

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

FROM: YOUCAT Youth Catechism of the Catholic Church

The Dignity of the Human Person

313. Why must a sinner turn to God and ask him for forgiveness?

Every sin destroys, obscures, or denies what is good; God, however, is all-good and the author of all good. Therefore every sin goes against God (also) and must be set right again through contact with him. [1847] 224-239

314. How do we know that God is merciful?

In many passages in Sacred Scripture God shows that he is merciful, especially in the parable of the merciful father (Lk 15) who goes out to meet his prodigal son, accepts him unconditionally, and celebrates his return and their reconciliation with a joyful banquet. [1846, 1870]

Already in the Old Testament God says through the prophet Ezekiel: "I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live" (Ezek 33:11). Jesus is sent "to the lost sheep of the house of Israel" (Mt 15:24), and he knows that "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick" (Mt 9:12). Therefore he eats with tax collectors and sinners, and then toward the end of his earthly life he even interprets his death as an initiative of God's merciful love: "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins" (Mt 26:28). 227, 524

315. What is sin in the first place?

A sin is a word, deed, or intention by which man deliberately and voluntarily offends against the true order of things, as God's loving providence has arranged them. [1849 - 1851, 1871 - 1872]

To sin means more than to violate some rules about which men have agreed. Sin turns freely and deliberately against God's love and ignores him. Sin is ultimately "love of oneself even to contempt of God" (St. Augustine), and in the extreme case the sinful creature says, "I want to be like God" (see Gen 3:5). Just as sin burdens me with guilt, wounds me, and by its consequences ruins me, so too it poisons and damages the world in which I live. It becomes possible to recognize sin and its seriousness by drawing near to God. 67, 224 - 239

Wishing you all, the parishioners

**THE PEACE AND JOY OF THE
CHRISTMAS SEASON**

Fr. Joseph Sultana, Deacon Patrick Chang and Staff

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday December 20:

5:00 pm +Gabriel & Victoria Noronha
+Tristram Patterson
+Susana Ng
+Asuncion Jara
In Honour of St. Joseph
Intention of Romy Ylagan
Intention of Adrian Emmanuel
In Thanksgiving of Gloria Rodis
In Thanksgiving of Ferdinand Estelydiz
In Thanksgiving of Dvorak Family
Birthday Blessings for Sheila de Gannes

Sunday December 21:

9:00 am In Thanksgiving of Barbara Billing

10:30 am +Tristram Patterson

12:00 pm Pro - Populo

Monday December 22:

9:00 am +James Valladares, Winnie Yates and
Nina Correia

Tuesday December 23:

9:00 am +Bradley Fernandes

Wednesday December 24:

8:00 pm Celebrant's Intention

12:00 Midnight Celebrant's Intention

Thursday December 25:

10:30 am Celebrant's Intention

12:00 pm Celebrant's Intention

Friday December 26:

9:30 am Celebrant's Intention

7:30 pm In Thanksgiving of Alcantara Family

Saturday December 27:

9:00 am Celebrant's Intention

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
on Fridays starting with Mass at 9:30 am and
concluded with Benediction and Mass at 7:30 pm.**

December 21, 2014

2015 DONATION ENVELOPES

are available in the foyer and are in numerical order. Please take **ONLY** the box with your name on it. Please use these envelopes starting **January 1, 2015**. Please discard your 2014 unused envelopes. For parishioners who wish to use envelopes please register in the gift shop.

Thank You for your cooperation!

TORONTO CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WELCOME KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS

The Toronto Catholic District School Board welcomes families with kindergarten-aged children to register for September 2015 school year beginning on Thursday, January 8, 2015. Your local Catholic school will be offering one evening of extended registration hours during the month of January. Please contact your local school for this date. Parents may also complete an application at:

<http://soar.tcdsb.org>

The TCDSB is proud to provide a wide range of programs and services to students in 201 publicly-funded Catholic schools from kindergarten to grade 12.

For registration information, please call 416 222 8282, ext. 5314 or visit: www.tcdsb.org

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Tel: 647 772 1319

www.svdptoronto.org

Christmas is a special time of the year. It is even more so for us at St. Aidan's because we share our love and blessings with our **less fortunate brethren**. In making them feel special, we help spread the peace and joy of the Christmas season.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul (St. Aidan Conference) wishes all our Parishioners' a Christmas filled with the love, peace and joy of Christ Jesus.

'COME AND SEE' WEEKEND

"The love of Christ urges us on" to radically respond to His call to follow Him whole-heartily. Jesus is inviting you to spend time with Him so that you may discover His call.

January 30th to February 1st, 2015
St. Augustine's Seminary

This will be an opportunity for young men of 18 years and older to spend a weekend with time for time of prayer, reflection and information on the process of becoming one of Christ's disciples through the Catholic priesthood.

Contact Office of Vocations: 416 968 0997

www.vocationstoronto.ca

2014 CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR PROGRAMS

CONFESSIONS

Tuesday December 23: 7:30 pm - Penitential Service: it consists of examination of conscience, communal act of contrition and individual confession. Three priests will be available for confessions.

Wednesday December 24: 10:00 am to 12:00 noon
3:00 pm to 4:00 pm

MASSES

Wednesday December 24: Christmas Eve

7:30 pm Christmas Carols

8:00 pm Mass

11:30 pm Christmas Carols

12:00 Midnight Mass

Thursday December 25: Christmas Day

10:30 am and 12:00 noon

NO 9:00 AM MASS

Wednesday December 31: New Year's Eve

5:00 pm

Thursday January 1, 2015: New Year's Day

9:00 am; 10:30 am; 12:00 noon

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2015 ECUMENICAL PRAYER SERVICE

Come and join us in an ecumenical prayer service with His Eminence Thomas Cardinal Collins, Anglican Archbishop Colin Johnson, Evangelical Lutheran Bishop Michael Pryse, Slovak Catholic Bishop John Puzak, Moderator of the Presbyterian Church Rev. Dr. Harris Athanasiadis, and other city-wide religious leaders on:

Sunday January 25, 2015

4:00 pm

Yorkminster Park Baptist Church

1585 Yonge Street

(2 block North of Yonge St. & St. Claire Ave. at Heath St.)

Parking is available, Refreshments to follow in parish hall

For further information, please contact:

The Office of Ecumenical and Interfaith Affairs at

416 934 3400 ext 344 or ext 527

or vkwok@archtoronto.org