

2775 Erin Centre Boulevard Mississauga, ON L5M 5W2 Phone: (905) 812 0030 Fax: (905) 812 0011 www.mercifulredeemer.org

# **OFFICE HOURS**

Appointment required

Tuesday 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Thursday 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Saturday 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

# **MASS TIMES**

Monday 12:15 PM Tuesday 7:00 PM Wednesday 12:15 PM Thursday 7:00 PM Friday 12:15 PM Saturday 9:00 AM, 5:00 PM\*, 7:00 PM\*

**Sunday** 8:30 AM, 10:00 AM, 12:00 PM, 7:00 PM

# **CHURCH HOURS**

Mon., Wed., Fri. 1:00 PM - 7:00 PM Tues., Thurs. 11:00 AM - 7:00 PM Sat. 10:00 AM - 2:30 PM Sun. 2:00 PM - 4:30 PM

# **ADORATION CHAPEL**

Refer to page 4

# FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

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# PARISH TEAM

Msgr Owen Keenan, Pastor pastor@mercifulredeemer.org

Fr Suresh Xavier, Associate Pastor associate2@mercifulredeemer.org

Fr Tom Kluger, Associate Pastor associate@mercifulredeemer.org

Patricia Pereira, Office Manager office@mercifulredeemer.org

Elizabeth Nogueira, Daytime Secretary Flavia Fernandes, Evening Secretary secretary@mercifulredeemer.org

Danielle Lape, Youth Ministry mercifulredeemerym@gmail.com

Jane Scamurra, Lay Pastoral Associate jane@mercifulredeemer.org

Kielon Gerra, Communications Coordinator communications@mercifulredeemer.org

# PARISH SCHOOLS

 St. Aloysius Gonzaga
 2800 Erin Centre Blvd. | (905) 820 3900

 Divine Mercy
 2840 Duncairn Dr. | (905) 812 5445

 Our Lady of Mercy
 5820 Glen Erin Dr. | (905) 814 9216

 St. Rose of Lima School
 4590 The Gallops | (905) 828 4076

 St. Sebastian School
 3460 Aquinas Ave. | (905) 607 0107

# PARISH COMMUNITY

Charismatic Prayer Group Mondays, 7:00 - 8:00 PM St. JP II Theology of the Body Prayer Group Wednesdays, 9:00 -10:00 PM, by Zoom, *tob@bell.net* Knights of Columbus Michael Fonseca, *gk16254@ontariokofc.ca* Men's Fraternity Saturdays, 8:00–10:00 AM, by Zoom Merciful Moms Tuesdays, 9:30–11:30 AM Youth Ministry *https://mercifulredeemer.org/youth-ministry* Forged Young Adult Ministry *www.forgedministry.com* Society of St. Vincent de Paul *www.mrcssvp.ca* Catholic Cemeteries & Funeral Services *www.catholic-cemeteries.com* Bible Study Group Wednesdays, 7:30–9:00 PM

# **CONFESSION TIMES**

**Tuesday** 6:00 - 7:00 PM **Saturday** 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

# TODAY'S MASS READINGS

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4 - 7 Second Reading: Philipians 2:6 - 11 Gospel: Mark 14:1 - 15:47

# WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

#### Monday, March 29, 12:15 PM

+ Anthony Liut, + Giles Barreto Special intention for Vanessa D'Souza

#### Tuesday, March 30, 7:00 PM

+ John & Mary Pace Thanksgiving for Immanuel Uy Special intention for Pamela Tamondong

#### Wednesday, March 31, 12:15 PM + Maria Da Silva + Joe & Theresa Dias + Swampillai & Philomena Anthonypillai Special intention for the Pereira Family

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 1 Celebration of the Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00 p.m. Followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 10:00 p.m.

> GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL2 Passion of the Lord Service 10:00 a.m., 12:30 p.m. & 3:00 p.m.

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA @ 6:30 p.m. STATIONS OF THE CROSS @ 7:00 p.m.

#### HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 3 (There will be NO MASS at 9 a.m. on Saturday) Blessing of the Food at 11:00 a.m. in the church (socially distanced) DIVINE MERCY NOVENA @ 3:00 p.m. (NO Confessions at 4 p.m. and NO mass at 5 & 7 p.m.)

EASTER VIGIL AT 8:00 p.m.

#### EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 4 RESURRECTION OF THE LORD 8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12 Noon and 7:00 p.m. (Divine Mercy Novena at 6:30 p.m.)

# SUNDAY REFLECTION

"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

Today we begin the most sacred week of the Christian calendar.

We heard Isaiah's Servant Song proclaimed to us. The Servant represents the sufferings of the exiled community of ancient Israel in Babylon. In the midst of their suffering, the Servant speaks a word of hope to the community: "The Lord God is my help; therefore, I am not disgraced."

In Mark's account of the Passion, Jesus' last words from the Cross are the opening words of Psalm 22: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me"? Jesus was identifying himself with the suffering people of every age. Jesus has taken upon himself the sufferings and sins of every person who will ever live.

In the midst of all his suffering, Jesus knew his Father's love.

Perhaps his last cry in a loud voice indicated that he was identifying himself with the last words of Psalm 22: "You, O Lord, be not far from me; O my help, hasten to aid me." Then Jesus breathed his last. We know that his Father heard the voice of his suffering Son – and has greatly exalted him.

Jesus wants each of us to know that he has shared in our sufferings – for he is our brother. He invites us to join our sufferings to His – for the salvation of the world.

Let us be with Jesus, our brother and Savior, during this Holy Week.

Gospel Reflection CF: https://oblates.squarespace.com/sundayssalesian-feed/palm-sunday-passion-of-the-lord-march-28-2021

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Week's Readings

First Reading: Acts 10:34a, 37-43 Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-4 Gospel: John 20:1-9

#### **Easter Flowers**

Help us decorate our Sanctuary with a donation of Easter Lilies and hydrangeas. You may wish to offer them in memory of a loved one. All hydrangea and lily donations will be gratefully received by THURSDAY 1 April for placement in the sanctuary for the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday celebrations. Thank you for your kindness.

## Announcing the 2021 ShareLife Campaign

Our parish's ShareLife Campaign is now underway. ShareLife Sunday is April 17/18.

In this time of Lent, please reflect on the great needs of our brothers and sisters who are helped through your generous support of ShareLife.

Last year, generous ShareLife supporters enabled 21,000 people to receive affordable mental health care through family service agencies across the Archdiocese of Toronto, including our community.

Our parish goal for this year's campaign is \$247, 900. Please give generously.

This year we are encouraging you to give at *sharelife*. *org*, where you can make a one-time or monthly gift by credit card and designate it to our parish's campaign. Monthly giving is a convenient way to spread your ShareLife contribution over the course of a year.

To donate, set up or learn more about PAG, please visit www. sharelife.org/how-to-help/ways-to-give/monthlygiving/

Thank you for supporting ShareLife!

## Stations of the Cross Friday evenings during Lent, 7:00 p.m.

Join us as we Livestream the Stations of the Cross each Friday at 7:00 p.m. To attend in-person, registration through Eventbrite is mandatory.

Holy Week and Easter Schedule

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 1 Celebration of the Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00 p.m. followed by Adoration of the Blessed

Sacrament until 10:00 p.m.

# **GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 2**

Passion of the Lord Service **10:00 a.m., 12:30 p.m. & 3:00 p.m.** 

6:30 p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet & Novena each evening until Saturday April 10\* 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross

## HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 3

Blessing of Food at 11:00 a.m. in the Church (Socially Distanced)

#### **Easter Vigil at 8:00 p.m.** Confessions at 4 p.m. and NO Mass at 5

(NO Confessions at 4 p.m. and NO Mass at 5 & 7 p.m.)

# **EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 4**

Resurrection of the Lord Mass Times: 8:30a.m., 10:00 a.m. & 12 noon & 7:00 p.m.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY, APRIL 11 Mass Times: 8:30, 10:00, 12 noon & 7:00 p.m.

2:30 p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet

Feast Day Mass at 3:00 p.m.

**NOTE:** Divine Mercy Novena Devotions on Holy Saturday 3 April will be @ 3:00 p.m. (not 6:30 p.m.)

Visit www.mercifulredeemer.org/holyweek to find out more and to register through Eventbrite.

# **NEWS AND EVENTS!**

# Welcome Back to the Adoration Chapel!

Sunday	9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Monday	10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday	10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday	10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Thursday	10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Friday	10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

# Please observe the following:

MAXIMUM of 9 Visitors at a time (The Church is also available private prayer.)

## SIGN IN and OUT at each visit

(Use the Registered\* or Drop-in Visitors' log)

## SANITIZE your area before leaving

# CLOSE the Angelic Doors covering the Monstrance if the Chapel will be empty when you leave

Register with the Adoration Ministry at (905) 812-0030 ext. 9 or email adoration@mercifulredeemer.org with your name, phone number and day and time of the regular weekly hour visit you promise to keep.

\*\*\*The Adoration Chapel will be CLOSED on Good Friday and Easter Saturday and will REOPEN on Easter Sunday after the 8:30 a.m. Mass.

### Easter Night of Praise 2021 9 April, 2021 fro 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Online Event

St. Dunstan's Parish invites you to a virtual Easter Praise Night. It will be aired live on our website: https:// stdunstanssc.archtoronto.org/en/

Pre-celebration music starts from 6 p.m. Anyone wishing to make a presentation can also contact us at: stdunstan@rogers.com

Come join us as we celebrate the victory of Christ, a victory that knows no bounds. Not even the pandemic can limit our joy at His resurrection, for we are an Easter people and Alleluia is our song!

#### Songs from the Seminary: An Evening of Music in Honour of Our Blessed Mother 15 April, 2021 from 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Online

The pandemic prevents us from gathering in person, so we will bring this concert to your home

Join us virtually from the seminary for an evening of music in honour of Our Blessed Mother.

Join online at: www.youtube.com/archtoronto

The concert is free but donations are welcome. Support the Chapel Restoration with your donation at: http://bit. ly/SeminaryChapelRestoration (type "chapel" in the comments box to direct your donation to this specific project).

#### Pilgrimage Tour to Hungary, Poland, Czech Republic, Austria & Germany 6 - 17 September, 2022

This tour will be under the spiritual guidance of Fr. Suresh Xavier and the cost is CA \$5,390 (taxes and tips included). This tour includes a visit to St. Faustyna's tomb and the Divine Mercy Shrine. Additionally, this tour also features the Passion Play Oberammergau 2022. All travel arrangements are made by QS Travel & Tours Inc. affiliate of Queen Syrena Travel Inc.

Phone: 905-412-2242 or 1-800-565-3619 Website: www.qstours.com OUR LOVE, WALK WITH & MISSION EMPOWER THE YOUTH OF OUR COMMUNITY

# MERCIFUL REDEEMER YOUTH MINISTRY

https://mercifulredeemer.org/youth-ministry • mercifulredeemerym@gmail.com

**⊡ F y** *@*mryouthministry



For Middle School Students (Gr. 6-8)

Schedule and Time Slot: Every 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month, 4:30 PM - 6 PM Next Edge Night: Saturday, April 17th, 2021

\*In observance of Holy Week and participating fully in the Paschal Triduum, there will be NO Edge night on April 3rd.\*

Edge is a middle-school ministry program that aims to offer a safe and fun environment where you can learn more about your faith. If interested, please register using the link found on the parish website at *www.mercifulredeemer.org/youth-ministry*. Once you register your child with the link provided, you will automatically be sent the Zoom link before every Edge night.



For High School Students (Gr. 9-12)

Schedule and time Slot: Every 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month, 4:30pm-6 PM Next Life Night: Saturday, April 10th, 2021

Lifeteen is a high-school youth ministry that strives to lead teens closer to Christ by strengthening our teens' Catholic identity, while also rooting them firmly in Christ and in His Church. If you are interested in joining the program in our parish, please register your child using the link found on the parish website at *www.mercifulredeemer.org/youth-ministry*. Once you register your child with the link provided, you will automatically be sent the Zoom link before every Life night.

Save The Date!

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JOYFUL FEARLESS DISCIPLES

**OF JESUS** 

Edge Friend-SHIP 31 March from 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. A place to share, interact and connect with your peers from Edge

Edge Movie Night POSTPONED TO A LATER DATE

EDGE Camp and Camp Merciful are coming soon! See page 6 for more details.

"Young people, do not be afraid to be holy! Fly high, be among those whose goals are worthy of sons and daughters of God. Glorify God in your lives!"

- Pope Saint John Paul II

# Youth Ministry Summer Activities

As with everything else, the COVID-19 pandemic shut down all our summer events for 2020. Many of our youth were greatly saddened by this news as they look forward to events such as these that we host every year in the summertime. However, we are happy to announce two great opportunities for youth this summer:



#### EDGE CAMP

Firstly, in conjunction with the Office of Catholic Youth, we're planning a five-day summer Edge Camp.

Edge Camp is an experience unlike any other. In addition to Mass, Confession, Faith talks, sharing and prayer, there are also many outdoor activities you can participate in such as ziplining, mountain biking, and canoeing and various sports you can play in.

Edge Camp is for all those in Grades 5-8 and for all those who are actively a member of our Edge ministry. The total cost of the Camp is \$425 which covers transportation to and from Camp White Pine, accommodations, meals, camp gear and activities.

Edge Camp is an amazing opportunity as it gives our young people a chance to learn about their faith in a fun setting, to meet new like-minded friends, and to pray and encounter our Lord Jesus Christ and His Church. More information will be available at a future Parent's Info Night once we receive more updates.

### **CAMP MERCIFUL**

We are confident that, with vaccine roll-out and warmer weather, in addition to our own safety and sanitization protocols, that we can safely offer this great experience for kids once again.

Camp Merciful is a day-camp run out of our very own parish where children can grow in their faith, build Christ-centered relationships with their peers, and have fun! We offer entertaining games, prayer, exploration, and reflection for your young ones currently in grades 1-5.

Parents have the option of enrolling their children for 1 or 2 weeks of Camp. The dates are as follows:

Week 1: July 12-16 (9am-3:30pm, Monday-Friday)

Week 2: July 19-23 (9am-3:30pm, Monday-Friday)

The cost for one week of camp is \$150 and if your child wishes to attend both weeks, it will be a total of \$250. Please save the date as spots will be limited due to the possible restrictions we may have for the Main Hall.

We all know how valuable experiences like Camp Merciful and Edge Camp can be for our youth; the benefits of being outdoors and spending time with our peers contributes immeasurably to the well-being of children. We would love for all our young people to have the opportunity to attend Camp Merciful and/or Edge Camp this year.

Please note that no child will be denied the opportunity to attend either of these events because of financial constraints. Should there be financial pressures, please speak with Msgr Owen and arrangements will be made. If, on the other hand, you can financially assist us by sponsoring a child's, please also contact Msgr Owen. In all that you do, ask you kindly to support our youth by lifting a prayer for them and Youth ministry.

For registration and further information, please email Danielle, our Youth Ministry Coordinator, at *mercifulredeemerym@gmail.com* or call our Youth office at (905) 812-0030 ext. 7. God bless and we are praying for you!

# from Suffering to Joy: Making Sense of Penance

Suffering is something people tend to shy away from talking about. However, with COVID-19 and extreme isolation (and the feeling of losing your friends in some sense), there definitely is a new type of suffering being experienced by many people. We don't have to waste that suffering though. We can give it back to God through the gift of penance. That means we embrace these sufferings and strive to unite our hearts with Jesus Christ by uniting our sufferings to his, all for the glory of God. In a sense, it is a profound gift of self an act of profound charity— and God can use that gift for our good and the good of others as he sees fit. Also, when we remember how we can transform suffering into a gift for God, it can help keep us from sliding into negativity, bitterness, or even resentment, which (if entered into) would cause the suffering we are presented with to become wasted.

As we already know, different life experiences bring about different types of suffering. However, different levels of suffering present the opportunity to offer penance of varying magnitudes. Also note that attachments to bitterness or resentment within one's heart decrease the magnitude of the gift of penance— possibly even to zero. However, if we strive to reduce bitterness and resentment (and any other ailments of the soul) to zero, we can give a far greater gift of penance! Penances can also be of differing magnitude when comparing the suffering of the body to the suffering of the soul. For that reason, let us consider the following:

Everyone suffers (or will suffer) in some way, impacting both the body and the soul. Our earthly bodies are temporal, but after our earthly bodies expire, our souls continue on "eternally forward"— with a new, glorified body in Heaven (Christ Our Pascha, 840; CCC 997-1001).

Suffering of the body ends when the body heals or when the body dies. It is confined to some period of measurable time. Suffering of the soul does not necessarily end when the body heals. It follows that suffering of the soul does not necessarily end when the body dies. Pain of the body can often be localized to where the ailment exists, while the suffering of the soul is all encompassing (for not only do we have one soul, but our one soul does not have parts).

Therefore, it is reasonable to conclude that suffering of the soul will be of a greater magnitude than suffering of the body (regardless of whether we realize that during our lives or not). For that reason, penances arising from sufferings of the soul, all else being constant, may be of a profoundly greater impact for the Kingdom of God.

When we think of how suffering of the soul differs from suffering of the body, it can help us make sense of many of our actions as human beings (and if not applicable to you personally, you can count on the reality that it may be applicable to someone you love). Consider the following: Have you ever engaged in something physically painful because it hurt less than facing the pain of your soul? I know I have. I've also come to know some people who struggled with the inclination to cut themselves, and even some people who have found themselves trapped within a tendency to engage in painful (and unchaste) sexual activities. Those who have been able to get out of those cycles confirm the same principle, the pain being inflicted on their bodies was effective in keeping them distracted from the pains of their souls. It just happened to manifest in those ways for them, but there are countless other manifestations.

In other words, for those of us who have engaged in a healing journey wherein we were able to discover the roots of such suffering (often connected to experiencing trauma), we have come to recognize that our pursuits were truly distracting us from addressing the suffering of our souls. We had lived through the cycle of pursuing physical pain to experience a lesser degree of suffering in those moments. Unfortunately, when the pain of our bodies subsided, the pain of our souls became evident again, and in our desperation to alleviate the suffering once again, we would begin the cycle over.

We get out of this cycle due to the grace of God, and by having our hearts cracked open to him just a little bit at first. It also helps for us to have a supportive community through which we can overwrite previous tendencies with healthier choices. Once getting stabilized, so to speak, we became more able to engage in a journey of learning, as opposed to merely acting on impulse (this is a sign of healing after trauma). Through that learning, we are able to discover not only healthier ways of coping and living, but also ways within which we can thrive and eventually give back in positive ways. And we come to know that the pinnacle of giving back is to offer our sufferings back to God in the form of penance.

For that reason, when we experience pain of the soul through heartbreak, betrayal, feelings of being unchosen, unloved, or unlovable, feelings of being not good enough, or even feelings of shame and guilt, we can know that it is in these times of deep suffering within which God is giving us the greatest opportunity of all. And it's not as though God wants us to feel those sufferings, but that he permits suffering, and as with all trials, he permits it such that we may become holy and ultimately closer to him. God just needs an open heart to work with. We have tasted the joy in striving to give our hearts to God in that way, and we desire the whole world to know that great joy.

For that reason, we ask: Will you give him your heart in that way too?

Article CF: https://media.ascensionpress.com/2021/03/15/fromsuffering-to-joy-making-sense-of-penance/