

Farewell and Thanks!

Dear Fr. Mike, Fr. John, Fr. Ho, Fr. Occhio, Fr. Enzo, Fr. Kelly, Fr. Jim, and all of you dear parishioners,

“Partir c’est mourir un peu!”

Today, like Mary I am saying “yes” to go from a Salesian parish where I feel so much connected because of its lively spiritual dynamism. It’s not easy to leave such wonderful people but I know the Lord has something new and He leads the way.

Dear parishioners, I always admired your sense of belonging to this parish creating with the priests a Salesian family. I cannot but again thank you for having shown your solidarity with the poor so many times. Whenever I appealed to your generosity for our missions abroad especially in Haiti and Colombia you opened your hearts and your “wallets”.

I remember on one Sunday after I spoke at one of the masses and I was heading home I heard a mother together with her children calling me. The mother said: “Sister, my children want to give you something for the missions. They all have a little purse with some money for their Sunday treat, but today they want to share it with a poor child.” Gestures like this show me the extent of loving hearts. I was moved.

I will certainly keep you all in my prayers as I move to Montreal on August 19. Before starting ministry in my new community, I will enjoy a gift from God and from my Provincial to visit our Salesian sisters in Haiti and their mission places so I can see firsthand how all your money was helpful in rebuilding projects for the poor children we serve there.

If ever you pass by Montreal please drop by and I will be happy to see you. Again thank you for your wonderful support and may the blessings of the almighty God and the guidance of His Holy Mother Mary always be with you and with all your dear ones.

With love and much gratitude,

Sr. Marie-Thérèse Labranche, FMA



Preparation for Communion/Confirmation

THIS NOTICE IS ABOUT THE INITIAL MEETING FOR REGISTRATION. IF THIS INVITATION FOR YOUR CHILD TO PREPARE FOR COMMUNION OR CONFIRMATION APPLIES TO YOUR FAMILY, PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND THE APPROPRIATE MEETING AS OUTLINED BELOW.

This invitation is extended to those children, who:

- ◆ are baptized and
- ◆ attend Catholic, public or private school and
- ◆ are parishioners at St. Benedict Church and
- ◆ are in Gr. 2 and older for Communion or
- ◆ are in Gr. 8 or high school for Confirmation

It will be assumed that parents who do not participate in the initial meeting are choosing with their child not to take part in the Communion or Confirmation process this year and therefore, will not celebrate Communion or Confirmation in Spring 2015.

Communion Information Meeting

For parents only. Kindly plan for child care.

Plan to attend one meeting.

Each meeting is in the parish hall and is 1 1/2 hr.

Tuesday September 16	7:30 pm	or
Wednesday September 17	7:30 pm	

Confirmation Information Meeting

For parent and candidate.

Kindly plan child care for younger children.

Plan to attend one meeting.

Each meeting is in the parish hall and is 1 1/2 hr.

Monday September 8	7:30 pm	or
Tuesday September 9	7:30 pm	

FAITH & FAMILY PROGRAM

Faith & Family serves children and youth, ages 5-18 who:

- ◆ attend public school, private school or school other than a Catholic school,
- ◆ require ongoing faith formation and preparation for the sacrament of Reconciliation and/or the initiation sacraments: Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation
- ◆ attend St. Benedict Church,
- ◆ are baptized or not yet baptized with at least one Catholic parent

Our next season runs for 20 weeks:

**October 20 - December 15, 2014 and
January 5 - May 4, 2015**

Monday evenings

St. Benedict Church hall

6:45 pm - 8:30 pm

REGISTRATION OPEN

Please contact Wayne for further information and/or registration @ 416-748-6304.

Let the Children come to Me

Children, ages 4-teens are invited to a holy hour of prayers in the presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

SATURDAYS 10 A.M.-11A.M.

BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 6

Chapel, St. Benedict Church

(except long weekends)

Contact Cathy 416-244-4610



BACKGROUND
CHRISTIANS IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Question: What is happening in Iraq?

Answer: In June 2014, the Islamic State (IS), formerly called ISIS - Islamic State of Iraq and Syria or ISIL Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, had seized a large section of the country's northern region including the city of Mosul, the second largest city in Iraq. Since the takeover, the militant group has given Christians an ultimatum: Convert, Flee, or Die. Christians were given up to July 19, 2014 deadline to choose. For those Christians who did not comply with the decree by 19 July, ISIS warned that, "there is nothing to give them but the sword."

Question: How is this related to the symbol ☩?

Answer: This symbol ☩ is the letter "N" In Arabic, used by the Islamic State (IS or ISIS) to identify who is a Nazarene - another word for Christian. It has been drawn on doorways and in front of houses in captured Iraqi cities, allowing militants to quickly assert where the loyalties of the inhabitants lie.

Question: Who is the Islamic State?

Answer: The Islamic State is the group that during the Iraq War was often referred to as "Al-Qaeda in Iraq." The group claims it is an independent state with claims to Iraq, Syria, and Lebanon. It was established in the early years of the Iraq War and pledged allegiance to Al-Qaeda in 2004. The group has targeted military and governments of Iraq and Syria, but has also claimed responsibility for attacks that have killed thousands of Iraqi civilians. According to a study compiled by U.S. intelligence agencies, the Islamic State has plans to seize power and turn the country into a fundamentalist Islamic State.

Question: How many Christians live in the Mosul region?

Answer: As of July 2003, about 35,000 Christians lived in the city of 2 million people. This number had dwindled to approximately 25,000 by the time of the Islamic State takeover, and only a few hundred Christian families remained in the city until recently.

Question: What is the significance of Mosul?

Answer: Mosul is the ancient city of Nineveh, one of the holiest cities for Middle Eastern Christian groups. The city of Nineveh is mentioned in the Bible in Genesis, 2 Kings, Isaiah, Jonah, Nahum, Zephaniah, and Matthew. Along with its Biblical connection, the city reportedly contains the tomb of the Old Testament prophet Jonah. The Islamic State destroyed a mosque built upon the burial site on July 14, 2014 because the militants claimed the mosque had become a place for apostasy.

For those individuals wishing to offer financial support, the Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA) has launched an emergency aid appeal. Those wishing to contribute may do so in the following ways:

- Online through the Archdiocese of Toronto website:
www.archtoronto.org
- By phone through the Development Office – 416-934-3411
- Through the parish, making cheques payable to:
St. Benedict Parish - Iraqi Christians

Humanitarian Relief envelopes are in the pews today.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, August 25

8:00am Philip Vultaggio by family

Tuesday, August 26

10:30am Mass at Kipling Acres

7:30pm Mafalda Giovannoni by Marcelli family

Wednesday, August 27

8:00am Rosetta Carrera by Carrera family

Thursday, August 28

8:00am Francesco Pinelli by Antonio Pinelli

Friday, August 29

8:00am Living Intention for Sr. Pat Melanson by Perta family

Saturday, August 30

8:00am Jovita Francisco by Aurora Aglitay

5:00pm George Moore by family

Sunday, August 31

8:00am Fiori Costantini by family

9:30am Francesco & Sabatina Simone by Simone family

9:30am For the People

11:00am John Clune by Audrey & family

CONGRATULATIONS TO MARIEL CABRERA

who won \$122.50 in the August 8th 50/50 draw held at the Salesian Summerfest (licence #M746879)!

Thank you to all those who purchased a ticket.

55+ Club ~ EUCHRE or BID EUCHRE players.

We play Wednesday afternoons from 1:00pm to 4:00pm starting **Wednesday, September 3rd**. For more information, contact: Ken Sutton at 416-742-7626.

Knights of Columbus St. John Bosco Council 14327

Welcome Back Barbeque
Dinner / Dance

Saturday September 13th, 2014
St. Benedict Church Hall ~ 6:30pm–10:30pm

Menu: Half BBQ Chicken, sausage, potatoes, corn on the cob, salad, buns, dessert, tea and coffee

Tickets: \$25.00/ea CASH BAR D.J.



Blessings on your Marriage

As a parish community,
we keep in prayer

David La Costa & Nina Borges

who will be married on August 30, 2014

God grant them happiness, good health & a long life together.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

SUNDAY OFFERING \$6,570

Thank you for your ongoing generous support!