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### PARISH OFFICE

**Office Entrance:** 1125 Alexander Road  
**Pastor:** Father Robert Clark  
Email: fr\_robertclark@hotmail.com  
**Administrator:** Mrs. Regina Farrell  
Email: info@annunciationparish.ca  
**Administrative Assistant:** Mrs. Mary Sinnett  
**Choir Director:** Ms. Sandra D'Angelo  
**Maintenance Manager:** Mr. Jean Grignon  
**Sacristan:** Mr. Emilio Fontanilla  
**Office Hours:** Tuesday 9:00-12:00, Wednesday and Thursday 9:00-16:00, Friday 9:00-12:00

### EUCCHARISTIC CELEBRATIONS

**Saturday Vigil:** 17:00  
**Sunday:** 10:00  
**Monday:** No Mass  
**Tuesday to Friday:** 8:30

### SACRAMENTS

**BAPTISMS:** It is necessary to arrange an appointment with Fr. Robert for preparation. Baptisms are scheduled on an individual basis.  
**RECONCILIATION:** Saturday 16:15-16:45; Sunday 9:15-9:45, or anytime on request.  
**MARRIAGE:** Contact the office before setting the wedding date. Marriage preparation course and meetings with Fr. Robert are required.  
**ANointing OF THE SICK:** Please contact Fr. Robert if you or a family member is ill at home or in the hospital. He will gladly visit.

### WARDENS

Emidio De Carolis, David Flood, Anthony Mancini, Scot Diamond, Winston Redman, John Sullivan.

## Our Lady of the Annunciation Parish

75 Roosevelt Avenue, Town of Mount Royal, Quebec  
Phone: 514-738-1080 Fax: 514-738-1493  
Website: www.annunciationparish.ca

### Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

25 January 2015

#### To Recognize God's Call

As He begins His mission, Jesus brings discipleship down to its essentials: "Repent, and believe in the gospel." It is the same message proclaimed by John, and throughout all of salvation history. It tells us one essential truth that we care not to admit. The depth of our faith, of our love for Jesus, depends on our willingness to admit our sinfulness.

What makes this even more difficult is our culture's deep desire for perfection. We want the perfect body, the big house in the right neighborhood, the right friends, thinking that if all of our material desires are satisfied, we will find happiness. As Christians we know that only God is perfect and that He alone can fulfill our deepest desires. Trusting in God is made even more difficult by the discomfort we feel when approaching the confessional. We so easily fall into the trap of feeling humiliated rather than humble. Our greatest comfort is that God never rejects our apology; He does not hold a grudge. We see this clearly in our first reading.

The people of Nineveh are so lost in sin that they were to be destroyed in forty days. Even through their sinfulness, they heard God speaking to them through Jonah and all were converted that first day. Their response was complete, as was God's: "When God saw what they did, that they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it." This urgency is notable in today's gospel reading.

According to St. Mark, the Apostles response to Jesus' call is immediate: "...they abandoned their nets...they left their father...and followed him." They recognized Him because they knew Him having been immersed in their Jewish faith. They were prepared by the prophets leading up to John the Baptist to receive the Word in the flesh. They responded fully to Him because they had already encountered Him intimately – in prayer. These simple men worshipped together in their synagogue, made the necessary pilgrimages to Jerusalem, prayed the Shema daily – but more importantly, they had a personal relationship with the living God. Worship was not another item on their to-do list. It was their very 'raison d'être.'

So, why bother with confession? Why come to Mass? Because we have to? To appease God? Rather, to recognize Him when He calls us, that we may be willing to drop everything and follow Him without reservation, that we may repent so as to believe.

Mary Ohanessian  
Assistant DRE

## PRAYERS:

**For the sick:** Jean-Pierre Belair, Madeleine Coté, Madeline Cummings, Patricia Lemieux, Maria da Luz Madeira, Carmel MacDonald, Miguel Madeira, Lolita Matheson, Sammy Sinnett, Trudi Stanley, Father Joseph P. Sullivan, His Eminence Jean-Claude Cardinal Turcotte, Jacques Viau

**For those who have died:** Raymond Barakett, Michael Trihey, Sarah Ratchford

**For vocations:** *Come after Me.* Jesus called Andrew and Peter and James and John. He calls still in our day. Are you willing to drop your nets and follow? (Mark 1:14-20)

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**GOD'S COVENANTAL RELATIONSHIP WITH HIS PEOPLE:** Father Robert will lead a study and discussion group, looking at the meaning of Covenant and how it pertains to our relationship with Him. Recommended reading: Jesus the Bridegroom – the Greatest Love Story Ever Told by Brant Pitre, however, there is plenty of time to read as we will not be discussing the book until after several sessions. The first meeting will take place in the boardroom on Wednesday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m., at which time the schedule for future meetings will be determined. Everyone is welcome.

**VERA DANYLUK PASTORAL LIBRARY:** We are grateful to parishioners who have donated books to the library recently, however, please do not shelve donated books, but leave them on the table so that they can be catalogued first. We also have updated our Amazon.ca Wish List (search Our Lady of the Annunciation) for those who might wish to donate new books. Our collection continues to grow and we have a wide variety of books for adults and children, including classic titles and recent publications. All parishioners are welcome to browse and borrow. Simply sign out your selection on the form provided in the library.

**DONATIONS FOR THE HOMELESS:** At the initiative of a couple of Loyola High School students, a new collection for the homeless will be taking place. We will be setting up a donation box at the main entrance of the church to gather items of clothing that many people without shelter need. Many homeless people especially need clothes like socks and mittens, hats and even boots (these expensive items are hard to come by for the homeless) and not so much big jackets. The items that we will be donating will change each season as needs arise. This box will be emptied every two weeks and sent to the Salvation Army. We appreciate all your support on this new project for our church. Thank you.



## **24-HOUR PRAYER FOR A NEW SPRING OF THE CONSECRATED LIFE:**

Starting with a thanksgiving mass for consecrated life in Quebec and ending with a solemn mass presided by our Archbishop, Mgr. Christian Lépine, this 24-hour prayer will take place at the Sanctuaire du Saint Sacrement, 500 avenue du Mont-Royal Est, in Montreal, beginning Saturday, January 31, at 12 pm, and will end with the celebration on Sunday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, at 11 am. The celebration will be

followed by a community lunch in the crypt, where everyone is asked to bring their lunch.

**CATHOLIC PARENTS ASSOCIATION:** You are invited to join us as we explore and learn more about the Catholic Church's teaching on human sexuality, including St. John Paul II's writings from "The Theology of the Body". With Marie Grant Bourque as presenter and organized by the Catholic Parents Association/English Section of APCQ, this workshop will be sure to inspire parents, in order to guide them in talking about the topic to their children with assurance and knowledge. Join us on Tuesday, January 27, 7pm at Our Lady of Mont Carmel Parish (7645 du Mans St., St. Leonard). Contact the APCQ English Sector at [apcq.englishsection@gmail.com](mailto:apcq.englishsection@gmail.com).

## **MASS INTENTIONS**

### **Saturday, January 24 – Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

5:00PM Pro Populo Father Robert

### **Sunday, January 25 – Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

10:00AM Margaret Farrell The Sinnett Family

### **Tuesday, January 27**

8:30AM Coleman and McMenamin families The Estate

### **Wednesday, January 28**

8:30AM Evelyn McMenamin The Estate

### **Thursday, January 29**

8:30AM Florence Evans The Estate

### **Friday, January 30**

8:30AM Coleman and McMenamin families The Estate

### **Saturday, January 31 – Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

5:00PM Pro Populo Father Robert

### **Sunday, February 1 – Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

10:00AM Raphael Harb and Harb family Jeannette Harb

**STEWARDSHIP:** Our collection last weekend was \$1590.00. Our second collection was \$545.00. Thank you for your offerings in support of our parish as a place of Christian worship, instruction and mission.

**STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION:** *"Follow me and I will make you fishers of men."* – Mark 1:17 Jesus' call to *"Follow me"* is a call to all Christians! Jesus asks us to help Him build his church on earth by generously sharing all our gifts of prayer, talent and treasure. Remember, Jesus calls us to generously develop and share all our gifts, not just the ones we pick and choose.

## **SANCTUARY LAMP:**



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 weekly donation of \$20.00. Please call the office to arrange a memorial for the sanctuary lamp.

This week the Sanctuary Lamp burns for the speedy recovery of Ivy DeFontes, requested by Mary Burke.