



Parish Week

*One does not live on bread alone,
but on every word that comes
from the mouth of God.*

Sunday, 15 March 2020

Saturday, 14 Mar.

- 8.00 am Mass: Int. Fr. Elias (friend)
1.00 pm World Day of Prayer
5.00 pm Mass: † Dominic & Maria Fernandes (Joe)

SUNDAY, 15 MAR. / LENT 3-A

■ *Homilist: Fr. Edwin Galea*

- 9.00 am Mass: † Estrella Depaudhan (Gaela & family)
10.30 am Mass: † Rosie Rebello (family)
12.00 pm Mass: Int. Josephine Macabali (family)
- *Presider: Archbishop Lawrence Saldanha*
1.00 pm Knights of Columbus
7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

Monday, 16 Mar.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Jack Kavanagh (Evelyn)
7.00 pm Mass: Int. Thanksgiving Agnes Joseph
(Lillian D'Souza)

Tuesday, 17 Mar. / St. Patrick, bishop

- 8.00 am Mass: † Patricia Kang (Go family)
7.00 pm Mass: † Magdalena Gatchalian (family)

Wednesday, 18 Mar. / St. Cyril of Jerusalem, bishop & doctor

- 8.00 am Mass: † Melecio & Valeria Canda (family)
7.00 pm Mass: † Joseph Wong & Maria Lau (Angela Tam)

Thursday, 19 Mar. / St. Joseph, Spouse of Mary

- 8.00 am Mass: † Amalia Ongjoco (Tolentino family)
7.00 pm Mass: † Anne Jane Hughes (Carmela Fidalio)

Friday, 20 Mar.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Olga Braganza (children)
11.00 am ► Ina Grafton Nursing Home Mass
7.00 pm Mass: † Annie Jane Hughes (family)
7.30 pm Stations of the Cross (St. Vincent de Paul)

Saturday, 21 Mar.

- 8.00 am Mass: Int. Maria Cenizal (family)
9.00 am Free Tax Clinic (to 3 pm)
11.30 am Stewardship Lenten Ministry Reflection
5.00 pm Mass: † Remedios Estavillo,
3rd year Death Anniversary (Ong family)

SUNDAY, 22 MAR. / LENT 4-A

■ *Homilist: Fr. Elias Chachati*

■ *2nd Collection: Maintenance*

- 9.00 am Mass: † Frank & Pamela DeVerno (Pamela)
10.30 am Mass: † Ernesto & Lydia Rodas (family)
12.00 pm Mass: † Cirilo Serneo (family)
7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

Focus on the Word

3rd Sunday of Lent, Year A

Exodus 17.3-7; Romans 5.1-8; John 4.5-42

O God, author of every mercy and of all goodness, who in fasting, prayer and almsgiving have shown us a remedy for sin, look graciously on this confession of our lowliness, that we who are bowed down by our conscience, may always be lifted up by your mercy. Amen.

Pray for the Deceased

Pedro Amian Elizabeth Cody
Cyril D'Souza Michael DePinto
Mary Kelly Marilyn Parker
Barbara Rabold Jocelyn Tejada

Rosalia Mala Depositario
Barbara Teresa Miles

The 28 victims of the dam collapse in Siberia



Lenten Day of Confessions

Wednesday, 25 March: 4 – 5 pm, 7.30 – 9 pm

Cardinal Collins is inviting Catholics across the Archdiocese to receive the *Sacrament of Reconciliation* on a Lenten DAY OF CONFESSIONS. At our Church, it will be on Wednesday, 25 March. Parishioners may come for Confession from 4.00 – 5.00 pm, and again following the 7.00 pm evening Mass, when we will have Confessors available from 7.30 – 9.00 pm.

Lenten Masses

During Lent, there will be an evening Mass at 7.00 pm Monday to Friday, from Ash Wednesday to Holy Thursday.

Stations of the Cross

Each Friday during Lent, the *Stations of the Cross* will be prayed congregationally after the 7.00 pm Mass.

For private use, the parish *Stations of the Cross* booklet may be obtained at the office for \$2.

The remaining Facilitators for 2020 will be:

- | | | |
|-------|----|----------------------------------|
| March | 20 | St. Vincent de Paul |
| | 27 | Greeters & Eucharistic Ministers |
| April | 3 | Knights of Columbus |
| | 10 | Lectors |



COMING UP

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|---------|--|
| 23 Mar. | ► St. Albert School Mass (1:00 pm) |
| 26 Mar. | St. Maria Goretti School Reconciliation (8:45 am); |
| 31 Mar. | St. Maria Goretti School Mass (12:30 pm) |
| 13 Apr. | Infant Baptism Parent/Godparent Meeting (7:40 pm) |
| 19 Apr. | Infant Baptism (1:30 pm) |
| 21 Apr. | Queen Elizabeth II: birthday (1926) |

Website stmariagoretti.archtoronto.org

For the *Prayer to St. Michael*, and more information on parish activities, see pages 3 and following in the website bulletin.

*If today you hear God's voice,
harden not your hearts !*

ShareLife 2020

Living the Gospel!

3rd Sunday of Lent, 15 March

*Living the Gospel by
helping young mothers*

Kristen was 17 when she found out she was pregnant. She was worried she wouldn't be able to graduate from high school, and called ROSE OF SHARON. At this agency funded by *ShareLife*, she was able to focus on school work with the help of child care by the agency. Kristen graduated and was accepted into the medical administration program at Seneca College. "Without ROSE OF SHARON," says Kristen, "there's no way I would have believed college was a possibility."

March 29 is *ShareLife* Sunday.

Please give generously. *You can work wonders!*

Speaker from St. Augustine Seminary

At our Masses on 21/22 March, our parish is honoured to have a Seminarian speak to us on *ShareLife*, on behalf of ST. AUGUSTINE SEMINARY: **Martin Lugo**, in the photo at right, with **Fr. Donato** and **Eduardo Lopes**.

Martin Santos Lugo Tapia was born in Mexico City, the first of 8 siblings. At the age of 18, he moved to live with his father in Memphis, Tennessee. Martin has been studying at St. Augustine Seminary since 2016.



Sacramental Preparation

All Sacramental Preparation meetings and instructions will be rescheduled after the current School Shutdown ends.

Sunday Mass Slips

As long as we are able to celebrate Mass and host and offer support to our Prayer Groups and other ministries, Candidates may continue to use their SUNDAY MASS SLIPS.

World Day of Prayer

14 March, 1.00 pm

"Rise, take your mat and walk."

THE THEME FOR 2020, WRITTEN BY THE
COMMITTEE OF ZIMBABWE

The *World Day of Prayer* is a worldwide movement of Christian women of many traditions, who come together in early March each year to celebrate a common prayer service. Refreshments will be served after the service; all parishioners are welcome. For further details, see the website bulletin.



Archbishop Lawrence Saldanha

60th Anniversary
of Ordination

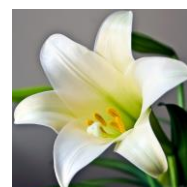
*Presider, 12 noon
Mass, St. Maria
Goretti Church*



The Parish of St. Maria Goretti is honoured to welcome **Archbishop Lawrence Saldanha**, archbishop emeritus of Lahore, Pakistan, who this year celebrates his 60th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood. His Grace will celebrate the 12.00 noon Mass at our parish on Sunday, 15 March 2020. A reception will follow in the Vestibule.

Easter Flowers

Parishioners are invited to sponsor this year's display of EASTER FLOWERS in our Sanctuary. Envelopes are available at the office.



Stewardship Committee 14 March

The next meeting of the Stewardship Committee will be at 11.30 am on Saturday 14 March. All Ministry Heads are invited to come and help plan the Lenten Ministry Reflection on 21 March.

Stewardship Ministry Reflection 21 March

All parish Liturgical and Service ministry participants are invited to a STEWARDSHIP LENTEN MINISTRY REFLECTION at 11.30 am on Saturday, 21 March. This is a time of prayer, to grow in our relationship with Christ and in service to our parish. Make sure to advise your Ministry Facilitator of your attendance, and see the website bulletin for more details.

R&R Report 22 March

The next R&R report will be made at all Masses on 21/22 March, providing details on the most recent developments in the repair and renewal of our Church.

Stewardship

2019 Receipts, 2020 Envelopes

The Charitable *Tax Receipts* for all recorded donations during 2019, as well as the 2020 *Sunday Offertory Envelopes* are ready for pick up in the Office Lobby after Mass.

What is the real purpose of our *tithe*? It serves the practical function of supporting vital church ministries. However the deeper purpose of the *tithe* is to *learn to fear the Lord*. God has promised to give wisdom and blessing to those who fear Him. "Set aside a *tithe* of all the yield of your seed that is brought in yearly from the field. In the presence of the Lord your God, you shall eat the *tithe* of your grain, your wine, and your oil as well as the firstlings of your herd and flock, so that you may learn to fear the Lord our God always." (Deuteronomy 14:22-23)



Stewardship

2019 Receipts, 2020 Sunday Envelopes

The Charitable *Tax Receipts* for all recorded donations during 2019 are in the Office Lobby.

Many thanks to all our faithful parishioners for your generous support of our wonderful parish through your weekly stewardship! This is an act of honour to God, our Creator.

Parishioners are invited to pick up their *2020 Sunday Offertory Envelopes* in the Office Lobby after Mass. They are for registered parishioners only; if you are new to the parish and have not yet registered, *welcome to our neighbourhood!* Go to the Office window, introduce yourself, and complete a *registration form*.

Ensure that you have your own box: *the number on the label and on the envelopes* must be identical. If you notice any discrepancy, advise the parish office right away. If you use someone else's envelopes, your donation would be credited to the other person.

Please write the amount of your *donation* in the spaces provided on the front of your envelopes. (If you miss doing this, our financial advisors must stop to do so, and this *really* slows down the recording process.)

Changes for our Parish Records

Please notify the Parish Office at 416-261-0076, if you:

- Have a change in your family
- Have a change of address
- Have a new phone number, e-mail, cell phone
- Will be moving out of the Parish

A simple phone call would keep our parish records updated and eliminate unnecessary postage and returned mail.

Tithing

Whether there is a crisis or not, we have to make difference, for our God is Great. Determine through your faith that the shadow of the Almighty will be upon you. Even if work is slow and prosperity is limited, things will be different because you will act by faith. Every Sunday, every Day of the Lord, is a time of consecration for tithers. Present your tithe to the Almighty along with your thanksgiving for all blessings received. That way, you will honour God and ensure the secure ministry of the Church.

The Lord of hosts has sworn, "As I have designed, so shall it be; and as I have planned, so shall it come to pass."

- *Isaiah 14:24*

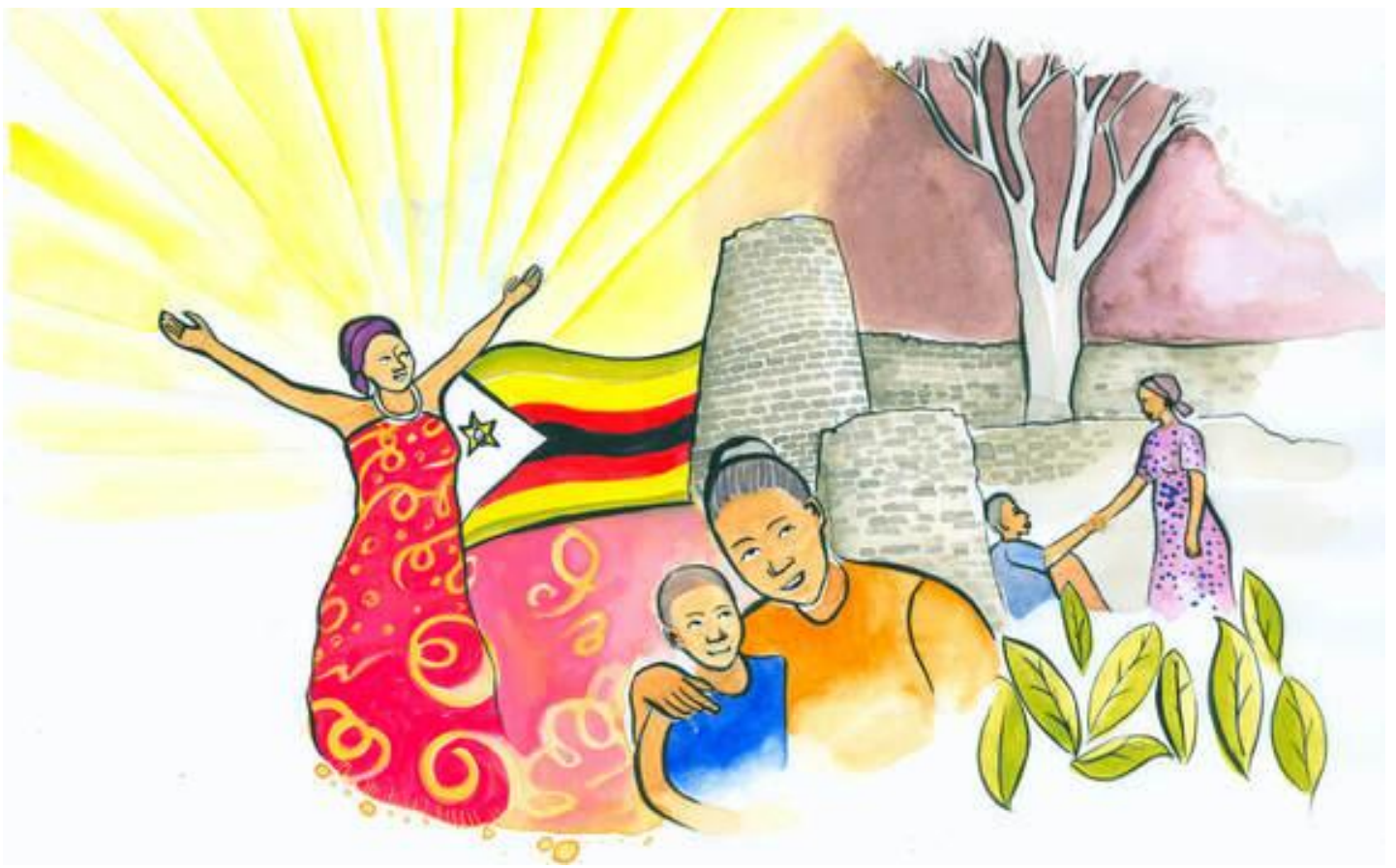
Therefore the Lord the God of Israel declares, "I promised that your family and the family of your ancestor should go in and out before me forever;" but now the Lord declares, "Far be it from me; for those who honor me I will honor, and those who despise me shall be treated with contempt."

- *1 Samuel 2:30*



PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly hosts, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.



World Day of Prayer

14 March, 1.00 pm

“Rise, take your mat and walk.”

THE THEME FOR 2020, WRITTEN BY THE
COMMITTEE OF ZIMBABWE

St. Maria Goretti Parish is honoured to host this year's local celebration of the *World Day of Prayer*, a worldwide movement of Christian women of many traditions, who come together in early March each year to celebrate a common prayer time. Through the *World Day of Prayer*, we affirm our faith in Jesus Christ and engage with the whole world, are enriched by the faith experience of Christians of other countries and cultures, and use our own talents in the service of God's world. Prayer and actions are inseparable, and both have immeasurable influence in the world.

Refreshments will be served after the service.

History of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity was first proposed in 1908 as an observance within the Catholic Church by **Fr. Paul Wattson**, founder of the FRANCISCAN FRIARS OF THE ATONEMENT in Graymoor, New York. Fr. Wattson, an Anglican, founded his order in order to reconcile Protestants and Catholics. Fr. Wattson and his community eventually joined the Catholic Church. In November of 2014, the US Conference of Catholic Bishops endorsed the cause for Fr. Wattson's canonization.

Since the founding of the *World Council of Churches* in 1948, many other Christian denominations around the world have come to celebrate the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in January. Protestant women's groups organized a *World Day of Prayer* in March to promote solidarity. Eventually, Catholics were invited to join.

Cardinal Collins: 'Instead of developing an overall culture of care, we are rushing toward death on demand'

By **Cardinal Thomas Collins**, *contributor*
THE TORONTO STAR, Monday, 2 March 2020

In Ontario, we allow cooling-off periods for gym memberships and new condominium purchases but the federal government doesn't seem to believe a similar reflection period is necessary for euthanasia. New legislation has been introduced that radically expands the eligibility criteria for "medical assistance in dying" or MAiD. Pain medication and other resources and procedures can indeed be used effectively to medically assist people who are dying. But that is not what MAiD involves: it means giving a lethal injection to people who are not dying, so that they will die.

Those who oppose euthanasia expressed concern in 2016, when it was first legalized, that once the state legally provided death for some, it would only be a matter of time before its criteria would be expanded. This was dismissed as a slippery slope argument; we were told that "safeguards" would protect the most vulnerable.

Now, less than four years later, we are far down the slope.

If Bill C-7 is passed, those whose death is "reasonably foreseeable" will no longer need a 10-day reflection period before receiving a lethal injection. One will not need a terminal illness to be euthanized. Under this legislation, any serious incurable illness, disease, or disability would render a person eligible for euthanasia. This is distressing for many who feel vulnerable and will now meet the criteria for lethal injection. People with disabilities already face substantial challenges relating to employment, housing, appropriate medical care and support. We should be alarmed that those who have struggled for decades to be treated with equality may well be pressured, whether from family, friends or even their own health care professionals, to "ease their burden" and end their lives.



Their lives matter. They should never be seen as a burden to our society. These people need assisted living, not assisted death.

This is a new chapter of death on demand. Canada has cast aside restrictions at a far quicker pace than any other jurisdiction in the world that has legalized euthanasia.

Thomas Collins

Heart of Jesus, Symbol of Love

The Church, governed and taught by the Holy Ghost, has approved and recommended devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. In our age of religious indifference, when fervor and charity have grown cold, Jesus exhibits to the world His Sacred Heart as the symbol of God's infinite love - the symbol of His own generous self-sacrificing love for men. Jesus shows His Divine Heart as a furnace whose burning rays of love are able to reanimate faith and rekindle love in hearts grown cold and ungrateful.

But why His Heart? Because in every language, in every age, the heart is regarded as the natural symbol of love and affection. What more natural and expressive symbol is there, then, of the excessive love of Jesus than His Sacred Heart? The direct and material object of devotion to the Sacred Heart is the real, physical Heart of Jesus - the Heart of flesh, the living and loving Heart of our Blessed Lord; the Heart that beat in His Divine breast at the moment of the Incarnation; the Heart that loved us during the life of Jesus on earth.



Corona Virus update

Procedures re: COVID 19

To: All Parishes and the Catholic Pastoral Centre

From: Neil MacCarthy, Director, Public Relations & Communications

Date: 3 March 3, 2020

Re: Update on Coronavirus for Parishes & Staff

As you are aware, active cases of the coronavirus (COVID-19) worldwide have led to understandable concern among the faithful. The number of cases in the province of Ontario remain low, with 17 confirmed positive cases of the coronavirus as of March 3, 2020.

Our goal is to act responsibly, based on credible information from reliable sources. We have been in regular contact with local health officials and will continue this dialogue. Information from the provincial website (Ontario.ca/COVID-19) provides basic background on the coronavirus and practical advice for all organizations:

Coronaviruses are spread mainly from person to person through close contact, for example, in a household, workplace or health care centre. There are everyday actions that can help prevent the spread of germs that cause respiratory illnesses. Take these everyday steps to reduce exposure to the virus and protect your health:

- wash your hands often with soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- sneeze and cough into your sleeve
- avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth
- avoid contact with people who are sick
- stay home if you are sick

Regarding liturgical practices, local health officials have indicated that it is not necessary to alter current practices at this time.

Parishes are encouraged to use the above information to remind parishioners about the importance of practicing healthy hygiene. Also, parishes should ensure that those distributing communion wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before and after distributing Communion.

The latest communication from the City of Toronto Medical Health Officer is enclosed for your information. Please continue to pray for all those impacted by the coronavirus. Be assured that we will continue to work with local health officials and keep you updated as appropriate.

March 2 statement from Dr. Eileen de Villa, Medical Officer of Health, on new positive cases of COVID-19 in Toronto.

Today, Dr. David Williams, Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health, provided an update on the novel coronavirus: COVID-19. A total of 10 confirmed cases of COVID-19 has been reported in Toronto in 2020. Two of these people have since recovered from their illness. The remaining eight people are currently recovering in self-isolation and Toronto Public Health is following up with them and their close contacts. Part of our current focus is to identify potential cases of COVID-19, to follow up with these people directly and to identify their close contacts. We use current evidence to assess potential health risk, provide education, further instructions and to reduce the potential of virus spread. We also do this work for measles, mumps, and hepatitis A, and not just for COVID-19. We are working with our local and provincial health system colleagues to set up increased local surveillance systems to quickly identify individuals possibly infected with COVID-19. I continue to be asked if we would consider recommending postponement of events or limiting places where people gather in large numbers. These are significant measures that must be assessed, evaluated and taken only after we balance preventing the spread of infection with the need for people and communities to function. At this time, we are not recommending these approaches, but examples such as limiting nonessential public gatherings are public health measures that can be used to further protect our community, if our local situation changes. I have also been asked what actions people can take to prepare themselves if our local situation changes. I think it is helpful to consider the supplies you may need at home if you became unwell with any illness, not just COVID-19. For families, this may mean considering your household needs and how you may address them if someone in your household becomes unwell. Things that people may consider include having supplies on-hand so you do not need to leave home if you become ill, or how to plan childcare needs. If the situation changes, other measures people can consider could include changing their daily routines to reduce their exposure to crowded places. One of the most important things residents can do to prepare is to stay informed by regularly reviewing credible information sources including our website www.toronto.ca/coronavirus. Residents can also call 416-338-7600, Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Media contact: Lenore Bromley, Toronto Public Health, 416-338-7974.



[Above: Members of **Pedro Lumibao's** family join him at Mass after his 93rd birthday party on 22 February 2020.]

Register editor to retire

Jim O'Leary will be retiring after 11 years as the publisher and editor of The Catholic Register. We know the staff at The Register will miss Jim's array of talents, supportive demeanour and dedication. His strong news sense paired with a devotion to his faith contributed to the award-winning excellence The Register has enjoyed since he joined the newspaper in 2009. A seasoned writer and editor, Jim's 42 years in journalism and book publishing saw him work as a sports reporter, foreign correspondent, editor and publisher. With Jim's departure in early-May 2020, Mike Simpson will become the new publisher and editor of The Catholic Register. Mike came to The Register in 2016 from the National Post, where he was the vice president of digital content. He also held senior editorial positions at the Toronto Star, The Globe and Mail and Toronto Sun. Mickey Conlon will become the managing editor of The Register.



Vatican Flag to be raised at City Hall Square

To celebrate **St. John Paul II**, the City of Toronto will raise the Vatican flag at a ceremony taking place on Sunday, March 29 at 2 p.m. at Nathan Phillips Square, near the Courtesy Flag Pole 100 Queen St. W., Toronto. All are welcome to attend.



Stations of the Cross

[Photo above:] St. Maria Goretti School students join members of the Parish Youth Ministry at the Stations of the Cross after the 7.00 pm Mass on Friday, 6 March.

Each year, members of various parish Ministries work together to help lead parishioners in this important Lenten Devotion. Parishioners can obtain their own *Stations* booklet from the Parish Office (\$2) for their personal use, so they can pray the Stations at any time.

The 2020 Facilitator Schedule

February	28	Catholic Women's League
March	6	Youth Ministry
	13	Altar Servers
	20	St. Vincent de Paul
	27	Greeters & Eucharistic Ministers
April	3	Knights of Columbus
	10	Lectors