



SUNDAY, MAY 9, 2021

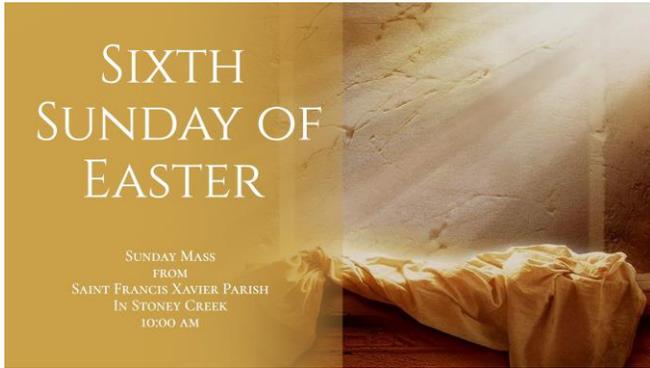
6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH

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Dear Friends,

The season of Easter is gradually drawing to a close, as this Sunday we celebrate the sixth Sunday of Easter. But we still have two important Solemnities ahead of us. This weekend we continue to read from the Gospel of St. John, which draws our attention to Jesus' discourse at the Last Supper.

"The heartbeat of today's gospel and of the second reading from 1 John is "love." As disciples, we are called to feel this pulse and make our lives beat in rhythm with it. The love commandment that Jesus gives to his disciples depends on God's limitless love for the world (John 3:16). This love is made incarnate and dwells among us in Jesus, the one who is "close to the Father's heart" (John 1:18), and so Jesus's own relationship with his Father, his own life and death, become the norm of the costly love he asks of his disciples. This must not be a cramped or grudging love, but joyful and expansive, encompassing the world for which Jesus was sent.

One of the most priceless human gifts is friendship. It allows us to disclose ourselves to and receive from another in complete openness and trust. With a friend we can think aloud; participate in one another's joys and sorrows, hopes and fears; survive loneliness, indifference, hostility. Small wonder, then, that in today's gospel Jesus calls his disciples by this most precious of names: "my friends." Drawn into and abiding in the mutual love of the

Father and the Son, disciples are no longer called servants but friends.

The Johannine community was to live as friends and so, throughout his gospel, John introduces us to various occasions of friendship: John the Baptist, the precursor and "the friend of the bridegroom" (John 3:29) who, like a best man, hands over the bride Israel to Jesus; the family at Bethany, especially Lazarus, the friend for whom he wept at his grave and for whom Jesus was the tomb breaker (John 11:35-44); Pilate, who at a critical moment preferred to be a friend of Caesar rather than Jesus (John 19:12); the disciple beloved of Jesus (John 13:23; 19:26; 21:7); and Peter, the forgiven friend who will lead and shepherd the community of the forgiven (John 21:44ff.). As we gather (still virtually) around the table of our eucharistic supper, we hear that we have been chosen by Jesus as his friends and commissioned to befriend the world in and with the love he has shown us.

The most startling, profound, yet simple naming of God is proclaimed in the reading from the First Letter of John: "God is love." The letter is addressed to the "beloved," those with whom God has taken the initiative, who are parented by God's love, and this self-giving love is the source of human love. Like today's gospel whose heartbeat is love, so love beats strongly in this reading - named nine times in its four verses. It is love that is expansive and global, yet also intimate and personal, revealed most fully in Jesus, the Son of God and our brother.

In a remarkable photographic event, at the turn of the millennium invitations were sent to 192 countries inviting photographers to submit entries that captured and celebrated the essence of humanity's "Moments of Intimacy, Laughter and Kinship." Ultimately, seventeen thousand photographers from 164 countries entered with over forty thousand photographs.

As well as becoming an international traveling exhibition, the winning photographs are published as three incredible books entitled *Family, Friendship, and Love*. As love always does, the images reach across all continents and races, youth and age, poverty and affluence, to reveal the heart of humanity and, surely, the heart of God. The viewer has no idea if the God of Jesus Christ is known or unknown to the 6-year-old "policeman" in the slums of Calcutta who is holding up his hand to stop the traffic so that three blind men, their hands on one another's shoulders, can safely cross the road; whether any prayers are being murmured by the 84-year-old woman saying goodbye to her dying 92-year-old friend; or what is the faith of the parents welcoming their womb-wet, wailing newborn. But the Christian gazing on these photographs, or on such realities in our everyday lives, can surely say: "God is love." (Living Liturgy 2021)

We will be offering a number of online gathering opportunities for our parishioners starting soon, which will allow us to connect through the means of Zoom to have some time for conversation, games and prayer together. An email will be sent sometime at the beginning of next week inviting each one of you to be part of this parish initiative. **The first Games Night** is coming up this **Wednesday, May 12!** It will run from 7:00-8:00pm and will include 3 games that can be played through Internet links or screen sharing, with prizes up for grabs! Come play as an individual or as a family! For more information, or to get the Zoom information, please contact Wes at wmoga@hamiltondiocese.com. More details to follow about the other upcoming online gatherings.

This year, our parish will join Catholic communities around the world in celebrating **Laudato Si Week!** Six years ago, Pope Francis published his encyclical entitled "Laudato Si: On Care for Our Common Home".

In it, he talks about how we are shaping the future of the Earth, and 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. During Laudato Si Week, our parish's new Laudato Si Circle group will be hosting three events that they hope that individuals and families from our parish will join in with: a live-streamed liturgy on the theme of Creation, a week-long recycling challenge with the opportunity to win prizes, and a Zoom session also on the topic of recycling. For more details about these events, you're invited to visit the online bulletin or the Circle's brand new Facebook page, which is called "Laudato Si Circle – St. Francis Xavier Parish, Stoney Creek". A printable score-sheet for the recycling challenge will be shared in the bulletin and on the Facebook page next weekend.

After many years of hard work and tremendous exhaustion, to the point that there is nothing that we can do to extend their lifespan any longer, it is time to retire our church roof AC units which have served us for at least 30 years. After obtaining permission from the Diocese, this necessary work to replace them will begin this coming week. We hope that by the end of May, or maybe even sooner, we will be able to have new HVAC units in place so that when we finally reopen, we can welcome you back with cold air (but very warm hearts!) during the hot summer months.

Come and celebrate the Sunday Mass virtually with us on our YouTube channel! This weekend Deacon Carmelo is preaching and it's going to be a revitalizing, ravishing homily (if it is not then we will fire him - just kidding!!). Before the Mass we will pray the Rosary at 9:30am

God bless, everyone.
Fr. Mariusz

SUNDAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING:

"In truth, I see that God shows no partiality. Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly is acceptable to him." (Acts 10:34-35)

PSALM:

The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power. (Ps 98) Or Alleluia.

SECOND READING:

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is of God; everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. (1 Jn 4:7)

GOSPEL:

"This is my commandment: love one another as I love you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." (Jn 15:12-13)

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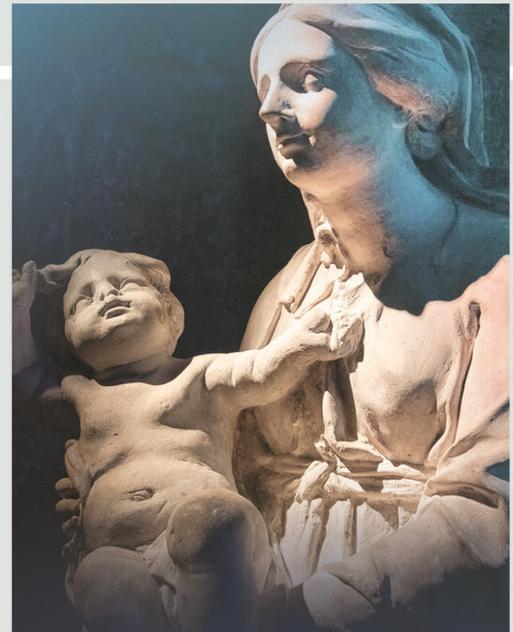
OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 9, 2021

- Sunday: 6th Sunday of Easter; Mother's Day
Wednesday: Sts. Nereus and Achilleus, Martyrs; St. Pancras, Martyr
Thursday: Our Lady of Fatima
Friday: St. Matthias, Apostle
Next Sunday: The Ascension of the Lord;
World Communications Day

"I remember my mother's prayers and they have always followed me. They have clung to me all my life."

Abraham Lincoln

©LPI



From the first hour to the last, Jesus' life is enfolded in the nearness of his Mother.

-Romano Guardini

©LPI

REFLECT

FIRST READING

In the home of the Gentile-believer, Cornelius, Peter revealed one of the most significant insights from the early Church: "In truth, I see that God shows no partiality." Where do you see this message of unity needed today?

SECOND READING

John saw love at the very core of God's divine identity. In fact, for John, "God is love." For this reason, believers are called to love one another. How do you keep this virtue paramount in your life?

GOSPEL READING

During his farewell discourse, Jesus refers to his disciples as his "friends." How often do you think of Jesus as your "friend?"

Daily Schedule

Date	Celebration - Time	Diocese of Hamilton Prayer Calendar
<p>Monday, May 10:</p> <p>1st Reading: Acts 16.11-15 Gospel: John 15.26 – 16.4a</p>	<p>Rosary – 8:30 AM (livestreamed) Mass – 9:00 AM (livestreamed) Chaplet – 3:00 PM (livestreamed)</p>	<p>Rev. Allison Mahoney, C.S.C.</p>
<p>Tuesday, May 11:</p> <p>1st Reading: Acts 16.22-34 Gospel: John 16.5-11</p>	<p>Rosary – 8:30 AM (livestreamed) Mass – 9:00 AM (livestreamed) Chaplet – 3:00 PM (livestreamed)</p>	<p>Rev. Francis Noronha, C.S.C.</p>
<p>Wednesday, May 12:</p> <p>1st Reading: Acts 17.15, 22 - 18.1 Gospel: John 16.12-15 OM: St. Nereus and St. Achilleus OM: St. Pancras ~ Canada Health Day ~</p>	<p>Rosary – 8:30 AM (livestreamed) Mass – 9:00 AM (livestreamed) Chaplet – 3:00 PM (livestreamed)</p>	<p>Congregation of the Resurrection (C.R.)</p>
<p>Thursday, May 13:</p> <p>1st Reading: Acts 18.1-8 Gospel: John 16.16-20 OM: Our Lady of Fatima</p>	<p>Rosary – 8:30 AM (livestreamed) Mass – 9:00 AM (livestreamed) Chaplet – 3:00 PM (livestreamed)</p>	<p>Rev. Msgr. Earl Talbot</p>
<p>Friday, May 14:</p> <p>1st Reading: Acts 1.15-17, 20-26 Gospel: John 15.9-17 ST. MATTHIAS (Feast)</p>	<p>Rosary – 8:30 AM (livestreamed) Mass – 9:00 AM (livestreamed) Chaplet – 3:00 PM (livestreamed)</p>	<p>Rev. Edwin Lapinski, C.R.</p>
<p>Saturday, May 15:</p> <p>1st Reading: Acts 18.23-28 Gospel: John 16.23b-28</p>	<p>Rosary – 8:30 AM (livestreamed) Mass – 9:00 AM (livestreamed) Chaplet – 3:00 PM (livestreamed)</p>	<p>Very Rev. Tim Uniac, C.R.</p>
<p>Sunday, May 16:</p> <p>1st Reading: Acts 1.1-11; 2nd Reading: Eph 1.17-23 Gospel: Mark 16.15-20</p> <p>~ World Communications Day ~</p>	<p>Rosary – 9:30 AM (livestreamed) Mass – 10:00 AM (livestreamed)</p>	<p>THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD</p>

ONLINE GAME NIGHT!!

Date: Wednesday, May 12

Time: 7:00—8:00PM



Come on out as an individual or as a family for some fun and games this Wednesday on Zoom! Prizes up for grabs! All ages are welcome (younger children should be accompanied by an adult.)

Please contact Wes (wmoga@hamiltondiocese.com) for the Zoom invite (and a one-time permission form for those under 18).

CHOOSING TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER

Love one another. The greatest commandment, the simplest commandment — and if you've ever loved anyone, you know it's also the hardest.

I'm man enough to admit it. I've seen one or two of those cheesy Hallmark movies that are especially popular around the holidays. Boy meets Girl. Boy and Girl encounter a catastrophic roadblock to their relationship — they're coaches of rival high school volleyball teams, or he runs a dog kennel and she works at a feline rescue, so it could never, ever work out, right? But sprinkle a little movie magic over the whole situation and Boy and Girl find what Hallmark tells us is true love.

I could make a list of all the things that are inaccurate about these movies, and something I would put right near the top — maybe even above the sometimes-unbelievable storylines — is the idea that love is a feeling.

See, I'm not sure if it's accurate to call these movies love stories. Attraction stories, sure. But if you've ever forgiven someone who's hurt you, nursed a dying parent, gotten up for an infant's night feeding or let your kid have the last piece of cake, you know that real love is a verb. It's something you do. And it is almost always a choice.

Love one another. How often do we hear this? How often do we think about what it really means? How often do we take a moment to consider the action Jesus is asking us to take and the choice he is asking us to make?

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A "SAINT" AND A "BLESSED"?

The process of proclaiming someone as a saint in the Catholic Church has evolved over the course of many centuries. In the beginning, those honored as saints were almost exclusively biblical figures or martyrs. However, after the legalization of Christianity in the fourth century, new holy women and men came to be honored as saints, and this was often done by popular acclaim or by the local bishop or abbot.

It was Pope Gregory IX (who was pope from 1227 to 1241) who officially proclaimed that only the pope had the authority to add someone to the official list (the "canon") of saints. This is the meaning of the word "canonization."

Today, the saint-making process includes several steps, including detailed studies of the person's life and a recognition that they died as a martyr or lived a life of "heroic virtue." Once someone is recognized as a martyr or if a miracle is attributed to their intercession, they will be beatified and honored as "Blessed." This means that they can be celebrated

by Catholics in a particular country or region or by the members of certain religious community. If another miracle occurs and is approved, then the "Blessed" is canonized and honored with the title "Saint," meaning that they are now officially recognized as a universal model of holiness and an intercessor.



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?

Contest rules coming soon!

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)

LIVE THE LITURGY

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

God is love. These three simple words deserve a great deal of attention. They have the power to transform our relationship with God from something that is static and distant to one that is personal and real. We all know the power of love and how important it is to completing all of the human and divine circuits of our lives. But we do not often consider the awesome fact that it is given to us as a gift and is not simply part and parcel of the human package. God is the author of love and love itself. When we truly love another human being, it is really God being God in and through us. The love to which we are called and the love of which the Gospel speaks is a selfless love that seeks the wellbeing of not only our significant others but of all of our brothers and sisters. This love, which is of God, is a love that will endure all things and bring immeasurable joy when experienced. It is the most sincere form of friendship.

SHOUT
WITH JOY
TO THE LORD,
ALL THE EARTH;
BREAK INTO
SONG;
SING PRAISE.

PSALM 98:4

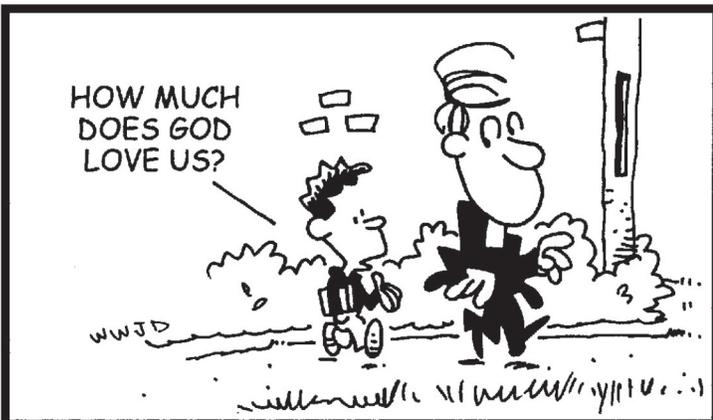
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PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

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



6th SUNDAY OF EASTER



WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY

May 16, 2021

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS

*"Come and See" (Jn 1:46). Communicating by
Encountering People Where and as They Are*

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The invitation to "come and see", which was part of those first moving encounters of Jesus with the disciples, is also the method for all authentic human communication. In order to tell the truth of life that becomes history (cf. [Message for the 54th World Communications Day](#), 24 January 2020), it is necessary to move beyond the complacent attitude that we "already know" certain things. Instead, we need to go and see them for ourselves, to spend time with people, to listen to their stories and to confront reality, which always in some way surprises us. "Open your eyes with wonder to what you see, let your hands touch the freshness and vitality of things, so that when others read what you write, they too can touch first-hand the vibrant miracle of life". This was the advice that Blessed Manuel Lozano Garrido^[1] offered to his fellow journalists. This year, then, I would like to devote this Message to the invitation to "come and see", which can serve as an inspiration for all communication that strives to be clear and honest, in the press, on the internet, in the Church's daily preaching and in political or social communication. "Come and see!" This has always been the way that the Christian faith has been communicated, from the time of those first

encounters on the banks of the River Jordan and on the Sea of Galilee.

"Hitting the streets"

Let us look first at the great issue of news reporting. Insightful voices have long expressed concern about the risk that original investigative reporting in newspapers and television, radio and web newscasts is being replaced by a reportage that adheres to a standard, often tendentious narrative. This approach is less and less capable of grasping the truth of things and the concrete lives of people, much less the more serious social phenomena or positive movements at the grass roots level. The crisis of the publishing industry risks leading to a reportage created in newsrooms, in front of personal or company computers and on social networks, without ever "hitting the streets", meeting people face to face to research stories or to verify certain situations first hand. Unless we open ourselves to this kind of encounter, we remain mere spectators, for all the technical innovations that enable us to feel immersed in a larger and more immediate reality. Any instrument proves useful and valuable only to the extent that it motivates us to go out and see things that otherwise we would not know about, to post on the internet news that would not be available elsewhere, to allow for encounters that otherwise would never happen.

The Gospels as news stories

"Come and see" were the first words that Jesus spoke to the disciples who were curious about him following his baptism in the Jordan river (Jn 1:39). He invited them to enter into a relationship with him. More than half a century later, when John, now an old man, wrote his Gospel, he recalled several "newsworthy" details that reveal that he was personally present at the events he reports and demonstrate the impact that the experience had on his life. "It was about the tenth hour", he noted, that is, about four in the afternoon (cf. v. 39). The next day – John also tells us – Philip told Nathaniel about his encounter with the Messiah. His friend is sceptical

and asks: "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip does not try to win him over with good reasons, but simply tells him: "Come and see" (cf. vv. 45-46). Nathaniel did go and see, and from that moment his life was changed. That is how Christian faith begins, and how it is communicated: as direct knowledge, born of experience, and not of hearsay. "It is no longer because of your words that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves". So the townspeople told the Samaritan woman, after Jesus stayed in their village (cf. *Jn* 4:39-42). "Come and see" is the simplest method to get to know a situation. It is the most honest test of every message, because, in order to know, we need to encounter, to let the person in front of me speak, to let his or her testimony reach me.

Thanks to the courage of many journalists

Journalism too, as an account of reality, calls for an ability to go where no one else thinks of going: a readiness to set out and a desire to see. Curiosity, openness, passion. We owe a word of gratitude for the courage and commitment of all those professionals – journalists, camera operators, editors, directors – who often risk their lives in carrying out their work. Thanks to their efforts, we now know, for example, about the hardships endured by persecuted minorities in various parts of the world, numerous cases of oppression and injustice inflicted on the poor and on the environment, and many wars that otherwise would be overlooked. It would be a loss not only for news reporting, but for society and for democracy as a whole, were those voices to fade away. Our entire human family would be impoverished.

Many situations in our world, even more so in this time of pandemic, are inviting the communications media to "come and see". We can risk reporting the pandemic, and indeed every crisis, only through the lens of the richer nations, of "keeping two sets of books". For example, there is the question of vaccines, and medical care in general, which risks excluding the

poorer peoples. Who would keep us informed about the long wait for treatment in the poverty-stricken villages of Asia, Latin America and Africa? Social and economic differences on the global level risk dictating the order of distribution of anti-Covid vaccines, with the poor always at the end of the line and the right to universal health care affirmed in principle, but stripped of real effect. Yet even in the world of the more fortunate, the social tragedy of families rapidly slipping into poverty remains largely hidden; people who are no longer ashamed to wait in line before charitable organizations in order to receive a package of provisions do not tend to make news.

Opportunities and hidden dangers on the web

The internet, with its countless social media expressions, can increase the capacity for reporting and sharing, with many more eyes on the world and a constant flood of images and testimonies. Digital technology gives us the possibility of timely first-hand information that is often quite useful. We can think of certain emergency situations where the internet was the first to report the news and communicate official notices. It is a powerful tool, which demands that all of us be responsible as users and consumers. Potentially we can all become witnesses to events that otherwise would be overlooked by the traditional media, offer a contribution to society and highlight more stories, including positive ones. Thanks to the internet we have the opportunity to report what we see, what is taking place before our eyes, and to share it with others.

At the same time, the risk of misinformation being spread on social media has become evident to everyone. We have known for some time that news and even images can be easily manipulated, for any number of reasons, at times simply for sheer narcissism. Being critical in this regard is not about demonizing the internet, but is rather an incentive to greater discernment and responsibility for contents both sent and received. All of us are responsible for the communications we make, for the information we share, for the

control that we can exert over fake news by exposing it. All of us are to be witnesses of the truth: to go, to see and to share.

Nothing replaces seeing things at first hand

In communications, nothing can ever completely replace seeing things in person. Some things can only be learned through first-hand experience. We do not communicate merely with words, but with our eyes, the tone of our voice and our gestures. Jesus' attractiveness to those who met him depended on the truth of his preaching; yet the effectiveness of what he said was inseparable from how he looked at others, from how he acted towards them, and even from his silence. The disciples not only listened to his words; they watched him speak. Indeed in him – the incarnate *Logos* – the Word took on a face; the invisible God let himself be seen, heard and touched, as John himself tells us (cf. *1 Jn* 1:1-3). The word is effective only if it is "seen", only if it engages us in experience, in dialogue. For this reason, the invitation to "come and see" was, and continues to be, essential.

We think of how much empty rhetoric abounds, even in our time, in all areas of public life, in business as well as politics. This or that one "speaks an infinite deal of nothing... His reasons are as two grains of wheat hid in two bushels of chaff: you shall seek all day ere you find them, and when you have them, they are not worth the search."^[2] The blistering words of the English playwright also apply to us as Christian communicators. The Good News of the Gospel spread throughout the world as a result of person-to-person, heart-to-heart encounters with men and women who accepted the invitation to "come and see", and were struck by the "surplus" of humanity that shone through the gaze, the speech and the gestures of those who bore witness to Jesus Christ. Every tool has its value, and that great communicator who was Paul of Tarsus would certainly have made use of email and social messaging. Yet it was his faith, hope and charity that impressed those of his

contemporaries who heard him preach or had the good fortune to spend time with him, to see him during an assembly or in individual conversation. Watching him in action wherever he was, they saw for themselves how true and fruitful for their lives was the message of salvation that, by God's grace, he had come to preach. Even where this servant of God could not be encountered personally, the disciples whom he sent bore witness to his way of life in Christ (cf. *1 Cor* 4:17).

"We have books in our hands, but the facts before our eyes", said Saint Augustine^[3] in speaking of fulfilment of the prophecies found in sacred Scripture. So too, the Gospel comes alive in our own day, whenever we accept the compelling witness of people whose lives have been changed by their encounter with Jesus. For two millennia, a chain of such encounters has communicated the attractiveness of the Christian adventure. The challenge that awaits us, then, is to communicate by encountering people, where they are and as they are.

*Lord, teach us to move beyond ourselves,
and to set out in search of truth.*

*Teach us to go out and see,
teach us to listen,
not to entertain prejudices
or draw hasty conclusions.*

*Teach us to go where no one else will go,
to take the time needed to understand,
to pay attention to the essentials,
not to be distracted by the superfluous,
to distinguish deceptive appearances from the
truth.*

*Grant us the grace to recognize your dwelling
places in our world
and the honesty needed to tell others what we
have seen.*

Franciscus

^[1] Spanish journalist (1920-1971), beatified in 2010.

^[2] WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE, *The Merchant of Venice*, Act 1, Scene 1.

^[3] *Sermo* 360/B, 20.

GOSPEL MEDITATION

ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

“Remain in my love,” and, “I call you friends,” are powerful words that are found in John’s Gospel. Most of us probably have them committed to memory or have at least heard them proclaimed dozens of times. They are words that can easily become trite and quickly glossed over without fully pondering and digesting their profound beauty. When we take the time to immerse ourselves in them, they can radically change our lives and our relationships. They can open up new doors of adventure and hold countless possibilities for meaning. The essence of love and friendship are things that can easily be taken for granted. They have always been there and are a significant part of our lives. Many would say that they could not live without love and friendship, and they put a great deal of care into preserving, deepening and sustaining them. Love and friendship share a mutual relationship with each other that deserves more reflection.

Where does love come from? We can consider relationships that have not succeeded and conclude that they were somehow due to our “failures in love.” In doing so, we assume that human beings are the ones responsible for love, its success and also its failure. While our weakness, emotional composition and sinfulness can easily impact our ability to love, its origin is not human. God is love. God is love’s author and



origin. When we love, it is God who loves in and through us. It is because of this divine closeness that Jesus is able to call us friends! It is not because of anything we have done but simply because of who we are. Realizing and contemplating this awesome reality becomes a game changer across the board. It gives us reason to clear the table of anything that can adversely affect the way we love so that we can open the door for its author to shine forth.

Coming upon this truth is what leads folks like St. Francis of Assisi to leave that which is comfortable and worldly and live a radical life. They relate with the love of God that radiates in and through all living things and appreciate their sacredness. It was having an intimate experience of God’s love and friendship that propelled St.

Francis and others to embrace simplicity, act nonviolently, pursue humility, love enemies, care for the earth and open up avenues for true justice. Understanding this profound truth will also help us find peaceful solutions to world’s problems, restore relationships with our sisters and brothers, bring the grace of loving stewardship to creation and heal many wounds. Once we begin to see how wonderfully holy all of life really is, we discover joy. We lose our need for fear, develop a fierce fortitude, act prudently and seek justice. There is great power in love because it comes from God. It will never fail. It also enjoys the company of two other friends who are eager to become our friends as well: faith and hope. These are just as important to have and to share.

“If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and your joy might be complete.”

- Jn 15:10-11

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

*“Go to Joseph!
Have recourse with special
confidence to St. Joseph, for
his protection is most
powerful, as he is the patron
of the universal Church.”*
Bl. Pope Pius IX

DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

May 2021

Join the Reel Justice Film Festival,

May 27th, 2021, 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM for the screening of *The End of Immigration*. This powerful documentary examines the realities of temporary foreign workers in Canada and reveals an inequity that is having a profound impact on the society in which we live. **Following the film, Sarah Guinta, Coordinator for the Office of Justice and Peace, and Rev. Peter Ciallella, Pastor of Blessed Sacrament Parish, Burford, will offer a conversation regarding ministry to temporary foreign workers in the Diocese of Hamilton.**

RSVP online:

<https://reeljusticefilmfestival.wordpress.com/contact-us/>

or by email:

library@hamiltondiocese.com.

Join the discussion! The *Reel Justice Film Festival* is a partnership between the Bishop Farrell Library & Archives and Development and Peace.

PARENTING TIP OF THE MONTH

COVID-19 continues to dominate and control much of our lives. All of this affects children, but since they take their cues from adults in their lives, we can help them to feel resilient. Remind them of how happy you are, despite all that is happening that you are together as a family. Remind them of the beauty of nature that is all around for them to see and enjoy, that technology lets them connect with other family and friends and that through all of this we can continue to pray and ask for God's blessings. When they hear anger and frustration, they feel worry and concern; when they hear optimism and calm, they too feel those emotions as well. Let us remind our children how much we love them; help keep them strong during the pandemic. From: Family Ministry Office.

MARRIAGE TIP OF THE MONTH

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.

Struggling After an Abortion?

Either your own, or someone else's? Do you feel alone, emotional, or angry? Project Rachel is available to help. This confidential service allows people to work through their feelings on an individual basis, with a trained counsellor, to find hope and healing. **Please contact us at 905-526-1999 or toll free at 1-888-385-3850.**

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.



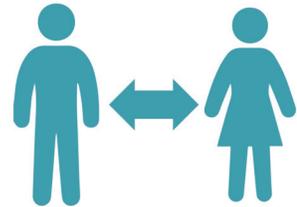
WASH YOUR HANDS

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.



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View the Full Gallery from the Episcopal Ordination of Bishop Wayne Lobsinger



Kids Corner

READ THE
GOSPEL &
COLOR



I would be really happy, if only I was ? rich ? popular ? better looking ? the boss. Those selfish wishes sound great, but they cannot give you true happiness inside. In today's Gospel, Jesus shares the three secrets to his complete happiness: (1) Jesus obeyed God; (2) Jesus knew God loved him; (3) Jesus loved other people enough to die for them. Wow. Jesus was completely happy, but he was not selfish at all. In fact, Jesus told his friends if they followed his loving example, they could be completely happy too. Follow Jesus to be filled with happiness from the inside out.

PRAYER

God, on my own I am selfish. Thank you for loving me. Help me to obey you. Help me to love other people as much as Jesus does.

MISSION FOR THE WEEK

Read John 15:9-17 with your family. God loves you, and he wants you to be completely happy, but you need to let go of your selfishness. You can obey God and love others by sharing your time with them. You can show your love for God by sharing your money with others, too.

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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**.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR MAY 10 TO MAY 16, 2021

DATE	MASS INTENTION	REQUESTED BY
Monday, May 10:	In Thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary Bettina Cipriani	Ewa Nimcz Gino Sbraccia & Family
Tuesday, May 11:	Souls in Purgatory In Gratitude to the Sacred Heart of Jesus	Stan & Ruth Szewc Angela Villella
Wednesday, May 12:	MULTI-INTENTIONAL Giuseppe Giacoboni Manuel Raposo Fred Mastroianni Marta Osiecka Special Intentions Special Intentions Special Intentions Intentions of Wieslawa and Adam Cybulscy Intentions of Dorota Kulik	Bruna Giacoboni Maria Tavares The Mastroianni Family Maria Kapron Grazyna Chomicka Halina Kwasniewska Maria Kapron Adam Cybulski Grazyna
Thursday, May 13:	Francesco Sepe Souls in Purgatory	Mima Sepe Halina and Grazyna
Friday, May 14:	For the Souls of the Lapointe Family in Purgatory Caterina Odorico	Marc Carmel Ida Bedioui
Saturday, May 15:	In Thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary	Ewa Nimcz
Sunday, May 16:	MULTI-INTENTIONAL Fred Mastroianni Maria Kovalski Fabio & Donna Pettorossi Giuseppina Fuca Martin Thien Phu Nguyen Paul Lawson Blaz Culig Ezio & Nella Carniti Bettina Cipriani Nicola Gabriele & Maria Gabriele Nicola & Filomena Ciccone Stefano Fortunato Zofia Pasadyn For the People of the Parish – Missa Pro Populo	The Mastroianni Family Marek Kulak Pettorossi & Laskowski Families Frank Fuca Kim Le-Butler Joy Salise Olga Culig Roger & Gloria Huot Anonymous Joe & Clida DiGiovanni Paolo & Delia Ciccone Margherita Fortunato Janina Pasadyn