



Celebrating
10 years

www.magnificatcharismaticcommunity.org

SANCTUARY

Spring 2009 Issue

*Lord, prepare me to be a Sanctuary. Pure and holy, tried and true.
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living Sanctuary for You.*



PENTECOST SUNDAY – MAY 31

Pentecost Sunday is one of the most ancient feasts of the Church, celebrated early enough to be mentioned in the Acts of the Apostles (20:16) and St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians (16:8). It is the 50th day after Easter (if we count both Easter and Pentecost), and it supplants the Jewish feast of Pentecost, which took place 50 days after the Passover and which celebrated the sealing of the Old Covenant on Mount Sinai.

The Acts of the Apostles recounts the story of the original Pentecost as well (Acts 2). Jews from all over were gathered in Jerusalem to celebrate the Jewish feast. On that Sunday, ten days after our Lord's Ascension, the Apostles and the Blessed Virgin Mary were gathered in the Upper Room, where they had seen Christ after His Resurrection:

And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a mighty wind coming, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them parted tongues as it were of fire, and it sat upon every one of them: And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they began to speak with divers tongues, according as the Holy Ghost gave them to speak. [Acts 2:2-4]

Christ had promised His Apostles that He would send His Holy Spirit, and, on Pentecost, they were granted the gifts of the Spirit. The Apostles began to preach the Gospel in all of the languages that the Jews who were gathered there spoke, and about 3,000 people were converted and baptized that day.

That is why Pentecost is often called "the birthday of the Church." On this day, with the descent of the Holy Spirit, Christ's mission is completed, and the New Covenant is inaugurated. It's interesting to note that St. Peter, the first pope, was already the leader and spokesman for the Apostles on Pentecost Sunday (see Acts 2:14ff).

In years past, Pentecost was celebrated with greater solemnity than it is today. In fact, the entire period between Easter and Pentecost Sunday was known as Pentecost (and it still is called Pentecost in the Eastern churches, both Catholic and Orthodox). During those 50 days, both fasting and kneeling were strictly forbidden, because this period was supposed to give us a foretaste of the life of Heaven. In more recent times, parishes celebrated the approach of Pentecost with the public recitation of the Novena to the Holy Ghost.

SANCTUARY

MAGNIFICAT CHARISMATIC PRAYER COMMUNITY

(A Covenanted Catholic Community)

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Newsletter published every month as means of information for the Community. This newsletter is a supplement to the official publication of Magnificat, the Angelus.



THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WOMAN IN THE WORLD

In the old campus of an exclusive Catholic high school for boys in Manila, there was a beautiful statue of the Blessed Virgin. Every morning the boys would part with a portion of their lunch money to buy roses, which they would lay at the foot of the statue of Mary, whom they lovingly referred to as the *“Most Beautiful Woman in the World”*.

That, indeed, is a very apt title for Mary. Aside from the extraordinary physical beauty that the Lord so generally endowed her, she was and is beautiful in many other ways.

She is beautiful because she lived a very pure and sinless life. We were created in the image and likeness of God, the source of all beauty. The more we strive to be like him the more we achieve essential beauty and, conversely, the more we become less like him through living a sinful life, the more we walk away from the path of real beauty.

She is beautiful because she lived a very prayerful life, thus she was always united with God. It is said that when the angel came to inform her of her divine motherhood, she was on her knees, praying.

She is beautiful because she lived a life full of love. All of God’s tenets can be summarized in one word – *love*. Mary’s love was pure, self-sacrificing and selfless. Everything that she did was for love, no matter the cost.

Lastly, she is beautiful because she is a mother. The children in a kindergarten class were asked to describe their moms. They proudly said, “My mom is a doctor”, “My mom is a dentist”, “My mom is a teacher”, “My mom is a bank manager”, etc. One little girl stood up and said, *“My mom is my mother.”*

To me, that expressed the real essence of a mom. The rest of the girls saw only a superficial facet of their mom, but that little girl saw the real vocation of a woman, married or not -- motherhood. Some women give birth from their womb and others from their heart. Even after a baby leaves the mother’s womb, the mom continues to carry her child in her heart.

Mary has many attributes and titles – the Immaculate Conception, Most Pure, Inviolable, Undeclared, etc., but her most important attribute is her being a Mother to Jesus and to us.

We celebrated Mother’s Day last May 10th. Let’s honor Mary, our loving mother, and all mothers. It is sad that mothers have gone unrecognized and unappreciated in this world, and many children are even annoyed with their motherly advice. A writer once defined a mother as one who would take you back even if all others did not want you.

Let us show our gratitude to them by thanking and loving them in return, by treating them well, by being generous with our time for them and by always praying for them. One of the best ways to thank them is to be good parents yourselves.

To our Blessed Mother and to all mothers, thank you for your love. You, indeed, are very beautiful.

Msgr. Edgardo Pan

Chaplain, Magnificat Charismatic Prayer Community



Dear Brothers and Sisters and Friends of Magnificat,

It has been quite a year! There was confusion and great discouragement. Could Magnificat survive the loss of its founder and energizer Father Rustia, calling us to be saints and apostles by the mercy of God? Could Magnificat survive the financial obstacles and keep Regina Mundi operable in the face of the high taxes and heating bills, crumbling buildings and shareholders demands? Can lagging membership be rekindled and extended again?

The temptation to give up loomed very real in our ranks. However, Our Lord has been gracious and has heard the prayers of his praying servants: *a new beginning is taking place and new roads are opening up.* We can see more smiles and the signs of the spirits being encouraged and lifted. *We trust that God has His plans for the Magnificat Community on the grounds of Regina Mundi.* We thank Him and praise Him and we ask that each one of us involved will receive His grace to be faithful.

I assure you that in going forward, you honor also Fr. Rustia. His spirit and charism will remain the foundation because it comes from God. We hope Father will rejoice in the good news. How providential that we have the Angelus publication of 2007: *"Mighty Channels of God"*. We remember also that the foundation that we build on includes the charism of *"Mommy" Donna Eusebio*. Her love, encouragement to so many and loyalty to the community, needs to be retold and retold to show us where we came from and the fervor we need to nurture.

In this new beginning, God put me on the spot, I believe, to play a little role. It was also inspired by your love, sincerity and willingness to sacrifice as well as the seriousness and work of *Mother Anna Maria and Sister Mary*. Teaming up with Mother, I am a bit on centre stage now to help to get things set up. But that will soon end. I believe that in *Father Edgardo Pan*, *God has given to our community a most beautiful Chaplain* and I pray that we will be blessed and blossom by his ministry. There are other ministries that God graciously has granted to me in my old age with reasonably good health. *I intend to stay available for the help I can give as Fr. Pan and the community wants me to.* I like to say a big thank you to the elders and members of the COE and other Magnificat members for the excellent and generous volunteer work that is being done, *often not noticed much but seen by God.* Much work is being done to put everything in shape. Programs and publicity is in the works. All is in the end for the glory of God and the saving of souls, God's most pleasing work. *Our enthusiasm, prayers and full participation is needed.* Our property taxes are going to be significantly reduced. *The Regina Mundi Corporation and Magnificat will become one.* The lottery is underway and the tickets need to be sold - *all of them!* In reality, it is more a means to ask friends and sympathizers for a little help. But it is hard work and it is at this time and moment very essential to be successful. I am determined to sell 500 tickets. I don't say this to brag but to challenge everyone to take responsibility. *Don't say, "this is not my thing" – "make it your thing"!*

Dear friends, what I really like to talk to you about is the *role of the Holy Spirit in our life.* God has revealed Himself being Love. Love is relationship, God is family in Himself. The perfect Family of total giving, receiving, sharing: Three Persons in one essence. What is done by the Father for us is also done by the Son and also by the Holy Spirit in their personal way. Grace comes to us from the Father through the Son in the Holy Spirit.

Sanctuary

We love God back in the Holy Spirit through the Son to the glory of the Father. To love God is to be part of that Trinitarian Family. This is our vocation and our only source of happiness. Jesus was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and taught, lived and died in that love-power for us. Through the Holy Spirit, we conceive Jesus and are His brothers and sisters, Children of God, living as such. It is important to realize that the Holy Spirit does not have some strange special gifts for us but that He Himself is the Gift: *God's giving of Himself to us*. Jesus says in John 16, 15: "*He will take what is mine and declare it to you. All the Father has is mine*". He leads us to all the truth of the gospel and to experience real happiness. Growing up, I did not know this and I only prayed to the Holy Spirit for special needs. Now I know to pray to the Holy Spirit always that I may gain the love of God. God is willing to come to us always even begging us to open our door as He is constantly knocking "*and I will have supper with him*". So constantly we have to pray and at the same time remove the obstacles that prevent Him from working in us. That means searching saying "*Come*" and "*I Repent*" of my ongoing selfishness, independence and sinning. You say, "*I am not sinning, I am living a good life*" It is only gradually that we come to understand the degree of holiness and intimacy that we are called to by God and the purity of heart that brings us to share the Trinitarian life of God.

We need to ask from our heart the *Gift of Piety*: to obtain entering the Kingdom of God. Here is a prayer (shortened from the messages of "*True Life in God*" that I try to pray from the heart every day:

Holy Spirit, Giver of Life, Holy Spirit, Thrice Holy, grant me that I, too, may grow in love to know God and obtain His Kingdom; Spirit of Piety let me die to my principles, let me die to my partiality, my tepidity, my lethargy and my ambitions; come and revive me in Your Purity;

Supplier of the fruit of the Tree of Life, Eternal Joy, Starlight of my soul, pass on to me the piety of Your Saints to keep Your Laws holy and graciously show Yourself to my wretched soul to remind me that incorruptibility will bring me near the Trinitarian God, Most Powerful and Most Holy, hence nothing impure will be able to find its way in me. Amen.

This prayer was not easy for me to understand but praying it from the heart often, it starts to draw us in God's presence and seeing more clearly how in the things we do and the people we meet our focus remains "self" instead of God.

Enjoy the summer after this long, hard winter, with Jesus as your soul's companion.

With all my love,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Fr. Matthew Robbertz". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "F" and "M".

Rev. Fr. Matthew Robbertz
Magnificat Spiritual Director



Dear Magnificat Family,

We give praise, glory and thanks to God for the many wonderful things that He has bestowed to our community. We are so delighted to see our Magnificat brothers and sisters continue to serve God by sharing their precious time to attend the Magnificat activities and to volunteer their services to do works in Regina Mundi in spite of the many trials that we have been experiencing. Sharing your precious time, love and service to fulfill God's plan for our Magnificat family and Regina Mundi are so amazing. *With God, nothing is impossible.* We firmly believe that one of these days, *God will answer all our prayers that Regina Mundi and Magnificat will become one.*

We welcome and thank Rev. Monsignor Edgardo Pan in accepting the position offered by Bishop Richard J. Grecco to be the Chaplain of Magnificat Prayer Community. He was presented and introduced to the community by Rev. Fr. Matt Robbertz when he attended our Magnificat Christmas Party on December 20, 2008. He graciously acknowledged the position of Chaplain of Magnificat. He said that *"I am not here to replace Fr. Rustia in your heart. I am not here to lead you but to walk with you."* Really, God is so gracious and loving for giving Fr. Matt and Monsignor Ed to our community. We are so blessed. The two of them make a great team in leading our prayer community.

God's love is truly amazing. *"God is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, most loving and true."* (Psalm 86:15). In spite of the many challenges that our community has been experiencing, God is always there to help. Fr. Matt, who is now more involved, offering his assistance and support to the Council of Elders, is doing his very best for the unification of Regina Mundi and Magnificat. He has been very busy helping our community and has been a great help. His project *"Lottery Tickets"* is now underway. Tickets have been distributed to the Magnificat members and with your hard work and help, this lottery will be a great success which we offer for God's glory.

We take this opportunity to thank the COE members, Apostles, Daughters of the King, Sis. Mary Collette for their help and support and other members and volunteers who have been helping regularly in the maintenance of Regina Mundi. The Spring Dinner and Dance fundraising was a big success because of your help - thank you so much. Words are not enough to thank all of you for all the sacrifices and wonderful things that you have been doing for our Magnificat community and Regina Mundi. And to our dear Mother Ana Maria, thank you so much for overseeing the Regina Mundi Retreat Centre, for your love and care and for your spiritual guidance. *Loving Father, thank you for your wonderful gifts to us - Fr. Matt, Monsignor Ed, Mother Ana Maria and Sis. Mary Collette.*

We are pleased to inform you that Magnificat Prayer Community is now very well-represented by your Presiding Elders in the Catholic Charismatic Renewal Council (CCRC) and North Zone Prayer Group under the Archdiocese of Toronto. We have been supporting and attending all their monthly meetings. We thank the Lord for being chosen as one of the members of the Executive Committee of the *Canadian National Charismatic Conference* that will be held on *June 26, 27, and 28, 2009 at the Direct Energy Centre* (inside the CNE). We are very excited about the National Conference. We have been very busy helping the committee and so blessed to serve in the vineyard of the Lord in this National Conference. Toronto is blessed to be the place chosen for this National Conference - it will be the centre of evangelization. We are inviting all of you to attend and see God's miracle that will happen. God is calling and inviting all of us to be in this conference. We will truly be renewed and transformed spiritually for we will learn so many things from the awesome speakers of the conference.

With prayers for blessings,

Joe & Annie Lapid

**Monsignor Ed Pan's Anniversary
March 28, 2009**



Celebration of the Goodness of the Lord!

Month of March, we were told by *Monsignor Edgardo Pan*, is always a very special month for him as he celebrates two most important event in his life. Firstly, every March, Monsignor celebrates his *birthday*. And secondly, he celebrates his *anniversary into priesthood* – a very special occasion when he accepted the “anointing” of the Lord to be his faithful servant, spreading the Good News to all.

We, the Magnificat community, have been blessed by the Lord to be part of his life as our Chaplain.

To Monsignor Pan, our best wishes for a happy birthday and congratulations on your anniversary into priesthood. More power to you and may our loving Lord keep you always close to HIS loving heart and the loving embrace of the Blessed Virgin Mary, His Mother and our Mother!

TRIDUUM 2009 – HOLY THURSDAY



"Washing of the Feet & Lord's Last Supper"

Holy Thursday was celebrated at Vanier Hall, Regina Mundi by Monsignor Eduardo Pan.

This celebration commemorates our Lord Jesus at the last supper with his Apostles. After supper, he washed their feet and said to them, "I have given you example by washing your feet, be a servant to one another! I have done this to you so you should also must do! Love one another as I have loved you!"



TRIDUUM 2009 - GOOD FRIDAY



“Good Friday”

Holy Triduum, the holiest days of our Christian Faith!

Father Matt Robbertz, our Spiritual Director, celebrated Good Friday with the community. Services include the “Seven Last Words”, indoor “Station of the Cross”, “3.00 o’clock Good Friday Service” and the “Veneration of the Holy Cross” to conclude this solemn event.



FEAST OF THE DIVINE MERCY – SUNDAY APRIL 19TH

“Mercy Sunday”

Mother Anna Maria giving the community and the faithful who have joined us at Vanier Hall, inspirational talk and the much needed teachings on the unfathomable “Mercy of the our Lord!”



Feast of the Divine Mercy Program of Activities

Feast of the Divine Mercy, known as “Mercy Sunday” is a solemn celebration to commemorate the outpouring of the “Mercy” of our Lord, Jesus Christ. As Jesus promised, we will receive unimaginable graces to those who trust in His Mercy!

To our community, to the busloads of our Italian as well as the Spanish friends, to all of us who have come to witness the solemnity of this Feast Day, we are all blest because we came to the Feet of our Lord to receive his Divine Mercy!

Jesus, King of Mercy
We trust in You!



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY



Theme for the Canadian National Catholic Charismatic Conference - Toronto 2009

"Christ The First Fruits"

Friday - June 26, 2009, at St. Michael's Cathedral Hall - 3:00 p.m. Registration & Hospitality
St. Michael's Cathedral - 7:00 p.m. Opening Mass - Bishop Grecco
Saturday and Sunday - 8:00 a.m. June 27 and 28, 2009 at the Direct Energy Centre at the CNE
Monday - June 29, 2009 at a Local Church for Clergy

(To view the complete program and activities **go to ccrctor.com** and click **Conference**)
For tickets, please see Sis. Annie Lapid and Sis. Nora Puyo.

Conference Speakers:



Most Rev. Sam G. Jacobs
Bishop of Houma-Thibodaux



Michelle Moran - ICCRS
President in the Vatican



His Grace Archbishop
Thomas Collins



Bishop Richard Grecco - CCCB National
Liaison to the Charismatic Renewal



Rev. Dr. Peter Coughlin



Deacon Carlos Nogueira

Sanctuary

**Saturday, April 19th
Spring Dinner & Dance 2009**



*The Lord promised "rainbow" at the end of a storm
- only if we put our complete trust in Him!*

The weather forecast that Saturday was sunny, hot but with some rains in the afternoon. Nobody was prepared for a surprise "storm" (dark clouds, heavy rains and wind) that had the electrical power off for the surrounding areas and which lasted for more than two hours. Update re power outage says it will last through the night and probably in the morning.

That night belonged to our Almighty as we prayed with complete trust for the powerful intervention of our loving God. What seemed to be a disastrous evening turned out to be joyful celebration of the goodness of our loving God! The joyful spirit and camaraderie by everyone who where present at this spring community event was felt as soon as the "electrical power" was back and running.

What an awesome God we have!



Sanctuary



...and the joyful celebration continued through the night!

This was evidenced by the festive mood of everyone in the full capacity room of the dance hall – the laughter, the joyful fellowship, the hustle and bustle of everyone as we go through the program of the evening, of great food being shared together and the tireless dancing to the tune of wonderful music being played by our DJ.



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...more dancing please!
"Line dancing anyone?"

Lessons are free... just follow the leadership of our energetic ballroom dancers or the one in front of you! So nice to see everyone on the dance floor...

Dancing beautifully and having such a wonderful time!

To all who have supported and continue to give their full support to our community's fundraising events and in all of Magnificat's activities, our *heartfelt gratitude!* May our loving Lord shower you and your family with abundant blessings!

"...until we meet again!"
Till then...God Bless!



MAGNIFICAT CHARISMATIC PRAYER COMMUNITY

CASH RAFFLE

\$3,000 – First Prize

\$2,000 – Second Prize

\$1,000 – Third Prize

\$100 each (10 prizes) – Fourth Prize

Draw Date:

November 7, 2009, Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

Vanier Hall, Regina Mundi Retreat Centre

19309 WARDEN AVENUE, QUEENSVILLE, ONTARIO L0G 1R0

Ticket \$2.00 each

License No: 587510

Winner need not to be present to win

For more details contact

Rene & Estela Cruz

909.836.9653

or

Joe & Annie Lapid

905.201.7254

Please be informed that Magnificat will celebrate the Pentecost Day this coming Saturday, May 30, 2009 at 1:30 p.m., Vanier Hall. We will pray the Holy Rosary and the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy at 1:30 p.m. followed by praise and worship and prayer meeting. Monsignor Ed Pan will give some teachings before the mass at 4:00 p.m.

Magnificat Activities Saturdays

2:00 – Holy Rosary

3:00 – Devotion to the Devine Mercy
Prayer Meeting

4:00 – Anticipated Sunday Mass

More than a retreat house
A spiritual oasis, away from the world!

**GROUP RETREATS,
SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS,
FAMILY REUNIONS, ETC.**

19309 Warden Ave. Queensville, ON L0G 1R0

Tel. (905) 478-4264 Fax (905) 478-8793

Visit our website @ www.reginamundi.ca



**Join the
Magnificat Community
to the**

Devotion to the Sacred Heart
Every First Friday of the Month
7:30 p.m. – Regina Mundi Chapel

Directions:

404 North exit Greenlane (turn right), left on Woodbine Ave. first traffic light – right on Mount Albert Rd. Then left on Warden Ave.

Magnificat

**Cordially invites you to the
Sixth ANNIVERSARY of the
ORATORY OF JESUS, KING OF MERCY**

**Regina Mundi
Queensville, Ontario**

SUNDAY July 5, 2009

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| 1:00 P.M. | • Welcome |
| | • Worship & Praise at Vanier Hall |
| 2:00 P.M. | • Invocation to Mary, Queen |
| | • of the World |
| | • Way of the Cross |
| 3:00 P.M. | • Solemn Chaplet of the Divine Mercy |
| | • Mercy at the Oratory |
| | • Holy Eucharist |
| | • Benediction |
| 6:00 P.M. | • Fellowship |

MAGNIFICAT CHARISMATIC PRAYER COMMUNITY

Fall Dinner & Dance Party

Saturday, October 24, 2009

6.30 p.m. until 1.00 p.m.

Thornhill Community Centre

7755 Bayview Ave. (Bayview Ave & John St)

Thornhill, ON L3T 4P1

DJ: REMV Sounds by Edith & Rolly

Includes dinner, entertainment & door prizes!



**Ticket Price
\$25.00**

Contact Persons:

**Annie & Joe Lapid
905-201-7254 (H)**

**Nora & Guimoy Puyo
416-288-8898 (H)**

**Estela & Rene Cruz
905-836-9653 (H)**

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