

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 17, 2009

40/3/50
THE PASCHAL SEASON

John 15:1—9-17

- A person blind from birth cannot understand color. A person who has never been loved can find love a baffling word. I feel I have an inkling of love's meaning, but how? Whose love was it that taught me the meaning of the word?
- What do I know about the sort of self-giving that is unearned, unquestioning, looking for no return? Lord, I have so much to learn from you about love.



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 18TH

Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Marian Devotion
Wednesday	9:00 a.m.	
	7:30 p.m.	Meditation & Reflection
Friday	9:00 a.m.	
Saturday	7:00 p.m.	Mickie O'Heare by her Children
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Claire Runyon by don & Lana Charron
	11:00 a.m.	Blanche Fortin by Marie Juneau

WEEKEND COLLECTIONS: \$2,459.20 Thank You!

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!**



Our Bishop will be with us for the Sacrament of Confirmation:

Next Saturday, May 23 at 7:00 p.m. Mass

Years ago, on many occasions, when it was time for Confirmation, the bishop might come some time during the week and confirm us, and it could be any time of the year. Now we prefer to have the Bishop, who is our chief pastor, celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation during one of the parish's Sunday Eucharists, because that is where Confirmation belongs: in the midst of the parish community and when that parish community is 'at its best', at its Sunday Eucharist. Here is where not only the candidates are confirmed, but we as a Spirit-filled community are re-confirmed in the faith we cherish.

Moreover, the preferred time for Confirmation is the 50-day Easter season. There is where we plead with the Risen Christ to share with us his Energy, the Force that energized and still energizes Him, the Holy Spirit. Actually, it is quite well captured in the banners that you see in the church in the Easter season. There is the big banner that evokes the Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ, that we have been drawn into at our baptism; and there is the smaller red banner with the flames of fire evoking the Risen Christ's sharing with us his Energy, the Holy Spirit who empowers us to continue Christ's mission., something evoked in the

Sacrament of Confirmation. It is another indication how much Confirmation is actually part of Baptism, however many years it is now – unfortunately – celebrated after our Baptism

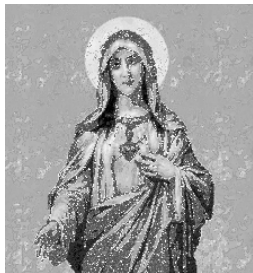
So next Saturday, at the 7:00 p.m. Mass, we will have our Bishop and 19 of our parishioners to be confirmed in our midst. We support and surround them, their families, their sponsors and those who have led them on their journey with our prayers.

That was a great way to celebrate our Patron St. Mark!

We usually try to have our Spring Supper around the Feast of St. Mark, which is April 25. And what a supper it was! The hall was full, the food was very good, and the fellowship was so enjoyable.

Our thanks to all whom in different ways contributed to the success of it all. Yes, some people were very tired at the end. But all their effort was very much appreciated by the many that benefited from it. A job very well done!

Tuesday Evening: A Marian Devotion



If Sunday as the Day of the Lord is not the day for a Marian devotion or for a Marian hymn, do we have to forget about May as the month of Mary altogether? Not really, but it may take a bit of effort and time to find some alternatives and to put together a Marian devotion that can stand on its own. That is what we are trying to do Tuesday evenings during the month of May. Different forms are possible. We start at 7:00 p.m. and it takes about half an hour. If Mary, as Pope Paul VI described her, was the first and most perfect of Christ's disciples, then some effort in getting more acquainted with her is worth it. It may boost our effort in trying to be Christ's disciples today.

Wednesday Evening: Our Easter Journey with Jean Vanier continues...

That is one way of making up for the dearth in reflection material for the 50-day Easter season. We have stumbled upon a set of DVDs which have Jean Vanier walking through the Gospel according to John. And what an enriching journey it is!

If you wonder what this all about, feel free to join us on Wednesday evenings. We have still two more evenings to go. We begin at 7:30 p.m. and we try to finish at 9:00 p.m.

The next time we celebrate Baptism at St. Mark's is Sunday, June 28...

There is still plenty of time, 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 10, 17 and 24) 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. Please, keep in mind that we normally celebrate Baptism five times in the course of the year: 1 - the second Sunday of Easter; 2 - towards the end of June; 3 - towards the end of September; 4 - the Feast of Christ the King, the last Sunday before Advent; and 5 - the last Sunday before Ash Wednesday.



Wardens of the English Parishes in the Diocese

Saturday, May 30, from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon: Wardens of the English parishes in our Diocese are invited to meet with Diocesan staff at the Diocesan Centre. It has been a good number of years since we have had such a meeting, so let us make sure to be there. Marie Roy, the administrator of the diocese has a number of items to inform us about and that Wardens should be familiar with. There will also be a period where we can ask for clarification on certain items.

The meeting will be held at the Diocesan Centre, 180 boul. Mont-Bleu (Hull Sector).

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION NIGHT

Once again we will hold an **appreciation night** for all those who volunteer their talent and time to help make this Parish functional and vibrant.

This event will take place on **May 26th** beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Refreshments will be served. Please mark this date on your calendar.



Some important Parish Dates to keep in mind:

Monday, June 8: Annual General Meeting

Sunday, June 14, 10:00 a.m.: our Annual Outdoor Mass (the only Mass that Sunday)

*Details about these important **Parish Events** will be coming soon.*

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 is so much needed. And here it is offered in our own backyard. These Summer Institutes run from **July 6 to 17**. Brochures for them can be found at the entrance to the church.

A fine reflection for the Wisdom Hour (Midafternoon)

*The day is aging. Shadows lengthen as the light stretches toward evening. As the earth turns away from the sun, an ancient longing returns to my soul. It is a yearning for completion. It is a longing to put my house in order before the day ends. It is not just the loose ends of my work or my file cabinets or the laundry that need attention. My very being cries out to the living God, to the One who has gifted me with this good heart. I look to my heart for the wisdom to end this day well. I carry the answers to this day's problems deep within. As the day ends, I do not want the burden of bitterness to have a place in my life. If there is anyone I need to forgive, I seek advice from my inner teacher. I practice believing in my potential to let go of resentments. I pause to remember the lessons these hours have taught me. This day's troubles will end. When I meet them tomorrow, they may be tinged with blessing. I walk through the remaining hours of this day as I would walk through the last pages of a much loved book. I move through the hours present and aware that my work is a service for the larger world. I open myself to the love that comes from serving. Reflecting on the little deaths of this day, I become aware that at every moment I am dying to live. Love assists me in my desire to be faithful and steadfast in these last hours of the day. (from Macrina Wiederkehr, **Seven Sacred Pauses**)*



MEETINGS:

Wardens: Tuesday, May 19th at 7:00 p.m.

CWG: Tuesday, May 19th at 7:30 p.m.

(Discussion of dates for 80+ Tea and the Strawberry Social)



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

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