

**MASSES FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 31, 2010**

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 2010**

*(2Sam12.1-7a, 10-17, Mark4.35-41)*

5:00 Mark Bibeau by Kathleen Toomey

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 31, 2010**

*(Jer1.4-5, 17-19, 1Cor12.31-13.13, Luke4.21-30)*

10:30 Lorraine West & family (Estate)

Alicia de Roussy de Sales by Simonne Clarke

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2010**

*(2Sam15.13-14, 30, 6.5-13a, Mark 5.1-20)*

**NO MASS**

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2010**

**FEAST - PRESENTATION OF THE LORD**

*(Mal3.1-4, Luke2.22-40)*

5:00 Lorraine West & family (Estate)

Hon. Frederick Collins & Mrs. Irene Collins by their family

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2010**

*(2Sam24.2, 9-17, Mark6.1-6)*

9:00 Lorraine West & family (Estate)

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2010**

*(1Kings2.1-4, 10-12, Mark6.7-13)*

9:00 Lorraine West & family (Estate)

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2010 - MEMORIAL - ST. AGATHA**

*(Sir47.2-11, Mark6.14-29)*

9:00 Lorraine West & family (Estate)

Rita Barrett by Cora Hackett

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2010**

**MEMORIAL - ST. PAUL MIKI**

*(1Kings3.4-13, Mark6.30-34)*

5:00 Margaret & Harry Mariasine by their family

Lorraine West & family

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2010**

*(Isaiah6.1-2a, 3-8, 1Cor15.1-11, Luke5.1-11)*

10:30 Lorraine West & family

Brock F. Clarke by Dorothy Wickham

**This Week at Ascension**

Monday: **Christian Meditation** at 7 p.m. in the East Sacristy for information call 931-5536.

Wednesday: **Sunday Scripture Reflection** with Fr. Pat in the Parish Room of the Rectory at 1:30 p.m. All are welcome.

Thursday: **Choir Practice** at 7:30 p.m. in the Choir Room.



#### 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time (*Mark 1:21-28*)

Ancient people did not know about germs and viruses because they did not have all the benefits of modern medicine. Therefore, ancient explanations of how people got sick and why people died may sound a little simplistic or naive to us. Most people, including the Jews, attributed sickness and death to the power of demons or evil spirits.

Jesus began his preaching by proclaiming the reign of God is at hand. This meant that because God was about to defeat the devil and take control of the world the signs of the devil's power (sickness and death) would be only memories of the past.

Today's Gospel reading is a dramatic example of the struggle between Jesus and the devil. Jesus is in the synagogue preaching when a man with an unclean spirit yells out, calling Jesus by name and identifying him as God's Holy One.

In Scripture, the power to name someone is symbolic of having control over that person. In the second chapter of Genesis, God brought the animals he created to the man and the man named them, symbolizing his dominion over them.

The second commandment says we must not take the name of God in vain. The Jews understood this to mean they should not use God's name at all because doing so was like trying to exert power over God. Therefore, God would have to act if his name is used in a curse and he would have to damn that person.

Similarly, the unclean spirit in today's Gospel tries to exert power over Jesus by calling him first by name and then by referring to him as the Holy One sent by God, a title for the messiah. Fortunately for the man who was possessed, this tactic doesn't work and Jesus shows he is more powerful than the devil by commanding him to get out of the man. However, the battle does not end there because the demon does not obey without putting up a struggle. First, he throws the man into convulsions and only then does he come out with a loud shriek. Finally, the battle is over and Jesus wins.

**For Reflection:** The battle between Jesus and the devil continues even today. Each day of our lives we have to make decisions. Pray for the grace to always decide to do God's will so that his reign will grow.

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Date: Saturday, February 6th, 2010  
 Time: 9.00 a.m. - 3.00 p.m.  
 Place: St. Willibrord's Church (325 Willibrord Avenue)  
 Event: **FLEA MARKET**

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After more than thirty years of organizing, scheduling and training the Lectors of Ascension Parish, Richard Macklem has decided to pass on the mantle of coordinator to Edmund Nash.

We would like to thank Dick for all of his devoted service to the parish not only as coordinator of Lectors but also for his invaluable service as warden and chairman of the Board of Wardens.

We would also like to thank Edmund for giving his time and talent to this ministry.

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### **You are not Forgotten**

If you, or a loved one, are not able to come to church, we would be happy to come to you, have a little chat and bring you the Lord in Holy Communion. Let us know by calling the parish office (932-3131) and we will get to you ASAP.

Father Pat

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**Faith First Office:** A special thank you to the Faith First families who donated non-perishable items for the St. Willibrord's Food Bank. Nancy Spafford, (mother of Emily and Charlie Simard), generously gave her time and filled the family van with the many bags of groceries for delivery to St. Willibrord's. Thank you, Nancy.

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Dear Ascension Parishioners,

Every year, for a few weeks before Christmas, the **Montreal Diet Dispensary** converts to Santa's workshop: non-perishable foods, clothes and toys are brought in from all over the city. Thanks to generous people like you our clients' families can prepare festive meals and give small presents to their children.

On behalf of our families, I would like to thank you for your thoughtful and generous contribution and to wish you all be best for the new year.

Sincerely,

Marie-Paule Duquette, Executive Director

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### **Parish Support**

We encourage all parishioners to use the regular Sunday envelopes. These are mailed to parishioners four times a year. To obtain envelopes please call the parish office (932-3131) or fill in the form below and place it in the collection plate. We extend a warm welcome to new parishioners. Please take a moment to introduce yourself to Msgr. Harty & Fr. Donnelly after Mass.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_