

## Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 14th, 2020, 5:00PM

†Souls in Purgatory by Adeline Doyle

For the Intentions of Anahita, Leila, Azadeh, Mathieu and Thanksgiving by Anahita and Azadeh

Sunday, March 15th, 2020, 10:30AM

† Robert (Bob) Vogeley by Betty Luyten-Friedman

For Pedro, Anahita, Ozra, Mora, Mathieu and thanks giving by Anahita  
Thanksgiving and Birthday Blessings for Amalia Edralin & †Pablo Gutherrez  
By Amalia Edralin

Tuesday, March 17th, 2020, 7:00PM

Pro Populo

Wednesday, March 18th, 2020, 7:00PM

Mohammad, Zadaskar, Anahita, Mathieu and their family by Anahita, Ozra and Azadeh

Thursday, March 19th, 2020, 9:00AM

For the intentions of Mrs. Elisabeth Langenbach

Friday, March 20th, 2020, 9:00 AM

Mohammad, Zadaskar, Kouroush, Ali, Mathieu and their families by Anahita

Saturday, March 21st, 2020, 5:00PM

Anahita, Mathieu, Behman, Arvin, Alberto and their families by Anahita

Sunday, March 22nd, 2020, 10:30AM

†Debbie Leonard by Barbara and Cathy Desautels

Azadeh, Anihita, Esmat, Fatemeh, Masoomah and families by Mohammad, Ozra and Anahita

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### Prayer Before Mass

Receive, O Holy Trinity, One God, this Holy Sacrifice of the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which I, Your unworthy servant, desire now to offer to Your Divine Majesty by the hands of this Your minister, with all the Sacrifices which have ever been or will be offered to You, in union with that most Holy Sacrifice offered by the same Christ our Lord at the Last Supper, and on the Altar of the Cross.

I offer it to You with the utmost affection of devotion, out of pure love for Your infinite goodness, and according to the most holy intention of the same Christ our Lord, and of our Holy Mother the Church.

O God, almighty and merciful, grant us through this Holy Sacrifice, joy and peace, a holier life, time to do penance, grace and consolation of the Holy Spirit, and perseverance in good works. Amen.

<https://www.catholic.org/prayers/prayer.php?p=126>

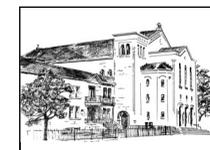
St. Willibrord Roman Catholic Church

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

Tel: 514-769-9678 Fax: 514-761-1717

Email: [stwillibrordparish@videotron.ca](mailto:stwillibrordparish@videotron.ca) Website: [www.stwillibrordparish.org](http://www.stwillibrordparish.org)

Facebook: Find us under "Willibrord Parish Verdun QC"



### March 15, 2020 —Third Sunday in Lent

Sunday (March 15): **A spring of water welling up to eternal life**

**Meditation:** Would you do a favor for someone who snubbed you or treated you like an enemy? Jesus did just that and more! He treated the Samaritans, the sworn enemies of the Jews, with great kindness and respect. The Samaritans who lived in middle region of Israel between Galilee and Judaea and the Jews who lived in the rest of the land of Israel had been divided for centuries. They had no dealings with one another, avoiding all social contact, even trade, and inter-marriage. If their paths crossed it would not be unusual for hostility to break out.

When Jesus decided to pass through Samaria he stopped at Jacob's well because it was mid-day and he was both tired from the journey and thirsty. Jacob's well was a good mile and a half from the nearest town, called Sychar. It wasn't easy to draw water from this well since it was over a hundred feet deep. Jesus had neither rope nor bucket to fetch the water.

When a Samaritan woman showed up at the well, both were caught by surprise. Why would a Samaritan woman walk a mile and a half in the mid-day heat to fetch her water at a remote well rather than in her local town? She was an outcast and not welcomed among her own townspeople. Jesus then did something no respectable Jew would think of doing. He reached out to her, thus risking ritual impurity and scorn from his fellow Jews. He also did something no strict Rabbi would dare to do in public without loss to his reputation. He treated the woman like he would treat one of his friends - he greeted her and spoke at length with her. Jesus' welcoming approach to her was scandalous to both Jews and Samaritans because this woman was an adulteress and public sinner as well. No decent Jew or Samaritan would even think of being seen with such a woman, let alone exchanging a word with her! Jesus broke through the barriers of prejudice, hostility, and tradition to bring the good news of peace and reconciliation to Jews, Samaritans, and Gentiles alike. He demonstrated the universality of the gospel both in word and deed. No one is barred from the love of God and the good news of salvation. There is only one thing that can keep us from God and his redeeming love - our stubborn pride and wilful rebellion.

What is the point of Jesus' exchange with the Samaritan woman about water? Water in the arid land was scarce. Jacob's well was located in a strategic fork of the road between Samaria and Galilee. One can live without food for several days, but not without water. Water is a source of life and growth for all living things. When rain came to the desert, the water transformed the wasteland into a fertile field. The kind of water which Jesus spoke about was living, running, fresh, pure water. Fresh water from a cool running stream was always preferred to the still water one might find in a pool or reservoir. When the Israelites complained about lack of water in the wilderness, God instructed Moses to strike the rock and a stream of fresh living water gushed out (Exodus 17:6). Even though the Israelites did not trust God to care for them in the wilderness, God, nonetheless gave them abundant water and provision through the intercession of his servant Moses.

The image of "living water" is used throughout the scriptures as a symbol of God's wisdom, a wisdom that imparts life and blessing to all who receive it. "The teaching of the wise is a fountain of life" (Proverbs 13:14). "Living water" was also a symbol for the Jews of thirst of the soul for God. The water which Jesus spoke of symbolized the Holy Spirit and his work of recreating us in God's image and sustaining in us the new life which comes from God. The life which the Holy Spirit produces in us makes us a "new creation" in Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17). Do you thirst for God and for the life of the Holy Spirit within you?

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Pastor  
Fr. Gregory Nunez

Office Staff  
Anastasia  
Wargachuk  
Administration

Feb 1 & 2—  
\$835.60  
Feb 8-9—\$440.55  
Feb.15-16—  
\$663.75  
Feb 22-23—  
\$750.00  
Feb 26—\$90.85  
Feb 29-March 1—  
\$854.30

**ST WILLIBRORD  
PARISH**

Mass Schedule

Saturday: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 10:30 am

(incl. Children's  
Liturgy)

Tuesday: 7:00 pm  
**(Rector)**

Wednesday:  
7:00 pm

Thursday: 9:00 am  
**(Rector)**

Friday: 9:00am  
**(Rector)**

Adoration  
9:30am to 11:30am  
**(Rector)**

Please note the  
Mass, on Tuesday,  
Thursday and  
Friday will be held  
in the Rector

**Feast of St Patrick** Feast day: March 17 Patron: of Ireland  
Birth: 387 — Death: 461

St. Patrick of Ireland is one of the world's most popular saints. He was born in Roman Britain and when he was fourteen or so, he was captured by Irish pirates during a raiding party and taken to Ireland as a slave to herd and tend sheep. At the time, Ireland was a land of Druids and pagans but Patrick turned to God and wrote his memoir, *The Confession*. In *The Confession*, he wrote:

"The love of God and his fear grew in me more and more, as did the faith, and my soul was roused, so that, in a single day, I have said as many as a hundred prayers and in the night, nearly the same. I prayed in the woods and on the mountain, even before dawn. I felt no hurt from the snow or ice or rain."

Patrick's captivity lasted until he was twenty, when he escaped after having a dream from God in which he was told to leave Ireland by going to the coast. There he found some sailors who took him back to Britain and was reunited with his family.

A few years after returning home, Patrick saw a vision he described in his memoir:

"I saw a man coming, as it were from Ireland. His name was Victorius, and he carried many letters, and he gave me one of them. I read the heading: 'The Voice of the Irish.' As I began the letter, I imagined in that moment that I heard the voice of those very people who were near the wood of Foelut, which is beside the western sea-and they cried out, as with one voice: 'We appeal to you, holy servant boy, to come and walk among us.'"

The vision prompted his studies for the priesthood. He was ordained by St. Germanus, the Bishop of Auxerre, whom he had studied under for years, and was later ordained a bishop and sent to take the Gospel to Ireland.

Patrick arrived in Slane, Ireland on March 25, 433. There are several legends about what happened next, with the most prominent claiming he met the chieftan of one of the druid tribes, who tried to kill him. After an intervention from God, Patrick was able to convert the chieftain and preach the Gospel throughout Ireland. There, he converted many people -eventually thousands - and he began building churches across the country.

He often used shamrocks to explain the Holy Trinity and entire kingdoms were eventually converted to Christianity after hearing Patrick's message.

Patrick preached and converted all of Ireland for 40 years. He worked many miracles and wrote of his love for God in Confessions. After years of living in poverty, traveling and enduring much suffering he died March 17, 461.

He died at Saul, where he had built the first Irish church. He is believed to be buried in Down Cathedral, Downpatrick. His grave was marked in 1990 with a granite stone.

[https://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint\\_id=89](https://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=89)

**ST. WILLIBRORD ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**

**Sign of Peace**

The congregation is invited to extend a sign of peace in a manner other than by shaking hands.

Lenten Season and Way of the Cross at St Willibrord Parish

The Way of the Cross is a devotion that reminds us again and again that God became one of us, even unto death. Let us take the time this Friday and every Friday during this Lenten season to pray and acknowledge His gift freely given for our salvation.

Please join us for an Indoor Way of the Cross, Friday, at 7:00PM.

**Anniversary and Birthday Blessings to** all anniversary and birthday celebrants.

**Happy Birthday to:**

**Thank you to** Mike, Maria G., Ann, Jonas, Nonong, Cora, Ogaga  
and all of our volunteers and benefactors

**DATE(S) TO REMEMBER**

**Sacramental Preparation:** Sunday, March 8, 2020, at 9:00AM in the Church;  
followed by March 22, 2020, at 9:00AM in the Church (enter side door).

**Acolytes Meeting:** Saturday, March 21, 2020, at 9:00AM, in the rectory

**Flea Market:** Saturday, April 4, 2020, 9:00AM to 3:00PM



**St Thomas More Parish is holding their 65th annual St. Patrick's Concert**

Friday evening, March 20th at 8pm in the parish hall, 978 Moffat Ave (corner of Bannantyne & Moffat), Verdun. There will be Irish Music, Irish Dancers and many surprises.

Admission is \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children and tickets may be purchased at the door.



Filipino Catholic Mission of Montreal, Jeatro Lorenzo presents

The Passion of Christ

April 5, 2020, 5:00pm

At Vanier College Auditorium 821 Saint Croix Ave, St Laurent, QC H4L 3X9

Donation \$20

Tickets available at the office or by calling: 514-567-5981

**COME AND SEE EVENING - for the Call to the Priesthood**

The next 'Come and See' Evening will be taking place on **Friday, March 20, 2020 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** These gatherings are intended for men who are discerning a **vocation** to follow Jesus as a priest. These evenings are an excellent opportunity for those who are discerning a call to the **priesthood** to share in fellowship and to explore their **call** together. Gatherings take place at **Our Lady of the Annunciation Parish** (71 Roosevelt Avenue, Ville Mont-Royal, H3R 2G9). For information or to reserve a spot, please contact **Fr. Robert Clark at 514-903-6200 or mtlvocations@hotmail.com**

**CONFESSIONS** will be heard 15 minutes before each Mass weekdays and on weekends.

**BAPTISM** 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 Church.

**MARRIAGE** Please contact the Parish Office or Father Gregory well in advance, as it is important to reserve the church before the Hall.