

Please do not read bulletin during Holy Mass! Thank you!



**Adults Catechism Classes:
(RCIA)**

English: Wednesday 7:00 pm
Mandarin: Wednesday 6:00 pm
Cantonese: Saturday 2:30 pm

廣東話道理班: 星期六下午二時半
普通話道理班: 星期三晚上六時

**Procession of the Passion
Stations of the Cross
at St. John the Apostle Parish
Good Friday, March 30, 10AM**



Everyone is welcome to join and participate in the Procession of the Passion at St. John the Apostle Parish. The procession will begin in the Church and proceed out of the Church and around Elm Park. We need volunteers to carry the cross from station to the next station.

(For the Stations of the Cross, we have two groups. One group will process outside the church, the other group is for those who prefer to remain in the church. Both groups will be together to pray the first station in the church)

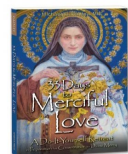


**FEAST OF DIVINE MERCY
CELEBRATION AND CONSECRATION
SUNDAY, APRIL 8, 2018**



All are welcome to join us to celebrate and consecrate to Divine Mercy even though you are not participant of "33-Days to Merciful Love Do-It-Yourself Retreat in Preparation for Consecration to Divine Mercy" OR unable to complete the Retreat. For the Consecration prayer please remember to bring your consecration certificate (from 2016 for renewal) OR prayer card OR book.

TIME: 2:30pm – 4:30pm
PLACE: SJA Church
Contact: Resela rwongsing@shaw.ca



Lenten Initiatives for St. John the Apostle Parish

1. **Chaplet of Divine Mercy** 10 minutes before all weekend Masses. Please come early to church before Mass to prepare oneself spiritually for Mass and Holy Communion and to meditate on the Passion of Christ. Let's pray together for the gift of conversion and the for the work of evangelization at our parish.

2. New website: **SJAPARISH.CA** with the on-line platform of **SJA.FORMED.ORG**.

FORMED is the revolutionary digital platform that gives unprecedented access to video-based study programs, feature films, audio presentations, and eBooks from the Church's foremost presenters. 300+ episodes of video-based study programs, 35+ feature films and movies, 45+ audio presentations, 25+ eBooks Available in English and Spanish!

The access code of **SJA.FORMED.ORG** for our parishioners is: **TWNH4F**

SJAPARISH.CA



**Special Collection for
Needs of the Church in Holy Land
on Good Friday, March 30, 2018**

Holy Land Collection on Good Friday

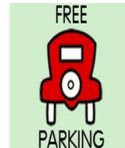
The Pontifical Collection for the Benefit of the Holy Places is on Good Friday, March 30, at all parishes! Today, as we know, living the Christian faith in the Middle East is not at all easy. Christians are often subjected to forms of oppression and discrimination. Once again, from every part of the Church, expressions of solidarity come together effectively in the Good Friday Collection. Our parishes are called once a year on Good Friday to support Christians in the Holy Land. Please give generously as many Christians in the Holy Land depend on the collection for their lives. "Let us work for the good of all" (Galatians 6:10). <http://www.commissariat.ca/>

A friendly reminder



On the side street of the church, along 39th & Trafalgar, the area between the hydrant and the driveway should be kept clear for those who need it. Thank you.

This is to kindly remind everyone that the parking lot across the street is owned by the church. Please let us make use of it and be mindful of our neighbours.



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Therese enters Carmel

After returning from the pilgrimage to Rome, St. Therese went to the Carmelite convent. She was told to write to the Bishop reminding him of his promise to make a decision regarding her request to enter Carmel at 15.

At New Year of 1888, Therese was told that the Bishop had authorized her immediate entry into the Carmel, but that nevertheless the superior had decided to let her enter after Lent.

There was a temptation to relax while waiting to enter the convent, but Our Lord made Therese understand the benefit she might derive from this time of waiting. She then resolved to give herself up to a more serious and mortified life. Therese wrote that her acts of mortification consisted in "simply checking my inclinations, keeping back an impatient answer, doing little services to those around me without setting store thereby, and a hundred other things of the kind."

Like this year (2018), the Feast of the Annunciation was transferred to Monday April 9 in 1888. It was the day chosen for Therese to enter the Carmel.

In the morning, after a last look at the happy home of her childhood, Therese set out for the Carmel, where she and her family attended Mass. At the moment of Communion, there were sobs on all sides. But Therese did not shed a tear, but as she led the way to the cloister door her heart beat violently. Therese embraced all her loved ones and knelt for her father's blessing. Louis knelt down and blessed her through his tears. Therese entered the cloister and the door of the Carmel closed behind her. She was welcomed by the superior and the community.

Therese wrote, "At last my desires were realised, and I cannot describe the deep sweet peace which filled my soul. This peace has remained with me during the eight and a half years of my life here, and has never left me even amid the greatest trials."

Therese's father, Louis, made the sacrifice of offering his daughter to God willingly. The day after Therese's entrance into Carmel, he told his friends, "Thérèse, my little Queen, entered the Carmel yesterday. God alone could ask such a sacrifice; but He helps me so mightily that even in the midst of tears my heart is overflowing with joy."

Life with the other 26 nuns in Carmel was not easy. Therese experienced many crosses which she accepted willingly for the salvation of souls. She experienced spiritual dryness, and her superior treated her very severely. Therese was grateful that the harsh treatments helped her not to be ensnared by human affection in the cloister.

Two months after her entrance into Carmel, Therese made her general confession to a priest. After the confession, the priest said, "Before God, the Blessed Virgin, and Angels, and all the Saints, I declare that you have never committed a mortal sin. Thank God for the favours He has so freely bestowed on you without any merit on your part."

Therese found it difficult to express herself in spiritual matters. One of the older nuns said to her during community recreation: "I should think, child, you have not much to tell your superiors." Therese asked, "Why do you think that, dear Mother?" The nun replied, "Because your soul is very simple; but when you are perfect you will become more simple still. The nearer one approaches God, the simpler one becomes."

Therese was very fond of snow. She wished the earth to be decked with white snow on the day of her clothing ceremony. After the ceremony, the instant Therese set foot in the enclosure her eyes fell on the statue of the Child Jesus, then, turning towards the quadrangle, she saw the ground was covered with snow. January 10, 1889 was a joyful day for Therese.