

Parish News...

This Sunday the Parish will have 23 children making their First Communion @ the 11AM mass. May they feel the Love of the Father, the Life of the Son and the Light of the Spirit today and always." "The Lord bless them and keep them. The Lord makes his face shine upon them.



The month of May is dedicated to our Blessed Mother Mary of our Lord. It is a centuries old custom that Catholics dedicate May to the Blessed Virgin Mary. The month of May is always a part of the Easter season, the fifty days that we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus, a time also of waiting for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

At the Visitation, Elizabeth said to Mary" ***Blessed are you who believed that as spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled.***" As we think of the Blessed Mother, we need to recognize that she was blessed, not only because she was the Mother of Jesus but because she believed in her Son's words. She believed with all her heart to say "yes" to become the mother of the Messiah and the Son of God. She allowed herself to be led by God's graces throughout her life. A faith deep rooted in her faith in God. She became her Son's first and most perfect disciple.

In our Church this May, Mary will be crowned. This is a beautiful custom that expresses our love for the Blessed Mother as our Queen. When we crown Mary we are honoring her. In honoring Mary, we also ultimately praise God for the grace He bestowed on her.

One may also say the Rosary to the Blessed Mother. I am attaching a sheet in which to say the Rosary along with the mysteries of the Rosary.



Eucharist Devotion: An hour of Eucharist Devotion will be re-instituted starting Thursday, March 31st and continue every Thursday after the 12:10 Mass to 1:30pm. Prayers, Litany, Chaplet of Divine Mercy allowing also some private devotion time.

Support for Ukraine- The Walk for Ukraine has been posted to a later date. Once I have the new date families will be informed

Adult Catechism: Adult Catechism continues on the first Sunday of every month @ 10AM. Classes will be held in the Cow Palace for all interested in learning to love & grow in faith. A different topic will be discussed each month related to the teaching of the Catechism.



CONFIRMATION STUDENTS 10th Grade: It is important that all students attend classes in order to make Confirmation on May 19th. Confirmation name and sponsor information is due this Sunday. This is the same for the letter to the bishop.

Direct Prep class is on Sunday May 15th. Required attendance for Confirmation.

While classes are over till September, families should continue to attend Masses to strengthen your children's faith and understand what their faith is in the Eucharist.

Registration 2022-2023. It is important to remember that the Sacrament of First Communion and Confirmation is a 2-year required program. Those making First Communion are to attend 1st and 2nd grade and Confirmation is 9th & 10th grade. If anyone has any questions, please reach out to me directly.

If any family wishes to be removed from the weekly mailing, please email me directly

**Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday @ 3:15 pm prior to Mass and the
1st Thursday of the month after the 12:10 Mass**

**Mass Schedule
Saturday 4pm
Sunday 7:30 AM, 8:30AM, 10AM Polish Mass and 11am**

Let's remember that as Catholics, it is important to attend Sunday Mass. At Mass we are able to stand mystically at the foot of the cross and witness for ourselves the same self-sacrifice of Jesus, in an unbloody manner. Mass is a celebration of this sacrifice. It is the active participation of all that come together in the place of worship.



**3rd Sunday of Easter
Sunday Readings**

**First Reading: Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41
Responsorial Psalm: 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13
Second Reading: Rev 5:11-14
Gospel: John 21:1-19 or 21:1-14**



Reflection: The Peter in us.

Let us recall how Jesus called Peter to become a fisher of men. It happened on that seashore one morning when he and his companion were about to go home after a night of disappointment because they had not caught any fish. After a boatful of catch upon His instruction, Jesus asked them to follow Him. Followed Him and for the next three years, Peter was eyed and trained to be the leader of the community Jesus formed. At one time, Jesus called him Satan for protesting His impending suffering and death.

On the night Jesus was about to be resurrected, Peter declared with bravado that he is ready to lay down his life for Jesus. To his shame perhaps, Jesus foretold how he will deny Him three times. It did occur that when Jesus was arrested, Peter denied Him on three occasions when he was recognized as one of His disciples. To his credit, he was filled with guilt and mourned his mistake.

After Jesus was resurrected, He appeared to His disciples several times. Still, the apostles including Peter were inclined to go back to their old life, to their usual livelihood which is fishing. That was not what Jesus planned for them. In the gospel reading above, Jesus was there again at the time they had caught nothing. When Peter realized it was the Lord, we saw his willingness or shall we say his immense enthusiasm to meet His Lord and Master whom he denied three times. We see him ready to put the past behind and renew his relationship with Jesus.

As before, they were again on the seashore. After feeding them with bread and fish, Jesus asked Peter if he loves Him more than the others. Peter answered in the positive. Previously,

Peter denied Jesus three times and now Jesus had to ask Peter the question three times in order to emphasize the need for Peter to really commit himself to his mission of "feeding the lambs" of Jesus.

We are all like Peter. Jesus called each one of us to follow Him. We are also called to become fishers of men. Many times, we become disappointed but, on those times, Jesus would energize us with His body and blood in the Eucharist. Many times, we deny Jesus through our sinful thoughts, words and deeds. Some of us would turn back on Jesus and abandon Him. Yet, Jesus does not give up on us. He continues to tell us, "Follow me." Like Peter, let us love the Lord despite our weaknesses.



With the Faith Formation Program ended for 2021-2022, here is a great way to continue your children's faith based upon the Gospel reading of the week. Each week there will be a download activity for the families.

There is a very interesting book called "Believe It or Not" by Robert Ripley. Mr. Ripley enjoyed collecting strange and amazing bits of information which, although they seem unbelievable, were true. Let me read some examples of some of the amazing things you will find in his book.

Theme: Following Jesus brings great rewards.

Object: Toy fishing nets - 1 per child; Plastic eggs - at least 1 per child; Stickers - 1 per plastic egg; Permanent marker; Assorted printed images; Paper Pencil

Get Ready: Either draw or find and print each of the following images on a small piece of paper: (1) a group of male friends, (2) a boat, (3) a pile of fish, (4) a splash in a body of water, and (5) a campfire. Place each image inside a separate egg. Use the permanent marker to write numbers on the eggs with images in them, following the number scheme above. Then put a sticker inside each egg, except for the numbered eggs. Hold onto the extra stickers.

Do This: (Have kids sit in a circle.) Let's see what we can catch today. (Have kids use their nets to try to scoop up "fish" from the center of the empty circle.) Of course, we didn't catch anything because there was nothing there to catch.

That reminds me about what we are learning from the Bible today. Jesus had died and come back to life on Easter. Later, Jesus' friends were out fishing, trying to make a living.

Jesus' friends fished all night and caught nothing. Then, they saw a man, not knowing it was Jesus, on the shore. Jesus yelled to them, asking, "Have you caught anything?" They didn't know the man was Jesus, but they still listened when He told them to cast their fishing nets on the right side of the boat.

(Spread out the eggs around the room, and tell kids to "catch the fish." Make sure everyone catches at least one. Tell kids not to open the eggs.)

You caught something! That's like what happened to Jesus' friends. Jesus' friends caught 153 fish! (Point out that there are numbers on some of the fish. Have kids come forward with the fish with a "1" on it. Explain that image symbolizes that Jesus' friends were together. Repeat with eggs two and three, inviting kids to tell what they think the image symbolizes from what you've covered in the Bible passage so far.)

There were so many fish that the friends couldn't pull in the fishing net. That's when Peter realized Jesus was the man yelling to them from the shore. (Have the child with the egg labeled four show the image in the fish and tell what he or she thinks it symbolizes.)

Peter was so excited when He realized Jesus had appeared again to them that He jumped into the water and swam to the shore where Jesus was!

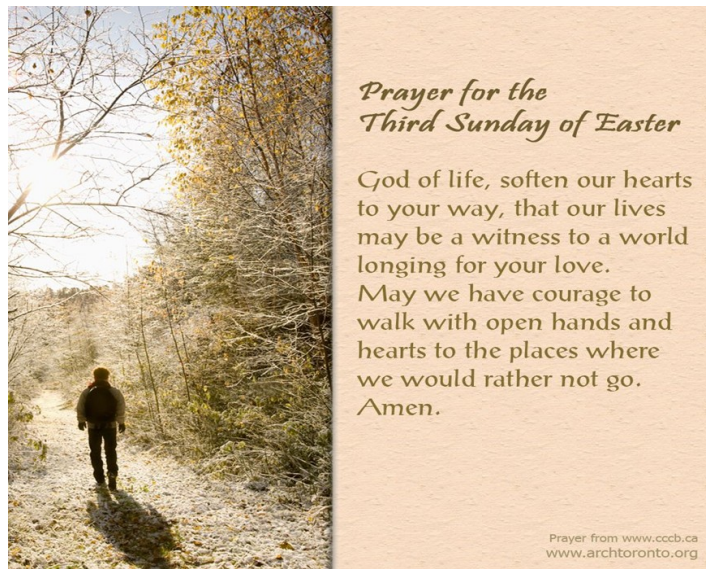
The rest of the friends brought the boat to shore. (Have the child with the egg labeled five present the image in the fish and tell what he or she thinks it symbolizes.)

Jesus cooked breakfast over a campfire. Jesus' friends were reminded that day that following Jesus brings great rewards.

I think if you open up your "fish," you'll find a reward, too! (Allow time, and give a sticker to the kids who had the numbered fish.)

The disciples got to see Jesus and spend time with Him, and they ate the delicious breakfast He made for them and even had leftover fish to take home. Jesus loves being friends with you, too, and when we follow Him, He takes care of us and blesses us in amazing ways!
PRAY: Dear Father, we know that you have wonderful blessings in store for us when we follow Jesus. Our prayer is that we will always follow you. In Jesus' name, amen.

This week's prayer is a reflection of the 3rd Sunday of Easter. Let's open our hearts and walk with Christ



*Prayer for the
Third Sunday of Easter*

God of life, soften our hearts
to your way, that our lives
may be a witness to a world
longing for your love.
May we have courage to
walk with open hands and
hearts to the places where
we would rather not go.
Amen.

Prayer from www.cccb.ca
www.archtoronto.org



Formation for Ministry/Deacon Formation Information Sessions. Is God calling you to learn more about your faith and serve the church? Come and see how Formation for Ministry and Deacon Formation can help you answer that call.; June 5, St. Anthony/St. Agnes, Utica; Sessions are 1:00-3:30.

Register at bit.ly/2022InfoSessions or formationforministrysyr.org or call 315-470-1491.

From Christ the King Retreat House:

Join us for a special week-long retreat with Jim Krisher.

DRAWING HEAVILY ON SCRIPTURE AND THE INSIGHTS OF SAINTS LIKE IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA AND JOHN OF THE CROSS, AS WELL AS MORE RECENT HOLY MEN AND WOMEN LIKE THOMAS MERTON AND EVELYN UNDERHILL. JIM WILL TALK ABOUT HOW WE MIGHT SHARPEN OUR AWARENESS OF THE APPROACHES OF GOD IN OUR DAY-TO-DAY LIVES. HOW DO WE DEVELOP SUCH A CONTEMPLATIVE STANCE, SUCH AN OPENNESS TO DIVINE LOVE? RETREAT BEGINS ON SUN. JULY 17 AND CONCLUDES ON FRIDAY, JULY 22. FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER GO TO OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.CTKRETREAT.COM. SEE FLYER BELOW FOR MORE INFO.

Have a Blessed and Safe Week.

Lynn M. Springer
Director of Faith Formation
Sacred Heart/St Mary's
315 527 8399
Lspringer@syrдио.org