

MANRESA

2325 LIVERPOOL RD. PICKERING. ONTARIO, CANADA L1X1V4 | (905) 839-2864



Homeless that first night
one more statistic
to add to the census,
one more mouth to feed.

Only the shepherds,
having nothing to loose
except a little sleep,
came to see.

Sr. Irene Zimmermann



Christmas Past, Present, and Future

The Durham Catholic District School Board sends its teachers for an Overnight Advent retreat each year. Dominic Pullano who is also a Ordained Deacon runs the course. Under his gentle guidance, he led 24 teachers in a retreat entitled: Christmas Past, Christmas Present, Christmas Future. Each session was two hours long. There was an input. This consisted of Scriptural Passages, Reflections and Choral Prayer.

The teachers loved the gentleness and the input of Deacon Dominic. Many wished that it could be a three day session or even a weekend. One hopes that the DCDSB, would be able to cover this in their budget.



The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.



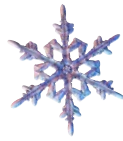
And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, to a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary.

And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be.

And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: and he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.



Empowerment Through Mary

The Archdiocese of Toronto organized two seminars for people who are involved in different types of ministries in their parishes. They came from all over the diocese: Brampton, Whitby, Mississauga, Aurora, Orillia, and closer at home in Toronto. Fr. Michael Busch, Rector of St Michael's Cathedral, was the resource person. He presented three sessions. This was an Advent Retreat. Mr. Porfirio Garcia was the contact person and did a wonderful job of taking care of the nitty-gritty of the two day seminar/retreat

The Retreat dealt with the Empowerment Through Mary, work of these lay people who are the grassroots – and the heartbeat of the parish. One said that she found that God was calling her, whether she was ready or not. Another said she was challenged to get deeper into prayer and in a more disciplined way. The third saw God's powerful hand in the empowerment to work in the Vineyard. A fourth found in Mary someone who could be both admired and imitated. It was a powerful experience.

The group was animated enough to want to have another meeting, where they could meet others inspired by the same love of God and the same dreams for their parish. They hope to meet again in April.

Asking God for things...



Asking God for favours is not imperfect prayer. When we beg God for sunny weather, or pray that our bursitis will go away, or pray for something more important such as international peace and justice, we pay a great compliment to God. This is an expression of “becoming little children” which Jesus recommended, and honoured. A child who comes to his parents and asks for things is paying then a big compliment. What is the child saying but, “You are good and can fill my needs. Please may I have a candy bar?”

If the prayer of petition is made correctly, it says “God, you are everything: Creator, Divinizer, Forgiver, Merciful Lord of the Universe, Provident God of all, and I belong completely to You”

~Armand Nigro, SJ, “A Personal Response To God’s Presence”

~Ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete. -John 16:24



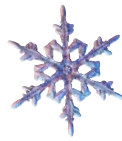
Upcoming Ignatian Retreats

Jan. 12-14	Men	“Let's Start at the Very Beginning.” -- Fr. Michael Coutts, S.J.
Jan. 26-28	Men	“Ps 139 "Lord, you search me and you know me.” -- Fr. John Sullivan, S.J.
Feb. 02-04	Women	“Twelve Steps for Christian Living.” (for Non-Alcoholics). -- Ted Penton, S.J.
Feb. 16-18	Men	“Ignatian Basics Boot Camp” Fr. Gilles Mongeau



Korean Catholic Church

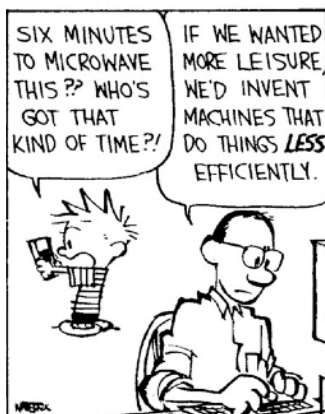
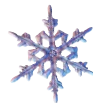
The teachers of the Durham Catholic District School Board, hardly drove out of the parking lot, when the Korean Catholic Church group came for an Overnight Advent retreat of their own. This was under the leadership of Elizabeth. Their priest had a nice slide presentation and talk.



The Word became flesh and dwelt among us

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

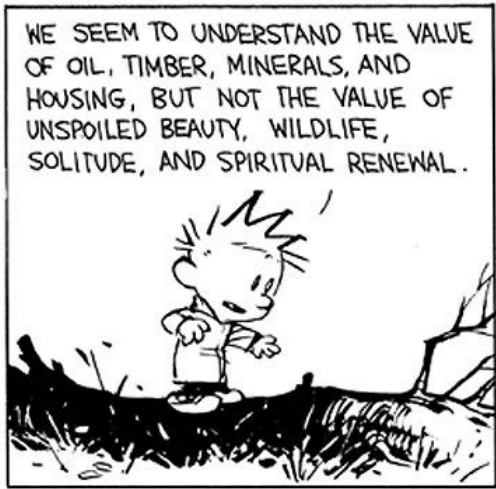
John Chap 1:1-5



Manresa Enters The Tech Age

Now a days, it seems every group wants to use electronic devices. Most of them are "tech-savvy" but every now and then, we have a presenter who has great ambition, but is unsophisticated as far as knowing how to use all these devices. It would be uneconomical to have a permanent IT person employed. Manresa would not be able to afford him/her.

The Garden



We have decided to go with Doyle Tree Services Inc. for our gardens in the coming year 2018. This is a matter of Manresa's operation.

Mr. Frank Doyle comes with a great deal of experience and history. He is the cousin of the late Jesuit Father: Fr. Don Flynn. Frank has been working for years on the landscape of the following Churches: St. Gregory's in Oshawa, St. John's on Kingston Road, Blessed Sacrament on Yonge Street, St. Edward's Parish. To mention a few.

His estimate is exactly within our budget and what was expected to be reasonable for the seven spots of garden plots. He has taken into consideration what the staff wanted and suggested, things like box plants in areas where "herbs" were planted.



The Adoration

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.



CHRISTMAS CAROL QUIZ

1. What wakes up the Baby Jesus?

- The Cattle
- the Shepherds
- the little drummer boy

2. Who sings "Glory to the New Born King?"

- The Wise Men
- The Angels
- The Shepherds

3. How many ships came sailing in on Christmas Morning?

- two
- three
- four

4. What did the Magi follow?

- The Shepherds
- Their map
- a Star

5 In what little town was Jesus born?

- Nazareth
- Galilee
- Bethlehem

6. "O Come all ye Faithful" where do they go

- Heaven
- Israel
- Bethlehem

7. Finish the line.....

Holy infant so _____

- gentle and kind
- happy and mild
- tender and mild

8 Joy to the world mentions all earth rejoicing. Why?

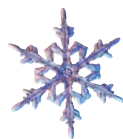
- the Lord is come
- Christmas is near
- Santa Claus brings toys

9. Who keeps watch: "What child is this?"

- Joseph
- Cattle
- Shepherds

10: Good King Wenceslaus : what season

- Spring
- Autumn
- Winter





As we leave you and the year...

I am indebted to my father for living,
but to my teacher for living well.

~*Alexander the Great*

He who opens a school door, closes a prison
~*Victor Hugo*

Good teaching is one fourth preparation
and three fourths pure theatre
~*Gail Godwin*



MONDAYS IN ADVENT

At: Manresa, 2325 Liverpool Road N, Pickering
Time: 8:00 - 9:00 PM

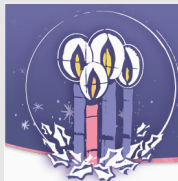


4 December 2017
"O The Word of my Lord deep
within my being"

11 December 2017
"The people in darkness
have seen a Great Light"



18 December 2017
"...pondered these Words
in her heart"



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2325 Liverpool Road N. Pickering L1X 1V4.
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Same time, same channel, next year!