

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 19, 2009

40/3/50
THE PASCHAL SEASON

Acts 4:32--35

- We see here a community living in the Spirit, as brothers and sisters in Christ, as children of the Father.
- Christian life is meant to be lived in community. It is a sharing of the Spirit with others, in the body of Christ. It is not a private dialogue with Jesus.
- We discover the Lord in relationship with others. Can I work on that today?



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 20TH

Wednesday	9:00 a.m.	
	7:30 p.m.	Meditation & Reflection
Friday	9:00 a.m.	
Saturday	7:00 p.m.	Thomas O'Connell by Arthur & Irene
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Rita McGuire by Bernie & Family Greta Rutter by Bob & Family
	11:00 a.m.	Edward Power by Elizabeth & Des Bolton Robina Amyotte by Rachel, Scott & Ashley

WEEKEND COLLECTIONS: \$3,765.18 Thank You!

Fine Showing for Development and Peace

Many thanks to all who contributed in different ways to the ***Development and Peace*** Share Lent collection: \$5313.60. It is our Lenten effort, which also includes the pledges for ***Think Fast*** and Good Friday's ***Hunger Lunch***. It is a possible source of life and dignity for others.



Are you new to our Parish?

Welcome to all who want to make their faith home here! You may have come from other places. You may have been "away for a while." You may be "checking us out". Be assured that we love to have you among us.

We would appreciate it very much if you identified yourself at Mass. It would also help if you would take the time to fill out a registration form. The next time you are with us, you may leave it in the collection basket or give it to one of the ushers or to the priest. **Welcome!**

The Liturgies of the Three Great Days: A Summary of the Christian Faith

Looking for a summary of the Christian faith we may be inclined to go to the Church's Catechism. That is not a bad place to go to. But we find the Christian faith just as authoritatively summed up in the Church's liturgy. That is especially true of the liturgies of the ***Three Great Days*** that we experienced last week: Jesus Christ in his Paschal Mystery (his being put to death and his being raised from the dead) and our being drawn into that mystery of faith! That is what defines the Christian faith at its core.

The Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, ***the Celebration of the Lord's Passion*** on Good Friday, the ***Easter Vigil*** on Holy Saturday, and the ***Celebration of the Eucharist*** on Easter Sunday were faith-filled and prayerful. Many thanks to those who made these liturgies happen, those who made the church be in shape for them, those who led us in the singing (and there was much of that!), those who served our

community in the different ministries that are part of these liturgies, and those who celebrated with us. Here is where the faith community is at its best.

What made the **Easter Vigil** special this year was the Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion of Roxanne Lavoie. Yes, the Easter Vigil is the most appropriate time for the Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion of adults. We have had that at St. Mark's before, but it will become more frequent in the future to the point where it won't be an exception any more, but a normal practice. Are we as a parish ready for that? Are we as a parish inviting, welcoming and encouraging enough for today's seekers? We cannot leave that to the priest or to a small committee. It has everything to do with what our Bishop talked about a few years ago in the little document ***Our Parishes becoming Schools of Catechesis***. Still lots of work to be done!

It is Time to Evaluate

On April 30th, our Liturgy Committee will meet. A good part of the meeting will be devoted to an evaluation of how the liturgies of the **Three Great Days** went and how the 40-day Lenten season in preparation for those days was handled. Last year we asked for comments from the parishioners, and we received some helpful reactions. We would like to do the same this year. If you have any comments to make on the liturgies of Lent and the Triduum, please let a member of our Liturgy Committee know: Maria McNaughton, André Sirois, Marina Moore, Lydia Richard, Michel LeGuerrier, Carol Lynch, Sean Mulligan, Bill Marvee. Was there anything that you appreciated particularly? Was there something that you felt was missing? There may have been something that annoyed you or that you could not make sense of or that was done badly. Your opinion is important, because we are all responsible for our parish's liturgical life.

Thank you for the Easter Lilies

And there were lots of them, some 70! That is beautiful, because their place in the church at Easter time is more than a matter of decoration. It is our way of remembering deceased family members in the light of faith. The lilies speak of our faith that the deceased are called to share in the victory of life over death that the Risen Christ won for us. That is our hope for them and for ourselves.

This coming Wednesday evening: We let Jean Vanier be our Guide

There is lots of meditation and reflection material for Lent. There is less of that for the Easter Season. It also means that we can and need to be more creative. How about letting Jean Vanier (with the help of his DVDs) guide us in reflecting on the rich and beautiful Gospel according to Saint John. That is real solid Easter stuff. We meet at 7:30 p.m., not going later than 9:00 p.m.

Next Saturday and Sunday:

Candidates for First Communion and for Confirmation meet

It will have been a while for these two groups to have met on their own, in preparation for First Communion and for Confirmation. We had made participation in the liturgies of the **Three Great Days** sort of mandatory for the candidates and their families. For some that worked, for others it did not; in some instances it was for legitimate reasons, in other instances for more questionable reasons. I guess we learn as we try. It is quite a challenge when our Bishop asks us to move from a narrow preparation for the sacraments towards a broader formation to the Christian life. It is all part of living in a new era, where things that we used to take for granted have collapsed, but where also new possibilities present themselves to us that we must have the courage and the faith to capitalize on.

The Two Articles that make up the Insert to this Sunday's bulletin...

On the surface it may look as if the two articles of the insert of this Sunday's bulletin are simply dealing with baptism. But they are really about more than that. They show us how basic baptism is for the Christian life, how the request for and the preparation for it, but also the actual celebration of it are to be handled in a pastorally responsible manner; and how all this really shows what kind of church we want to be. It is true that the articles illustrate church life in Great Britain, but when it comes to the basic issues involved it is not so very

different from our situation. We cannot copy what they do, but we can take our inspiration from them. Enjoy the reading and have a fruitful discussion on them.

BAPTISM CEREMONY:

This Sunday (at 1:00 p.m.), five children will be Baptized.
Kindly remember them and their parents in your prayers.

Aiden	son of	Jodie & Jason Ely
Jacob	son of	Julie Lemay & Christopher Proulx
Liam	son of	Tania St-Louis & Kevin McKenny
Kalan	son of	Odile Maurice & Cedric Lavalee
Darcy	daughter of	Shannon Hines & Tray Dell



Two Summer Institutes at Saint Paul University: July 6-17

Let us make use of them!

There is lots of evidence that those who guide the parish's liturgical life and those who are involved in various parish projects of religious education or faith formation can benefit significantly from some more formal training in these areas. That is what the two **Summer Institutes** at Saint Paul University in Ottawa offer. One is in **Pastoral Liturgy** and the other is in **Religious Education**. Men and women from across Canada come to them. It is in our own backyard. How about taking advantage of them?

Courses in **Pastoral Liturgy** are:

- Introduction to Liturgy
- General Instruction of the Roman Missal
- Lectionary: the Bible and Liturgy
- Body and Spirit in Liturgy
- The Initiation of Children
- Liturgical Praxis

Courses in **Religious Education** are:

- Introduction to Liturgy
- Foundations in Religious Education
- Catechesis: the Church and its Documents
- Philosophy of Catholic Education
- Facilitation and Adult Faith
- The Gospel of Mark: an Introduction

If you can handle French, there is another program being offered at the same time (July 6-17) that speaks to the unique situation in Quebec when it comes to the field of religious education: *La catéchèse à l'heure des "grands dérangements": une nouvelle chance pour l'Église.*

Brochures and registration forms are available at the entrance to the church.

MEETING: Preacher's Aid - Monday April 20th at 7:30 p.m.

ATTENTION - Members of the CWG: Meeting - Tuesday April 21st at 7:30 p.m. The meeting is to organize the Parish Supper. It is important for the members to come.

PARISH SUPPER: Parish Buffet Supper is on Friday, May 8th at 6:00 p.m. bring your own Wine/Beer.

Adults: \$10. Children (10 years and under): \$5.

FOR TICKETS: call Rita 819 684-8445, Agnes 819 684-8445 or Parish Office 819 684-6926.

NOTE-READING BOOT CAMP: Have you ever wondered what those little black dots in your hymn books mean? The Sacred Music Society is offering a 12-week sight-reading course every Friday night starting April 17, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Dominican College, 96 Empress St. Cost: \$3/class. Info: (1-877-MY-CHOIR); Rebecca Meuse (613 744-3026) or André Sirois (819 685-1478)

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Kindly remember Claude Lavigne, Hilda Preslawski and their families in your prayers.



Visit our Website: www.stmarkparish.ca