



St. Alphonsus Liguori Catholic Church ■ stalphonsus.net

Are you new here? Welcome! No matter who you are or where you're from, we're so glad you've joined us. Stop by the Welcome Desk, we'd love to meet you!

November 10, 2019

INSOMNIA // Everyone experiences fears. Fears often hold us back from what we desire to achieve or the people we want to become. But what is behind our fears? Very often our fears are based on lies or half-truths we have come to believe. Overcoming fear requires getting to the root of those lies and finding out the truth about God and ourselves. In this series, we look at some common fears and how to overcome them.

BOOK OF THE DEAD // During the month of November, we remember, with hope, our loved ones who have died in the Lord. The Church offers special prayers during this month for the faithful departed. There is a book available to write names of those who died this past year near the baptismal font to help with this remembrance.

You are also encouraged to offer Masses for all those who have gone before us. Please feel free to write down a many names of the deceased on the envelopes provided (at all entrances and by the book) so they may be remembered in prayer at Masses during November. Then place your envelope in the basket at the foot of the book.

STARTING POINT // New to the parish in the last year? Come meet other new members and the parish staff, Sunday, December 1st at 12:30pm in the Parish Hall. We will begin with lunch (provided), introduce the staff, learn a bit more about all that happens at the parish and have some social time. We attempt to personally invite members but please don't hesitate to join us. RSVP Hanna or email office@stalphonsus.net to ensure enough food.

LEST WE FORGET // Let us remember all those who fought in WWI, WWII, the Korean and Afghanistan wars and all wars where freedom was and is fought for.



TINY DISCIPLES

Tiny Disciples is a drop-off worship experience for Kids ages 2-5. Kids get the chance to have fun and learn that God loves them while their parents get some quiet time to participate in worship. Tiny Disciples runs every Sunday at the 9AM and 11AM Masses. Just follow the signs to the Tiny Disciples area or stop by the Welcome Desk to learn more.

SWITCH

Switch is our program for students in grades 6-8. At Switch, students worship through powerful music and grow through the relevant message of the Gospel. And they have fun too! Students meet in small groups where they ask questions, and discuss the message as it applies to their life. It's here where life change begins. Switch meets Wednesday nights 6:30 – 8:30PM in the parish hall.

KIDS CHURCH

For children in grades 1-5, we offer Kids Church, a worship experience for our younger members. How does it work? Children go to Mass with their families; after the opening prayer, they're invited to gather in a separate area for readings, a message, and a fun worship experience geared to their age. Kids Church runs every Sunday at the 9AM and 11AM Masses.

IMPACT

iMPACT is our program for high school students. At iMPACT, teens worship, learn, and grow as they get to know the Lord Jesus. iMPACT small groups are where students go deeper with one another and adult mentors, and form life-long friendships. iMPACT meets Saturday nights 6:30 - 8:30PM in the meeting space behind the parish office. Free Supper at 6PM!

ST JOSEPH'S SUNDAY MISSAL // Sunday Missals beginning Advent (Dec. 1st) are available for \$5 in the church Narthex and office. Follow along with the Sunday readings.

ELECTRONIC GIVING // Offertory boxes for 2020 will be available for pick-up the first Sunday of Advent, December 1st. This is a perfect opportunity to switch to the ease of donating to the parish through a pre-authorized giving plan. It's easy and safe. There is an envelope in your box this year marked **'Make the Switch'** to include a void cheque. Join over 165 parishioners donating this way. Talk to Hanna at the Welcome Desk or office.

FORMED.ORG // Go to www.formed.org and click on the **'Sign Up'** button. Select **'I Belong to a Parish or Organization'**. Find our parish name and address OR type in our case-sensitive parish code **MT9YZ7**. Type in your name and email and you are registered! You can now sit back and enjoy thousands of movies, programs, audio, and books instantly. *The Catholic Faith. On demand.*

DEVELOPMENT & PEACE: A Future for the Amazon, A Future for ALL! // Did you know the Amazon is home to half of all the plants and animals in the world? It is also home to more than 30 million people, nearly 3 million of whom belong to 380 Indigenous groups. Logging, industrial farming and mining companies threaten their way of life and their survival. **WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?** Read the "Common Home" pamphlet and Community Profile sheet that are attached. Educate yourselves about what's going on in the Amazon and how people there are struggling to defend their natural resources.

OFFICE CLOSED // The parish office will be closed again Monday morning, November 11 and open at 1PM.

PRIEST STUDY DAYS // All Diocesan priests will be attending Study Days this week, Tuesday, November 12th to Thursday, November 14th. There will be no Masses celebrated at St. Alphonsus Liguori those days. Pray for them as they minister in the Lord's vineyard.

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon., November 11 8AM Adelina Antonio

Tues., November 12 7PM NO MASS

Wed., November 13 7PM NO MASS

Thurs., November 14 7PM NO MASS

Fri., November 15 8AM Conchita Llacuna

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat., November 16 5PM - Missa Pro Populo (for the people)

Sun., November 17 9AM - Faustino and Cecilia Adesanya
& Charles and Victoria Ajie

Sun., November 17 11AM - Lydia Toporowski-Levec

WEEKEND WORSHIP

Saturday 5PM

Sunday 9AM*

11AM*

*Children's Ministry for ages 2 to Grade 5

RECONCILIATION

Tuesdays 6:30-6:50PM

Saturdays 3:30-4:30PM

OUR TEAM

Pastor ▸ Fr. Jerry Tavares

Youth Minister ▸ Nicolas DuBonnet

Lay Pastoral Assistant ▸ Samantha Miller

Administrative Assistant ▸ Hanna Dracup

Operations ▸ Peter Doyle

STAY CONNECTED

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1066 Western Ave.

Peterborough, ON K9J 5W6

phone: 705 745 8623

email: office@stalphonsus.net

Visit our website for a lot more information on what we have to offer: stalphonsus.net

Take action!



Defend the defenders

We want to send the *seringueiros* and the Mura people a letter of solidarity with **65,000 signatures** (one for each species of tree and vertebrate in the Amazon) to show our appreciation for their courage and reassure them that we are by their side in their struggles. Your signatures will also help us advocate for Canada and Brazil to protect the forest and its people.

Sign our letter in your parish or school or online at devp.org/act.

If you prefer, you can write your own letter and children are encouraged to draw a message of hope.

Please send all solidarity letters and drawings **by April 2020** to the address below or to action@devp.org.



Help us reach our goal of 65,000 signatures!

Take the intergenerational pledge for our common home

Your actions make a difference! Commit to at least one personal change for our common home. Be part of our mosaic of global citizens committed to preserving our common home for future generations by sending us a selfie with a sign reading: "I care for our common home" in a heart shape. Change starts with each and every one of us.



Take the pledge and upload a selfie (optional) at devp.org/pledge.

Spread the word!

- Follow @DevPeace on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram and share our posts #ForOurCommonHome.
- Join the *For our Common Home* Facebook group and make your pledge selfie your profile photo.



Development and Peace
CARITAS CANADA

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Montreal (Quebec) H3G 1T7
1 888 234-8533 | devp.org

The need for a global ecological conversion

"We must break with the historical paradigm that sees the Amazon as an inexhaustible larder for other countries without taking into account its inhabitants."

– Pope Francis, Puerto Maldonado, Peru, January 2018



Indigenous and traditional peoples are on the frontlines of the struggle to preserve the Amazon. Yesica Patiachi of Peru's Indigenous Harakbut community was present in Puerto Maldonado when Pope Francis announced the special synod for the Amazon. She has a message to share with all humankind:

The destruction of the Amazon is not just the problem of Indigenous peoples, but of all humanity.

If the Amazon disappears, it is very likely that all humanity will disappear, because it is here that forests that give life are preserved, with the largest reserve of freshwater, numerous species of flora and fauna, including ourselves, the Indigenous peoples. But if we continue to be crushed, if foreigners continue to invade us, without even considering a prior consultation, ...[if] various governments make us invisible, it gradually makes our language, our traditions, our people die."



Watch Yesica's testimonial at devp.org/campaign/yesica.

Indigenous peoples' rights and teachings

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) enshrines Indigenous peoples' rights, including their rights to their lands and resources and to free, prior and informed consent for land use. Worldwide and in Canada, Indigenous communities are struggling to have these rights respected. As we stand in solidarity with the Amazon's defenders, we must also stand with land and water defenders here in Canada. In facing the climate crisis and securing our descendants' rights to dignity and plenitude, our best hope lies in the Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) creed of considering the impact of every decision on the next seven generations. Guided by this principle, we should strive to leave the Earth in better condition than we found it.

Voices at risk in Brazil

The defenders of the Amazon are extremely vulnerable to intimidation, persecution, criminalization and violence. The situation is particularly alarming in Brazil, where a new government is derecognizing Indigenous rights and deregulating resource exploitation.

Our partners are helping Amazon communities defend their territories and rights. They want Canadians to know about these struggles and mobilize in solidarity.

Seringueiros of Machadinho d'Oeste

The Machadinho d'Oeste municipality in Brazil's Rondônia State is home to 16 *seringueiro* (artisanal rubber tapper) reserves dedicated to hunting, fishing and gathering. Powerful logging companies are intimidating and evicting the *seringueiros*. With 15 of them murdered in the last decades, resistance has been brutally suppressed. Despite the arrest of some corrupt officials for issuing illegal logging permits, intimidation persists. Already isolated, the *seringueiros* are being driven further inland, away from the sustenance of the Machadinho River.

For our partner, Comissão Pastoral da Terra (CPT, the Pastoral Land Commission), protecting and empowering the oppressed *seringueiros* is a matter of urgency.

Mura people of Amazonas

The Indigenous Mura people live in 38 communities around Manaus, the capital of Brazil's Amazonas State. They lead sustainable lives, subsisting on fishing, hunting and gathering. Their way of life is being threatened by a Canadian-financed potash mine. Despite the mining company's claims of having engaged them and sought their consent for exploiting their territory, the Mura people won an interim injunction against the mine on the grounds of inadequate consultation.

Our partner, Rede Eclesial Pan-Amazônica (REPAM, the Pan-Amazonian Ecclesial Network), is helping the Mura people with litigation and is working to safeguard their right to free, prior and informed consent.



A future for the Amazon, a future for all

There is no place on Earth like the Amazon rainforest. It is home to:

1/2
of all living plants and animals

1/10
of the world's known species

1/5
of the planet's fresh water

1/3
of the Earth's forests

30 million
people

380
Indigenous groups

140
groups living in voluntary isolation

In the Amazon, Indigenous, riverside and forest peoples lead sustainable lives, taking only what is needed to maintain their livelihoods. Their caring use of the land ensures that the woodlands and waterways of this rainforest are preserved for future generations.

Protecting the Amazon is a matter of survival not only for them but also for all of us, because we and all the Earth are interconnected.

We must all care *For our Common Home*.

The Amazon and its people are under threat

The Amazon is the world's largest tropical rainforest, spanning nine countries. It serves as the lungs of the planet, absorbing carbon emissions and providing 20% of the oxygen we breathe. It helps stabilize the climate of the Earth, our common home.

Yet, we permit the plunder of the Amazon for the sake of resources such as:

- Lumber → Oil
- Minerals → Hydroelectricity

These resources feed our growing consumer needs, but the consequences are devastating for the people of the Amazon and all of humanity.

Some scientists reckon deforestation is already causing the Amazon to emit more carbon than it absorbs, further warming the planet instead of cooling it. Deforestation also compromises the forest's capacity to recharge groundwater reserves, increasing the risk of drought and hunger.

Profit-driven exploitation also impoverishes Indigenous peoples and violates their rights. Those who resist it and seek to defend their lands are harassed, persecuted, forcibly displaced and sometimes even killed. As its rightful residents suffer, the Amazon continues being stripped away.

Recognizing the importance of the Amazon for all of humanity, Pope Francis has called for a Special Assembly of the Synod of Bishops for the Pan-Amazon Region, which will ask how the Church can respond to the cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor of this territory. See more at devp.org/seasonofcreation.

“The native Amazonian peoples have probably never been so threatened on their own lands as they are now.”

— Pope Francis, Puerto Maldonado, Peru, January 2018



New highways and railroads clear the forest and facilitate mass resource extraction.



Logging strips the land, which is then used for **cattle ranching** and **industrial agriculture**.



Oil extraction and mining (e.g., for gold and iron) pollute the land, air and waterways.



Hydroelectric dams impede the river, cause unseasonable floods, devastate aquatic life and disrupt riverside communities.

The Amazon's rivers and forests must be protected so that Indigenous and traditional peoples can maintain their sustainable way of life, which will prevent further biodiversity loss and mitigate climate change.

17% of forest cover has been lost in the last 50 years.





Seringueiros of Machadinho d'Oeste

The *seringueiros* are traditional artisanal rubber tappers. By state-recognized right, a group of them practice sustainable hunting, gathering, fishing and rubber tapping on 16 reserves in the Machadinho d'Oeste municipality of Brazil's Rondônia State.

Threatened lifestyles, threatened lives

The traditional, forest-friendly *seringueiro* lifestyle is in peril. Large logging companies are:

- Intimidating and evicting *seringueiros* from their lands
- Deploying tactics like kidnapping, arson and murder to silence resistance
- Bribing officials to bypass protective laws
- Enabling the takeover of forested land by industrial agriculture and livestock farming

The problem is not new. In 1988, *seringueiro* leader Chico Mendes had been killed by a rancher. Lately, 15 *seringueiros* have been murdered in Machadinho d'Oeste. The recent arrest of some corrupt officials for issuing illegal logging permits has not deterred the aggressive expansion of logging. And now, the Brazilian government is opening the Amazon's protected areas, including *seringueiro* reserves, to resource extraction.

Bleak prospects

Benefitting from media and government inattention, the logging firms are driving the *seringueiros* further inland, away from the sustenance of the Machadinho River. This is exacerbating their already precarious economic condition.

How our partner is helping

Our long-time partner, Comissão Pastoral da Terra (CPT, the Pastoral Land Commission), is an arm of the National Conference of Bishops of Brazil. It supports the *seringueiros* by documenting abuses of their rights and helping them challenge unjust land distribution and seizures. CPT also promotes human rights, ecological justice and genuine land reform.

What you can do

Although Brazilian state policy is menacing their livelihood, the *seringueiros* are bravely fighting on with the help of CPT. In addition to encouraging and empowering them, by signing our Solidarity Letter you will help us advocate for Canada and Brazil to protect the forest and its people.

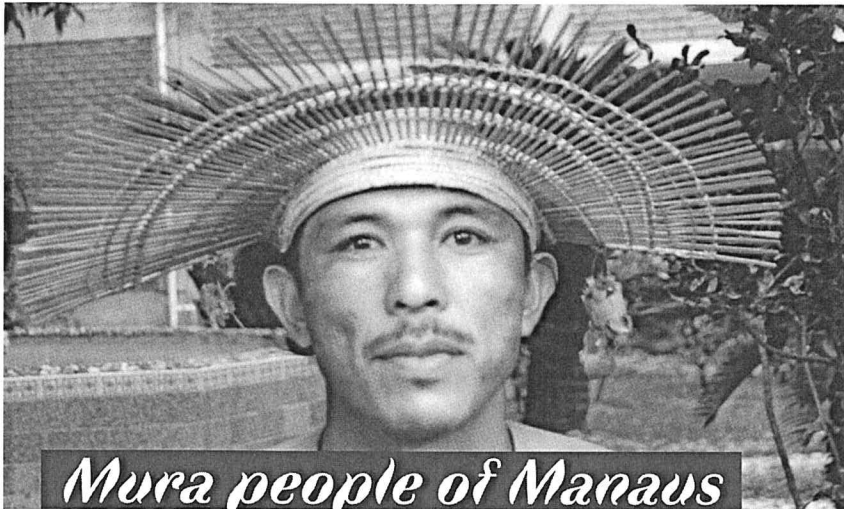
devp.org/ForOurCommonHome



The seringueiros of Machadinho d'Oeste are being threatened, even killed, because they courageously defend their way of life, which depends on and is in harmony with their environment. They are in urgent need of protection.

— Anne Catherine Kennedy,
Development and Peace –
Caritas Canada Program Officer
for Latin America





We take from the forest only what is necessary for our survival. In my opinion, there is no one who can take care of the forest better than Indigenous people can.

— Jeremias Oliveira,
Mura representative

The Mura Indigenous people, who subsist as hunters, fishers and gatherers, have a proud history of resisting colonialism. They live in 38 villages around Manaus, the capital of Brazil's Amazonas State.

A mine of misery

The Muras' lands, livelihoods and lifestyle are threatened by a large potash mine that is being built by Potássio do Brasil, a resource company that has financing from a Toronto-based investment fund. The project will result in:

- Large-scale land appropriation and expulsion of Mura people
- Widespread pollution and deforestation
- Impoverishment of the Mura people

Contrary to its claims, the mining company has not meaningfully consulted the Mura, resorting instead to obfuscation, misrepresentations and bribery. Those among the Mura people who refuse to be coopted and dare to resist are criminalized and persecuted.

Rapid scale-up, small victory

Exploratory drilling for the mine began in 2010 and permits were granted in 2015. By 2017, the company had invested \$180 million of a planned outlay of \$2 billion. Recently, the Mura won an interim injunction against the mine on the grounds of insufficient consultation. But this is unlikely to last because the mine is backed by powerful vested interests.

How our partners are helping

Supported by local episcopal conferences, our partners, Rede Eclesial Pan-Amazônica (REPAM, the Pan-Amazonian Ecclesial Network) and Conselho Indigenista Missionário (CIMI, the Indigenous Missionary Council), seek social justice for Indigenous and marginalized Amazonian communities. They help peoples like the Mura organize, litigate, advocate and publicize their causes more effectively. They also draw global attention to the threats that the forest and its peoples face.

What you can do

By signing our Solidarity Letter you will provide moral support to the Mura people in their legal fight, aided by REPAM. It will also help us advocate for better corporate accountability in Canada and better protection for the rainforest and its people in Brazil.



devp.org/ForOurCommonHome