

6th Sunday of Easter - May 9, 2021

Sunday's Readings

First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 10:25-26,34-35,44-48

The gift of the Holy Spirit comes to Cornelius and his household, and they are baptized.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 98:1,2-3,3-4

A song of praise for God's salvation

Second Reading

1 John 4:7-10 God is love.

Gospel Reading

John 15:9-17

Jesus commands his disciples to love one another.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today's Gospel follows immediately after the Gospel proclaimed last week, in which Jesus taught that he was the vine and that his disciples were the branches. In the example of the vine and the branches, we learned that our union with Jesus will lead to fruitful service. Today's reading extends this teaching to describe the kind of service that Christians are called upon to offer to others.

In John's Gospel, we hear Jesus affirm that he is known by the Father and that his disciples will know the Father by knowing Jesus. Jesus reminds his disciples that this knowledge is to be expressed in love. Those who know Jesus well — and Jesus says that his disciples do know him — will love one another. Knowledge leads to love, which leads to action. John reminds his community that Jesus taught that love is the sign of a true disciple and, thus, a true Christian. Even more, a true disciple shows a particular kind of love, sacrificial love.

In family life, we have many opportunities to show love in action. Each time we postpone a task to tend to the needs of another, we show ourselves to be on the path to following the example of love shown to us by Jesus. Sometimes the sacrifices we are called upon to make for others are small. But these small choices to love and to serve others prepare us for the larger choices and sacrifices that we may be called upon to make. If we are people who have practiced showing our love for others with generosity, we will also be people who are willing to lay down our lives for those we love.

<https://www.loyolapress.com>



Thank you God for my Mom.
She is a woman of strength and dignity. When she speaks, her words are wise and kindness is the rule for everything she says. Thinking of all the things that make you a wonderful Mom and thanking God for every one of them. Happy Mother's Day.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Fr. Joe has completed his 6 years as a pastor in Mount Forest, and the bishop has now assigned him to be a pastor at St. Patrick's parish in Cambridge.

Fr. Joe will be greatly missed!

Fr. David Avila is coming to our parish as a new pastor on June 30, 2021.

Let us keep both Fr. Joe and Fr. David in our prayers.

Prayer for Priests

Gracious and loving God, we thank you for the gift of our priests.

Through them, we experience your presence in the sacraments.

Help our priests to be strong in their vocation.

Set their souls on fire with love for your people.

Grant them the wisdom, understanding, and strength they need to follow in the footsteps of Jesus.

Inspire them with the vision of your Kingdom.

Give them the words they need to spread the Gospel.

Allow them to experience joy in their ministry.

Help them to become instruments of your divine grace. We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns as our Eternal Priest. Amen.

<http://www.catholicdigest.com>

If we wish to make any progress in the service of God, we must begin every day of our life with new eagerness. We must keep ourselves in the presence of God as much as possible and have no other view or end in all our action but the divine honour.

-St. Charles Borromeo

Liturgical Calendar

May 12- St. Nereus & St. Achilleus- were soldiers in the Imperial Roman army. They experienced conversion and had been martyred as a consequence. St. Pancras- patron saint of children and adolescents

May 13- **Our Lady of Fatima**- is the title given to the Blessed Virgin Mary after she appeared to three shepherd children in Fatima, Portugal, in 1917.



In her motherly concern, the Blessed Virgin came here to Fatima...It is a mother's sorrow that compels her to speak; the destiny of her children it as stakes. For this reason, she asks the little shepherds: "Pray, pray much and make sacrifices for sinners." – St. John Paul II

May 14- **St. Matthias**- was chosen after the Resurrection to replace Judas.

EX CORDE FOUNDATION GRANT

Thank You!

Ex Corde is a Foundation that Bishop Crosby established to financially help Parishes. The Foundation assists Parishes that are in need of basic repairs and renovations.

We are pleased to announce that St. Mary of the Purification Parish was awarded \$20,000 to repair windows in the hall, repair the Hall flat roof water leak and repair the garage roof leak at the Rectory.

We are very grateful to the Ex-Corde Foundation for their generous support!

MARRIAGE TIP OF THE MONTH - Marriage Tip:

Listening may be the most important aspect of any relationship, but it is also the hardest part for us to get right! Listening requires our full attention, not just to the words spoken, but also to the emotions attached. Doing so allows us to understand how our spouse is feeling and, if we listen attentively, to repeat back what we are hearing. When we do this without first making a defensive reply, issues get resolved and our spouse feels supported. Then we can reverse roles, expressing our thoughts and feelings on the issue, as our spouse becomes the listener. Happy couples work on these skills until they become second nature, thus keeping their relationship bond strong. From: Family Ministry Office.

Anniversary Mass 2021 Registration - The Anniversary Mass scheduled for June of 2021 has been cancelled due to restrictions and concerns around COVID-19. We invite you to register your 25, 40, 50, 60 and 60 + years of marriage on the Diocesan website at hamiltondiocese.com. The Anniversary Mass is listed on the home page - click on the icon and you can register your anniversary. We will send you the certificate you would have received from Bishop Crosby at the Mass. If you have questions please contact familyministry@hamiltondiocese.com.

The fruit of love is service, which is compassion in action. – St. Teresa of Calcutta

MAY IS THE MONTH OF MARY



Please pray the Rosary daily for peace in our families and the world!

Our lady of the Rosary, pray for us!

Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and Hallelujah is our song.

-St John Paul II

**Novena for the Cause of Life in Canada- May 5- 13
Knights of Columbus**

Wednesday, May 5 – For the unborn, that they may be loved and protected by all those responsible for their care.

Thursday, May 6 – For mothers and fathers facing an unexpected or difficult pregnancy, that God may grant them the grace and strength to welcome their child into their lives.

Friday, May 7 – For those who have participated in an abortion, that they may seek the forgiveness of our merciful God and find peace and reconciliation with him.

Saturday, May 8 – For people with disabilities and the elderly, that they may be treated with the dignity and respect they deserve as children of God.

Sunday, May 9 – For people considering euthanasia, that God may grant them the courage and hope to continue their lives and unite their redemptive suffering to the Cross of Christ.

Monday, May 10 – For elected officials, judges and other public figures, that God may grant them the wisdom to enshrine in law the sanctity of human life from conception to natural death and uphold the conscience rights of healthcare professionals.

Tuesday, May 11 – For families, that with the help of the Holy Spirit, they may serve as sanctuaries of life and defenses against the many attacks to which life is exposed. **Wednesday, May 12** – For all Canadian Catholics, including members of the Knights of Columbus, and all people of good will, that God may grant them the faith and courage to promote the dignity of the human person and defend life with conviction, civility and compassion. **Thursday, May 13** – **Feast Day of Our Lady of Fatima** For the organizers and participants of the National March for Life in Ottawa, Canada, and for all pro-life advocates, that God may bless and guide their work to defend life. kofc.org/join

Let us work, my daughters, we shall rest in heaven! – Bl. Marie- Leinie Paradis

The Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary, also known as the **Litany of Loreto**, is a popular prayer of supplication, once prayed in processions to atone for sins and to prevent calamities.

Pilgrims at the famous Marian Shrine in Loreto, Italy used it in the 16th century, and it was approved in 1587 by Pope Sixtus V. Although it is often prayed privately, especially after the rosary, the Litany of the

Blessed Virgin Mary has the distinction of being one of only six litanies approved for public recitation by the Holy See.

**THE LITANY OF
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**



Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on us. Christ hear us.
Christ, graciously hear us.
God, the Father of heaven,
Have mercy on us.
God, the Son, Redeemer of the world:
Have mercy on us.
God, the Holy Ghost,
Have mercy on us.
Holy Trinity, One God,
Have mercy on us.
Holy Mary, pray for us. (repeat at end of each phrase.)
Holy Mother of God,
Holy Virgin of virgins,
Mother of Christ,
Mother of divine grace,
Mother most pure,
Mother most chaste,
Mother inviolate,
Mother undefiled,
Mother most amiable,
Mother most admirable,
Mother of good counsel,
Mother of our Creator,
Mother of our Savior,
Virgin most prudent,
Virgin most venerable,
Virgin most renowned,
Virgin most powerful,
Virgin most merciful,
Virgin most faithful,
Mirror of justice,
Seat of wisdom,

Cause of our joy,
Spiritual vessel,
Vessel of honor,
Singular vessel of devotion,
Mystical rose,
Tower of David,
Tower of ivory,
House of gold,
Ark of the covenant,
Gate of Heaven,
Morning star,
Health of the sick,
Refuge of sinners,
Comforter of the afflicted,
Help of Christians,
Queen of angels,
Queen of patriarchs,
Queen of prophets,
Queen of apostles,
Queen of martyrs,
Queen of confessors,
Queen of virgins,
Queen of all saints,
Queen conceived without original sin,
Queen assumed into heaven,
Queen of the most holy Rosary,
Queen of peace.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
Spare us, O Lord.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
Graciously hear us O Lord.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
Have mercy on us.
V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.
R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray:
Grant, O Lord God, we beseech Thee, that we Thy servants may rejoice in continual health of mind and body; and, through the glorious intercession of Blessed Mary ever Virgin, may be freed from present sorrow, and enjoy eternal gladness. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

It is good, and comforting to remember when praying the Litany to the Blessed Virgin Mary, that, as St. Bernard once put it “Mary has made herself all to all, and opens her merciful heart to all, that all may receive of her fullness: the sick, health; those in

affliction, comfort; the sinner, pardon, and God, glory.”

<https://www.ourcatholicprayers.com/>

THE VIRTUAL RETREAT presented by Bishop Wayne Lobsinger during Lent to over 70 music ministers across our Diocese is now available on the Liturgy Office Music Ministry webpage. The retreat focused on the importance of words and melody in the liturgy. Music ministers and those who enjoy music in the liturgy are welcome to check it out.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK is next week. The week celebrates the blessing of publicly-funded Catholic education in Ontario. A live-streamed Mass, sponsored by the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board (HWCDSB), will be celebrated from St. Ann Church in Ancaster. A message for Catholic Education Week and other resources are available on the Hamilton Diocese website.

THE DIOCESAN REFUGEE OFFICE is preparing for the arrival of three newcomers. They are travel ready! The three will be reunited with their families soon. They have been waiting a long time for this moment. The Office meets with all sponsors to prepare a Quarantine Plan which must pass Immigration Canada’s approval. It is consoling to know that overseas operations are being restored!

THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS was hold their State Convention virtually on Saturday, May 1, 2021. It was the second consecutive year that their convention was a virtual event. The Convention was an opportunity for the Knights to celebrate their many charitable works, and to elect a new State Board of Directors for the Order.

DEMAZENOD DOOR OUTREACH at St. Patrick Parish, Hamilton, announced the launch of the DeMazenod Farm, a place to grow produce and raise egg-laying chickens to provide fresh food for those who visit the DeMazenod Door for a nourishing meal. The farm will grow over 40 varieties of vegetables and herbs including beans, peppers, potatoes, beets, cabbage, carrots, and cauliflower. A very creative and healthy initiative!

- from Bishop Crosby's Heart to Heart letter