

Focus on Faith

Annual World Day of Prayer

The annual World Day of Prayer sponsored by the Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada will be conducted in Markham this Sunday evening, March 5, 7:30 p.m. at St. Patrick's Church, 5633 Highway 7.

Participating congregations include Grace Anglican, Markham Baptist, St. Andrew's Presbyterian, St. Andrew's United, The Salvation Army Markham Corps and St. Patrick's.

Theme of this year's liturgy, prepared by women of Indonesia, is "Talitha cum! Young Woman, Stand Up!"

Guest homilist for the occasion is social justice worker and teacher Joelle Morgan, member of the Student Christian Movement and the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace.

Youth from the local churches will be taking a prominent part in this Day of Prayer service.

All are welcome to share in this special evening of prayer.

A time of hospitality will follow.

For additional details, please call

294-5955.

St. Patrick's Launches "Landings"

St. Patrick's Church is set to launch its 2nd annual "Landings" program on Monday, March 20.

"Landings" is a 10 week course in which small groups of parishioners walk with returning Catholics who have been away from the Church. Each tells their story of "returning" and discuss contemporary Catholic themes.

The first "Landings" series met in the Spring of '99 and proved to be a very enriching experience for all who participated.

This year's "Landings" agenda begins

this Sun., Mon., and Tues., March 5, 6, 7, with the National Catholic Parish Mission broadcast on Vision TV at 9 p.m.

Second step in the program involves Ash Wednesday services, March 15th at St. Patrick's. First small group meetings will begin Monday, March 20th.

For additional information, please call Trenea Finnegan at 294-5955 or 470-7299.

Submitted by Pamela Roth, St. Patrick's Church

World Day of Prayer Service
March 3rd - 2:00 pm
Heritage Centre
17 Anna Russell Way
Unionville

CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH
131 Main St., Unionville 474-0183
Visit us at www.unitedchurch.com
Services 9:30 & 11:00 a.m.
30 Hour Famine Youth Sunday
"A warm welcome awaits you"

BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH
20 Union St., Unionville - 477-1731
(Near Hwy. 7 & Main)
Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.
Worship - 10:30 a.m.

The Lion's Den
Christian Book Shoppe
Serving Your Family and Church
115 Main St., North
Markham Village Tel: (905) 472-8412
Diana Whitehead

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
Celebration of the Lord's Supper
Sunday, March 5 at 11 a.m.
Church School for all ages.
143 Main St. Markham
(905) 294-4736

CENTENNIAL COMMUNITY CHURCH
A Fellowship Baptist Church
A Church To Call Home
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. "Look Who's Struttin' His Stuff"
Pastor Mark Lowrie
Service in Cantonese also at 11:00 a.m.
AWANA SUNDAY
8176 McCowan Road (just south of Hwy. 7)
Markham, ON Tel: 905-475-7695
Home of Centennial Child Care Centre

ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH
32 Main St. N. Markham - 294-0351
SUNDAY SERVICE - 10:00 A.M.

"The Touch of God"

People communicate with others in many ways. We use words a lot, of course, but you don't have to observe people together too long before you realize that people communicate with much more than words. And of all the means of non-verbal communication, none is so effective as *touch*.

From a punch in the nose, to a gentle reassuring pressure of a hand, to a sexual caress, touch is the most direct way of expressing what is going on in a relationship, often much *more* effective than words. And in those moments when words let us down, such as moments of pain and grief, sorrow or intense involvement with feelings *too deep for words*, touch is sometimes the only means of communication left.

Christians believe that God reached out through Jesus to touch humankind. As we use the Sacrament of Baptism to symbolize our intent to place the touch of God upon the baptized, not just once, but with an ongoing touch that lasts a lifetime.

The sacrament itself is a symbol of our intention to bring to reality in the life of the baptized those principles that we saw at work in Jesus' life, principles of tolerance and respect for all persons, that set people free to be all that they can be. Setting free those principles in our lives and in the lives of others is to bring the touch of God on us all. May we open ourselves to the power of that touch until we realize and claim for ourselves the promise given to the people of God, that they would receive blessing, and that through them, all the world would be blessed.

Dr. Frederick A. Styles

To advertise
your church
services
please call
Susan O'Brien
294-2200
All Faiths Welcome

HOPE
in the new millennium

MARKHAM MISSIONARY CHURCH
Evangelical Missionary Church of Canada

Sunday, March 5, 2000

9:00 a.m. Church Family Pancake Breakfast

10:55 a.m. Pastor Thurton speaking

6:30 p.m. Communion Service

Meditation by Pastor Loughheed

Please call church for information regarding other programs available to you and your family.

5438 Major MacKenzie Dr. E.
Markham (905) 294-5081

GRACE CHURCH

ANGELICAN 294-3184

19 Parkway Ave., Markham

(PARKWAY RUNS EAST FROM HWY. 48)

(3 STOPLIGHTS NORTH OF HWY. 7)

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sundays at 8:30 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, March 5, 2000

CONFIRMATION at 10:00 a.m.

with Bishop J. Taylor Pryce

Shrove Tuesday, March 7, 2000

PANCAKE LUNCH 11:30 a.m. - 1:00

p.m. & SUPPER 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

All Welcome

ASH WEDNESDAY, March 8

Services at 10:00 a.m. & 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 25

ELDERSPIRIT WORKSHOP

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 26

SPECIAL VESTRY MEETING

following 9:00 a.m. service

LENTEN ECUMENICAL SERVICE at

7:30 p.m.

Speaker:

The Rev. Dr. S. Peter Wyatt

Friday, March 31

GAMES NIGHT at 7:30 p.m.

The Rev. Paul G. Walker - Rector

JOIN THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC PARISH MISSION

EVERYONE IS WELCOME AT

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH

14 Highgate Drive

(2 blocks north of Steeles on Birchmount Rd.)

2000 Catholic Parishes across Canada will be tuned in to Vision TV on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday evenings March 5, 6 and 7 at 9:00 o'clock.

His Excellency Bishop Paul Andre Durocher, Auxiliary Bishop of Sault Ste. Marie will lead us to a deeper understanding of ourselves and our faith.

All are welcome to come and view it together in church and then join in some light refreshments.

Here at St. Thomas the Apostle on the three evenings, a special Mission Mass at 8:00 p.m. will precede the Bishop's presentation at 9:00 o'clock.

These three evenings will prepare us better to begin the Holy Season of Lent.

Here at St. Thomas the Apostle Church, the Blessing and Distribution of Ashes will take place during the 12 Noon and 7:30 p.m. Masses on Ash Wednesday, March 8.

(If you can't join us, be sure to tune in Vision TV on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday at 9:00 p.m.)

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WE WIN OR IT'S FREE