



# SANCTUARY

[www.magnificatcharismaticcommunity.org](http://www.magnificatcharismaticcommunity.org)

WINTER 2010 Issue

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

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## **Prayer Group Leaders and Core Members Meeting and Mass With Archbishop of Toronto, Thomas Collins, January 19, 2010 at St. Michael's Cathedral.**



(From left Angie Franco, Nora Puyo, Rose Bondoc, Cora Dalmacio, Archbishop Thomas Collins, Annie Lapid, Joe Lapid, Mercy Delgado and Guimoy Puyo. Not in the picture: Juliana Cruz and Letlet Leonardo)

Detail on page 4

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### **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.*



Dear Magnificat Members,

We promised to be *transparent* as much as possible to communicate and prevent rumors, let everybody know what is going on. Two newsletters were produced recently and we hope they have reached you. If not, let us know what is the best way to send them to you in the future. To be sure that we all are in touch, here is a brief summary of the contents.

Magnificat, with its covenanted members, is "**stepping out in faith**" to continue a program of prayer, spiritual education and apostolic outreach (especially marriage enrichment and the spreading of the Divine Mercy Devotion).

We are challenged to **PRAY-PAY-OBEY**. Which means, always seeking God's favor but putting in our best efforts and always seeking God's Will.

We pray and work for an increase in membership. We call for everybody's "**INDISPENSABLE LEADERSHIP**". Each member considers himself or herself a leader and seeks to recognize their own special gift God gives to them for the community.

The *Saturday prayer gathering* is most important especially the sharing of God's Word to deepen understanding and love. This is also the time in which the bonding with each other takes place. *Therefore, let your excuse not to attend be a valid one before the Lord.*

*Volunteering and financial support* is part of our covenant. *Your Father who sees you "in secret" will reward you.*

*Lastly. Magnificat will follow the direction of the Archdiocese of Toronto. We have to accept that Fr. Teo Rustia cannot minister here. There is no hostility or competition with our founder. We call on all to be at peace in the Lord and seek His Will and His Blessings in building up Magnificat and Regina Mundi.*

## **LENT: A TIME OUT OF FASTING AND FEASTING**

If you are into sports, you know that in games there is opportunity for some "time-out" periods, which are used for some regrouping, strategizing, gathering new fire and determination to get to the desired goal.

In Lent, we do this for six weeks to more closely connect with the key mysteries of our Faith: the *saving death and resurrection of Jesus*. We concentrate on doing away with sin and loving as He loved. *That is the cross, the fasting*. But in it, we experience some of the Paradise that He will bring back to us in His resurrection and this is the feasting.

We are weighed down with sins, cares and worries. 1 Peter 5, 7 says: "*load them all upon the Lord since He looks after you*" That is, the "fasting and the feasting". Here are some examples of the *sinful burdens* we run into:

### **1. Animosity, Resentment, Bitterness**

It happens to us that we wanted to reach out, help someone, loan him money to get him out of a bad situation. Now that the time for payback is here, he ignores you, even denies that he owes you anything. You are angry, you are hurt and you swear that you will never be in a situation like that again. *Jesus has a cure: Forgive and do not hold a grudge*. That is fasting, that is dying. But it makes you free, lifts the weight off your shoulder, stronger in love for God and that is feasting and experiencing that God forgives you as you have forgiven.

### **2. Worries, Fears, Anxieties**

Many people live in fear and anxiety. They keep it covered up mostly. It could be that you are in the middle of a storm, have lost your job, your life's work is falling apart or you are beset with undefined fears about the future. Jesus says: Do not be afraid. The hairs of your head are counted; Your Father knows what you need. Trust. See the rainbow in the storm. God is faithful in all His promises.

### **3. Pain, Depression, Grief**

A spouse can leave you. A sickness can strike. Your life seems to fall apart. I have a brother who has a devastating sickness and he had to fight to keep moving for forty eight years. He does not complain. He uses his time to study God's Word. He thanks God for the many little things he can appreciate. He looks forward to what God has in store for him in eternity. When you are down in the dumps, say with all the trust you can muster: *I will thank my Lord and my soul will live for Him alone and I will serve Him alone and my mouth will sing for Him alone and my heart will pay attention to Him alone and so my heart will beat for Him alone*. Experience the Lord responding in your heart.

4. **Inferiority, Inadequacy**

You see everybody go forward and succeed and you feel you can't do anything right. Jesus says: *You are precious to me!* God does not make junk. **Come to me as you are. I, Jesus, Love you.** That means I have to discover the purpose God has for me in life and the opportunities He gives me to live that purpose.

5. **Humility, Guilt, Shame**

Yes, I have made some very poor choices. I have sinned and guilt oppresses my heart. The most important choice we sinners have to make is to accept God's grace. If we repent, we are truly forgiven and God's grace recreates us. Be not in debt to sin. Don't carry a garbage back of guilt on your shoulder that hinders your growth in love and the knowledge of God. *"Lord, I load all my care and worries on you, because you look after me. I fast of them and I will feast on your merciful love."*

**A holy and happy Lent!**



Rev. Fr. Matthew Robbertz  
*Magnificat Spiritual Director*

**From the cover page:**

**Prayer Group Leaders and Core Members Meeting and Mass  
With Archbishop of Toronto, Thomas Collins,  
January 19, 2010 at St. Michael's Cathedral.**

This meeting of different Charismatic Prayer Groups was organized by the Catholic Charismatic Renewal Council (CCRC) for group leaders and core members to meet and talk with our chief shepherd, Archbishop Thomas Collins. The highlight of the evening was the Holy Eucharist which was celebrated by Archbishop Collins followed by fellowship to personally greet the Archbishop.

We are so grateful for this opportunity to represent the Magnificat Community and for "Magnificat" to be known to the Archdiocese of Toronto. It was such a blessed moment to talk and to introduce the Magnificat core members to the Archbishop during that evening.



Dear Magnificat Family,

### **OBEDIENCE AND FAITHFULNESS**

*“Do what is right and good in the Lord’s sight, so all will go well with you ...”* (Deuteronomy 6:18)

*“Never let loyalty and kindness get away from you! ... Then you will ... gain a good reputation.”*  
(Proverbs 3:3-4)

We thank God for calling and touching us in a very special way. It is not by accident why we are all here in this Magnificat Community. God has called us to serve Him through this community, our second family. Yes, there are ups and downs and many challenges but these are normal. Challenges help us grow to mature spiritually. There is no perfect community even if we go from one community to another, we will always encounter challenges. With prayers and with the grace of God, we are still here since the beginning.

We are so thankful to our Lord, Jesus Christ for looking after Magnificat, Regina Mundi and for having Rev. Fr. Matt Robbertz, Rev. Msgr. Edgardo Pan and Mother Ana Maria Herrera. These wonderful religious people love Magnificat and want to see it to flourish. Without them we do not know where Magnificat will be. Indeed, it is their spiritual guidance and help that keep the community to survive. Fr. Matt is truly an inspiration to us for his kindness and sincerity. He has done beyond what he should have been doing. Words are not enough to thank him. Thank you Lord for sending these faithful, caring and loving people to Magnificat.

We would like to remind all the members that being the flock of the Archdiocese of Toronto, Magnificat is under its authority. It is very important for Magnificat members to be faithful and obedient to the teachings and directives of the Archdiocese.

As covenanted members, let us **give priority and be faithful to attend the Saturday prayer meeting**, as well as the other activities. Let us also support our goal to provide for the mortgage payment in giving our monthly covenant contribution. Let us be united and stand firm to the call of God to be His faithful servant in this community. Let us all pull together, continue the great work that is going on, set our goals for the future and **move forward**.

*“Happy is the person who remains faithful under trials, because when he succeeds in passing such a test, he will receive as his reward the life which God has promised to those who love him.”* (James 1:12)

Thank you so much Fr. Matt, Msgr. Pan, Mother Ana Maria for your spiritual guidance and help and to all members with great talent, awesome attitudes and strong faith in God, you are the reason for Magnificat community to stay and to move forward. **The year 2010 - THE NEW BEGINNING!**

Yours in the love of Jesus, Mary & Joseph,

Joe & Annie Lapid  
*Presiding Elders*

*Sanctuary*

My dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord,

Peace be with you all!

I hope you will all be able to join us this Saturday February 20<sup>th</sup> for the community prayer meeting as we also begin the “Preparation for Total Consecration to Our Lord Jesus through the Heart of Our Blessed Virgin Mary.” Books will be hand out to be used for the **thirty three days preparation in prayer in your own home and culminate on March 27<sup>th</sup> as we all consecrate ourselves with one voice to the Immaculate Heart of our Blessed Mother .** I hope you will all make an effort to come. “This Consecration is a response to the call of God our Father for the establishing the Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary here on earth.”(Fatima, Portugal)

The Magnificat Charismatic Prayer Community are called to unity and peace with one another (as well as all the children of our Dear Blessed Mother) that the Reign of the Sacred Heart be established in our hearts and on this property. Let us with one voice lift up our prayers to God in this Total Consecration/Entrustment to the Immaculate Heart of our Mother.

I hope to see you all this Saturday.

The Consecration on the 27<sup>th</sup> of March, Saturday, instead of the 25<sup>th</sup> because of being a Thursday will be done in front of the huge white statue of our Lady in front of Villa Marie. What a beautiful day to celebrate the Feast of the Annunciation and the Incarnation of the Son of God by offering ourselves through this act of consecrating our lives to the Mother of Son of God in whom the God the Father is pleased to entrust His only Son. What a blessing, yes abundant blessings!

Sincerely yours in our Lady Spouse of the Holy Spirit,  
Mother Ana Maria

**Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Our Blessed Mother**

*We are living in difficult, insecure and painful times. Today the Red Dragon is ruling in the world and has succeeded in building up an atheistic civilization. Man, puffed up by technical and scientific progress, has put himself in the place of God and has built up a new secular civilization. This radical rejection of God is the real chastisement of modern-day society.*

*As God is the Saviour and the Lord Jesus Christ alone the Redeemer of man, humanity of today can only be saved on the condition that it returns to the Lord. Otherwise it runs the danger of destroying itself by its own hands.*

*But how can it be saved if it obstinately continues to reject God who alone can lead it to salvation? It is here through the Blessed Mother's role, in view of Her Motherhood, enters in. The Blessed Mother as the Mother of Our Lord Jesus and has been constituted by the Lord as the true Mother of all men. And therefore the Blessed Mother is also Mother of the men of today, of this rebellious humanity, so far away from God.*

*Her Motherly task is that of saving it (rebellious humanity). And our Lady, in order to be able to save it, wishes to become the way of its return to the Lord. She acts in all manner of ways and gives Herself much to do in order to bring about this return. This is the many reason for Her many extraordinary manifestations, which have become so numerous today: She wants to make us understand that our heavenly Mother is present and is at work in the midst of Her children.*

*She wishes to act in person, but not directly. She is able to act through those children who consecrate themselves to Her Immaculate Heart, who entrust themselves to Her completely, in such a way that She can live and manifest Herself in them. She wants above all to work through the priests, because they are Her sons of predilection.*

*One learns this Consecration by experience of everyday life.*

*Itinerary which leads to the perfection of entrustment to Our Lady and which develops through four successive stages:*

- 1. That of accustoming oneself to living with Her.*
- 2. Of allowing oneself to be interiorly transformed by Her.*
- 3. Of entering with Her in communion of hearts.*
- 4. Of reliving Her.*

*The Consecration to our Lady is the path which leads to a specific goal, **that of allowing the Blessed Mother to live and work in us. "I want to love with your heart, to gaze with your eyes, to console and encourage with your lips, to assist with your hands, to walk with your feet, to follow your bloodied footprints and to suffer with your crucified body."** (July 1, 1981 MMP).*

*Now we can understand why Our Blessed Mother asks for consecration to Her Immaculate Heart for anyone who wishes to belong to the cohort (army of soldiers). She Herself wants to live and act in Her consecrated children, in such a way that they become an expression of Her sorrow and of Her Motherly love, and work untiringly to lead all men back to God.*

*Thus present-day humanity will be able to reach salvation along the road of the Motherly love of the Blessed Mother, who becomes the channel through which the merciful love of the Lord Jesus can reach all people. **The consecration to the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Mother Virgin Mary is directed solely to the consecration of the world,** that is to say to the complete return of the world to the **perfect glorification of God.***

**From this we can understand why (the late) Pope John Paul II saw, in the Act of Consecration or Entrustment to the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the most efficacious means of obtaining the Gift of Divine Mercy upon the Church and upon all humanity. (Dives Misericordia, 15)**

***Thus light is also shed upon the profound significance of that act, often criticized by some, which he frequently repeats with fervor and intimate joy of soul; the act, that is, of his personal consecration to the Blessed Mother. We understand, then, what he has done in every part of the world when, during his frequent apostolic pilgrimages, he went to the most famous shrines in order to consecrate to the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary the local Church in which he finds himself. (Regina Mundi to be consecrated as well)***

***The profound reason was that the Pope saw, in the consecration to the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the most powerful means of obtaining the precious gift of the merciful love of the Lord Jesus upon the world of today!***

***“...Oh, how deeply we feel the need of consecration for humanity and for the world: for the contemporary world!... Oh, how painful, therefore is everything in which, in the Church and in each one of us, is opposed to holiness and consecration!....Blessed be all those souls who obey the call of Eternal Love. Blessed be those who, day by day, with un-exhausted generosity, welcome your invitation, O Mother, to do what Your Jesus says, and give to the Church and the world a serene witness of a life inspired by the Gospel.” (Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary by Pope John Paul II, made on March 25, 1984).***

***Preparation for Total Consecration according to Saint Louis Marie de Montfort.  
Starting date will be confirmed.***

***February 20-March 24, 2010***

***Act of Consecration***

***March 25, 2010***

***Feast of the Annunciation and Incarnation of the Son of God***

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**Magnificat Annual Christmas Party  
20<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary of Magnificat and 15<sup>th</sup> Year of Acquisition of Regina-Mundi**



Community members, family and friends gather every December to celebrate the Magnificat Annual Anniversary and Community Christmas Party. Program started with gathering at Vanier Hall for the Saturday Devotion, praise and worship and prayer meeting followed by a thanksgiving mass celebrated by Fr. Matt Robbertz & Msgr. Edgardo Pan.

Community members with our spiritual team – Rev. Fr. Matt Robbertz (Magnificat Spiritual Director), Rev. Msgr. Edgardo Pan (Magnificat Chaplain) and Mother Anna Maria of Our Lady, Spouse of the Holy Spirit. We are so blessed and we thank the Lord for the gift of our spiritual leaders to our Community and Regina Mundi Retreat Centre, home of Magnificat!

**MAGNIFICAT ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY 2009**



**Food....Music....Games....fun & fellowship!**

Villa St. Joseph's Hall – venue for the Christmas dinner and celebration. As seen here, the dinner buffet table is being prepared by Sis. Josie & Bro. Larry Estrabillo, one of the many volunteers who helped make this Christmas dinner enjoyable. Sumptuous food, interesting delicacies and delectable desserts lovingly prepared and shared by all.

Our presiding elders, Bro. Joe & Sis. Annie as they welcome and thank the community for this memorable night of gathering and celebration.

Let the games begin .... One of the many other games that were played was the game of “*Trip to Jerusalem*” – a very popular, exciting game participated by both our handsome brothers of the community (including Fr. Matt) and our lovely sisters – all for fun and fellowship!

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**“THE COMING OF THE LORD”**  
**“O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!”**



A Christmas Play portrayed by the Daughters of the King (DK) under the guidance and direction of Mother Ana Maria, with appropriate costumes cleverly designed to portray the biblical characters. The “*Holy Family*” is acted upon by Bro. Paps & Sis Helen and shepherds by Nick Pag-ong and Stephanie Bondoc.

Series of bible readings were done by members of the DK’s and Mother Ana Maria (songs with guitar accompaniment from Bro. Marc Ballesteros). The play ended with the community paying their homage to the “*Child Jesus*” in the manger – a solemn adoration and thanksgiving to the One who has come to save us - *Divine Messiah!* Thank you all for this wonderful contribution ... hope to have another play this year!

*Sanctuary*

*..... and the Christmas program continues.....!*



To get in the spirit of Christmas, the Magnificat Choir, under the generous leadership and directorship of Bro. Marc and Sis. Elsa Ballesteros, sang some Christmas carols to the community.

What is a party without lively music? We are very grateful to Bro. Vic & Sis. Lita Roldan (& the Apostles) for being our DJ for the night and for bringing their musical component for the group. The excitement is building up as everyone was on the floor eager to learn the group “*polka*” dance steps – all under the patience and guidance of our most able & graceful dance instructor, Sis. Lita Roldan. Sis. Irene & Sis. Lilibeth also led the “beginners” until the group is confident dancing this beautiful dance steps of group polka. More dancing, more lessons....please!

*Oh, what a night of fun & fellowship! Praise & thank God!*

**A “CHRISTMAS CAROL” COMES TO YOUR HOME**



*Magnificat Music Ministry Carolers are ready to visit your home!*

Caroling is part of the Filipino Christmas tradition and the season is celebrated by Filipinos through Christmas songs. *Christmas is not complete without music.* Once again, Magnificat Music Ministry is on their feet to sing Christmas carols from house to house spreading the spirit of the season through their songs. They are ready to sing with all their heart in spreading the joy and warmth of the Yuletide season.

To our generous families who have opened their hearts and their beautiful homes for us to spread the spirit of Christmas through our caroling, it's been a wonderful experience and our heartfelt gratitude! Hope to visit you again this year. *May the spirit of Christmas be always in our hearts throughout the year! God's blessings always!*

Sanctuary

*Placing the buildings of Regina Mundi in Gods special care using the sacramental of salt.*



The buildings are withdrawn from the property insurance because there is no money to pay the heavy premiums. Only the liability part of the insurance is kept. *We wanted therefore to show our trust in God and ask for His special protection of these buildings used for prayer and apostolate.*

We blessed some salt and the whole community present formed a procession. We sang, carried candles and put blessed salt on each entrance with prayer, asking that this building would be *kept safe and not be harmed by fire, burglary or any violent destruction* and that it *always would be used for God's glory.*

*Salt* was a precious commodity in the ancient world and is used numerous times in the Bible as a symbol of special blessing or spiritual wisdom and the opposition of corruption. We used it as a sacramental, which means it is not a power in itself. The use is not superstitious but a *sanctifying ritual through the intercessory prayer of the Church, funneling our faith to the redemptive power of Jesus and accepting God's providence and holy will.*

**MAGNIFICAT CHARISMATIC PRAYER COMMUNITY**

**Fall Dinner & Dance Party**

**Saturday, October 23, 2010**

6.30 p.m. until 1.00 p.m.

Thornhill Community Centre

7755 Bayview Ave. (Bayview Ave & John St)

Thornhill, ON L3T 4P1

**DJ: REMMV 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)

Lita & Jun Malixi  
905-898-7362 (H)

**SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES - 2010**

**Every SATURDAY**

*Starting at 2:30 p.m., Chapel, Regina Mundi,  
Community Saturday Devotion to the Divine Mercy,  
Holy Rosary, prayer meeting followed by the  
celebration of anticipated HOLY MASS.*

**FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTION to the SACRED HEART OF JESUS**

*Every 1<sup>ST</sup> FRIDAY of the month starting April to December  
at 7:30 p.m., Chapel, Regina Mundi*

**FEBRUARY**

**Feb. 27 & 28 - LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR (LSS)  
(Sat. & Sun) -Vanier Hall, Regina Mundi**

**MARCH**

March 6 (Sat.) - CCRC General Meeting & Leadership Workshop

March 27 (Sat.) - Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary  
See details on pages 6, 7 & 8

## SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES - 2010

### APRIL

April 1 - 3 - HOLY TRIDUUM  
(Thurs. – Sat.) - Holy Thursday  
- Good Friday  
- Holy Saturday  
(Vanier Hall, Regina Mundi – Details to follow)

April 11 - FEAST OF THE DIVINE MERCY  
(Sunday) Vanier Hall, Regina Mundi

April 17 (Sat.) - Catechism (Mother Ana Maria) **(Details to follow)**

April 24 - LIFT JESUS HIGHER RALLY  
(Sat.) Metro Convention Centre

MAY - **Schedule of Activities to follow**

May 22 (Sat.) - CCRC - Pentecost Rally (Canada Christian College)

May 28 – 30 - MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT RETREAT (ME #34)  
(Fri. – Sun.) Friday night to Sunday **(Details to follow)**

JUNE - **Schedule of Activities to follow**

June 12 - CELEBRATION OF THE FEAST OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS  
(Sat.) (actual date of the Feast is June 11, 2010)

JULY - **Schedule of Activities to follow**

July 4 - 7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the ORATORY OF JESUS,  
(Sunday) KING OF MERCY Celebration

OCTOBER - **Schedule of Activities to follow**

Oct. 23 - FALL DINNER & DANCE FUNDRAISING  
(Sat.) Thornhill Community Centre

NOVEMBER **Schedule of Activities to follow**

Nov. 20 - CCRC - Christ the King Rally (Canada Christian College)

DECEMBER - **Schedule of Activities to follow**

Dec. 11 - COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS PARTY (Tentative)  
(Sat.) MAGNIFICAT ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION