

TRINITY SUNDAY

May 18, 2008

2 Corinthians 13:11--13

What is the Blessed Trinity?

I do not understand it, Lord; but I try to live it. Patrick Kavanagh hoped, "That through the hole in reason's ceiling we can fly to knowledge without ever going to college."

Let me sit within this mystery for awhile.



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 19TH

Wednesday 9:00 a.m.

Friday 9:00 a.m.

Saturday 7:00 p.m. Fay Parrington by Annie Guertin

Sunday 9:00 a.m. Claire Runyon 6th Anniv. by Don & Lana Charron

Peter Wilson by Maurice & Rosemary MacAuley

11:00 a.m. Vincent J Collins by Pete, Ellen Gravelle & Family

WEEKEND COLLECTIONS:

\$ 2,486.38

Thank you!

In "Church Language" we are back in Ordinary Time

The Church's year is made up of two high seasons (Lent-Easter and Advent-Christmas) and two blocks of Ordinary Time. After the 90-day Lent-Easter season we are now back in Ordinary Time. It is most noticeable in the changed décor of the church. The Easter banners have gone and on most Sundays the priest wears green vestments.

Of course, there are always exceptions to the rule: this Sunday (Trinity Sunday) and next Sunday (Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ). The vestments are white to mark the two feasts that the Church observes on these Sundays. These two feasts could be seen as spin-offs from the enormous and foundational event we celebrate in the 50 days of Easter: the crucified Jesus being raised from the dead. Trinity Sunday makes us focus on the source of that central mystery of our faith: the communion of life and love which is God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ makes us face the Mystery of the Eucharist where we are privileged to celebrate every Sunday that central core of our faith.

The Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist) concern us all

The 50-day Easter season is the preferred time to celebrate the sacraments of initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist. The celebration of these sacraments does not only concern those who are baptized, confirmed, and make their First Communion. They concern us as a parish community; they are parish events. For a variety of reasons, the parish community is in most instances not directly or only partially involved in the celebration of these sacraments.

We can "correct" that. How? By celebrating **One Eucharist** at which the entire parish comes together and welcomes those who, in the course of the past year, have been baptized, confirmed, and have made their First Communion here at St. Mark's. That is the rationale behind the special Eucharist we are preparing for **Sunday June 8 at 10:00 a.m.** We plan to do it outside for the simple reason that if all cooperate, our church would be too small for such a gathering. It will be this year's way of having our outdoor Mass which for a number of years we have held in the fall. And that focus on having those who were baptized, confirmed, and made their First Communion this past year as "our guests" gives that outdoor Mass a new, but very legitimate twist. May we count on your cooperation?

Sunday, June 8 at 10:00 a.m. - Let us make it a real *St. Mark's Parish* event!

The Eucharistic Congress to be held in Quebec City is fast approaching (5)

Not many of us will be going to Quebec City for the International Eucharistic Congress in June. We can still be part of it from a distance by taking a second look at aspects of that treasure we hold in the Sunday Eucharist.

Here is a fifth instalment:

“Is there any rhyme or reason to the way the Scripture readings for Sunday Mass are selected?” That is a fair question. To find some sort of logic in it, it is best to start with the third reading, the Gospel reading. That is the dominant reading for us. After all, the Gospels deal directly with the One who is most important to us as Christians: Jesus Christ. You cannot have a Mass without a Gospel reading.

Can the priest just pick or choose any Gospel passage for a given Sunday? Not quite. You know we have four Gospels, four portraits of the same Jesus. Three of these are very similar: Matthew, Mark and Luke. They are called the Synoptic Gospels. And then there is the Gospel according to John, the fourth Gospel which is quite different from the other three.

When, in Rome, they put the arrangement of Scripture readings for Sunday together, they decided on a three-year cycle. For each year they took one of the three Synoptic Gospels: in Year A: Matthew (that is the year we are in now); in Year B: Mark; in Year C: Luke. So throughout the entire year we let either, Matthew, Mark or Luke be our guide in getting to know Jesus better. That applies especially to what is called Ordinary Time, the time of the year the priest wears the green vestments.

So, what about John's Gospel? Because John is so very different from Matthew, Mark and Luke, they have selected various passages from John's Gospel and spread them out over the three years. These are used especially in the high seasons of the Church's Year: Lent-Easter and Advent-Christmas.

Yes, there are other Scripture readings. More about those next week.

National Collection for the Eucharistic Congress: Next Sunday, May 25

Putting together an International Congress of any kind incurs considerable expense. That applies as well to a Eucharistic Congress. The Congress' operating budget has been set at close to \$10 million. Various organizations are contributing to covering the costs, such as the Knights of Columbus, Canadian religious communities, *Caisses Populaires Desjardins*, the Government of Canada, the Government of Quebec and the City of Quebec. The Bishops of Canada are also asking the Catholic population to contribute to it. That is why you find a special envelope attached to this Sunday's bulletin which is meant to be used for next Sunday's special collection for the Eucharistic Congress.

If you are a regular envelope user, make sure to indicate your normal envelope number in the space provided for this purpose. Then you can receive an income tax receipt for whatever you contribute. If you are not a regular envelope user and want to receive an income tax receipt, please make sure to fill in your name and address at the appropriate place.

Cheques are to be made out to our parish, and we will pass them on to the diocese.

“A belated Mother's Day reflection” - see this Sunday's bulletin insert

Yes, it is a week too late, but it is worth waiting for. It is from one of my favourite authors, Daniel J. O'Leary. And what a coincidence! It came to my attention when one of my meditation aids left me with this thought: *“There are times, Lord, when I too look for something abnormal to proclaim your presence. In fact, it is all around me. There are signs enough of you in my every day. Do I ignore what is under my nose?”*

WARDENS: Tuesday May 20, 7:00 p.m.

FAITH FORMATION – Sacramental Preparation: Wednesday, May 22 at 7:00 p.m.

The next time we celebrate Baptism at St. Mark's is Sunday June 22 It is still some time to go, but it has to be prepared. We do that in the form of a home visit by a member of our baptism team. Then we get together for three evenings of reflection (June 5, 11 and 18) in which we take a closer look at what it is that prompted

the parents to make the request to have their children baptized and what we expect from having our children baptized. Part of that too is the presentation of the children to the parish community at the Sunday prior to the Baptism Sunday.

If you know of anyone that would appreciate knowing about these dates, please pass it on.

Let us take advantage of Saint Paul University being so close!

“Me going to University? No way!” some might say. The point is that Saint Paul University has two Summer Institutes, one in Pastoral Liturgy and the other in Religious Education. They are not formal degree programs, but programs that try to assist people in parishes that are involved in their parish’s liturgies (we all are!) or in their parish’s faith formation activities (we all are!). Some more formal formation for these areas of parish life can be so beneficial. And here it is offered in our own backyard. Let us take advantage of it! These Summer Institutes run from **July 7 to 18**. Brochures for them can be found at the entrance to the church. There is some financial assistance available for parishioners who may be interested in this and who will thus be better equipped to assist our parishioners.

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE - Donations to aid cyclone victims in Myanmar (Burma):

Development and Peace is accepting funds to help victims of the devastating Nagris Cyclone, which has left over 22,000 dead and thousands more homeless after hitting Myanmar’s Irrawady Delta region on Saturday, May 3. Contributions can be made by telephone (1 888 664-3387), online at www.devdp.org or sent by cheque (marked “Emergency: Burma/Myanmar”) to the following address: Development and Peace, 1425, René-Lévesque Blvd West, 3rd floor, Montreal (Quebec) H3G 1T7

L’ORCHESTRE SYMPHONIQUE DE GATINEAU: The Diocese, jointly with the Gatineau Symphonic Orchestra, will be presenting classical music concerts in three local churches to raise funds for diocesan pastoral endeavours as well for each of the three churches. Music by Mozart, Mascagni, Dvorak and Beethoven will be played. The concerts will take place:

May 17 - Ste-Angelique Church in Papineauville

May 25 - Ste-Rose-de-Lima Church in Gatineau

June 1 - St-Paul Church in Aylmer

Tickets: Adults \$40, Students \$20 and FREE for children 12 years and under. Tickets may be purchased from one of the above-listed churches or at the Gatineau diocesan office. Tax receipts (amount to be determined) will be available. All are invited to attend in support of diocesan pastoral initiatives.

Information: 819 684-5318. Diocese de Gatineau: 819 771-8391.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Kindly remember Dave McCormick, Claire Rochford, Teenie Yuriy, Tony Sciampacone, Wandaw Bobrowski, Hilda Preslawski and their families in your prayers.

A thought from Enzo Bianchi

“Humility is a suspect virtue. The word is joined to a long legacy that has made it a personal virtue, the goal of the individual who seeks to become perfect. Humility is often seen as synonymous with a created being’s self-annihilation in front of God who is all, and his or her self-abasement in front of other people. Today, however, this is no longer felt to be an appropriate way of approaching God, who does not crush what is human but welcomes us in the fullness of our humanity.”

Visit our Website: www.stmarkparish.ca

Bulletin design & Website content/design by: *Catherine LeGuerrier*

Need a website or flyer? Visit www.catleg.ca or e-mail: catleg@catleg.ca