

MASS INTENTIONS FOR MARCH 8, 2020

Please pray for:

Lea Guilbeault & Ferruccio Berardo
Luc Henrico
Palmina Di Fruscia
Giovanna & Giuseppe Melfi
Giuseppe Porato & Franco Iasenza

Requested by:

Family
Terry Iorio
Family
Family
Family

Community Announcements

Prayer Intentions of Pope Francis – March 2020: Catholics in China: We pray that the Church in China may persevere in its faithfulness to the Gospel and grow in unity.

20/20 Draw and St. Patrick's celebration: Come and join us for some Irish coffee and participate this important fundraiser for our Parish after mass on Sunday, March 15th. Thank you for your continued support!

Attention Photographers and Videographers! We are looking for photos and videos of the church, events, and the people of Holy Family. If you'd like to share yours, e-mail them to photos@HolyFamilyMontreal.com and we may have a chance to use them soon!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! Save the date to celebrate Father Baxter's 61st Anniversary of Ordination and 86th birthday on Sunday, June 7th, 2020. More information to follow.

Last Sunday's collection was \$1600. Thank you!



St. Catherine of Bologna

Feastday: March 9

Patron: of Artists, liberal arts, against temptations and Bologna

Birth: September 8, 1413

Death: March 9, 1463

Beatified: 1524

Canonized: May 22, 1712

St. Catherine of Bologna was an Italian nun and artist born as Catherine de' Vigri on September 8, 1413 in Bologna, Italy. She was the member of an aristocratic family and the daughter of a diplomat to the Marquis of Ferrara.

In 1426, at 13-years-old, she entered the convent of Corpus Domini at Ferrara and became a Franciscan Tertiary.

Catherine was determined to live a life of perfection and was admired by her companions for her holiness.

In 1432, Catherine and other young women of Ferrara founded a monastery of the Order of Poor Clares, an order founded by St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi.

Catherine was openly willing to serve the humbler roles in the convent. She was a laundress, a baker and a caretaker for the animals.

Through her efforts with Pope Nicholas V, the Poor Clare convent at Ferrara erected an enclosure, and Catherine was appointed Superioress. That office made her responsible for providing pastoral care and spiritual oversight to all of sisters. The reputation of the Community for its holiness and austerity became widespread.

In 1456, Catherine returned to Bologna with her superiors and the governors there requested she found a second monastery of the same Order and be the Abbess of the convent.

Catherine continued to paint and to write beautiful spiritual guides and poetry. She wrote the Treatise on the 7 Spiritual Weapons Necessary for Spiritual Warfare. And, her painting of St. Ursula remains on display in a Venice gallery.

Throughout her life, Catherine experienced visions of both Jesus Christ and Satan, which she documented in her treatise. In one instance, she had the baby Jesus placed in her arms by the Blessed Virgin Mary.

During the Lenten season of 1463, Catherine became seriously ill, and on March 9th she passed away.

She was buried without a coffin and her body was exhumed eighteen days later because of many cures attributed to her at her graveside and the sweet scent coming from her grave. Her body was discovered incorrupt and remains so today. That means it has not decayed. Catherine is dressed in her religious habit seated upright on a golden throne behind glass in the chapel of the Poor Clares in Bologna.

Her skin has since been blackened due to exposure from oil lamps and soot.

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For those wishing to have a mass said for loved one or a friend, please see Sharon Murphy after mass.

The Childcare Centre will continue to be open with toys and playthings. However, parents will have to go down with their child or children, and care for them themselves. This playroom will be available for any parent whose child cannot sit through the liturgy.

To receive news, updates and church communications, e-mail your info to subscribe@holyfamilymontreal.com

March 8, 2020

2nd Sunday in Lent (A)

Darkness and Light

Lenten liturgies will vary from one year to the next, except for the first two Sundays: Christ's temptation on the first Sunday and his Transfiguration on the second.

The narrative depicting Christ's temptations shows us the somber side of life with its difficulties and conflicts. While life may always be an interesting adventure, more often it can be a battle. We don't necessarily know what's ahead for us. We could be dealing with on-going conflicts that demand our constant vigilance.



Thankfully, we are never alone in this battle. Someone is always with us, supporting and guiding us. When our own boat is threatened by storms that could force us off course, it is important to see that landmark lighthouse in the distance. When fear and anxiety assail us, it is wonderful to know that a friend will take our hand and restore our confidence. When Jesus travelled with his disciples, difficulties inevitably arose. Danger could be imminent. In the Gospel, Christ revealed the mystery of His divinity. His face shone like the sun and reinforced the disciples' commitment.

The Transfiguration is not simply an experience for Peter, James and John, at a particular moment in their lives. It is also our personal experience. When in doubt and distress, we can close our eyes and let our Lord reveal His presence to us. Happy are those who agree to figuratively *climb up the mountain and encounter Christ*. They will find their guiding light.

Father André Beauchamp

Translated by Honore Kerwin Borrelli