

LENT

Most of us can readily understand the disappointment of Martha and Mary when Jesus, who was their close friend, failed to show up at the sick bed & burial of their brother, Lazarus. Martha was annoyed at his absence and her reproach was straight from the heart when she said, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died.' We watch Jesus consoling the sisters, then proceeding to their brother's grave, and giving orders for the stone covering the entrance to be rolled back. To their utter astonishment, he commands Lazarus to come out of the tomb.

This miracle is not just about Jesus performing the impossible by bringing a man back to physical life. The real focus is on belief. It is a "sign" of God's promise to raise up all who have died in Christ to everlasting life. Jesus wants to enter our hearts and bring his life-giving presence to those places of darkness, shame and even death. The good news is that he sets free those who are bound by sin and can bring back people to life no matter how long they have been dead to the things of the spirit. He is calling us to face the shadows, to come into the sunshine and walk in the fullness of life.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY REFLECTION

March 8 was International Women's Day — a day to recognize women's achievements and acknowledge the challenges they continue to face in the quest for gender equality. It is a day to renew our efforts in achieving gender equality – in Canada and around the world. The United Nations recognized 1975 as International Women's Year designating March 8 as International Women's Day. It has grown to become a global day of recognition of women's achievements and a call to action to support women's rights and advance gender equality.

Equality between women and men is enshrined in the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* and the Government of Canada is committed to upholding gender equality in all sectors of Canadian society. We have made great strides in many areas, such as education and workforce participation. Nevertheless, challenges remain. One such challenge is the use of **inclusive language** or lack thereof.

Language reflects and shapes the way we see the world. Language is an important communication tool which expresses reality and lived experience. It is constantly evolving in response to technological and social developments and adjusting to cultural understandings.

“Man” is an example of a word which is now acquiring a more narrow meaning. It was commonly understood to have both a generic meaning (a human being of either sex) and a specific meaning (a male person). At the present, the word “male” is being used more and more with reference to the male person and less as a generic term.

For many the continued use of the word to mean male and female is alienating because women are not visibly included, as men are, in a word to describe the whole of humanity. Thus the use of inclusive language indicates care is being taken to ensure that words reflect our belief in the equality of men and women.

Using inclusive language is one way of emphasizing the Church's responsibility to take a stand one of the widespread forms of discrimination found in our society. As sensitivity to the inclusion of women grows, there should be a corresponding increase in awareness of the need to include all regardless of race, gender creed, age or ability.

Summarized from 'Workshops on Inclusive Language' *Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (1989)*

Words not only express our thoughts they also shape our thoughts.

Natalie Doucet



Mass Intentions

- Monday Soul of **Park Jong Mak**
- Tuesday Souls of **Ruby Muise, Edward Soltar, Munira & Bolard Lamooza** and For the Intention of the **Cruz Family**
- Wednesday Souls of **Frank & Livio Reich**
- Thursday Soul of **Peter Kielek**
- Friday Soul of **John Frederick Jack Wilson**

PRAYER REQUEST LINE
905 881-2786 ext. 250

March 18, 2018



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday Mass
Saturday, March 24th 5:00 pm
Sunday, March 25th 8:45; 10:30 am & 12:15 pm

Holy Thursday Mass of Our Lord's Supper
Thursday, March 29th 7:30 pm
Washing of the Feet
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until 11:30 pm

Good Friday Service
Friday, March 30th
Children's Way of the Cross 10:30 am
Liturgy of the Passion of Our Lord 3:00 pm

Holy Saturday Easter Vigil Mass
Saturday, March 31st 8:00 pm
(includes Baptism, 1st Communion & Confirmation of adult candidates)

Easter Sunday Mass
Sunday, April 1st 8:45; 10:30 am & 12:15 pm



THORNHILL MINISTERIAL LENTEN SERIES 2018

The Thornhill Ministerial is marking **50 years** of Ecumenical Lenten Services. This year the theme is **Celebrating our Common Faith:**

Sunday March 18 at 4:00 p.m.

I Believe in the Life Everlasting

St. Luke's Roman Catholic Church
39 Green Lane
(Offering to Out of the Cold)

REQUEST FOR DONATIONS

of dessert or other finger food for the reception after the Lenten Series at St. Luke's on Sunday March 18 at 4:00 p.m.

If you have **any questions** please call Natalie at 905-881-2786 ext 235



INTERNATIONAL NIGHT SAT, APRIL 7TH - 6:00 PM - PARISH HALL

Our **International Night** will be held on **Saturday, April 7th at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall**. Tickets will be on sale after all the masses March 17/18 & March 24/25. \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children under 12.

The Social Committee requests that you bring in a food dish from your country of origin along with your ticket.

Anyone wishing to provide entertainment during the evening or for more information please contact **Shaila D'Sousa Tel: 905-707-9248; E-mail shailaflavy@hotmail.com**

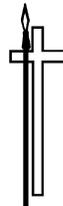
EDGE CAMP 2018 REGISTRATIONS

Edge Camp 2018 registrations are now open for **students in grades 5-8**. Edge Camp is an overnight camp held at **Camp White Pine in Halliburton, Ontario from August 18-22, 2018**.

The cost is **\$400** if your child is registered by April 15th. The cost will increase to **\$450** after April 15th.

For more information and registration please pick up an Edge Camp form at the back of the church. Any questions contact Greg Garda at 905-881-2786 ex.232 or SaintLukesYM@Gmail.com

STATIONS OF THE CROSS



You are invited to join in praying the Stations of the Cross each Friday during Lent at **7:30 p.m.** in the church. All are invited to come and spend one hour in prayer.

TUNA CASSEROLES

The Casseroles for the Good Shepherd are due early this month – March 25th (last Sunday of the month). Your support is very much appreciated.

Share...Life!

ShareLife Sunday is Sunday, March 18th
Please give generously