



SUNDAY, MAY 16, 2021

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD



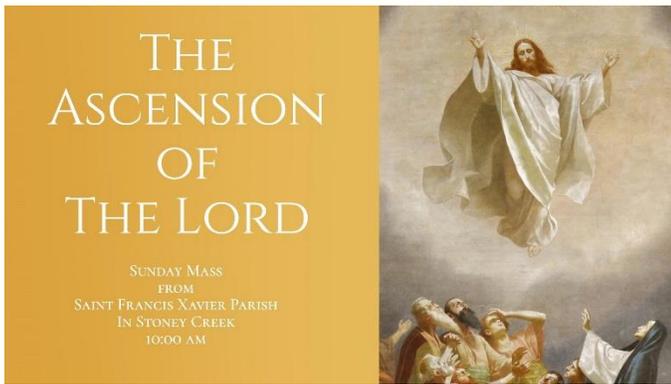
ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH

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Dear Friends,

We have only one week left until the end of the Easter season. This Sunday, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord as we read the Gospel passage in which Christ commissions his disciples to “go into all the world...”

“In their different ways, all the gospel writers want us to appreciate the threshold moment of Jesus’s exaltation into heaven. Luke ends his gospel with one account of the ascension of Jesus happening on the evening of Easter day, and begins the second part of his good news, the Acts of the Apostles, with another account forty days later. Perhaps Luke is using these two accounts to stitch together the farewell reality of Jesus in his glorified humanity (Luke 24:50-53) and the mission of the church, his Body, which in his Spirit must continue his presence and work in the world (Acts 1:9-11). Luke addresses the Acts of the Apostles to “Theophilus” (“Lover of God”), perhaps a patron of the early Christian community. Gathered today around the Word, we are also the intended readers, all called to be “lovers of God.”

Mark narrates that Jesus is risen. He has appeared to his followers during forty days - a biblical number symbolic of both fullness and transition - and has instructed them about the promised coming of the Holy Spirit. He explains this coming in baptismal terms. Water had been the baptismal

medium of the Baptist, but this new baptism will be in the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. So the disciples wait for this unimagined and unimaginable outpouring, still captive to curiosity about times, dates, the possible relationship of Israel to the kingdom about which Jesus has so often spoken, and an implied hankering for knowledge of their own positions in this kingdom. Jesus deflects their desire for such answers into a concern for mission - the witness to him that the disciples will be called and empowered to give beyond Jerusalem, beyond Judaea and Samaria, to the very ends of the earth. The disciples are still a wounded community, wounded by Judas’s treachery, by Peter’s betrayal, and by their own cowardice. Yet it is in the midst of such failure, false expectations, and incorrigible personal ambitions and wishes for quick solutions, that Jesus will call them to mission.

For some reason, the Lectionary omits verse 14 from today’s reading of the “longer ending” (and third postresurrection appearance of Jesus) of Mark’s gospel. It is considered an inspired but later addition to Mark 16:8, for the comfort and strengthening of the communities on mission. And so as we gather liturgically around the table, we may not realize that Jesus’s commission to go and proclaim the Good News of his resurrection to the whole of creation is also given to the wounded Eleven “at table.” Nor do we hear how Jesus upbraids them for their lack of faith and stubbornness - something that is surely a great consolation for ourselves as wounded, struggling disciples in whom the flame of missionary desire can flicker or even be extinguished. Yet like the Eleven, we are also people entrusted with the mission of proclaiming the gospel now that the physical presence of Jesus has ascended to heaven and is no longer with us. We too are sent to do new wonders, speak new words with the fire of the Spirit on our tongues, offer

new healing to our sisters and brothers, and cast out contemporary “demons” from ourselves and others. And all this continues to be “in the name of,” in the personal power of Jesus into whose Body we are baptized.” (Living Liturgy 2021)

As you may know from the announcement made yesterday by the provincial government, the stay-at-home order has been extended until June 2nd. Today we received a memorandum from the Diocese informing us that the churches in our Diocese will remain closed for the duration of this extended lockdown. We hope and pray that we can be reunited soon here at our place of worship so that we can once again pray together as a believing community.

On Wednesday of this week work started on replacing the old AC units on the church roof. The old units were removed, and the new HVAC units were placed on the roof in new locations, away from the edges, but are not yet connected to the system. The work will continue next week with some adjustments to the ducts on the roof so that they can be tied into the existing ones in the church. If you would like to see some pictures from the project please visit our online bulletin, which will be posted tomorrow in the late afternoon.

This Sunday marks the beginning of **Laudato Si Week!** 6 years ago, in May of 2015, Pope Francis published his encyclical on the environment in which he calls the Church and the world to acknowledge the urgency of our environmental challenges and to join him in embarking on a new path. Our parish's new group, the Laudato Si Circle, is hosting three events to mark this week. The **Recycling Challenge** starts on Sunday, and a tracking sheet can be found [here](#). Monday evening at 7:00pm there will be a live-streamed **liturgy on the theme of care for creation** on the parish YouTube channel.

And next Monday evening (May 24) there will be a **Zoom session** open to all ages on the topic of recycling at 7:00pm. The Circle hopes that you can join in and wishes you a blessed Laudato Si Week!

This coming Thursday, May 20, students, staff, and families from our five elementary schools will be gathering virtually at 9:15am for a **live-streamed liturgy on the theme of the Rosary**, which will include a pre-recorded praying of the Rosary that many students and staff have contributed video clips to! All are invited to join in. Our live-streamed morning Mass will be held at 8:30 am that day, rather than 9:00am.

Our new series of **ONLINE GATHERINGS** has begun! This past Wednesday a number of families gathered on Zoom for our first parish Games Night! Here is the schedule for this coming week:

MONDAY, MAY 17: COFFEE WITH THE CLERGY

Host: Deacon Brian Prieur

Time: 7:00-8:00pm

Includes: Reading of the Gospel of the day, brief reflection on the Gospel and Saint of the day, discussion time, Question & Answer period. Please submit faith-related questions for the Q&A in advance to wmoga@hamiltondiocese.com.

THURSDAY, MAY 20: PRAY & CHAT

Hosts: Deacon Carmelo Campanella & Wes Moga

Time: 7:00-8:00pm

Includes: Check-in/chit-chat time with a few icebreaker questions, followed by some time in prayer using a traditional Catholic prayer practice.

FOR THE ZOOM INVITES: Please contact Wes at wmoga@hamiltondiocese.com.

God bless, everyone.
Fr. Mariusz

SUNDAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING:

As the disciples were watching, Jesus was lifted up. (Acts 1:9)

PSALM:

God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet. (Psalm 47)

SECOND READING:

God seated Jesus at the right hand in heaven. (Ephesians 1:20)

GOSPEL:

The Lord Jesus was taken up into heaven and sits at the right hand of God. (Mark 16:19)

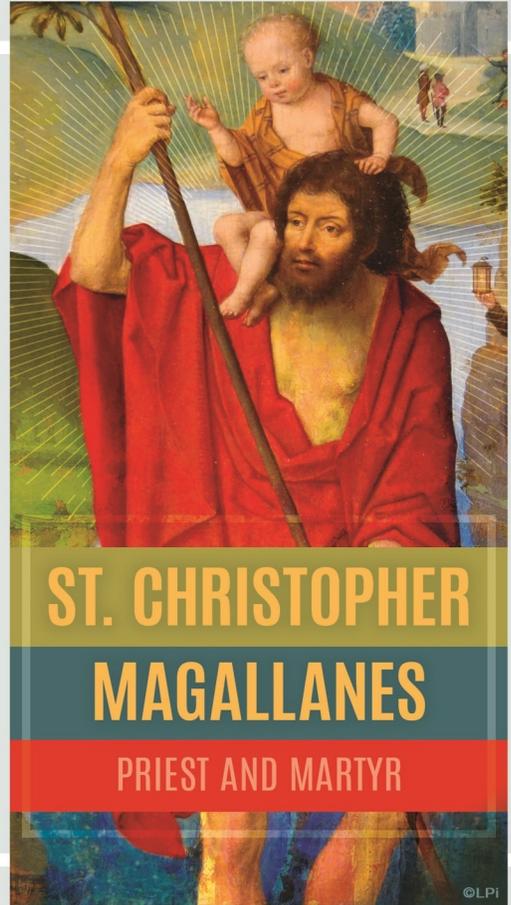
OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 16, 2021

- Sunday: The Ascension of the Lord; 7th Sunday of Easter; World Communications Day
Tuesday: St. John I, Pope and Martyr
Thursday: St. Bernardine of Siena, Priest
Friday: St. Christopher Magallanes, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs
St. Eugene de Mazenod, Bishop
Saturday: St. Rita of Cascia, Religious
Next Sunday: Pentecost Sunday

**BELOVED,
IF GOD
SO LOVED
US, WE
ALSO MUST
LOVE ONE
ANOTHER.**

—1 John 4:11

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REFLECT

FIRST READING

This reading shows us that the Ascension of Jesus marks the end of his journey on earth and signals the beginning of a new era. The mission of the Church begins under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

SECOND READING

Just as God marvellously raised Jesus from death to life in the Resurrection, so too will Christians experience radical change in their own lives. What happened to Jesus will happen to those who believe in him.

GOSPEL READING

The disciples are given the necessary means of salvation: belief in Jesus and baptism into the Christian community. They are commissioned "to proclaim the Gospel to the whole world" so that all will have a chance to be saved.

Daily Schedule

Date	Celebration - Time	Diocese of Hamilton Prayer Calendar
<p>Monday, May 17:</p> <p>1st Reading: Acts 19.1-8 Gospel: John 16.29-33</p>	<p>Rosary – 8:30 AM (livestreamed) Mass – 9:00 AM (livestreamed) Chaplet – 3:00 PM (livestreamed) Liturgy of the Word beginning Laudato Si Week – 7:00 PM (livestreamed)</p>	<p>Rev. Rafal Tomon</p>
<p>Tuesday, May 18:</p> <p>1st Reading: Acts 20.17-27 Gospel: John 17.1-11a OM: St. John I</p>	<p>Rosary – 8:30 AM (livestreamed) Mass – 9:00 AM (livestreamed) Chaplet – 3:00 PM (livestreamed)</p>	<p>Rev. David Mowat, C.R.</p>
<p>Wednesday, May 19:</p> <p>1st Reading: Acts 20.28-38 Gospel: John 17.11b-19</p>	<p>Rosary – 8:30 AM (livestreamed) Mass – 9:00 AM (livestreamed) Chaplet – 3:00 PM (livestreamed)</p>	<p>Seminarians</p>
<p>Thursday, May 20:</p> <p>1st Reading: Acts 22.30; 23.6-11 Gospel: John 17.20-26 OM: St. Bernadine of Siena</p>	<p>Mass – 8:30 AM (livestreamed) Liturgy of the Word with Elementary Schools – 9:15 AM (livestreamed) Chaplet – 3:00 PM (livestreamed)</p>	<p>Rev. Florian Stasinski, C.R.</p>
<p>Friday, May 21:</p> <p>1st Reading: Acts 24.27; 25.13b-21++ Gospel: John 21.15-19 OM: St. Eugène de Mazenod OM: St. Christopher Magallanes and Companions</p>	<p>Rosary – 8:30 AM (livestreamed) Mass – 9:00 AM (livestreamed) Chaplet – 3:00 PM (livestreamed)</p>	<p>Rev. Harry Reitzel, C.R.</p>
<p>Saturday, May 22:</p> <p>1st Reading: Acts 28.16-20, 30-31 Gospel: John 21.20-25 OM: St. Rita of Cascia</p>	<p>Rosary – 8:30 AM (livestreamed) Mass – 9:00 AM (livestreamed) Chaplet – 3:00 PM (livestreamed)</p>	<p>Rev. Patrick McKelvie, C.R.</p>
<p>Sunday, May 23:</p> <p>1st Reading: Acts 2.1-11 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 12.3b-7, 12-13 or Galatians 5.16-25 Gospel: John 20.19-23 ~ Season of Easter Ends ~</p>	<p>Rosary – 9:30 AM (livestreamed) Mass – 10:00 AM (livestreamed)</p>	<p>PENTECOST SUNDAY</p>

THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME

Where do you get the best night's sleep? For me, it's in my own bed. I don't even really know why. There's something about the texture of the sheets, the groove I've worn in the pillow. The mattress seems to recognize my shape. I've got a job that sees me traveling often and I've stayed in plenty of nice places. But there's just no sleep like the sleep you get at home.

There's a feeling that we have when we're at home. Our bodies seem to recognize it when we walk in the door. There's a relaxation that kicks in, a peace that falls over us. I think that's what Heaven will be like. It won't be pleasure or happiness — those words aren't enough to

describe what it feels like to be at home, are they? It's more than that.

If you ever wonder why there is pain in this world, it's because we're not at home.

That's not to say we don't belong here. Through God's mercy, this beautiful world is where we live out our earthly existence, and those existences can be filled with amazing relationships and profound experiences. In fact, we might enjoy our time here so much that we don't want to leave.

But there's a reason this life has so many things that don't make sense: loss, fear, anger, sickness, hatred. It's because we weren't made for this place. For our souls, it's like a never-ending night in a hotel bed.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THE LETTERS THAT PROFESSED RELIGIOUS HAVE AFTER THEIR NAMES?

The Catholic Church includes hundreds of religious communities. The priests, religious brothers, religious sisters, and nuns of these communities (which are often referred to as "religious orders") are committed to particular spiritual traditions and often to a particular charism (such as teaching, healthcare, social work, or pastoral care).

To help identify a person as a member of a particular religious community, the custom developed of including post-nominal letters that provide a sort of shorthand for the name of the community that the priest, brother, sister or nun is part of. So, for example OSB after a person's name would indicate that they are a member of the Order of St. Benedict (the Benedictines), just as SJ would indicate that a priest or brother is a member of the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits) or RSM would show that a woman is a Sister of Mercy.

Other common examples include:

DC = Daughters of Charity

FSC = The Brothers of the Christian Schools/
Christian Brothers

OCist = The Order of Cistercians

OCD = Order of Discalced Carmelites

OFM = The Order of Friars Minor (the
Franciscans)

OFM Cap = The Capuchin Franciscans

OP = The Order of Preachers (Dominicans)

OSF=Franciscan Sisters

SC = Sisters of Charity

SDS = Society of the Divine Savior (Salvatorian
Priests and Brothers and Salvatorian Sisters)

SSND = School Sisters of Notre Dame

SVD = Society of the Divine Word
(Divine Word Missionaries)



THIS WEEK'S ONLINE GATHERINGS!



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Thursday, May 20: PRAY & CHAT

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FOR THE ZOOM INVITES: Please contact Wes at wmoga@hamiltondiocese.com.

LIVE THE LITURGY

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

When Jesus was physically with his disciples, he guarded and protected them. One of his greatest desires was that they share his joy completely. God's love is the source of all things and their sustenance. As we conduct the normal routines of our lives it is easy to get caught up in the immediacies of this world and lose focus. We become very self and worldly dependent, forgetting that God wishes to guard and protect us. The joy the resurrected Christ can offer cannot be found in this world. It takes a bit of faith to realize that God's will is a constant in our lives and that God desires only the sustenance and goodness of both our bodies and our souls. We need to trust in God's constant and rejuvenating love. This radical resurrection trust allows us to experience the joy of God's presence in all of the good and the bad, positive and negative, life building and life destructive events that we encounter. God remains where love remains.

“THE
FUTURE
STARTS
TODAY,
NOT
TOMORROW.”

ST. JOHN PAUL II

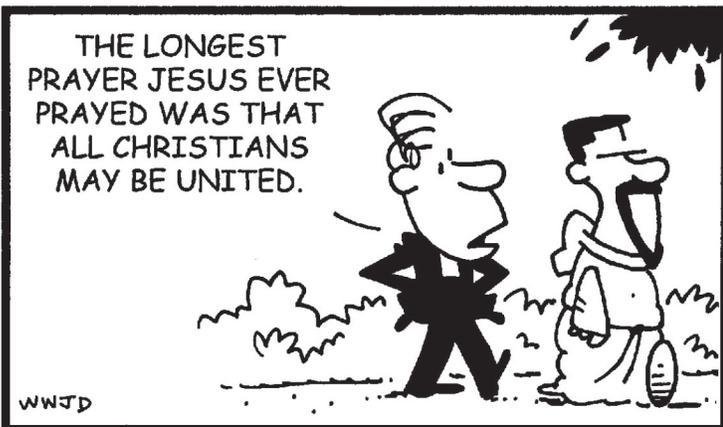
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PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

Our parish is grateful for your continued support at this time. Thank you!



7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



Laudato Si Week is coming up soon!

It marks the anniversary of the publication of Laudato Si (Pope Francis' encyclical on the environment), in 2015. Each year at this time we are invited to renew our commitment to being the best stewards of creation that we can be.

You can check out videos and information provided below to learn more about Laudato Si Week and the events that our parish's new Laudato Si Circle group has planned for it! We hope that you will be able join in!

VIDEOS:

[Pope Francis invites you](#) to celebrate Laudato Si Week 2021

[Laudato Si Week 2021](#) (from our parish group)

EVENTS:

May 16-24: Recycling Challenge

As an individual or a family, will you accept the challenge to reduce the amount of garbage you throw away?

See the following page for the printable tracking sheet!

Prizes to the most successful households!

May 17: Kick-off Liturgy on the theme of Creation

7:00pm on the parish's YouTube channel

May 24: Wrap-up Zoom session

7:00-8:30pm

Topic: Harmfulness of plastics/Importance of Recycling

Includes: Video, discussion, prayer

All ages welcome!

Email: wmoga@hamiltondiocese.com for the Zoom info.

“for we know that things can change” (Laudato Si, 13)

LAUDATO SI CIRCLE FAMILY RECYCLING/COMPOST CHALLENGE

Item	# of items on Sun, May 16	# of items on Mon, May 17	# of items on Tue, May 18	# of items on Wed, May 19	# of items on Thu, May 20	# of items on Fri, May 21	# of items on Sat, May 22	# of items on Sun, May 23	# of items on Mon, May 24
Aluminum & Metal Cartons									
Paint cans (empty)									
Glass bottles & jars									
Plastic									
Cardboard/ Paper									
Compost									
Total # of items									

Total number of items recycled/composted for the week: _____

Number of Household Members Participating: _____

Below is where you can find lists of what the City of Hamilton recycles and composts:

[Recycling](#)

[Compost](#)

To enter for the chance to win a prize, please send a scan or photo of this page when completed to wmoqa@hamiltondiocese.com by Friday, May 28.

GOSPEL MEDITATION

ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

God remains where love remains. When a believer realizes without doubt that God is love, it is a powerful moment. Being able to place our resurrection trust in this fundamental truth allows us to experience God's presence in all of our experiences: the good and the bad, positive and negative, life enriching and destructive events we encounter. It is no wonder that St. Paul so accurately tells us that it is love that endures all things and lasts. How can God not endure or ever fade away? Because he is God, Jesus also guarded and protected his disciples as the endearing shepherd who always had their best interest at heart.

If we become too immersed in the world, we lose touch with these deeper realities. We can become so preoccupied with preserving what we have created or think that we need, forgetting that it is not building our city that really matters, but God's. Jesus clearly did not belong to the world and, by virtue of his resurrection, he tries to get us to understand that we do not



either. The truth brings us to other worldly, more divine places and takes our eyes off of the concerns that often captivate our fears and storm our senses.

Life can easily erode our faith. Think of your life over the last couple of weeks. What challenged your faith and distracted your divine glance? Even being overly stimulated with technology and social media can erode our sense of confidence and cause us to forget who we really are. We need to distance ourselves from

the world in order to experience the joy that Christ offers. The world will never like the word of God. It is too challenging and too perplexing. The world mistakenly believes that it can survive on its own. It is a mistaken judgment that may cost people a lot in the end. It is all so very simple: God remains when we love one another. If in all the business of our lives and all that each day brings, the good and the bad, we follow the call and path of love, we will walk with God. There is nothing to fear and anxiety finds no home.

Lifting up his eyes to heaven, Jesus prayed saying: "As you sent me into the world, so I sent them into the world. And I consecrate myself for them, so that they also may be consecrated in truth."

- Jn 17:18-19

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

"Jesus is my great friend and the Eucharist my highway to heaven."

St. Carlo Acutis

AC replacement project 2021



Unpacking *Patris Corde*

– *With a Father's Heart*

May 25, 2021
at 7 P.M. for a 90-minute
Zoom webinar



DIOCESE OF HAMILTON
www.hamiltondiocese.com

Unpacking *Patris Corde* – With a Father's Heart

“WITH A FATHER’S HEART: that is how Joseph loved Jesus, whom all four Gospels refer to as “the son of Joseph””. This opening line from Pope Francis’ Apostolic Letter, *Patris Corde*, released on Dec. 8, 2020 to mark the opening of a Year of St. Joseph, sets the tone for the entire letter.

In *Patris Corde*, we hear that, “St. Joseph reminds us that those who appear hidden or in the shadows can play an incomparable role in the history of salvation.” You are invited to join us on **Tuesday, May 25th** at 7 P.M. for a 90 minute zoom webinar (by phone or internet) to discover

more about the Patron Saint of both the Catholic Church and Canada. Presented by Monsignor Murray J. Kroetsch (PH, VG) and Mrs. Teresa Hartnett (M.R.E.).

Registration is required to receive the Zoom link and can be found by clicking on the picture above which is hyperlinked to the registration page on the Diocesan website. For further information, contact Teresa at 905-528-7988 ext. 2250.

Please note that this workshop is **free of charge**.

3 EASY STEPS

TO KEEPING YOURSELF & OTHERS HEALTHY!

We are cautioned to be especially careful during the Coronavirus outbreak. Here are some simple ways to keep sickness away.



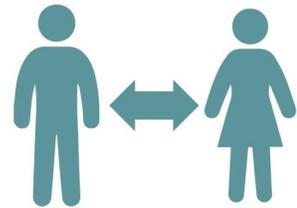
WASH YOUR HANDS

Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds using soap and water. If you can't wash your hands, use hand sanitizer frequently.



DON'T TOUCH YOUR FACE

Especially around the eyes, nose and mouth. If you must sneeze, use a tissue or your arm.



KEEP YOUR DISTANCE

Practice social distancing during this epidemic and stay away from large groups. Instead, call, email or check up on family and friends using social media.

ST. RITA OF CASCIA

May 22nd



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Kids Corner

READ THE
GOSPEL &
COLOR



Every day when you are in school, your teachers help you learn. You get better at following directions. You get better at listening. You get better at remembering what you learned. Over the school year, your teacher gets you ready for the next grade. In today's Gospel, Jesus prayed for his friends. Jesus spent the last three years teaching his friends how to follow God and how to love others. His time to teach was almost over. Jesus prayed that his friends would stay close to God. Jesus asked God to protect them as they shared his teachings with the whole world.

PRAYER

God, help me to learn all that I can from Jesus and my teachers.

MISSION FOR THE WEEK

Make a card for each of your teachers. Color a picture on the cover. Write a nice message on the inside. Thank your teachers for helping you learn, and sign your name. Then deliver your cards with a smile.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR MAY 17 TO MAY 23, 2021

DATE	MASS INTENTION	REQUESTED BY
Monday , May 17:	Silvano Scattolon	Maria Scattolon
Tuesday , May 18:	Lorenzo Castelli	Maria Castelli
Wednesday , May 19:	MULTI-INTENTIONAL Anthony Merolli Stephen Bak Ernesto Caruso Fred Mastroianni Marta Osiecka Special Intentions Special Intentions Intentions of Wieslawa and Adam Cybulscy Intentions of Dorota Kulik Jadwiga Cwiklinska	Josephine Merolli Joe & Trudy Lemmen Assunta Caruso The Mastroianni Family Maria Kapron Grazyna Chomicka Halina Kwasniewska Adam Cybulski Grazyna Grazyna Chomicka
Thursday , May 20:	Special Intention of Michael Kunkel	Louise Kunkel
Friday , May 21:	Assunta Masotti	Fred Masotti
Saturday , May 22:	Ernesto Caruso	Assunta Caruso
Sunday , May 23:	MULTI-INTENTIONAL Zuzanna Iodlovski Antonio Salvatore Angelina Genesiee Francesco Basolini Sebastiano Dell'Armi Giovanina Marzilli Martin & Tereza Vincec Angelina Martino John Majpruz Ralph Keller Krista Pauly Sophie & David Colterman Jadwiga Cwiklinska For the People of the Parish – Missa Pro Populo	Marek Kulak Maria Salvatore Lisa & Achillo Mancini Maria & Candida Dell'Armi Maria & Candida Dell'Armi Maria & Candida Dell'Armi Olga Culig Teresa Bagnoli, Nick & Tony Elia Paul Toffolon & Family Bruno & Rosanna Margaret Pelino Louise Kunkel Grazyna Chomicka