



The Good Shepherd Parish

The Good Shepherd Parish is a Catholic community rooted in the Gospel where all are invited to encounter Christ, grow in holiness, and proclaim His Good News to the world.

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6th Sunday of Easter

Mass Intentions

Sunday 17 May 2020 – Sixth Sunday of Easter

- † Deceased Members of the Pereira family
 - † Deceased Members of the Abraham family requested by Joseph & Rosamma Abraham
 - † Nell Khandkar requested by Joe Byrnes
 - † Corneliu Popescue requested by Rose Dugandzic
- For our Parishioners

Tuesday 19 May 2020

For our Parishioners

Wednesday 20 May 2020

For our Parishioners

Thursday 21 May 2020

For our Parishioners

Friday 22 May 2020

For our Parishioners

Sunday 24 May 2020 – The Ascension of the Lord

- † Deceased members of the Jary & Vinette families requested by Joe Byrnes
 - † Francis Peter Kelleher requested by Sean & Anna May O'Carroll
 - † Corneliu Popescue requested by Rose Dugandzic
- For our Parishioners

Tuesday 26 May 2020

- † Anne McCloskey requested by the family

Wednesday 27 May 2020

For our Parishioners

Thursday 28 May 2020

- † Leonard Smith requested by the family

Friday 29 May 2020

For our Parishioners

Sunday 31 May 2020 – Pentecost Sunday

- † Deceased members of the Byrnes & Lemieux families requested by Joe Byrnes
 - † Mary & Lloyd Sullivan requested by Sean & Anna May O'Carroll
 - † Maryan & Andy Dugandzic requested by Rose Dugandzic
- For our Parishioners

Message from our Pastor:

Hello dear parishioners of The Good Shepherd Parish – Once again, I trust and pray that you are all well and coping with the COVID-19 lockdown.

Some news for you regarding our Parish Pastoral Council: At the January meeting of your Parish Pastoral Council, plans were underway to commence the nominations process for pastoral council elections, scheduled to be held on the last weekend of May.

Given the COVID-19 lockdown situation, it became apparent that it would not be possible to hold these elections. All efforts from me and all of your parish leadership were (and still are) being directed towards maintaining contact with parishioners, learning how to conduct live streaming of Sunday Mass, and also ensuring that we would be able to meet our financial obligations. Council elections were not even on the list of immediate actions for any of us.

Your pastoral council met this past week and it was agreed that, due to these extraordinary circumstances, the present council would remain in place until it was possible to resume the nominations and elections process. They agreed to stay on for the next year with a view to holding elections in May of 2021. If it is at all possible to hold elections earlier, with the full participation of the parish, then that may happen. Until we see what the future brings, I am deeply grateful to them all for their assistance in getting us through these difficult days. I trust you all agree with this decision, given the circumstances.

Thank you to all parishioners for your continued generosity in support of our parish. Your contributions, both great and small, to support your parish, are a testament to the commitment and desire to enable us to keep our church operating, in spite of the COVID-19 lockdown. As I said in my first letter to you all on 27 March, we have obligations to pay our bills and your generosity has enabled us to do this. Please accept my heartfelt gratitude to you all. Sean Keenan, Chair of our Finance Council provides a brief financial update in this bulletin and I encourage you all to please read it.

I hold you all in my daily prayers and I ask that you do the same for me. Thank you.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Virgil

May – the month of Mary

Litany of Mary

Mary of the Annunciation,
teach us how to respond with faith to divine mystery.

Mary at Elizabeth’s door,
teach us to be generous with our capacity to care.

Mary giving birth to Jesus,
teach us to look for your Son in our adverse conditions.

Mary fleeing into the strange land of Egypt,
teach us to welcome strangers from foreign lands.

Mary at the Presentation of Jesus,
teach us how to accept the conditions for loving fully.

Mary in the Temple where young Jesus preached,
teach us to be diligent in finding our spiritual treasure.

Mary at home in Nazareth with your family,
teach us to value the gift of our relationships.

Mary, mother of Jesus, we look to your life of faith and draw inspiration from you. The witness of your life readies us to be people of immeasurable love, to give of ourselves wholeheartedly to a life of ongoing transformation. How grateful we are to have you as an exemplar of how to strengthen faith and deepen union with the Holy One.



Mary at the wedding feast of Cana,
teach us how to humbly ask for what is needed.

Mary meeting Jesus on the way to Calvary,
teach us to meet our own pain with compassion.

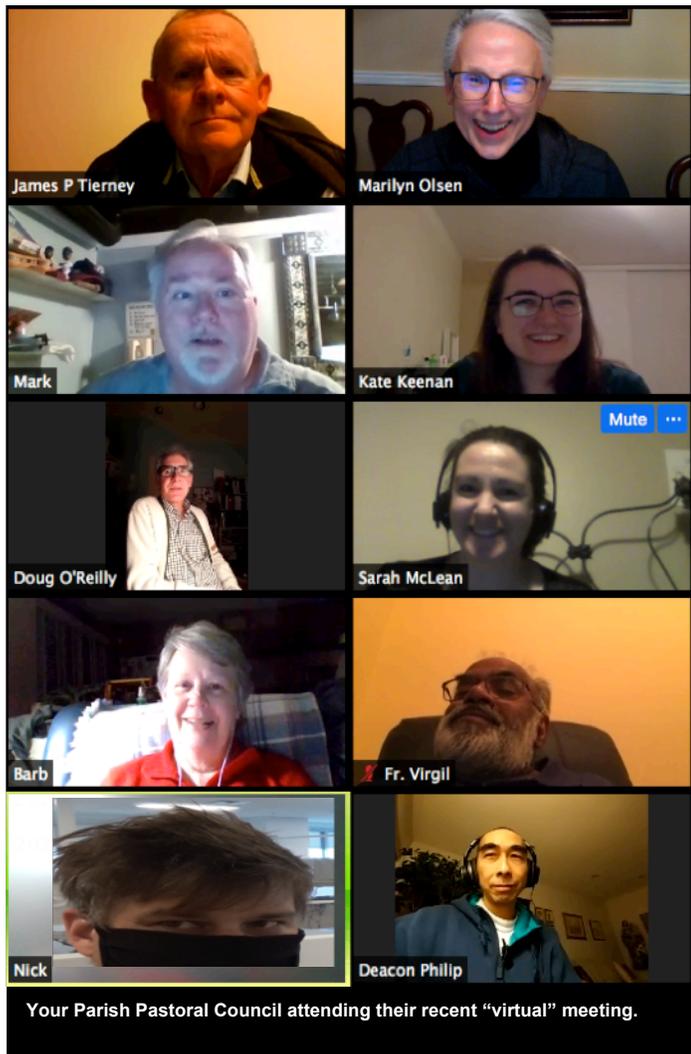
Mary standing beneath the Cross,
teach us to be present to the suffering ones of our world.

Mary receiving your crucified Son in your arms,
teach us that we, too, can embrace our losses with courage.

Mary at the tomb,
teach us to be not be afraid to enter into our grief.

Mary in the Upper Room with the disciples,
teach us the strength of community and the power of prayer.

Taken from Prayer Seeds: A Gathering of Blessings, Reflections, and Poems for Spiritual Growth® by Joyce Rupp. Used by permission of Ave Maria Press®, Inc. All rights reserved.



Update from the Finance Council:

The COVID-19 lockdown is having significant impacts on the parish’s finances, for both revenues and expenses. From the revenue side, one of our most important revenue sources – collections from masses – is not available. We also missed out on receiving contributions from the many people who attend masses only during the Easter season. On the expenditure side, our operating costs are lower, although many of our administrative and operating expenses continue.

At the end of April, the parish was running a deficit of just under \$11,000. By comparison, in 2019, the parish was running a surplus of \$7,500.

Nonetheless, we want to thank you for your generous contributions to the parish. Since April 1st, the parish has collected \$15,000 in payments left at the parish, \$4,000 in payments via Canada Helps and \$13,000 from PAC and credit card donations. We have also been working with the Diocese to apply for the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy, which will help reduce our expenses.

We will continue to provide updates on a monthly basis for your awareness.

Faithfully yours,

Sean Keenan
Chair, Good Shepherd Finance Council

National Collection for the Pope’s Pastoral Works

This collection provides an opportunity for Catholics to make a financial offering to assist the Holy Father. One-third of the funds collected is for what is traditionally known as Peter’s Pence: donations used by the Pope for his charitable contributions to those most in need. Two-thirds of the collection is to support the Holy Father in administering the Holy See and serving the Universal Church (Canon 1271).

“Each individual Christian and every community is called to be an instrument of God for the liberation and promotion of the poor, and for enabling them to be fully a part of society. This demands that we be docile and attentive to the cry of the poor and to come to their aid. ... The old question always returns: ‘How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods, and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?’ (1Jn 3.1).”

Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium, 187

If you are able, please make your donation by cheque (only), specifying this collection on the detail line of your cheque. Mail this to the parish at the address on page one of this bulletin, Attention: Pope’s Pastoral Works

CARE FOR CREATION

Laudato Si' Week from May 16-24, the global Catholic community celebrates the fifth anniversary of Pope Francis' landmark encyclical letter, *Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home*, through prayer, education, and online activities. The nine-day celebration, with the theme "Everything is Connected" is sponsored by the Vatican's Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development. The Global Catholic Climate Movement (<https://laudatosiweek.org>) and the Catholic Climate Covenant (<https://catholicclimatecovenant.org>) have created webpages where you can find events, activities, and resources in support of Laudato Si' Week. For information, contact John Dorner at jdorner@archottawa.ca.

At noon your local time on Sunday 24 May 2020 say this prayer:

COMMON PRAYER
for the 5th anniversary of
Laudato Si'

Loving God,
Creator of heaven and earth and all that is in them,
You created us in your own image and made us
stewards of all your creation.
You blessed us with the sun, water and bountiful land
so that all might be nourished.

Open our minds and touch our hearts,
so that we may attend to your gift of creation.
Help us to be conscious that our common home belongs
not only to us, but to all of your creatures and to all future
generations, and that it is our responsibility to preserve it.
May we help each person secure the food and resources
that they need.

Be present to those in need in these trying times,
especially the poorest and those most at risk of being
left behind.

Transform our fear and feelings of isolation into
hope and fraternity so that we may experience a true
conversion of the heart.

Help us to show creative solidarity in addressing the
consequences of this global pandemic,
Make us courageous to embrace the changes that
are needed in search of the common good.
Now more than ever may we feel that we are all
interconnected and interdependent.
Enable us to listen and respond to the cry of the earth
and the cry of the poor.

May the present sufferings be the birth pangs of
a more fraternal and sustainable world.

Under the loving gaze of Mary Help of Christians,
we make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Shared Moment of Prayer – Noon on Sunday 24 May 2020

Bring solidarity to our world in caring for God's creation in a shared moment of prayer at noon local time on 24 May 2020. Catholics from around the globe will be united in spirit to recite the Common Prayer for the 5th Anniversary of Laudato Si' (<https://laudatosiweek.org/prayer>). Share your own prayers on social media using the hashtag #LaudatoSi5. For information, contact John Dorner at jdorner@archottawa.ca.