTISM

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

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:

Mrs. Mary Ohanessian

Telephone: 514-738-1080

Email: info@annunciationparish.ca

Parish Catechetical Leader:

Mrs. Mary Ohanessian

Email: faithed@annunciationparish.ca

Office Hours: Please see inside.

Office Entrance: 1125 Alexander Road

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

Website: www.annunciationparish.ca

Music Director: Mr. Lavrenti Djintcharadze

WARDENS:

2018: Emidio De Carolis, Scot Diamond;

2019: Anthony Mancini, Lori-Ann Zemanovich;

2020: Fiore Egiziano, John T. Sullivan.

I come from a long line of gardeners. My grandfather had a garden the size of a basketball court. For the 30-plus years he served as county sheriff, my grandmother used the bushel baskets of vegetables he grew to feed those in county jail. Just think of that, garden fresh vegetables and juicy, ripe tomatoes for the county prisoners.

My dad followed suit, although his forte was starting tomatoes from seed. Each spring he would pour over the seed catalogs for the newest hybrids and heirloom tomatoes. He had a small hothouse in our backyard and would start about 250 tomato plants per year, although he only needed four for his small garden. His mom told him that if he charged his friends and neighbors for the seedlings, "they would not produce," so he gave them away.

My garden is a 4' x 12' plot, which is one of about 20 in the Creighton University Ignatian Garden located on the fringe of campus. There, I plant, weed, water and harvest my produce. Tomatoes are my specialty, too—lots of them—in fact, so many that starting in early summer, I make regular stops at the nursing home where my mother-in-law lives, and drop off dozens each week.

The hardware store I shop at already has its flower and garden seeds display set up to greet you right when you walk in, with beautiful pictures on the packets of what you can expect, if only you take the time to plant and nurture the seeds. But when you open the seed packet, at the bottom are about 20 seeds, each as small as the head of pin, an almost microscopic withered piece of matter that for all intents and purposes, looks dead. But if you plant at the right time, weed often, water frequently and have the right amount of sun, you will be blessed with a bumper crop to enjoy and share with family and friends.

Why do so many of us, like my family, have a fascination with gardening? Is it about putting fresh food on the table, or is it testing one's ability; that with diligent care and attention we can take a small, seemingly inert piece of matter and turn it into a beautiful flower or a ripe red tomato? Could it be that Jesus' focus may have been on the process it takes to produce the fruit-- the commitment a gardener must make to diligently prepare the soil, plant, water, weed and constantly tend to his garden if it is to produce much fruit when he said to Andrew and Philip, "Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit."

During our Lenten renewal, are we willing to be like garden seeds and risk being split apart so that we can renew ourselves and grow into a life rich with abundance to share with others? Are we willing to dedicate ourselves to growing our faith and our relationship with Christ so that we may become the Christians God wants us to be? Equally as important, are we willing to let the world's greatest gardener nurture us, not by sun and water, but by His never-ending love and his promise to us each and every day?

If so, then through our death and rebirth we, too, can produce much fruit, fruit that we can share with others through our service to them.

- Steve Scholer, Creighton University's University Relations, Used with Permission, Creighton Online Ministries



STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Join the growing number of parishioners praying the Stations of the Cross, **every Friday during Lent, at 8 am.** Readers and Crucifix bearers needed! Signup sheet available on the communion rail. The devotion is followed by Mass at 8:30 am.

MEDITATION GROUP meets weekly on Tuesdays at 7 pm in the boardroom via 71 Roosevelt. What is meditation? After listening to a short reflection and a hymn, we are invited to repeat *Maranatha, Come Lord Jesus* in silent prayer for 20 to 25 minutes. You will be surprised at how quickly the time passes! Everyone is welcome, children too! Please bring free to bring a friend! No prior experience required, just a desire to sit with the Lord, together in silence!



Our parish **LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE** will take place **Wednesday March 21st at 7:30 pm**, following the 7 pm Mass. Please keep the children who will be making their First Confession during Lent in your prayers. Can't remember the last time you went to confession? Let the priest know! He will be happy to walk you through the steps. The sacrament is one of healing, not shame! Not sure you're ready? Come anyways! The first step is usually the hardest.

FUNDSCRIP orders are in. Please see Father Robert to collect your cards.

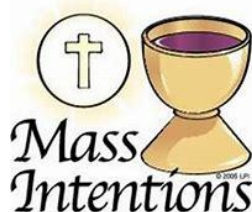




EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS: We invite you to make a donation toward our Easter Flower Fund for your personal intentions. Donations may be sent to the parish office or dropped in the collection basket. Please include on the envelope: the name of your intention or loved one (memorial) along with your name (donor). Please also include your parish envelope number if you have one. Names of loved ones and intentions will be

included in upcoming Easter bulletins. Thank you for your support!

THE NEW EVANGELIZATION SUMMIT: Live from Ottawa, streaming to St. Kevin's Parish 5600 Côte-des-Neiges, April 27 & 28. Cost: \$40. Lunch will be provided. Please contact 514-258-0227 or stkevinNES18@gmail.com for further details. Visit newevangelization.ca to register.



HAVE YOU CONSIDERED REQUESTING A MASS INTENTION? A long-standing tradition in the Catholic Church, Mass intentions can be offered in remembrance of the dead, as an intention for the living, in thanksgiving, etc. Intentions do not need to be specified, as in the case of special intentions, and the name of the person requesting the intention need not be included. Mass Intentions are available for

weekday or weekend celebrations and cost \$15 each. \$10 of every intention goes towards your donations for the year. To request a Mass intention, please call or email the Parish office.



Saturday March 17, 2018 – Fifth Sunday of Lent

5:00 pm Guiseppina Cava

her family

Sunday March 18, 2018 – Fifth Sunday of Lent

10:00 am Pro Populo

Tuesday March 20, 2018

8:30 am Gaetano Martinez

the family

Wednesday March 21, 2018

7:00 pm Evelyn McMenamin

the Estate

Thursday March 22, 2018

8:30 am Coleman and McMenamin families

the Estate

Friday March 23, 2018

8:30 am Souls in Purgatory

Rita Heddo

Saturday March 24, 2018 – Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

5:00 pm Pro Populo

Sunday March 25, 2018 – Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

10:00 am Wardé Harb and the deceased members of the El-Hage family

Leila Gharib

PRAYERS:

For the sick: Rick Auclair, the Beauregard family, Jean-Pierre Belair, André and Marie Coupal, Patricia Paul, Nevine, Jacques Viau, Judith and Marina Zogalis.

For vocations:

We should like to see Jesus. Where and how do you see Jesus? Pray for a clear vision of Jesus in the Body of Christ that surrounds us: in the poor, the outcast, the suffering. Pray for the grace to stand with them. (John 12:20-33). If you feel that God is calling you to the priesthood, please contact the Diocesan Vocations Office at 514-903-6200 for information.

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Tues/Thurs/ Fri: 8:30 am;
Wednesday: 7 pm.

Please use 71 Roosevelt.

STEWARDSHIP:

Our collection last week was for \$3,280. Our Second Collection was for \$745. Thank you for your offerings in support of our parish as a place of Christian worship, instruction and mission.

"I will be their God and they shall be my people." - JEREMIAH 31:33

What does it mean to be God's people? It means we recognize that everything we have and everything we are belongs to God. We aren't "owners" of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts God has given us. It means we are willing to use our gifts and our lives to care for our neighbors and the world, just as God cares for us.



The Sanctuary Lamp signals the Presence of the Lord Jesus in the Tabernacle and burns for seven days. We invite you to have the Sanctuary Lamp memorialized in the name of a sick person, a deceased loved one, or a special intention for a donation of \$20.00. The full amount is eligible for a tax receipt. Please contact the office to arrange a memorial for the Sanctuary Lamp. **This week** the Sanctuary Lamp burns for the intention of the Holy Father – see back cover for details.



MARCH

STATIONS OF THE CROSS
Fridays, 8 am, during Lent,
 before the 8:30 am Mass.

CFE Schedule:

- Class March 20, 4:15 pm
- no class March 27 for Holy Week

17-18 Fundscrip orders are in.

18 Green Coffee Sunday in
 honour of St. Patrick.
 Coffee and sweets provided.

20 CFE class, 4:15 pm
Meditation group, 7 pm.

21 Reconciliation Service,
 7:30 pm following the 7 pm
 Mass.

Please see inside the bulletin for
 more details.

Holy Father's Prayer Intention for March

Formation in Spiritual Discernment:

That the Church may appreciate
 the urgency of formation in
 spiritual discernment, both on
 the personal and communitarian
 levels.



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**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO
 ADVERTISE IN THE
 BULLETIN,
 PLEASE CONTACT THE
 PARISH OFFICE.
 RECOMMEND US TO A LOCAL
 BUSINESS THAT YOU FREQUENT
 REGULARLY.**



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