

THE 4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER – SOME MUSINGS

“I give them eternal life and they will never perish.”

There are times in our lives when all we want are words of comfort – words that will ease the anxiety or the fear, or perhaps even the anger that we harbour. As children, these words typically come from our parents, those loving surrogates of our Father’s love. This weekend we celebrate Mother’s Day and the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. It’s a Sunday that we often call “Good Shepherd Sunday”. The gospel of John is one of my favourite gospels with its layers upon layers of events in the life of Jesus that require me to probe it often. And the Good Shepherd reading gives me great comfort.

Raised as I was in the foothills of Alberta I come from an area where cattle and the occasional flock of sheep were in steady supply, I came to understand early the relationship between people and their animals. The animals become part of the family. They require care, training, feeding and sheltering. One doesn’t want to lose a single head of beast. They are important to us. Sheep, however, are quite silly creatures. When frightened they’ll run about aimlessly, knocking into one another and generally causing mayhem. That’s why they need a good shepherd. And one thing sheep do know is the voice of the shepherd. In the same way, we’re meant to recognize the voice of our Shepherd. After all, He wants only the very best for us. Like a mother, caring for her children, He’s given us a code by which to live, rules that we’re meant to obey, and has given us the capacity to love others. He truly is a very Good Shepherd.

Jesus tells His followers in this gospel that what the Father has given Him is greater than all else! Imagine! We’re greater to Him than the stars of heaven or the myriad of galaxies. We’re His special people, His chosen race, His royal priesthood. How do we respond to that call? Not always as well or as promptly as we should. We waste His gifts, we trifle away His blessings. At times we’re not very good followers.

And this is also World Day of Prayer for Vocations. We’re asked on this day to pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life but more than that, we’re asked to work with the shepherds we have, holding them in prayer. Where would we be without our shepherds? We’d have no sacraments, no Eucharist. How dreadful that would be. And in this month of May dedicated to our Mother Mary, let’s try to emulate her and her discipleship. Let’s be faithful to our calling and to our Lord. Let’s work with others to build a world of enough for all, of peace and hope. Let’s nurture one another and be a people of joy.

I see the signs of spring. The trees are greening, the first flowers of spring are blooming and the breezes are warming. Just as the warming breezes will bring life to the earth, let’s bring life and hope to others. The breath of the Spirit still wafts over the earth and we need to stand tall and let it breathe into us a living spirit of hope and peace, of love and joy. Our love of God and others can blossom like those early flowers and become a great bouquet of offering to our Lord.

While we await the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, let’s remember that we’ve been baptized priest, prophet and king. And as such we have a commission to go out and tell the good news that Jesus is alive and well and we, His people, are ready to do His will wherever we are.

Wishing you a week of much blessing and many small miracles. Betty Bruch



MAY 12, 2019

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SACRED HEART PARISH

Sacred Heart Church
24 Albert St.
Langton, ON



St. Michael’s Church
978 St. John’s Road
Walsh, ON



Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday – 5:00 pm
Sunday – 8:30 am (St. Michael’s)
Sunday – 10:30 am

Daily Mass

Tues. – 5:00 pm
Wed. to Fri. – 9:30 am

Reconciliation

20 min. prior to weekday mass
Sat. 4-4:45 pm
Sun. 8-8:20 am, or by appt.(St. Michael’s)

Mailing address

Box 8, Langton, ON N0E 1G0
Phone: 519-875-4438
E-mail: sacredheartlangton@dol.ca
Fr. Thomas e-mail: tckuriacko@dol.ca

Parish Clergy

Rev. Thomas Kuriacko, Pastor
Jack Grim, Deacon
Brian Hanley, Deacon

Office Hours: Tues. and Thurs. 9 am – 4 pm;

Baptisms – Contact Rev. Thomas—6 months notice Marriages – Contact Rev. Thomas— one year notice required
Schools – Sacred Heart, Langton - St. Michael’s, Walsh - Our Lady of Fatima, Courtland

SHEPHERDS LIKE JESUS

Each year this Fourth Sunday of Easter celebrates Jesus the Good Shepherd. Today’s Gospel seems especially timely, for as Christians worldwide suffer persecution like Paul and Barnabas, Jesus promises his sheep enduring, invincible safety: “They shall never perish. No one can take them out of my hand.” But we who are free to live our faith peacefully sometimes take our membership in Jesus’ flock for granted, wandering astray to seek our own pleasure and prosperity. The simple cross that Pope Francis always wears seems to show us how Jesus responds to that. Francis’s cross features an image of Jesus, who has sought and found a lost sheep, then joyfully set it on his shoulders to carry it gently home. May Good Shepherd Sunday inspire us, so often lost and found ourselves, to assist Jesus in seeking, finding, and gently carrying home our fellow precious lambs.

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TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

The reception of Holy Communion at Sunday Mass is such an expected feature of the Mass these days that it is surprising to realize that for many centuries, receiving Communion was a relatively rare event in the life of a faithful Christian. “Easter duty” means that Catholics must celebrate reconciliation if aware of serious sin, and receive Holy Communion during the Easter season. For a while, this was a requirement of Easter week, and later extended to the whole season of fifty days, and even beyond that by a few weeks. For the majority of people long ago, this meant Communion was a once-a-year moment. A rather complex bureaucracy grew up around this rule in the Middle Ages. Amazingly, people received a kind of token at confession admitting them to Communion in their home parish, which then kept careful records and reported them to the bishop.

Surviving records can tell us a great deal about our ancestors. In fact, people were encouraged to journey to the church of their baptism in order to fulfill their duty, and therefore the Easter duty includes in its origins a grateful pilgrimage to the font in which you were first embraced by Christ. If your “Holy Mother Church” is within a drive, why not make a pilgrimage to that font a feature of your Easter celebration of these fifty days?

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WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE – SACRED HEART, LANGTON			
DATE	TIME	MASS INTENTION	BY
Tues May 14/19	7:00 pm	• Arthur Lefebvre	• Mike Carbone
Wed May 15/19	9:30 am	• Regina Zarycki	• Terry Keenlside
Thurs May 16/19	3:45 pm Caessant Care	• Joe DeVos Mass with Anointing the Sick at Caessant Care	• Bernadette Couture
Fri May 17/19	9:30 am	• Maurice Demaiter	• From the family

DATES TO REMEMBER

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Thurs May 16/19	3:45 pm	Mass with Anointing of the sick at Caessant Care
Tues May 30/19	10:30 am	Crowning of Mary Mass for SHS at SHC
	1:45 pm	Crowning of Mary Mass for STMS at STMC
Wed May 31/19	1:45 pm	Crowning of Mary Mass for OLFS at OLF Gym
Sat June 1/19	5:00 pm	Youth Ministry Mass at SHC
Wed June 5/19	7:00 pm	Walsh CWL Meeting
Sun June 9/19	5:00 pm	Volunteer Appreciation Dinner at LCC
Tues June 18/19	5:00 pm	Graduation Mass for OLFS at SHC
Wed June 19/19	5:00 pm	Graduation Mass for STMS at STMC
Sun June 23/19	8:30 am	Group First Communion for STMS at STMC
	10:30 am	Group First Communion for SHS & OLFS at SHC
Mon June 24/19	5:00 pm	Graduation Mass for SHS at SHC
Tues June 25/19	1:45 pm	Year End Mass for OLFS at OLFS
	7:30 pm	Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

DATES TO REMEMBER -CONTINUED

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Wed June 26/19	1:45 pm	Year End Mass for STMS at STMC
Thurs June 27/19	9:30 am	Year End Mass & Feast of Sacred Heart of Jesus for SHS at SHC

WEEKLY OFFERTORY – MAY 5, 2019

St. Michael's		
Regular Envelope	\$	646.00
Good Friday	\$	5.00
Thanksgiving Appeal	\$	10.00
Loose	\$	110.00
Building Fund	\$	80.00
Sub-Total	\$	851.00

Sacred Heart		
Regular Envelope	\$	1562.00
Loose	\$	69.00
Building Fund	\$	380.00
Sub-Total	\$	2011.00

Total	\$	2862.00
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PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS:

PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND & JORDAN
UNDER SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE OF
REV. FRANCIS THEKKUMKATTIL, PASTOR OF ST. PHILIP’S PARISH, PETROLIA, ON
October 18-29, 2019- 12 days CA \$3990. (taxes & tips Incl.)
 Travel arrangements by QS Travel & Tours Inc. affiliate of Queen Syrena Travel Inc. 3055 Dundas St. W., # 4, Mississauga, ON L5L 3R8. Telephone # 905-412-3355 or 1-800-565-3619. www.qstours.com



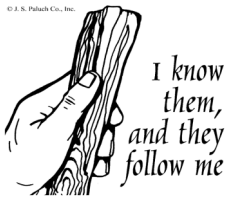


A special congratulations to **Aubree Pichette & Zoey Galic** who received First Communion last weekend .

MASS WITH ANOINTING OF THE SICK
 There will be a special mass with the Anointing of the sick on Thursday May 16, 2019 at 3:45 pm at Caessant Care Courtland.

VOCATION DINNERS
Ordination Day Vocation Dinners: We are inviting parish priests along with any interested young men, ages 14 and up, to join us for a pre-diaconate ordination dinner, vocation talk and explanation of the rite of ordination. This is a great opportunity to invite senior altar servers, youth group leaders, and other young men in the parish to meet seminarians and consider their vocation in life. To help facilitate transportation, the dinner is open to parish priests, youth ministers and parents’ of discerners.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK 2019
 Bishop Fabbro has recorded video messages in English and French for this year’s Catholic Education Week. To view the videos, read about Catholic Education Week, and to find resources courtesy of the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA), please visit <https://dol.ca/catholic-education-week>.



PRIEST PENSION FUND COLLECTION
 This year’s Priest Pension collection will be taken up on Father’s Day weekend, June 15-16. Please look for a special insert and envelope in our weekend bulletin and give as generously as you can. Please also keep all our priests in your prayers. Your generosity is a sign of the care and affection that we feel for our priests, who retire after many decades of years having ministered to our spiritual needs. Our priests give us a lifetime of service, this Father’s Day let’s give back!

LANGTON CWL NEWS
CALLING ALL POST-SECONDARY GRADS FROM OUR PARISH
 Please join the Sacred Heart, Langton CWL for our Annual Potluck Dinner on Monday June 10, 2019 at 6:30 pm in the Langton Community Centre. It is our pleasure to acknowledge your hard work & accomplishments with a small token of our appreciation. Any member of our parish who knows someone graduating from college or university in the spring of 2019 please contact Linda Elku at 519-875-5648 or email at lelku@execulink.com. Please have this information to Linda before May 31, 2019.

2019 WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS
 The Wedding Anniversary Mass honoring all married couples in our diocese will be held on Sunday, June 2 at 3:00 p.m. The Mass will be celebrated at St. Peter’s Cathedral Basilica in London with Bishop Fabbro as the main celebrant. All married couples are invited to register by contacting the parish office at 519-875-4438. Please call the parish office to register no later than May 17, 2019.

MARRIAGE ANNULMENT
 Are you hoping to get married in the Catholic Church or to have a new union blessed? Or are you simply looking for some closure after a painful divorce? If so, consider applying for a Declaration of Nullity (“annulment”) from the Marriage Tribunal of the Diocese of London. The process is free of charge. We are here to help. If you want to start the process, or if you just have some questions about obtaining a Declaration of Nullity, feel free to call us at 519-439-1553 or Toll Free at 1-866-603-4317, or e-mail tribunal@dol.ca