

MASS TIMES

Saturday @ 5:00 pm

Sunday @ 10:30 am

(incl. Children's Liturgy)

Tues @ 7:00 pm (Rector)

Wed @ 7:00 pm

Thursday & Friday

@ 9:00 am

Adoration Fridays 9:30-11:30

St. Willibrord Roman Catholic Church

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

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March 6, 2016

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Announced Masses

Saturday March 5th

† **Teddy Campeau**

By Adeline Doyle

† **Salvacion Doblado—**

Edgar Iguia

By Mr. & Mrs. Dindo Doblado

Sunday March 6th

† **Louise Matthew**

By Angela Choi
& Patrick Lau

Tuesday March 8th

† **Epifanio Basilan**

By Mayet & Rose Basilan

Wednesday March 9th

† **Kent Kong**

By Angela Choi
& Patrick Lau

Thursday March 10th

PRO POPULO

Friday March 11th

Saturday March 12th

† **Souls in Purgatory**

By Adeline Doyle

Sunday March 13th

Meditation: *The merciful Father who welcome home his lost son*

Jesus illustrates this *passover* from slavery to sin and condemnation to freedom and new life in Christ with the longest parable recorded in the Gospels (Luke 15:11-32). What is the main point of Jesus' story about two ungrateful sons and their extravagant loving father? Is it the contrast between a grudging obedient son and a rebellious son who had wished his father was dead? Or the warm reception given to a spendthrift son and the cold reception given by the eldest son? Jesus does contrast the eldest son's cold and aloof reception for his errant brother with the father's warm embrace and lavish homecoming party for his repentant son. While the errant son had wasted his father's money, his father, nonetheless, maintained unbroken love for his son. The son, while he was away, learned a lot about himself. And he realized that his father had given him love which he had not returned. He had yet to learn about the depth of his father's love for him.

His deep humiliation at finding himself obliged to feed on the husks of pigs and his reflection on all he had lost, led to his repentance and decision to declare himself guilty before his father. While he hoped for reconciliation with his father, he could not have imagined a full restoration of relationship. The father did not need to speak words of forgiveness to his son; his actions spoke more loudly and clearly! The beautiful robe, the ring, and the festive banquet symbolize the new life - pure, worthy, and joyful - of every person who returns to God.

Forgiven and restored to new life

The prodigal could not return to the garden of innocence, but he was welcomed and reinstated as a son who had been missed much and greatly loved by his father. The errant son's dramatic change from grief and guilt to forgiveness and restoration express in picture-language the resurrection from the dead which Jesus makes possible to everyone who believes in him, a re-birth to new life from death.

The parable also contrasts mercy and its opposite - unforgiveness. The father who had been wronged, was forgiving. But the eldest son, who had not been wronged, was unforgiving. His unforgiveness turns into spiteful pride and contempt for his brother. And his resentment leads to his isolation and estrangement from the community of forgiven sinners.

God's mercy and kindness knows no bounds

In this parable Jesus gives a vivid picture of God and what God is like. God is truly kinder than any of us. He does not lose hope or give up when we stray from him. He is always on the lookout for those who have a change of heart and want to return. He rejoices in finding the lost and in welcoming them home. Do you know the joy of repentance and the restoration of relationship as a son or daughter of your heavenly Father? - rc.net

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor
Fr. Gregory Nunez

Office Staff
Julian Paparella
Administration and PCL

Collections
Feb 6-7/16—\$2317.70
Flea Market—\$2510.75
Feb 13-14/16—\$977.50
Feb 20-21/16—\$1053.50
Feb 27-28/16—\$1191.80

We pray for the healing and peace of all our sick, Flo Davies, Adeline Doyle, Adrienne Coombs, Sterling Smith, Joe Brisindi, Dan Boyer, Rita Riley, Marie-Paul, Rickie Walsh, Muriel Boutin, and Joey Walsh. God is with you always.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all those who volunteered and participated in PREX VI! God bless you!

Thank you to Evelyn and Arthur Gilchrist, Ruth Laxina and Cora Garlando for all their work cleaning our Church and Rectory!

Thank you to Mike for cleaning the hall and soup kitchen and shoveling the snow!

Thank you for Jonathan Trabajada and Jorge Reginales

Thank you to our ALPHA volunteers and catechists for the children!

PREX VI—CONCLUDES TODAY!!!

Our sixth Parish Renewal Experience concludes today!
Congratulations to all our participants!

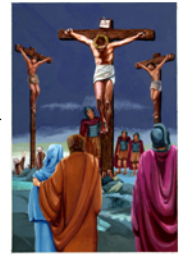
Andres Acevedo, Mayet Basilan, Janet Bulseco, Bernard Burcena, Marilou Caspe, Nonong Comodero, Kay Desa, Imelda Estigoy, Franklin Ezemmaduka, Samuel Farrugia, Ruth Laxina, Marcela (Celly) Lopez, Pepito Mendoza, Arturo Meriales, Helen Nunez, and Juliet Quiocho.

Please continue to pray for them and for the renewal of our parish
Special thanks to our Lead Couple: Marcellina Daniel and Anastasia Wargachuk!



FIRST FRIDAY PASSION CONCERT

Thank you to all those who attended our First Friday Passion Concert. Let us continue to prepare ourselves to celebrate the suffering and resurrection of our Lord during these forty days of our Lenten journey..



ALPHA and Faith in the Family!



Thank you to all those who joined us this morning at ALPHA and Faith in the Family! Our next session is **Sunday, March 20th!** Let us continue to grow as a family.

Symbolon and Bible Study continue every Thursday!

Join Father Gregory Thursday evenings at 6:30 for Bible Study and 7:30 for Symbolon, both in the Rectory! We are currently studying the Acts of the Apostles and have a new Symbolon topic each week! Come and see!

Thank you to all our Flea Market vendors and volunteers!

Thank you for another successful Flea Market, the next will be Saturday, April 2nd! Thank you for supporting our parish!

ST. JOHN BRÉBEUF PARISH: COFFEE HOUSE CONCERT FUNDRAISER

All proceeds will go towards the sponsorship of a Syrian refugee family by the parishes of St. John Brébeuf and St. John Bosco. This wonderful evening of music will be held on **Sunday, March 6 at 7:00 pm (7777 George St., LaSalle H8P 1C8).** Doors open at 6:15pm. The concert will feature the *Aurora Choralis Choir, Gameday Quartet, Nathalie and Pamela Khoriaty, Larry Cassini* and other special guests. There will be a fabulous raffle prize and door prizes (including a pair of tickets to see *Santana!*). Refreshments available. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$10 for students and seniors, and can be purchased at the door or to reserve, contact Bill at 514-366-0131 x221.