

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SCRIPTURE MESSAGE: Today's Scripture passages declare the profound truth that those who believe in Christ are to obey his commandment of love – "Love others as I have loved you." In the first reading, Peter teaches us that God shows no partiality in His love and that there are no boundaries to abiding in love. God loves everyone, both the Jews and the Gentiles, and He wants everyone to be saved through His son, Jesus. That is why God welcomed the Roman centurion Cornelius as the first non-Jew to become a Christian. The reading tells us how God also allowed the Gentiles who heard Peter's speech to receive the same Holy Spirit and His gifts that Peter's Jewish audience had received on the day of Pentecost. Today's Responsorial Psalm also directs our attention toward God's marvelous love and kindness in offering salvation to the whole world. In the second reading, John defines God as love and explains that He expressed His love for mankind by sending His son to die for us humans "*as expiation for our sins.*" This Divine love gives us the command as well as duty to love one another as we have been loved by God. Since God has loved us first, we can and should love God in return, love ourselves and love one another. After telling the parable of the vine and branches, Jesus, in today's Gospel, explains precisely how the disciples are to obey his commandment of love, just as he has obeyed his Heavenly Father's will by fulfilling His commandments and remaining inseparably bonded with his Father. Jesus' unconditional, forgiving, selfless, sacrificial love for us must be the criterion of our love for others. The highest expression of this love is our willingness to lay down our lives as Jesus did, for people who don't deserve it. The goal and result of our abiding in love, in God, will be perfect joy. Jesus calls us friends. He tells us that he has chosen us, and that, if we use his name, we can ask the Father for anything. Life messages: 1) We need to cultivate an abiding and loving friendship with Jesus and to express it in our relationships with others by loving them and showing them trust, faithfulness, equality, forgiveness, joy and sacrifice. 2) We need to be persons for others: Jesus demonstrated the love of God, his Father, for us by living for us and dying for us. Hence, as his disciples, we are to be persons for others, sacrificing our time, talents and lives for others. This is what parents spontaneously do, sacrificing themselves, their time, talents, health and wealth for their children, or in other words, by spending themselves for their children. The most effective way of communicating God's love to others is by treating everyone as a friend, giving him or her the respect he or she deserves. Let us remember that Christ's own love was not limited to the people he liked and, hence, that we should close our minds to thoughts of revenge.

PAPAL PRAYERS FOR MAY: Let us pray that the lay faithful may fulfill their specific mission, by responding with creativity to the challenges that face the world today.

MASS SCHEDULE MAY 5 - 13, 2018		
Saturday, May 5	5:15 p.m.	Our Parishioners
Sunday, May 6	8:30 a.m.	George Churney
	10:00 a.m.	Lise Steenburgh
Tuesday, May 8	6:30 p.m.	Deceased members of the Keith family
Wednesday, May 9	9:00 a.m.	Unannounced Mass
Thursday, May 10	9:00 a.m.	Intentions of Jackie and Rob Diebald
Friday, May 11	11:00 a.m.	Sherwood Park Manor Deceased members of the Pittman family
Saturday, May 12	5:15 p.m.	Nancy Marshall
Sunday, May 13	8:30 a.m.	Donald Ford
	10:00 a.m.	Fern and Clem Gladu
	2:00 p.m.	Our Parishioners
The Sanctuary Candle burns this week for: <i>Unity of Hearts</i>		

Weekly Target: \$3500.00	Actual Offering – April 29: \$ 4816.00	Operating Surplus: \$ 1316.00
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PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL: Please pray for: Reggie Bernardo, Armand L'Anglais, Fr. Martin, Hilda Armstrong, Gerard Parker, Valerie Cooper, Mary Lambert, Denis & Norma Savage, Dorothy Meaney, Stella Alberty, Heidi Reid, Gerald & Irene Moriarty, Bibin John, Leone McIntyre, Justin Lefave, Ann Ruigrok, Maurice Belec, Margaret Smith, Grant Marshall, Margrite Dezainde, John Beriau, Debbie Freer, Shelley McCaffrey, Stella Popek and Brian Brougham.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: Prayerful best wishes to all who are celebrating wedding anniversaries in May:

Kevin and Karen Frech	32 years	May 10
Gerry and Cathey McNamee	52 years	May 14
Ronald and Jill McCracken	52 years	May 21
Derrick and Ann Gilliard	43 years	May 24
John and Karen McGeough	32 years	May 24
Roland and Colette Thornycroft	17 years	May 26
Vincenzo and Nancy Del Riccio	53 years	May 29
John and Dorothy Lapierre	20 years	May 29

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We need some volunteers to help set up the tables and chairs on **Thursday, May 10 at 6:00 p.m.** for Friday night's dinner. Help is also being needed on **Saturday, May 12 at 9:30 a.m.** to clean up the church.

"No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." John 15.9-17

MAY 6, 2018

MINISTRY SCHEDULES				
MASS TIMES	HOSPITALITY	LECTORS	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	ALTAR SERVERS
Saturday, May 12 5:15 p.m.	Josie Bracamonte Theresa Houston	Michael McMahon Sylvia Shackles	Melinda Condon Carol Ravnaas	Allie White Grace Kelly Samantha Glashan
Sunday, May 13 8:30 a.m.	Donna Brewer Heather Charbonneau	Marc and Phyllis Dennis	Judith Hart Margaret Bougie	Grace Whiteland Evan Duffy
Sunday, May 13 10:00 a.m.	Mary Gilliard Carmen Hampel	Doug and Mary Roughton	Deacon Shawn Souder Maureen Laurin	Christopher Logstrup Joshua O'Keefe

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Sunday, May 6	After 10 a.m. Mass	Coffee Social for Father Jacob's Silver Jubilee
Tuesday, May 8	1:30 p.m.	Bible Reflection Group
	7:00 p.m.	Knights of Columbus
	7:00 p.m.	Parish Finance Committee
Wednesday, May 9	9:30 -11 a.m.	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
	7:00 p.m.	Brockville Catholic Men's Group
Thursday, May 10	9:30 – 11:00 a.m.	Prayer Group in the Chapel
	10:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Confirmation Candidates Retreat
Friday, May 11	10:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.	First Communion Candidates Retreat

CWL PLANT SALE: We need the help of all gardeners to make this fundraiser a success. Please consider potting up plants that you are dividing and donating them to the sale. Drop off is **Friday, May 25 or very early Saturday morning May 26 at St. John Bosco Parish. The Plant Sale is Saturday, May 26 from 7:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon.**

GARAGE SALE, PLANT SALE AND BAKE SALE: The Knights of Columbus and the CWL will be having a joint Garage Sale/Plant Sale/Bake Sale on **Saturday, May 26 at St. John Bosco Parish Centre from 7:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon.** If you have any gently used items you would like to donate, please drop them off on **Friday, May 26 between 12:00 noon and 5:00 p.m. PLEASE NO CLOTHING, SKIS OR ENTERTAINMENT CENTRES – ONLY GOOD CLEAN SALEABLE ITEMS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

MARCH FOR LIFE: The Prescott Knights of Columbus are once again sponsoring the annual journey to Ottawa on **Thursday, May 10.** A bus will leave from St. John Bosco Church at 7:45 a.m., St. Mark's Church leaves at 8:00 a.m. and the Canadian Tire in Kemptonville at 8:30 a.m. The cost is \$8.00 for adults and no charge for those 16 and under. Call Larry Sauve at 613-925-5658 or John McAuley at 613-925-5718 to reserve a seat.

CONFIRMATION PRAYER PARTNERS: In February, seventeen candidates were enrolled for Sacrament of Confirmation. We are inviting parishioners to become a "Prayer Partner" with one of them. Sign up is easy – just add your name to the list, pick up your information letter at the back of the church and offer your prayers for the candidate. The cards will be presented to them on the day of their Confirmation retreat on **May 10, 2018.** Cards must be returned to the office or in the collection by **May 7.**

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FLOWER PLANTING: The Knights of Columbus will again be planting and maintaining flowers at St. Francis Xavier Cemetery at a cost of \$40.00 per gravesite. Contact Stewart Glashan 613-342-3855 by **May 20 to arrange.** Cheques should be payable to the Knights of Columbus Council 1049.

BROCKVILLE ARTS CENTRE: The Brockville Arts Centre is excited to announce that they have booked the film **I Can Only Imagine**, which was released in March 2018. The film is based on the popular Christian worship song by the same name, recorded by the band *Casting Crowns*. There will be four showings: **Wednesday, May 23 at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. and Thursday, May 24 at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.** Tickets are \$10.00 each and can be purchased in person at the Box Office.

JOKE OF THE WEEK: *The Two Ushers:* Six-year-old Angie and her four-year-old brother Joel were sitting together in church. Joel giggled, sang, and talked out loud. Finally, his big sister had had enough. "You're not supposed to talk out loud in church." "Why? Who's going to stop me?" Joel asked. Angie pointed to the back of the church and said, "See those two men standing by the door? They're hushers."

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