

Ascension of the Lord - May 16, 2021



Sunday's Readings

First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11

Jesus is taken up to heaven in the presence of the apostles.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 47:2-3,6-7,8-9

Sing praise to God as he mounts his throne.

Second Reading

Ephesians 1:17-23 or *Ephesians 4:1-13* (shorter form: *Ephesians 4:1-7,11-13*)

God raised Jesus from the dead and seated him at his right hand.

Gospel Reading

Mark 16:15-20

Jesus is taken to heaven, and the disciples go forth to preach as Jesus commanded.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today is our liturgical celebration of the Ascension of the Lord, when Jesus was taken to heaven on the fortieth day after Easter.

Jesus assigns his disciples the task of proclaiming the gospel message to the entire world. Those who believe in Jesus will be empowered to do what Jesus himself has done. During his ministry, Jesus sent his disciples to preach, to heal, and to drive out unclean spirits. Now they are sent again to do these things and more. From his place with God in heaven, Jesus helped his disciples, and he continues to help us as we try to live as his followers.

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.

POPE FRANCIS has launched a Marathon of Prayer for the month of May. "Guided by Shrines around the world during this month of May, we recite the Rosary to invoke an end to the pandemic and the resumption of social and work-related activities." (*Pope Francis, General Audience, 5 May 2021*) Father Ian Duffy, Rector of our own Diocesan Shrine, the Basilica of Our Lady in Guelph, is joining the Pope's prayer marathon by praying the Rosary at noon each day. You can participate in the daily prayer with the Pope by checking the Vatican website for a listing of Shrines, or pray the Rosary in union with Father Duffy at the Basilica in Guelph.

THE PRECIOUS BLOOD SISTERS in Dundas celebrate their 75th anniversary of Foundation in Hamilton, on Sunday, May 16, 2021 at 3 p.m. The celebration was to have taken place at the Cathedral Basilica, but pandemic restrictions make that impossible. The community will pray their thanksgiving in the monastery. Five Sisters celebrate significant milestones this year: Sister Ursula Dandeno, 60 years; Sister Nano Nagle, 70 years; Sister Moira McClafferty, 70 years; Sister Lorraine Griffin, 75 years; and Sister Edith May McConnell, 75 years! We offer heartfelt congratulations and profound thanks!

THE CATHOLIC HEALTH ALLIANCE OF CANADA honoured Sister Anne Anderson, CSJ, with a "Lifetime Achievement Award". Sister Anne has given over 50 years of her life to healthcare and higher education. She has been the Chairperson of the St. Joseph's Health System Board for 18 years! We offer hearty congratulations. Well-merited!

THE PERMANENT DIACONATE FORMATION PROGRAM has been progressing quietly during the pandemic lockdown. Their sessions have been taking place on the ZOOM platform. This Saturday, the First Year Candidates will be meeting with Sister Eileen Schuller, OSU, who is presenting on Old Testament Wisdom Literature. Father Paul Baillargeon, Chancellor and Judicial Vicar for the Diocese of London, will be introducing Canon Law to the Third Year Candidates. We keep the Deacon Candidates and their spouses in our prayers!

MAY IS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH. It is an important opportunity to help destigmatize mental health and treatment. There is growing research and support for connecting a person's religious beliefs and spirituality into their mental health treatment. We can all offer a listening ear and an understanding heart.

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!

A person's rightful due is to be treated as an object of love, not as an object for use.
– St. John Paul II

YEAR of ST. JOSEPH



"O Saint Joseph, do assist me by your powerful intercession, and obtain for me from your Divine Son all spiritual blessings, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, So that, having engaged here below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most Loving of Fathers."

May is the month of the Rosary devotion



"Give me an army saying the Rosary and I will conquer the world."

-Blessed Pope Pius IX

The Sisters of the Carmel of Saint Joseph will pray for you during the Novena to Our Lady of Mount Carmel, July 8th to July 16th, 2021

Are you troubled? Do you need spiritual support? You can participate in the Novena to Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Send your prayer intention slip with your name and address to:

**Carmel of Saint Joseph 1127
Carmel-Koch Road, R.R. #1 St. Agatha, ON
N0B 2L0**

For more information check the website for the Carmelite Nuns: www.thecarmel.ca