



# MARTYRS' SHRINE

Weekly Church Bulletin | August 24th 2019 | 21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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## **Watch & Pray: Retreat with Movies - TUESDAYS WITH MORRIE reflection by Fr. George Vallocherill, SJ**

This is a TV movie about a retired teacher named Morrie Schwartz who is slowly dying of Lou Gehrig's disease. Instead of being miserable about his inevitable death, Morrie has accepted it. An old pupil of his, Mitch Albom, has come to visit Morrie after hearing of his sickness on the news. Morrie starts to teach Mitch about his ideas on the meaning of life. He says "When we learn to die, we learn to live." When you can accept that you will die someday, you live life differently. He also says to forgive everyone before it is too late and to love everyone. "We must love one another, or die."

Accomplished sports writer Mitch Albom (Hank Azaria) feels that his life is lacking, despite his success. When Mitch watches a television interview with his former university professor, Morrie Schwartz (Jack Lemmon), he is moved to reconnect with his old mentor, who is struggling with Lou Gehrig's disease. As Mitch and Morrie get reacquainted, they engage in thoughtful conversations about a variety of significant topics, including love, happiness and death. Morrie is an extremely lovable college professor who—in his late sixties—finds out that he is dying. The story of his last few weeks on earth is told by Mitch, one of Morrie's former students, who happens to bump into him during his final days.

Morrie has been diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's disease. It destroys his muscles, making him weaker and weaker until his lungs can no longer support him and he dies. He and his wife prepare for this new life. How? He starts opening up his home to visitors, reaching out to everyone he knows. Meanwhile, Mitch has been living kind of a mediocre life. He isn't happy. He is pretty much a workaholic who doesn't even have time for his would be wife. Luckily Mitch happens to come across his old professor being interviewed by Nightline on ABC.

Mitch visits Morrie on the first of many Tuesdays. At first he's a bit taken aback by how frail Morrie is and worries that he's made the wrong decision by visiting, but that fear begins to melt pretty quickly. They end up chatting for hours, as if no time has passed between them, and Morrie is able to convince Mitch to come back and visit next week.

This final course with Morrie consists of discussions about important things: friendship, love, loss, death, and so on. As the weeks pass, Morrie's body grows weaker, though he fights every day to stay positive for the people he loves. As Mitch watches his friend suffer, his own heart gets stronger. He thinks deeply about the things around him, and starts reaching out to help take care of Morrie in an effort to show his concern. Finally, on their fourteenth Tuesday, they have to say goodbye. Morrie can barely speak and raises his hand to give Mitch a hug. It's a heartbreaking farewell indeed. Morrie passes away a few days later. To finish up, Mitch gives us his conclusion. It's a kind of retrospective on his "last class" with Morrie. His heart brims with gratitude for what Morrie did for him, and looking back, he only has one regret: that he didn't reach out to Morrie earlier. If he had, they might have had more Tuesdays together.

But there's more to the movie than the message -- a movie with nothing more than a message is bound to be boring. The real pleasure in watching this film is that the characters become more and more interesting and engaging along the way. It is not like other regular "disease movies" that would just make you feel guilty and miserable about not caring about its sick and ailing characters. This movie make you care about people like Morrie and Mitch around us. It is one of a kind film that teaches you to enjoy each day and not take anything for granted. It also teaches you about amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) and its devastating effects on even the most fun-loving of people (Jack Lemmon) and how someone's illness and imminent death can affect those closest to the victim (family as well as close friends) in both a sad and positive way.

This movie has both a sad but beautiful ending in getting across the message that death is a part of living and shouldn't be feared. Maybe this message is too heavy for some of us, but all of us have to face up to it one day. When Morrie says goodbye to his "favorite pupil" on his deathbed one last time he says "I'll be buried by a beautiful oak tree, you talk, and I'll just listen."



# LE SANCTUAIRE DES MARTYRS

Bulletin hebdomadaire | 24 août, 2019 | 21e dimanche du temps ordinaire

## WATCH & PRAY - RETREAT WITH MOVIES

Join Fr. George Vallocheril, SJ for a retreat with movies where you will be invited to learn to use movies for prayer and spiritual nourishment.

**This Wednesday is the last evening of the retreat** beginning at 6:00 PM in the St. Ignatius Chapel and will include a brief introduction to the film with reflection points, followed by the screening, and group discussion. Tickets are \$10.00 and include all evenings. Tickets and info: [www.martyrs-shrine.com/wap](http://www.martyrs-shrine.com/wap)

## TIAWENK FUNDRAISING DINNER & AUCTION

Our 6th annual Tiawenk fundraising dinner & auction will be held at the Quality Inn and Conference Centre in Midland, on **Saturday, September 28th** at 5:00 PM. Tickets are available at the Pastoral and Administrative Office or online for \$95.00. The ticket purchaser is eligible for a \$45.00 tax receipt per ticket. This year's Tiawenk proceeds will be directed towards the Fire Suppression System.

## TOONIE CHALLENGE

The Church of St. Joseph was not constructed for year-round use. For that reason, the Church was never insulated, and is not heated. A specialized dry-air fire suppression system is required. Our system is in need of an update including replacing its pipes that are at the end of their life. Please support this project through our toonie challenge. If every pilgrim who visited Martyrs' Shrine gave a toonie, we would reach our fundraising goal. Yellow envelopes are available at the rear of the Church for anyone who would like their gift recorded and included on their annual donations receipt for income tax purposes.

## ST. LOUIS CHURCH 180<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

St. Louis Church is celebrating its 180th Anniversary Saturday Sept 14. One of the oldest churches in Simcoe County, St. Louis was also a mission outpost of St. Marie dating from 1638, over 380 years ago. Mass celebrated by Bishop Kirkpatrick at 10:30, followed by luncheon (\$10), and entertainment. Space is limited. Contact (705) 538-2353 or [taycatholics@rogers.com](mailto:taycatholics@rogers.com) for tickets.

### GIFT SHOP NOW ONLINE!

Martyrs' Shrine has been working to create an online store for the purchase of religious goods sold in our Gift Shop. We hope to make religious gifts more accessible to those who can't journey to our site, and more convenient for those who can.

**Browse our online shop at [www.martyrs-shrine.com/giftshop](http://www.martyrs-shrine.com/giftshop).**  
**Your feedback is always appreciated!**

## MASS INTENTIONS †

### 24-SAT

9:00 Sabat Andrzej & Stefania +  
10:30 All Souls in Purgatory +  
12:00 Martyrs' Shrine Association  
7:30 Wenefreda Palero

### 25-SUN

9:00 Kawalec Tadeusz +  
10:30 Deceased members of Bar-  
nicke family +  
12:00 Fernando Peralta + and Euge-  
nia Alicante +  
7:30 Mr and Mrs Leonila Rosales

### 26-MON

9:00 Martyrs' Shrine Association  
10:30 Amelita Sevileno Buhat +  
12:00 Emilia & Sabino Golluccio +  
7:30 Late Mr. Selvanayagam +

### 27-TUE

9:00 Christina & Roman & Family -  
Health & Well being  
10:30 Martyrs' Shrine Association  
12:00 Late Mr. Thevasahayam +  
7:30 Deceased members of Sabap-  
athy, Singarayer, Ivor and Cyril

### 28-WED

9:00 Roy, Dolly, Ruth and Anthony  
for healing their cancer  
10:30 Martyrs' Shrine Association  
12:00 Donbosco Gabrgpillai +  
3:00 (St. Ignace) Kait & Matthew Grein  
7:30 Deborah Chambers +

### 29-THU

9:00 Martyrs' Shrine Association  
10:30 Gloria & Sam De Gasperis +  
12:00 Elizabeth and Edna Libari +  
7:30 Suren Family

### 30-FRI

9:00 Martyrs' Shrine Association  
10:30 Geethu Thomas for getting  
a Job closer at home  
12:00 Martyrs' Shrine Association  
7:30 Arul Muttukumar +

**Visit Our Website: [www.martyrs-shrine.com](http://www.martyrs-shrine.com)**