

MINISTRY MEETINGS

Adult Sunday School	Last Sunday each Month
Alcoholics Anonymous	Every Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday at 7:00pm
AI-ONON Families of Alcoholics	Tuesdays 7:00pm
Altar Servers	Sunday – when announced
Bereavement Ministry	Every 3rd Sunday 11:00am at Stella Maris House of Prayer
Catholic Women's League	3rd Saturday of each month 4:00pm
Charismatic Meeting	Thursdays 7:00pm
Children's Sunday School	Sundays 11:00am
Choir	Rehearsals Fridays at 7:30pm
Fellowship	Male: Last Saturday 8:30am Female: 1 st Saturday 10:00am
Legion of Mary	Mondays 5:00pm
Prison Ministry	Male: Fridays 10:00am Female: 1st and 3rd Thursday
Street Feeding Ministry	Every 1st and 3rd Sunday
SM Foundation Prayer Meeting	Last Tuesday of every month
St. Vincent DePaul Society	Every 2nd Tuesday each month
Outreach	Twice monthly packaging & distribution
Ushers' Association	Last Wednesday each month
Young Adults	1 st Friday of the month 7:00pm
Youth Group	Saturdays 7:45pm

STREET FEEDING MINISTRY

Will be hosting a benefit play called 'Mass Matt Come To Town' on Wednesday, February 13 at 8:30pm at the Little Little Theatre. Cost is \$2000. Kindly contact Jeff Schwab (876)-817-1590 or Margaret (876) 919-0170 for tickets.

CONCERT

Dwight Richards will be hosting a concert on Sunday, February 10 at 5:00pm in the Church Hall. Tickets can be purchase from the Office.

MARIAN ECUMENICAL SERVICE

This will be held on Wednesday, January 23 at the St. Andrew Parish Church, Half Way Tree at 7:00pm.

Stella Maris Church Community

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Website: www.stellamarischurch.com



Pastor: Rev. Fr. Howard Thompson, PhD.

Church Council Chair : Edward Shoucair

MASS TIMES: Sunday 7:00am and 9:00am
Monday – Saturday 6:00pm

RECONCILIATION: Appointment/Announced

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time



January 20, 2019
Year C

Today's Readings

1st Reading: Is. 62: 1-5
2nd Reading: 1 Cor. 12: 4-11
Gospel Reading: Jn. 2: 1-11



Response: *Proclaim the wonders of the Lord
among all the peoples*

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Beloved,

The truths that are presented in the Bible form the basis of our faith. They are viewed as God's revelations which point the way to how we live, and what we practise and believe. God reveals His will and plan so that we may come to a deeper appreciation of His love. By embracing what is required, we then experience a real peace that surpasses all our understanding (*Phil. 4:7*) which the world cannot impart. Today's gospel (*Jn. 2:1-11*) highlights three truths that believers should recognize as being beneficial in advancing God's kingdom and living as children of our Heavenly Father.

The first truth to glean is that marriage is blessed and sanctified by God. The presence of Jesus at the wedding in Cana is an affirmation of the view that a man leaves his parents and clings to his wife, and the two become one flesh (*Gn. 2:24*). This mystery of the unity of love is meant to be a sign of our oneness in Christ and His unity with us. Marriage is the bond that liturgically and legally cements the commitment that the couple makes to live a life of faithful love. It is to mirror the union of Christ for His bride the Church. Our children are to be taught that the way to build families is through marriage.

The second truth to appreciate is the role of Mary in God's plan of salvation. Mary was chosen to be the mother of Jesus and she consented (*Lk. 1:38*). She was to be called blessed by every generation (*Lk. 1:48*) even though she was told early that a sword will pierce her soul (*Lk. 2:35*). Her journeying with her son would bring joy and suffering. As the mother of Jesus, she shares a unique bond that no other human being claims. Jesus was indeed flesh of her flesh and bone of her bone (*Gn. 2:23*). It is in this context that Mary is given a special place in having the ear and heart of her son. She saw that more wine was needed, and she brought it to the attention of Jesus. She then left him and told the servants to do what Jesus required (*Jn. 2:5*). At Cana, Mary's role as intercessor is illuminated, and we who have recourse to her, can take courage and have confidence that she will see and hear our cries and take them to Jesus.

The third truth to embrace is the use of signs and symbols to express realities that unfold over time which draw us deeper into the mystery of God. When Mary shared that more wine was needed, Jesus said that his "hour had not yet come" (*Jn. 2:4*). This hour was referring to the time of his crucifixion. Prior to that event, Jesus would bless a cup of wine at the last supper with his Disciples, and give it as his blood for the forgiveness of sins. The miracle of more wine at Cana came from the water in the jars used for purification rites. The gift of wine becoming Jesus' blood is given to purify us from our sins. The eternal hour of sacrifice is enshrined in every celebration of Mass when wine becomes the blood of Christ for our eternal salvation.

May we allow the love of God, the beauty of scripture and the grace of the sacraments to lead us always into the joys of His everlasting kingdom.

FR. HOWARD THOMPSON



Happy Birthday



20th January

Keith Edwards ♦ Keith Edwards ♦ Renee Hitchener

21st January

Tanya Barnes ♦

22nd January

Paula Hanna ♦ Nicole Gregory ♦ Sheila Polack ♦

23rd January

Zach Anderson ♦

24th January

Imani Chin ♦ Kai Cortiza ♦ Sean Dunwell ♦

Richard Hoo Kim ♦ David Tame ♦ Mary Yap ♦

25th January

Rupert DaCosta ♦ Joyce Grant ♦ Richard Sharp ♦

Isabella Fong-Yee ♦

26th January

Kemar Thomas ♦



Happy Anniversary



26th January ❖ Ivanhoe & Joyce Clarke

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Classes continue on Sunday, January 20 at 11:00am in the Pastoral Centre.

RCIA

Will meet on Sunday, January 20 at 4:00pm in classrooms 2&3.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Will meet for breakfast and their Annual General Meeting on Saturday, January 26 at 8:30am in the Pastoral Centre.

PRAYER, PRAISE & WORSHIP AND THE NEW LIFE COMMUNITY

Join them on Thursday, January 24 at 7:00pm in the Church.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Will resume on January 27 at 11:00am in the Church. All are welcome.

SM FOUNDATION PRAYER MEETING

Join us on Tuesday, January 29 at 6:00pm at the Foundation.