

## MASS TIMES

Saturday @ 5:00 pm

Sunday @ 10:30 am

(incl. Children's Liturgy)

Tuesday & Wednesday

@ 7:00 pm

*(Devotion to Our Lady of  
Perpetual Help every Wed.)*

Thursday & Friday

@ 9:00 am

## St. Willibrord Roman Catholic Church

351 Willibrord Ave., Verdun, Qc. H4G 2T7

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Website: [www.stwillibrordparish.org](http://www.stwillibrordparish.org)



**February 22, 2015**

**1st Sunday of Lent**

### **Announced Masses**

Saturday February 21

† **Mary Josephine Harty**

By The Parishioners

† **Mark Norbi Pimentel**

By Brenda Cambaliza

† **Porferia Rosal  
and Elvin Agbalog**

By Isabel Rosal

† **Souls in Purgatory**

By Estanislao Cabana

Sunday February 22

† **Marjorie Lopez**

By Parents John Lopez &

Marcela Ellasos

† **Mary Josephine Harty**

By The Parishioners

Tuesday February 24

**In Thanksgiving**

By Marcela Ellasos

Wednesday February 25

**Pro Populo**

Thursday February 26

**Pro Populo**

Friday February 27

**For the Challenge Weekend**

By Anonymous

Saturday February 28

**Pro Populo**

Sunday March 1

**Pro Populo**

**Meditation:** What is the significance of Jesus spending 40 days and nights of solitude, prayer and fasting in the Judean wilderness? In the Old Testament 40 days was often seen as a significant period of testing and preparation for entering into a covenant relationship with God. In the days of Noah, God judged the earth and destroyed its inhabitants in a great flood because of their idolatry and total rejection of God. Noah and his family were spared because they obeyed God and took refuge in the ark for 40 days. When the flood subsided God made a covenant with Noah and promised that he would not destroy the human race again. Jesus came to fulfill that promise.

### ***Forty days of retreat to seek the face of God***

When God freed the Israelites from slavery in Egypt he brought them into the wilderness of Sinai. Moses went to the mountain of the Lord at Sinai and remained there in prayer and fasting for 40 days (Exodus 24:18). At the conclusion of this 40 day encounter God made a covenant with Moses and the people. After the prophet Elijah had confronted the sin of idolatry (the worship of false gods) in the land of Israel and destroyed the 400 priests of Baal (1 Kings 18:20-40), he fled into the wilderness and journeyed for 40 days to the mountain of God at Sinai (1 Kings 19:8). There God spoke with Elijah and commissioned him to pass on the work of restoring the worship of the one true God in the land. After Jesus was anointed by the Spirit in the waters of the Jordan River, he journeyed to the wilderness of Judea for 40 days to prepare himself for the mission which the Father sent him to accomplish - to offer up his life as the perfect atoning sacrifice for our sins. Through the shedding of his blood on the cross he won for us a new and everlasting covenant which fulfilled and surpassed all the previous covenants which God had made with his people.

### ***God's Word and Spirit sustains those who seek God's will***

Matthew, Mark, and Luke tell us in their Gospel accounts that Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit into the wilderness. Mark states it most emphatically: "The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness" (Mark 1:12). Why was Jesus compelled to seek solitude for such a lengthy period? Was it simply a test to prepare him for his ministry? Or did Satan want to lure him into a trap? The word *tempt* in English usually means to entice to sin or wrong-doing. The scriptural word here also means *test* in the sense of proving and purifying someone to see if they are ready for the task at hand. We test pilots to see that they are fit to fly. Likewise God tests his servants to see if they are fit to be used by him.

[www.rc.net](http://www.rc.net)

**CONFESSIONS** will be heard 15 minutes before each Mass ~ weekdays, as well as on weekends.

**BAPTISM INFORMATION** Parents wishing to have their child baptized are asked to contact the Parish Office at 514-769-9678. A meeting with Parents and Godparents is a pre-requisite. Godparents must be baptized and confirmed in the Catholic Faith to be eligible.

## ST. WILLIBRORD ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Pastor

**Fr. Gregory Nunez**

#### Board of Wardens

Joseph Brisindi  
Angèle LaFlèche  
Paul Moreau  
Marcellina Daniel  
Emilia Gohing  
Jonathan Trabajada

#### Office Staff

Bernadette Roach  
Yvonne Pelling (mat. leave)  
*Administration*  
Terrel Joseph  
*Youth Ministry*  
Julian Paparella  
*Youth Ministry*

#### Mass Intentions

There are many Masses available for intentions, weekday and weekends. For your convenience please fill out a Mass intention envelope found at the back of the church and return to the office or Fr. Gregory.

#### **Let us pray for the immediate recovery of:**

Dale Parsons, Dan Boyer, Mary Paul, Joe Brisindi, Sue Mullins, Jennifer, and Bella.

#### Thank you!

*Thank you to Ruth Laxina, Cora Garlando, Ging Ging, Beng Bolofer, and Fely Quiocho for cleaning the Rectory!*

*Thank you to Jonas Bolofer and Pedro Quiocho for plastering the Rectory!*

**We greatly appreciate the hard work of all our volunteers!**

#### LENT

During this holy season of Lent, the Church invites us to unite ourselves more closely to Christ through **prayer, fasting, and almsgiving** (or acts of generosity). These are the three practices Jesus himself recommended for us as ways to constantly repent and reorient our lives to our heavenly Father. All of us are encouraged to **make room for the Lord in our lives**, and place him at the centre of all we do throughout our week. Let us take time to pray, fast, and be generous throughout this week and throughout this sacred season.

#### WAY OF THE CROSS: Fridays in Lent at 7pm

To prepare our hearts for the suffering of Christ on Good Friday, St. Willibrord's will hold the **Stations of the Cross** every **Friday at 7pm** throughout the Lenten season. Join us this Friday as we pray together and journey with Jesus to Calvary.

#### BIBLE STUDY

Join us for our next session of Bible Study this **Thursday, February 26 at 6:30** with **Dr. Nathan Gibbard**. This is an opportunity for all our parishioners to engage with the Bible so they can be more active in their faith. Everyone is invited. Free babysitting is available to those with children.

#### CHALLENGE RETREAT

Next weekend, **February 27th to March 1st**, St. Willibrord's will host the next Challenge Retreat for young adults ages 18-30! Please keep all those who will be participating in your prayers! The Challenge Movement is very grateful for the hospitality of St. Willibrord's! To learn more, visit [montrealchallenge.ca](http://montrealchallenge.ca)

#### THINKING ABOUT WHAT TO DO FOR LENT?

All English-speaking Catholics in Montreal are invited to a **diocesan-wide Lenten Mission on March 17th, 18th, and 19th**. The mission is titled *The Catholic Faith and You!* The preacher will be Bishop Thomas Dowd, Auxiliary Bishop of Montreal. We will begin each evening at **7 p.m.** at **Transfiguration of Our Lord Parish** (11775 Filion, Montreal H4J 1T4). For more information, contact: Corey Jolly 514-931-7311 ext. 251 / [cjolly@diocesemontreal.org](mailto:cjolly@diocesemontreal.org)

#### SYNOD ON THE FAMILY: LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!

Following the Synod of Bishops on the Family this past fall, and in preparation for the second session this coming October, Pope Francis has requested the involvement of the whole Church, and **especially of lay men and women living in families**, in order to understand the **challenges facing the family** in the modern world. We invite you to take part in a **questionnaire** which has been sent by the Vatican to all the diocese of the world and make your voice heard. Visit [www.diocesemontreal.org/blogues/synodfamily](http://www.diocesemontreal.org/blogues/synodfamily) to complete the survey online.