



**MABUHAY ! BIENVENUE !
WELCOME !**
to The
**NOTRE-DAME-
DES-PHILIPPINES
CATHOLIC
MISSION**

Montreal, Canada
*8500 blvd. St. Laurent, Montreal,
Quebec*
CANADA H2P 2M8
TEL : (514) 387- 5292
FAX: (514) 514-389-9037
www.filipinocatholic.net

Parish Priest:
Rev.Fr. Francisco Alvarez, PME
frankalv13@yahoo.ca

MISSION - VISION

We envision a welcoming Mission-driven community, sustained by the abiding faith in God and Christ-like love of fellowmen, where Filipino cultural and religious traditions are lived and practiced with dignity; where diversity of gifts and talents is embraced, strengthened by the commitment and relationship we build- nourished by the Eucharist, prayer, education and apostolic services.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Wednesday – Sunday
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday - 11: 30 a.m.

*(Pilipino Mass on the last Sunday
of the month)*

Wednesday - 6:00 p.m.

*(Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help
recited before the Mass)*

Friday - 6:00 p.m.

*(Novena to the Holy Child – Señor Sto. Niño
recited before the Mass)*

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
every First and Third Friday of the month
before the Mass.**

MISSION CATHOLIQUE NOTRE-DAME DES PHILIPPINES CATHOLIC MISSION
30 MARCH 2014
4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

PARISH INFORMATION & STEWARDSHIP

NOTRE-DAME-DES-PHILIPPINES CATHOLIC MISSION (Filipino Catholic Mission of Montreal- FCMM)

The first and only Canonically installed Filipino Catholic Mission in North America (Missio cum cura animarum).

Established on December 10, 1989 by the late Paul Cardinal Gregoire to serve the spiritual and religious needs of the growing Filipino Catholics in the Archdiocese of Montreal.

As a non-territorial Parish, the Notre Dame des Philippines Catholic Mission technically encompasses all Filipino Catholics residing in Montreal and in the suburban areas, but respects the rights of the people to stay in their respective geographical parishes if they so wish. Their presence at liturgical services is always welcome and financial support is appreciated.

PRESBYTERAL TEAM

PASTOR: Rev. Fr. Francisco Alvarez, P,M,E,

PARISH FISCAL: Sr. Luz Paderanga, O.P.

DIRECTOR FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Sr. Celia Piala, O.P.

ADULT FORMATOR: Mr. Fruan Tabamo

PASTORAL ASSISTANT: Mr. Jose Aracena

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Acurantes, Flor	St. Martha's Club
Alejandro, Nelson	Knights Of Columbus
Ambayec-Wong, Bernardita	Catechetics
Bernabe, Marites	Missionary Animation Action Club
Caldito-Ballares, Erlinda	Secular Franciscans
Foz, Malou	Kawan Ng Panginoon Prayer Group
Foz, Norma	Worship
Guia-Foz, Rhodora	Youth
Jalea, Bernadette	Secular Franciscans
Mejia, Narciso	Knights Of Columbus
Monteiro- Pavico, Precilla	Kawan Ng Panginoon Prayer Group
Palisoc, Loreta	St. Martha's Club
Quirapas, Marites	Evangelization
Rosialda- Licerio, Nerie	Parents' Support Group
Silva-Kardos, Fredina	Parents' Support Group
Sunio, Maritess	Catechetics
Tadeo, Imelda	Family Life
Tadeo, Filemon	Family Life
Tuvida, Noemi	Legion Of Mary
Umali, Fe	Family Life
Umali, Henry	Family Life

PROPERTY CUSTODIAN: Mr. Jose Tolentino

BOOKKEEPER: Mr. Carmelo Villanueva

WEBMASTER: Mr. Narciso Mejia

BULLETIN EDITOR: Mr. Jose Aracena

ADMINISTRATORS

CHAIRMAN: Rev. Fr. Francisco Alvarez, P,M,E,

SECRETARY: Ms. Maria Teresa Ambayec

TREASURER: Mr. Pedro Diaz, Jr.

BOARD MEMBERS:

Mr. Quirino Seraspe, Jr.

Mr. Eduardo Ruiz

Mr. Felix Cambaliza, Jr.

Mrs. Helen Aguila-Diwa



THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Infant Baptisms are celebrated at the FCMM on Saturdays @ 10:00am except on the first

Saturday of the month when the Pre-Baptismal Class is held. Parents **must** schedule the baptismal date in the Parish Office and attend the Baptismal Preparation Class

Pre-registration for this class is required.

Baptism should be conferred in the first few weeks after the birth of a child.

Godparents **must** be practicing Catholics.



ADULT BAPTISM, FIRST EUCHARIST & ADULT CONFIRMATION

Adults interested must

contact the DRE, Sr. Celia at the Parish Office for details and information.



THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Couples should contact the parish office to make an appointment with the parish

at least six months in advance of any wedding date to begin preparation. Couples **must** attend the Pre-Cana Marriage Preparation Cla



YOUR OFFERINGS

- FOR THE WEEKEND OF MARCH 23, 2014
totalled \$ 3, 042.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace.

I Peter 4:10

PARISH INFORMATION

This permanent calendar outlines meetings and ministries and Church Organizations that meet on a regular basis. Please check with the appropriate ministry for weekly changes to this schedule

EVERY SUNDAY:

- 9:00 a.m. – Christian Life Education for Children (Sunday School)
- 9:00 a.m. – EVANGELIZATION Seminar and BIBLE DISCOVERY for Adults
- 2: 00 p.m. – Kawan ng Panginoon Prayer Group Outreach

EVERY FIRST SUNDAY:

- 2:00 p.m. – Catechetical Ministry Meeting

EVERY SECOND SUNDAY:

- 7:00 p.m. – Family Life Ministry Meeting

EVERY THIRD SUNDAY:

- 2:00 p.m. – Secular Franciscan Order (Our Lady of the Philippines Fraternity) Meeting

EVERY FOURTH SUNDAY:

- 9:00 a.m. – Knights of Columbus (Council 13585) Meeting

EVERY WEDNESDAY:

- 7:30 p.m. – Legion of Mary (Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Praesidium) Meeting

EVERY SECOND FRIDAY:

- 7:30 p.m. – FAITH SHARING MEETING animated by the Kawan Ng Panginoon

EVERY FIRST SATURDAY:

- 10:00 a.m. – Pre-Baptismal Classes

POLICY FOR MASS INTENTIONS: The FCMM accepts offerings for Mass intentions. Those wishing to have a Mass said for a particular person or cause should contact or come to the Parish Office during regular working hours. On Sundays, if unable to pre-register, they **must come 30 minutes before the Mass** and register their intention/s with the Ministry of Offerings

FCMM's Policies regarding Mass Intentions

*Suggested offering - \$15.00 (minimum amount, but more is accepted) (make payable to FCMM)

*The intention can be for a deceased person or a living person. Does not need to be Catholic.

* The Intention can be for another need of the Church: i.e. world peace, vocations to the priesthood and religious life, conversion of sinners, etc.

*A specific Mass time and date can be requested,

*The Mass intention is usually mentioned during the prayers of the faithful, but even if it is not, the Mass if offered for the intention will be posted in the bulletin.

* Each member of the faithful may offer the Mass for his or her own intention. The merits of the Mass are infinite.

*Mass Intention Offerings are **not** tax-deductible items. Donations and Special Mass sponsorships **are**.

POLICY FOR BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Deadline: 11 days prior to the Sunday you'd like your article to be considered for publication.

Format: Typewritten/ Word format e-mail is preferable

Send articles to Butch by e-mail @ jhnaracena@gmail.com

Note: Articles must be approved prior to appearing in the bulletin. We reserve the right to edit articles.

WELCOME TO THE FCMM !

In imitation of Jesus Christ, we welcome all people to worship and celebrate God's all-inclusive love with us. Whoever you are, wherever you are in your life, we thank you for choosing to be here with us !.

REFLECTIONS



Fourth Sunday of Lent



Fourth Sunday in Lent

Today, we are invited to rejoice because we are already more than halfway in our Lenten pilgrimage. But even more, we should rejoice for the gift of FAITH, which enables us to “see” the wonderful realities of God’s Kingdom and play our role in it. It is faith which enlightens our existence by giving meaning and value to all our aspirations and actions, and even to our sufferings and our defeats.

And all this, thanks to JESUS, THE LIGHT OF OUR LIFE who today, through St. Paul, invites us to live as CHILDREN OF LIGHT in a world darkened by sin in all its forms and shapes. May the Eucharistic celebration strengthen our faith and our gratitude to the Lord, in imitation of the blind man cured by him.

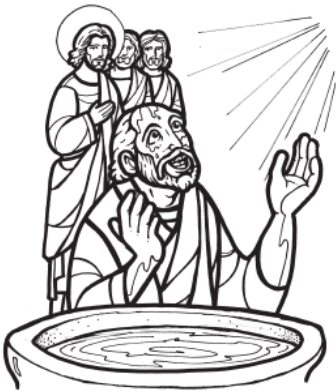


- God chooses the least likely to manifest His greatness and love.
- Jesus heals us from the blindness or darkness of our sins.
- Jesus is the light of the world, in that light we are called to work for His glory.

“The devil is afraid of us when we pray and make sacrifices. He is also afraid when we are humble and good. He is especially afraid when we love Jesus very much.



REFLECTIONS

The Tragedy of Spiritual Blindness and the Blessing of Faith

Physical blindness is terrible as it condemns people to live in a world of perpetual darkness that cripples them both physically and emotionally, and constantly exposes them to many dangers. But even worse than this are **spiritual blindness** and moral blindness. Those affected by the former are the **people who do not believe in God and other realities that pertain to the divine. The “morally blind” are those unable to distinguish evil from good, wrong from right.**

There may be a variety of reasons why some people do not believe in God. A number of them may have been brainwashed into thinking that the world can explain itself without postulating a “Creator.” These people claim that, even though there are still many things that are “unexplained,” science will eventually be able to explain everything. Others refuse to believe in a personal God who is omnipotent and loving because they consider these qualities as being incompatible with the presence of so much suffering endured by so many innocent people.

Finally, most of those who are affected by “moral blindness” have reached that stage either because of the lack of a proper moral education, or because a chain of sins has all but destroyed in them the innate distinction between what is objectively right and objectively wrong. The deprivation of a proper moral sensitivity, with the disregard of objective moral values, makes these people extremely dangerous as they can be led to justify or commit horrible crimes such as abortion, genocide, euthanasia, human cloning, and the like.

Is there a cure for such forms of blindness? Of course, there is, for **nothing is impossible with God.** The power of God’s grace is immense. And **the case of innumerable “conversions” of former atheists and criminals proves that both spiritual and moral “blindness” can be cured, thanks to God’s intervention.**

But **for God’s grace to be effective and produce its fruits, man’s cooperation is indispensable.** This means a good degree of **humility, intellectual honesty, and the courage to change one’s life.** Only sincerely humble people will accept that man cannot be the greatest value in the world. Our value is grounded and constantly dependent upon the all-encompassing and all-grounding Value we call “God.”

These people who are humble and sincere will be gifted with the treasure of **FAITH – a gift that empowers people to see beyond what our material eyes can see and to know things that are beyond simple human research and comprehension.** People who believe are enabled to contemplate and hope for realities that are more beautiful and fulfilling than what we can imagine.

WORD AND LIFE PUBLICATIONS

SEEING IS BELIEVING

The World Health Organization estimates that about forty million people around the world today are blind—the majority due to disease, poor nutrition, and parasites that would be preventable or treatable in more affluent countries. People in Jesus’ time thought blindness was caused by sinfulness—the sinfulness of the blind themselves or of their parents. In the story of Jesus’ healing in today’s Gospel, the Pharisees—the supreme rule keepers of their day—were far less concerned about the blind man than they were that Jesus broke the rule of the Sabbath. God had ordained the Sabbath as a day of rest for the Jews when most of them earned their living with hard physical labor, but over the centuries the rules governing what could and could not be done on the Sabbath seemed to be more important than the rest from labor. By healing the

man, Jesus had done something beyond the law of Moses, and that drew the condemnation of the Pharisees. They were quick to label the blind man and Jesus himself as sinners. We are prone to this same tendency to judge people who are different from us. It can range from simple annoyance when our grown children do not live their lives exactly as we do, all the way to condemnation of a whole group, such as those of a different religion or political persuasion. The more we fall into anger at these differences, the more blind we become to our own lack of charity. Saint Paul says we live in the light of Christ, so all our efforts should be to produce “every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth” (Ephesians 5:9). No one would deny that rules have their place, but things go amiss when we place the rules above everything else. That’s a blindness we cannot afford.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

KUWARESMA 2014 - SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

STATIONS OF THE CROSS ON ALL FRIDAYS OF LENT

MARCH

30(SUN) 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT (11:30 a.m. Liturgy)

APRIL

5(SAT.) *(3PM – 9PM) PABASA - DAY 1
Hosts: Catechists, PSG

6(SUN.) 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT - (Penitential Rites before Mass)
*(3PM – 9PM) PABASA - DAY 2
Hosts: MAAC, Kawan Ng Panginoon, Bagong Himig Choir

7(MON.) *(6PM – 10PM) PABASA-DAY 3
Hosts: Adult Choir, Franciscans

8(TUE.) *(6PM – 10PM) PABASA-DAY 4
Hosts: Family Life, YOUTH

9(WED.) 6pm Mass
*(7PM-10PM) PABASA- DAY 5
Hosts: Martha, Legion of Mary, Evangelization

10(THURS.) *(6PM-10PM)PABASA DAY 6
Hosts: Administrators, K of C

11(FRI.) ANOINTING OF THE SICK-7pm Mass **** NO 6PM MASS



HOLY WEEK



13 (PASSION SUNDAY) *Blessing of Palms before the 11:30 a.m. Mass

17(HOLY THURSDAY) 8:00 P.M - MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
(to be followed by a Solemn Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament)

18(GOOD FRIDAY)- 12 noon - STATIONS OF THE CROSS
3:00 - CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION

19(HOLY SATURDAY) 9:00 a.m. – LINIS- SIMBAHAN
8:00 p.m. - EASTER VIGIL MASS

20(EASTER SUNDAY) 11:30 a.m. – The Rite of “ SALUBONG” before the MASS OF THE RESURRECTION

**Come join us in the Liturgical Celebration of these great events of Lent
and the Paschal Triduum here at the FCMM.
REMEMBER TO BRING SOMEONE WITH YOU !**



NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RCLIA

(RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS)

sessions is being conducted by our DRE,
Sr. Celia Piala, op. every Sunday at 2:00 p.m. Anyone
interested in
completing their sacraments of initiation ~ Baptism,
Confirmation or
Eucharist ~ is welcome to join . If you have questions,
please come to the FCMM Office or
contact Sr. Celia @ mariaceliamagas@yahoo.ca



PRAISES, PRAYERS AND PETITIONS

We join in the *Thanksgiving Intentions* of: **LEA MATEO, MANNY & LINA LAGASCA, ROSEMARIE CASTILLO, JOSEFINA MANIGAO.**

Your prayers are humbly requested for *all the sick and suffering* members of our Mission community and their loved ones especially:
FR. FRANCISCO ALVAREZ pme, FR. ROGER BEGIN pme, FR. GERARD LOISELLE, pme, SR. LUZ PADERANGA op, MSGR. ANDRE DESROCHES, ALFREDO PADERANGA SR., ANNIE MOJADO, ELECITA ARACENA, BALDOMERA AMBAYEC, JULIA PERLAS-TAN, JOSEFINA BANGALAN, DAWN DELA PAZ, JOSIE LIMLENGCO, CARMENCITA TRIVINIO, BERNARDINO FERNANDO, ANTONIO FOZ, VICENTE TRIVINIO, FR. GEORGES MORIN, ofm.. May God bring them healing and peace.

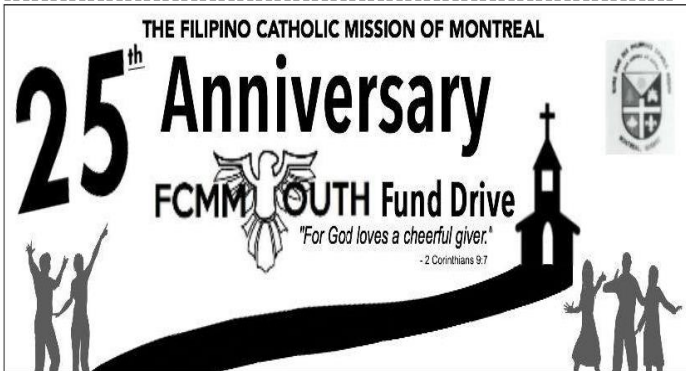
Remember also all of our *deceased relatives and friends*, especially: **JUANITA ARSOLON, ABRAHAM CELEBRADOS, MARJORIE LOPEZ, ESTANISLAO CELEBRADOS, LEONILA DE LA COSTA ROSALES, RODOLFO KAHULUGAN SR., JUAN RINON, CIPRIANO BACOSA, ZENAIDA ARAZA, ALL SOULS IN PURGATORY** and those dying everyday in battles and calamities around the world. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

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THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR APRIL 2014

** Ecology and Justice. That governments may foster the protection of creation and the just distribution of natural resources.*

** Hope for the Sick. That the Risen Lord may fill with hope the hearts of those who are being tested by pain and sickness.*

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SUPPORT OUR YOUTH MINISTRY AS THEY RAISE FUNDS FOR THE FILIPINO CHURCH ON THE OCCASION OF ITS SILVER JUBILEE.

SIX (6) GROUPS OF YOUNG PEOPLE FROM THE MINISTRY HAVE BEEN CREATED TO PARTICIPATE IN A 'NON-COMPETITIVE' COMPETITION AMONG THEMSELVES TO SELL TICKETS @ \$2.00 EACH AND TO COME UP WITH INNOVATIVE AND FUN IDEAS TO RAISE MONEY FOR THE FCMM.

**FIRST CANVASSING
MAY 3, 2014
FINAL CANVASSING
OCTOBER 25, 2014**

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



THE HOLY SEASON OF RENEWAL

"Each year, you give us this joyful season when we prepare to celebrate the Paschal Mystery with mind and heart renewed. You give us a spirit of loving reverence for you, our God, and of willing service to our neighbor."

† LENTEN OBSERVANCES IN THE FCMM †



The Stations of the Cross is being prayed on each Friday during Lent at 6:00 p.m. This typically Lenten devotion comes highly recommended by the Saints, many of whom prayed the Stations daily! Come and join us.



One way we Filipino Christians commemorate Lent is holding the **Pabasa ng Pasiong Mahal**. In the vernacular language, Tagalog, **Pabasa** means to let prose or poetry be read. **Pasiong Mahal** means sacred passion referring to the passion of Christ. In Lent, a book about Jesus Christ written in Tagalog is read in a rhyming fashion.

The participants in a **Pabasa** do not read, but sing the words of a narrative of the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ woven into a poem with stanzas of five lines and each line having eight syllables.

It is a well-cherished Christian rite commemorated since the Philippines was Christianized by the Spaniards in 1521.

This tradition of the **Pabasa** was carried over by Filipinos abroad. In an era that glorifies everything modern and urbanized, there is still room for traditional religious rituals like the **Pabasa**. The FILIPINO CATHOLIC MISSION OF MONTREAL is no different. We have celebrated the **Pabasa** since the year 2000. It is a community affair with the different ministries and groups in the FCMM taking turns in hosting the nightly event (since a 'continuous' **Pabasa** would be difficult to conduct, considering the devotees' schedules).

This year, the FCMM is inviting all to join the annual **PABASA NG SAMBAYANAN** starting on **Saturday & Sunday, April 5 & 6** (from 3 - 8 pm) and from **Monday - Thursday, April 7 -10**, (nightly, from 6- 10 p.m.) at the **CHURCH BASEMENT. JOIN US!**

Alay Kapwa

Alay means offering or to offer. **Kapwa** could mean brothers and sisters or

neighbors. **Alay Kapwa** means offering what we have to our brothers and sisters who are in need. Share in our **Lenten Action Project** for the less fortunate and the needy. Please donate non-perishable food items, personal hygiene supplies and school supplies which will be sent to the Philippines. You can deposit your donations in the boxes at the church entrances.



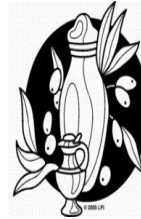
PENANCE SERVICES:



The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a very meaningful way to celebrate Lent. Individual Confessions may be scheduled with the Office. **A COMMUNAL Celebration of Penance** will be held on **Sunday, April 6th before the mass**. Please come earlier than usual and join us as we pray together for reconciliation.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

- A Special Mass with the administration of the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will be held on **Friday, April 11th at 7:00 p.m.** This Sacrament is for the living who are seriously/chronically ill with the purpose of restoring physical health to the person. It is a sacrament that can be repeated as many times as the person needs it.



No proxy-healing is allowed. For assistance and more info., call the FCMM Office (514- 387- 5292)

EASTER FLOWERS: What a beautiful way of



remembering a loved one by donating the Easter Flowers that will adorn the sanctuary of the FCMM throughout the Easter Season!

DONATION:

- One pot of Orchids/ Hydrangea- \$ 30.00
- One pot of Easter Lilies - \$25.00
- One pot of Green Plant - \$ 25.00

DONATIONS ARE TAX-RECEIPT ELIGIBLE !!!

SPONSOR a plant in memory of a deceased loved one or in honor of the living. Stop by at the FCMM Office and complete a flower/ plant form with your donation. In addition, a listing of the names of those remembered will be published in the Bulletin for the duration of this blessed season. Hurry! Limited Quantity! Deadline is on Friday, APRIL 11, 2014.