

# THE CARPENTER'S NEWSLETTER

The Official Newsletter of St. Joseph the Worker Parish, Oshawa



## MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY - 5:00 PM

SUNDAY - 9:00 & 11:00 AM

MONDAY - SATURDAY 9:00 AM

FIRST FRIDAYS - MASS & ADORATION -  
7:00 PM \*SEE LENT SCHEDULE FOR  
SPECIAL CHANGES



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## PASTOR'S DESK

Dear parishioners,

Grace and peace of the Lord be upon you. As we enter the last month of winter and look forward to a warmer climate, our hope is high that it will equally usher in better times with regards to the pandemic protocols. The restrictions are now easing off gradually. Singing is also back in the church, praise the Lord! We are conscious of keeping ourselves safe and will do everything to ensure same. We have all been strong, may the Lord of host restore us back fully.

Below you will find a general insight into our Lenten program. It is given a special cover on page 8, with some additional resources to help us live the sacred time. May the Lord Jesus who gives himself fully for us bless us and accompany us in the holy journey of Lent.

Do give a copy of this newsletter to some of our brethren that are not back in church yet, hopefully we all begin to return to full worship. And to your friends too.

*Fr. Victor Amole*  
Pastor

## Lent Schedule

**Ash Wednesday, March 2, 2022**

Mass – 9am & 7pm

### Every Friday

Mass 9am

Stations of the Cross 7:00pm

Adoration of the Eucharist 7:30pm

\*Confessions available during the  
Stations and Adoration

### Lenten Retreat

March 30, 31 & April 1 at 7pm

### Day of Confession

April 7 at 7pm

## 40 Day Lenten thoughts: Your mid-day Lenten booster

This blessed season, my wish is that we journey together with 40 thoughts over the 40 days of Lent. I shall be sending my short reflection, less than 5 minutes, every day of these 40 days. It is essentially my reflection at our daily Mass, hosted on our YouTube page and link sent out to you via Flocknote by Noon of the day.

-Fr. Victor



# GOSPEL INSPIRATION

## GO AND SIN NO MORE

*Written by Fr. Victor*

"I made my sin known to you, did not conceal my guilt.

I said, 'I shall confess my offence to Yahweh.' And you for your part, took away my guilt

-Psalm 32:5"

John Paul II was one of the most famous Popes of our time. He was famous not only because of his nearness to the people and his many travels but also because of his several writings, covering wide areas of human life and ministering in a most meaningful way to many. In 1984 he wrote an Apostolic Exhortation which he titled Reconciliation and Penance (Reconciliatio et Paenitentia), focusing on the mystery of sin. One of the sub-themes of that writing was the loss of the sense of sin in our world; the fact that sin is hardly even recognized any more. Indeed as a Yoruba proverb says, "a city that has no laws has no crime."<sup>1</sup> If sin is not even as much as recognized, well then nothing is ever wrong. All is well.

But we know all is not well. The reality of sin strikes us in the face everywhere: in the tears of relatives of a murdered person; in the agony of those who have suffered some scam or the other; in the licentious lifestyle and low morals of contemporary life; in the lies, deception and pretense that abound; in the varied forms of the promotion of the culture of death; in the private court of our individual consciences.

In a larger dimension, our shattered world reveals the grotesque faces of sin in the trampling upon human rights and freedom, various forms of discrimination, violence and terrorism, stockpiling of war weapons, unjust distribution of world resources.<sup>2</sup> For sure, the reality of sin is well established in our midst. What is often obscure is the sense of it.

The pain is that sin and its discomfiting consequences cannot be taken away without human beings who are agents of moral or immoral actions acknowledging the same and working at it. The Holy book says "If my people who bear my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my presence and turn from their wicked ways, then I will listen from heaven and forgive their sins and restore their country."<sup>3</sup> There is no forgiveness, nor remedy, nor healing without acknowledgement and repentance.

### UNIVERSAL INTENTION OF THE POPE

#### ***For a Christian response to bioethical challenges***

We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action.

The good news is that the Lord is ever inviting us to repentance. That symbolic Father of the prodigal son is ever waiting by the door. The deceit of sin sometimes is that it is too weighty to be forgiven but God says "though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool."<sup>4</sup> Or sometimes the deceit is "there is no sense in trying any more, I'll go back to the same sin right after." But good sense tells us we do not believe this manner of reasoning usually. When we do not do well in an exam, or when an athlete performs woefully, or when we trip and fall down on the ground, we do not say "there is no sense in trying again; there is no sense in standing up since it would happen again!" No, we do not. We stand up, try again, prepare ourselves, and try again and again. It is the lie of the evil one to ensnare the mind to believe that sin is always repeated and so need not be lamented. It is a snare to keep moral development at bay.

The Lord speaks to each and every conscience to realize that which has been done wrong, call it by its name, repent of it and be healed. Painting wrong acts as okay or the usage of euphemism cannot help us to overcome sins. The story of the young man who went to the priest and confessed stealing a rope without mentioning he equally dragged away the cow tethered to the end of the rope is incredible. But it is revealing of what we do when we cover sins and wrongs.

We could not wish for a more merciful Lord. He has given several assurances that his mercy endures forever. He challenged authorities in his days, asking for a greater exercise of mercy and pardon. He risked his life, pardoning offenders and mingling with so called sinners. Indeed, he died in the midst of two criminals readily pardoning one who recognized his sins and asked for salvation.

May we too experience the liberating joy of pardon. May this Lenten season be ever fruitful. May we have the moral strength to recognize our wrongs and seek forgiveness.

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<sup>1</sup> "Ilu ti o s'ofin, ese o si nibe."

<sup>2</sup> John Paul II, Reconciliation and Penance, (1984), no. 2.

<sup>3</sup> 1 Chronicles 7:14

<sup>4</sup> Isaiah 1:18





# AROUND THE PARISH

## SHROVE TUESDAY: PANCAKE DAY BEFORE LENT

Don't forget to use up your butter, sugar and eggs by making pancakes on March 1st!

## 40 DAY LENTEN REFLECTION

The Holy Season of Lent is here again. This year, for 40 days, Fr. Victor will be sharing with us his reflections at our daily Masses via flocknote. May the Lord continue to nourish us with His word of life.

## MARCH 19: SOLEMNITY OF SAINT JOSEPH

Saturday March 19 is the solemnity of Saint Joseph, Husband of Mary. Let us mark this day with our celebration of the morning Mass for that day, praying for all our families and our common family of faith as a parish. Join us at 9am, March 19 for a solemn Mass. This day being a feast day, don't forget to also celebrate this great Patron saint of Canada at home with your families!



## FIRST FRIDAY MASS AND ADORATION

March 4th is the upcoming first Friday for the month and we shall have Mass in the morning at 9 am. Being the season of Lent, we shall celebrate and pray together the Stations of the Cross at 7pm followed by an hour of Adoration of the Lord. This will be our practice for all the Fridays of Lent including the First Friday of April. Come pray and bask in the presence of the Lord. Let us use this season of grace to deepen our union with God in prayers and adoration.

## REGROUPING OF THE CHOIR

We are in the process of getting our choir together again. The hope is to hit the ground running as soon as we are able to have congregational singing again in the Church. Please indicate your interest by calling the office and we will get you listed and be in touch as soon as it is safe to meet.

## PARISH NEEDS

Many thanks to all of you for your contributions to the good of the church. And particularly to the individuals that have taken up one item or two to sponsor in the list of the needs of the parish. May God replenish you abundantly. Thank you. We have some four items remaining on that list: sponsorship of this parish monthly newsletter (\$500); changing of our lights in the church to led pod lights (\$10,000); Repairs of stairs and walkway at the back of the church (\$30,000) and replacement of steel chairs behind hall and church (\$50,000). We are grateful for your support towards this, either by taking one of the projects or contributing towards it. Tax receipt will be thankfully given for these donations.

## TOTUS TUUS

The celebrated Catholic camp program, Totus Tuus (meaning totally yours) is coming to our parish this Summer! It is an excellent Catholic camp program, exciting and full of activities to help the young ones grow in their faith as well as enjoy the summer. It will run from the 3rd to the 8th of July, 2022.

The day camp, for grades 1-6, helps children learn more about the Catholic faith in a caring, fun-filled environment. It is facilitated by highly trained, college-age Totus Tuus missionaries with support from our local Parish Coordinator, Conchita D'Souza. It runs from Monday to Friday, 8.45am - 2.30pm.

The evening program is designed for students (grades 7-12) who are seeking to deepen their faith and grow in their personal relationship with Jesus. It is facilitated by highly trained, college-age Totus Tuus missionaries, with support from our Parish Coordinator.

\*Please pick up a form for your child or contact the office for more information.

\*We are in need of families to host our Totus Tuus missionaries. Please kindly contact the parish office to indicate your interest.

# CHAPLAINCY NEWS

## HOLY DAYS

Some amazing days are coming up with the season of Lent upon us! Don't forget to keep these dates in mind so you don't miss out in celebrating them.

### MARCH 1ST, 2022: SHROVE TUESDAY

Celebrate by eating a pancake and finish up your sugary treats!

### MARCH 2nd, 2022: ASH WEDNESDAY.

Get your Ash on by visiting a chapel near you! See you at Mass friends!

EVERY FRIDAY IN LENT: Join us for the stations of the cross at 7!

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

### March 2022

#### 5 SATURDAY SOCIAL

Come join us on March 5th, 2022 after the 5 p.m. mass for fellowship and games in the church hall. It's been a while since we've all been together. Let's gather and spend time in having fun! Open to all students and alumni.

#### 11 ENCOUNTER

Adoration, praise and worship music, prayer, and confessions. Join us on March 11th at 7 p.m. sharp to spend an evening with our Lord.

#### 14 MEN'S GROUP

Interested in growing in community and building good friendships with your fellow brothers in Christ? Men's group features fellowship, prayer, study and discussion where life's questions are explored in a safe and friendly setting. Contact us for more info and how to join the Chaplaincy gentlemen on March 21st in person.

#### 16 WOMEN'S GROUP

Calling all ladies! Come join us and chat about some pressing topics of today while discovering the feminine genius and growing more fully into the woman God has called you to be! See you March 16th in person.

## PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH

The feast day of St. Joseph is on March 19. Let's take a moment to pray together! Ready? Go!

O God, in your ineffable providence, you were pleased to choose Blessed Joseph to be the spouse of your most holy Mother; grant, we beg you, that we may be worthy to have him for our intercessor in heaven whom on earth we venerate as our Protector: You who live and reign forever and ever. Amen. St. Joseph, pray for us!



## HOW TO PREPARE FOR LENT

Ignatian Spirituality shares three beautiful questions/statements that we can ask ourselves prior to embarking on this season of Lent.

Take the time to ask God everyday:

*"What does my soul need?"*

*"What about my life makes you happy?"*



Then tell God and yourself:

*"I want to be open to the graces of this Lenten season."*

Sometimes it is not so much as to what to 'give up' as opposed to what 'to be' this Lenten season. How one uses this period it to transform their lives not only in this season but going forward.

## DURING LENT

If you choose to refrain from or do something different for God this Lenten season, make sure to say 'yes' to a healthy habit that can take its' place. More often than not, we refrain or make a decision to do something for God and unconsciously say yes to something else to fill the void (at times with something that might not be the healthiest). What also elevates your choice this Lenten season is to make sure to join your decision is united with prayer so that your work is offered as a sacrifice for God as opposed to a decision made for only yourself in mind. This can also help you to be fervent in whatever you choose to do during the 40 days.

*Let's look at an example:*

*Meet Gala.*



*Gala Appleseed chooses to wake up at 5:30 a.m. each morning during the season of Lent. Gala wakes up, eats breakfast and then not knowing what to do with all the extra time she has in the mornings, chooses to watch an episode of her favourite netflix show. However, Gala's choice this season of Lent can be more fruitful in two ways:*

*a) Gala can choose to be specific with her decision that involves a more directed purpose. E.g. She can wake up at 5:30 a.m. and use that time to shovel or salt her neighbour's driveways/sidewalks.*

*b) Gala can unite her decision with prayer so that it is a sacrifice made for God. E.g. She can use the time to go for a run while praying her rosary or use the extra hour she has to visit her local Adoration chapel.*



# SAINTS OF THE MONTH

## SAINT FEAST DAYS & QUOTES

March 4 - St Casimir of Poland

March 7 -Saint Perpetua and Felicity

"We were in the hands of our persecutors, when my father, out of the affection he bore me, made new efforts to shake my resolution. I said to him: 'Can that vessel, which you see, change its name?' He said: 'No.' I replied: 'Nor can I call myself any other than I am, that is to say a Christian.'" (St Perpetua)

March 8 -Saint John of God

"Whether you like it or not, you will grow apart from human beings. However, Christ is faithful and always with you. For Christ provides all things."

March 9 -St Frances of Rome

"It is most laudable in a married woman to be devout, but she must never forget that she is a housewife. And sometimes she must leave God at the altar to find Him in her housekeeping."

March 17 -St Patrick

"[God] watched over me before I knew him, and before I learned sense or even distinguished between good and evil, and he protected me, and consoled me as a father would his son."

March 18 -St Cyril of Jerusalem

"The dragon sits by the side of the road, watching those who pass. Beware lest he devour you. We go to the Father of Souls, but it is necessary to pass by the dragon."

March 19 -St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

March 23 -St Turibius of Mogrovejo

"Christ said "I am the Truth", He did not say "I am the custom."

March 25 -The Annunciation of the Lord

I ARISE TODAY

THROUGH THE STRENGTH OF HEAVEN:

LIGHT OF SUN

BRILLIANCE OF MOON

SPLENDOR OF FIRE

SPEED OF LIGHTNING

SWIFTNESS OF WIND

DEPTH OF SEA

STABILITY OF EARTH

FIRMNESS OF ROCK.

-ST. PATRICK

## STORY OF A SAINT

Saint Joseph

First Century

Feast: March 19th (Husband of Mary),

May 1st (the Worker)

Patron: Fathers, workers, immigrants, unborn children, the dying, virgins, the Universal Church, and many countries, including Austria, Belgium, Canada, Croatia, Slovenia and Peru

Although Saint Joseph is one of the most popular saints in the Church calendar, we know little about his life. But we do know the most important thing, his secret of holiness: Joseph always did what God wanted him to do. "When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him" (Mt 1:24). Sometimes he had to struggle to discern God's will, but when he received divine guidance, he acted promptly. Joseph's mission was to support Mary and Jesus. As the foster father of Jesus, Joseph brought him up as a devout Jew and taught him the skills of a carpenter and builder.

Joseph loved his family and provided for Jesus and Mary through his hard work. His silence helps us to realize the profound interior life he lived. Tradition tells us that he died in the presence of Jesus and Mary, so he is invoked as the patron of a holy death, one that leads to eternal life. Just as Joseph provided for the Holy Family, he also provides for the extended family that Jesus established: the Church.



# SHARING OF THE MONTH

## GOD'S INBOX

*Written by Theresa Kellen*

Do you ever put prayers in God's inbox only to take them back out again? You know, those prayer requests that you make and then, when they are not fulfilled (in your mind) quickly enough or in the 'right' way, you take them back and try to deal with them yourself? To fix what seems to be lacking in His response.

Putting things in and out of God's inbox shows a lack of trust and faith in Him and His plan. The plan that is designed for our salvation and joining Him in heaven for all eternity. He wants us to choose to be with Him forever. Our prayers and plans often deal with today, tomorrow or the newest shiny thing. We want the fleeting; just for the moment in this world. We are easily distracted from the eternal. Even when we pray for that which is more necessary, we put limits or bargain with God. If you answer this request, I will do this. Jesus tells us clearly that the Father knows what He is doing – "how much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask Him". (Mt 7:11)

The sin of pride tells us to put faith and trust in only ourselves. This is supported by the world we live in. Always look out for yourself. Do what you think is best for you. But this is not the way Jesus taught us. He tells us to have faith. "If you have the faith the size of a mustard seed ... nothing will be impossible for you." (Mt 17:20) God's time and ways are not the same as our ways and time. God knows what, when and how to give us every good thing. All He asks is for us to trust. We don't trust.

I know for myself that whenever I take things back, it rarely turns out well. I can be happy for the moment but it doesn't last. When I leave prayers to His time and way, it works out better. Sometimes it takes a long time for the complete picture to be revealed, but when it is, joy and peace are the result. By trusting in God and His infinite plan, we can keep our eyes on the prize. The prize of eternal joy in heaven.

## KOFC SHOPPING CARD PROGRAM



The advertisement features a blue and black background. At the top left, a photo shows a family at a grocery store. Below it, a circular inset shows a man hugging a child. The Knights of Columbus logo is prominently displayed in the center. Text on the left describes the program, while a circular inset on the right shows a woman holding a card.

**Knights of Columbus®**

**KNIGHTS COUNCIL 9989  
SHOPPING CARD PROGRAM**

Your purchase of a Shopping Card helps to support local Charities in need.

We are grateful for your support.

Knights Charity Shopping Card Program is run by members of the St. Joseph the Worker Parish, Knights of Columbus.



**Shopping Cards are now on hand for purchase.**

**Visit the Knights of Columbus Kiosk or ask a Knight for assistance.**

For more info about our many programs,  
please visit us on the web.

[www.kofc9989.com](http://www.kofc9989.com)  
[giftcards@kofc9989.com](mailto:giftcards@kofc9989.com)

## A GREAT OPPORTUNITY

Totus Tuus is a Catholic summer camp that is coming once again to our parish and this year it will be from July 3-8, 2022. However, there is a lot of preparation that goes into this event as well as a lot of support that is needed to make this camp a success. Your generosity is greatly appreciated when it comes to the following needs:

### HOST TWO MISSIONARIES

House the university-aged missionaries (a team of two women or two men) at your home for the week of their stay at the parish from July 3-8.

### SPONSOR A MEAL

Either host the missionaries for an dinner meal at your home or purchase a meal for them to have at the parish.

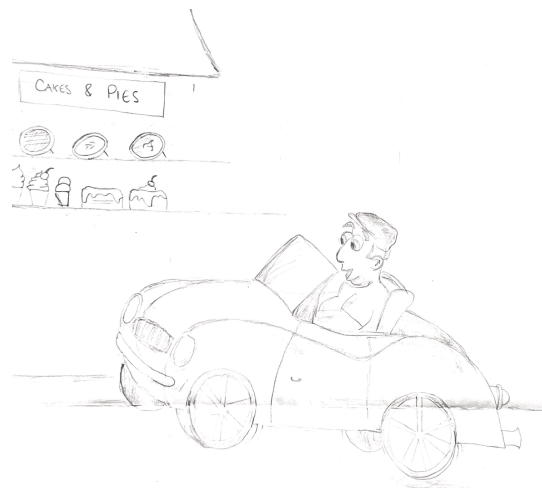
### SPONSOR A CHILD

Give the gift of the week of camp to a child in need from our parish of St. Joseph the Worker. For more details please contact the parish office regarding how you can contribute to sponsor a child.

We cannot thank you enough for your support for the children and youth of our parish. May God our Father bless you abundantly for your generosity!

## ANECDOTE OF THE MONTH

A comical, but illustrative, story shows us how adept we are at rationalizing our actions: A very overweight man decided that it was time to shed a few pounds. He went on a new diet and took it seriously. He even changed his usual driving route to the office in order to avoid his favorite bakery. One morning, however, he arrived at the office carrying a large, sugar-coated coffee cake. His office mates roundly chided him, but he only smiled, shrugged his shoulders and said, "What could I do? This is a very special cake. This morning, from force of habit, I accidentally drove by my favorite bakery. There in the window were trays of the most delicious goodies. I felt that it was no accident that I happened to pass by, so I prayed, 'Lord, if you really want me to have one of these delicious coffee cakes, let me find a parking place in front of the bakery.' Sure enough, on the ninth trip around the block, there it was!" Temptation is strong, but we must be stronger.



*Special thanks to a member of our parish community who drew the illustration to accompany the anecdote of the month. Have drawing talents and want to be featured in our Newsletter? Contact the main office for more details on how you can be the next artist!*

*Illustrated by Anthony Barrese*

## HOW TO CONTINUE GIVING

We know that many parishioners would like to continue to donate to the parish on a regular basis during this time. As a non-profit organization, our parish relies heavily on your financial assistance, but especially since we are unable to open for Mass due to the current health crisis. Here are some ways to continue giving:

### SECURE MAILBOXES AT THE PARISH

If you would like to make your usual weekly donation or otherwise support us in this regard, we invite you to make a donation at the parish.

We now have TWO secure mailboxes available for our parishioners.

The mailboxes are locked and under 24 hour surveillance so your donations are secure and will be checked daily.

### PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING (PAG)

If you are interested in pre-authorized giving, please contact the parish office to obtain a registration form. Once the form is completed, feel free to email the form along with a scanned copy or photo of a voided cheque to [development@archtoronto.org](mailto:development@archtoronto.org) for processing. Contributions would then be withdrawn from your bank account on the 20th of each month.

### ONLINE GIVING

If you would prefer to donate online, there are various options available:

1. Contribute via credit card as a one-time or recurring contribution
2. Contribute via online banking by emailing your name, address, parish name and municipality (e.g. Durham and Scarborough) to [campaign@archtoronto.org](mailto:campaign@archtoronto.org), in response to which the Archdiocese of Toronto will email you account information which you can use to set up the Archdiocese as a payee for the purposes of online banking. Your one-time or recurring gift will then be forwarded to our parish.

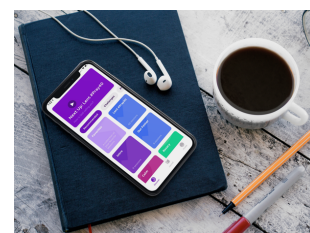
We thank all of our parishioners for their generous donations during this difficult time.

### WILLS

Do you know a bequest in your Will to our Church is an acknowledgment of your returning to God a portion of the gifts He has bestowed on you during your life-time. Charitable bequests can have a favourable impact on your overall estate plan and positively affect gifts you make to your loved ones. Gift of securities too can support your parish. Please call the office to find out more or see <https://www.archtoronto.org/en/offices-and-ministries/social-justice--outreach/development-and-sharelife/home/planned-giving/>

### INTRODUCING HALLOW: THE #1 CATHOLIC APP

Hallow is a Catholic prayer app that offers audio-guided meditation sessions to help us grow in our faith & spiritual lives and find peace in God. Explore over 1,000 different sessions on contemplative prayer, meditation, Catholic Bible readings, music, and more. In today's world with its distraction, stress and anxiety, Hallow becomes a one-stop app that helps us to pray as Catholics and also doubles as a formidable tool for meditation. There are other functions that the app could offer. It is definitely worth a try.



Hallow has a free version and a subscription version. But even the free version does give abundant resources that can aid us in our journey of faith. No wonder the app has remained on the top list, actually the very 1st Catholic app in mobile apps' store. Check out the Hallow App on your phone's app stores and benefit from its abundant resources. As we look forward to the beginning of Lent by March, this app is truly a needed tool in our spiritual arsenal.

**Hallow**  
Catholic Prayer & Meditation App



# THE CARPENTER'S NEWSLETTER



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## CONTRIBUTIONS

If you are interested in contributing towards this new parish initiative (i.e., the printing costs associated with this publication) please contact the Parish Office. We thank you in advance for your kindness and generosity.

If you are interested in advertising your professional services in the Carpenter's Newsletter, please contact the parish office for more details.

## LENT

A couple of notes to remind us of the rules of the church to help us practice our faith and prepare for our Lenten journey.

- Canon 1250 - All Fridays through the year and at the time of Lent are penitential days and times throughout the entire Church.
- Canon 1251 - Abstinence from eating meat or another food according to the prescriptions of the conference of bishops is to be observed on Fridays throughout the year unless they are solemnities; abstinence and fast are to be observed on Ash Wednesday and on the Friday of the Passion and Death of Our Lord Jesus Christ.
- Canon 1252 - All persons who have completed their fourteenth year are bound by the law of abstinence; all adults are bound by the law of fasting up to the beginning of their sixtieth year. Nevertheless, pastors and parents are to see to it that minors who are not bound by the law of fast and abstinence are educated in an authentic sense of penance.
- Canon 1253: It is for the conference of bishops to determine more precisely the observance of fast and abstinence and to substitute in whole or in part for fast and abstinence other forms of penance especially works of charity and exercises of piety.

Check out our website for more information:

<https://stjosephtheworkeros.archtoronto.org>

## 40 DAY REFLECTION

Join Fr. Victor on a 40 days journey of short Lenten reflections. You will receive the reflection daily via Flocknote during Lent, apart from Sunday.

You can also visit our website to access it.

Join in and journey through Lent together!

