

# St. Bernard de Clairvaux Church

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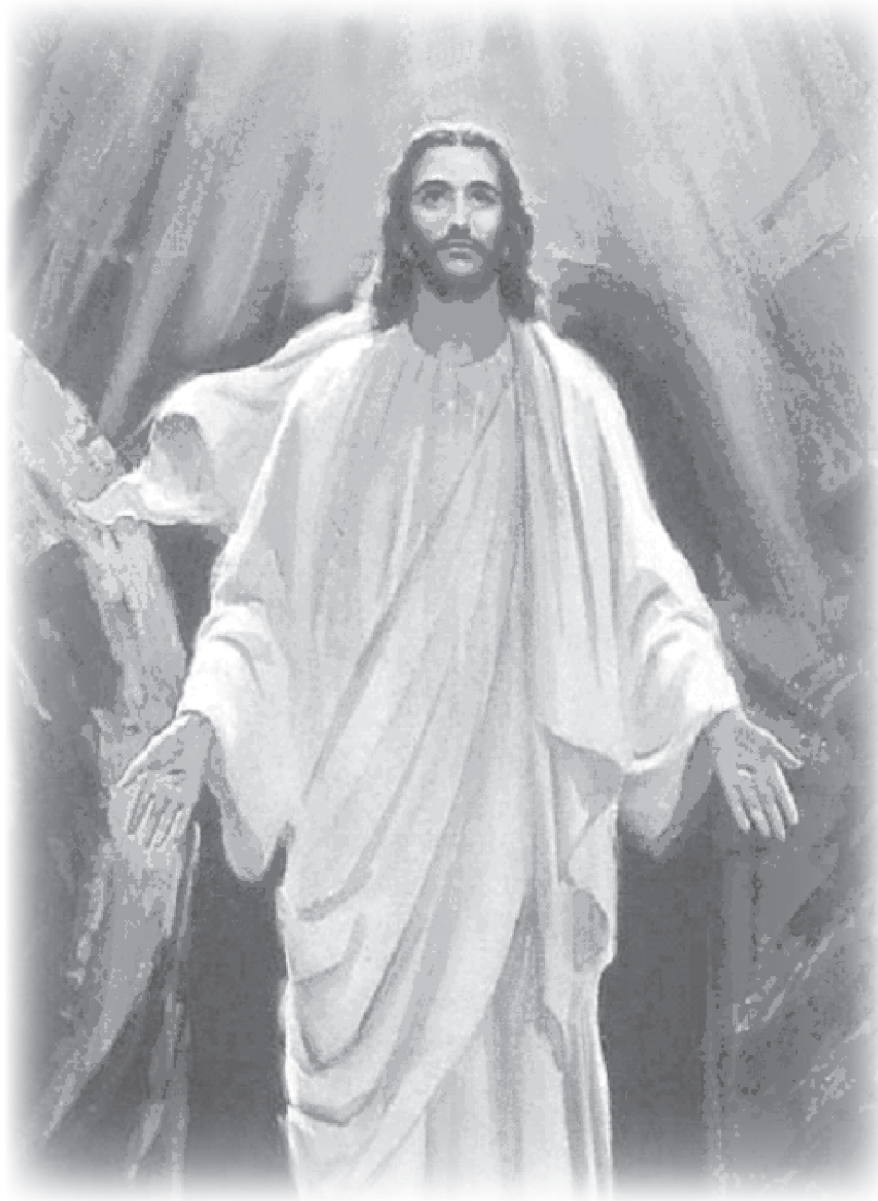
## **Pastoral Team:**

Fr. Boniface Perri, Pastor

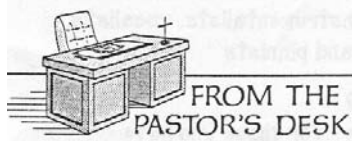
Fr. Jose Johny, Associate Pastor/Chaplain to Sacred Heart Kerala Community

Fr. Francesco Pica, In Residence

Gina Orofino, Parish Secretary    Brenda Carvalho, Bookkeeper



*Christ is Risen!*



LETTER TO THE FAITHFUL  
FROM  
MOST REV. FRANCIS LEO,  
ARCHBISHOP OF TORONTO

**I**N English, Easter comes from the old Proto-Germanic word for dawn and in the romance languages like Italian, Spanish or Portuguese it comes from the word for Pasch as in the celebration of the paschal mystery. I think the words are spiritually connected.

When we celebrate the paschal mystery, we renew our faith. On Holy Thursday we renew our understanding of the Lord's first Mass and we are brought back to the formation of the Church and Jesus' vision for it. On Good Friday we renew the fact that Jesus' sacrifice saves us. He is the true paschal Lamb who takes away the sins of the world and that in staying close to His cross like Our Blessed Mother and St. John we are saved (There is a reason after all we wear a cross) and lastly, we are with Him in rejoicing at the day of His resurrection.

In all these renewals we discover Jesus anew. Now to rediscover Him is not necessarily an intellectual exercise. I may not have said anything you do not already know. Rather in Jesus' presence we rekindle and strengthen that joy and awe in His presence that first drew us to be His disciple which draws us to Him in prayer and in participation at the Holy Mass. We let that love draw us closer and closer to Him with its wonder and with His hope fresh in our hearts.

It is like the dawning of the day. We know that the dawn will come tomorrow but there is always the hope and joy of fresh possibilities in it for those who await the dawn and see the sun come up. For us as Christians we know that Christ is the Son of God and the Sun of justice peace and joy and Easter is the dawn of His rising, full of the potential of a new day of grace and glory.

From all of us here at the parish to all of you and your families. **Happy Easter!**

**Alleluia! Jesus has Risen!! Truly, He has Risen!!!**

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### Introducing FORMED

The Parish has purchased a subscription to Formed. Formed is an On-line platform through which we can view catholic movies, lectures, catechisis, audio recordings and e-books.

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**Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord,  
May Jesus and Mary be in your hearts.**

I wish to follow-up on an initiative we have been contemplating for some time now and which will prove to be spiritually beneficial for our walk of faith and renewal in the Spirit: ***The Consecration to the Blessed Virgin Mary***. It is truly a grace-filled opportunity in which our Catholic archdiocesan family can gather together, in different ways, through this profound experience of prayer and devotion which is to take place on the **Solemnity of the Annunciation of Our Lord**, celebrated this year on **April 8, 2024**. As an act of authentic Catholic piety, this present initiative comes at the request of the Holy Father, Pope Francis, who on March 22, 2023 invited Catholics to annually renew an act of consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary at the occasion of the aforementioned solemnity.

*The Directory on Popular Piety and The Liturgy, Principles and Guidelines*, published in 2001 by the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments explains, in the following way, the essence of Marian consecration (#204):

*“Seen in the light of Christ's words (cf. John 19, 25-27), the act of consecration is a conscious recognition of the singular role of Mary in the Mystery of Christ and of the Church, of the universal and exemplary importance of her witness to the Gospel, of trust in her intercession, and of the efficacy of her patronage, of the many maternal functions she has, since she is a true mother in the order of grace to each and every one of her children.”*

As our spiritual mother, Our Lady wants the best for her children. Our consecration to her provides a unique and powerful occasion of grace as we turn to the Blessed Mother and, in faith, ask her to take all of our being and offer it to God the Father, through Christ her Son, in unity with the Holy Spirit. It allows for a new outpouring of the Spirit of the Lord into our lives and our loved ones. Mary is the gift that the Crucified Christ entrusted to his family, the Church, indeed to every disciple down through the ages; and with the consecration, we do what the Beloved Disciple did: we bring her home.

We will be doing the consecration to our Blessed Mother immediately following the 7:00 pm Mass on April 8<sup>th</sup>.

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MASS MINUTES -- WEEK 3

Reflection: How do you feel sharing God's love with a friend? Do you think the message would be received successfully?

Did you know....

The Old Testament Sabbath of the seventh day, Saturday, celebrated the completion of the first creation, that of Adam and Eve in the Garden. This was replaced by the eighth day, Sunday in celebration of Christ's completed work of the New Creation which allowed all of us to be freed from sin and rise from the dead!

Activity: Know someone who's struggling with their faith? Why not ask them what their doing next Sunday and invite them to Mass. They may just be waiting for an invite! :)

A Week with 8 Days?

The Days of Holy Week 2024:

March/April 2024

Table with 7 columns (S, M, T, W, T, F, S, S) and 2 rows of dates (24-31).

Here is a fun fact! Holy week which commemorates our salvation starts on Palm Sunday and ends on Easter Sunday. How many day is that?

The day of the resurrection in ancient accounts has always been called the eighth day. It is a moment outside of ordinary time to put aside the normal routines of the week and spend time in praise and thanksgiving to the Lord and to be in relationship with Him in a newness of life.



ADORATION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT

This Friday, April 5th, is the first Friday of the month. We will have Holy Rosary at 6:30 pm, Mass at 7:00 pm followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Please join us in this evening of Prayer.

COME AND LISTEN

"Come to me all of you who are weary and overburdened and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28)

CATECHESIS FOR ADULTS AND YOUTH

ALL ARE WELCOME

St. Bernard de Clairvaux Parish

Every Tuesday and Thursday

Starting April 9th, 2024 - 7:30 pm in the Parish Hall

(On-site babysitting provided)



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 30th to Sunday, April 07th, 2024

- Mass intentions for Saturday, March 30th to Sunday, April 07th, 2024. Includes: Sat 30th 8:00 pm EASTER VIGIL; Sun 31st 9:00 am EASTER SUNDAY; Mon 01st 9:00 am; Tues 02nd 8:00 am Filomena Corvelo; Wed 03rd 6:30 pm Holy Rosary, 7:00 pm All Souls in Purgatory; Thurs 04th 8:00 am; Fri 05th 7:00 pm FIRST FRIDAY; Sat 06th 5:00 pm Luigi, Angelina, Rosina & Francesco Sottile; Sun 07th 9:00 am Mario Peccia & Luigi & Tullia Peccia; 10:30 am Happy 2nd Birthday M. J. Virtusio; 12:00 pm PRO POPOLO.

Weekly Collection

Last week, our collection was \$5,242.75. It takes 5,000.00 to cover weekly expenses. Thank you to those who continue to support us. Your charity means a lot!

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