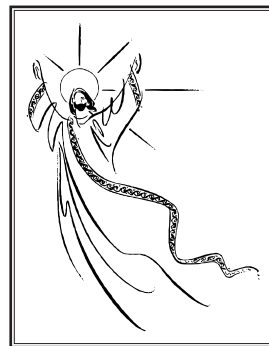


From the moment of his resurrection triumph, the Saviour was living in the bosom of the Father. The faith of the Church had its beginnings in meetings with the Risen Lord – in which he ‘showed himself alive’ and ‘told them about the kingdom of God’ – preparing them for the great mission that would be theirs. Today’s celebration reminds us that these meetings finally came to an end – after ‘forty days’, as Luke puts it in our reading from Acts. Luke is preparing us for what will occur after ‘not many days’: at the Pentecostal celebration, fifty days after the Passover.

Jesus is not abandoning his friends. On the contrary, he tells them to look forward to ‘what the Father has promised’. When they are ‘baptised with the Holy Spirit’ – the Spirit who is the very expression of the life he shares with the Father – he will be with them in all that they are called to be and do. The Lord’s new presence will fill with new life the Church which is about to be launched forth on its mission - to bring the power and blessings of the Lord’s Paschal Mystery ‘to the ends of the earth’ (Luke), ‘to all creation’ (Mark).

According to the Gospel of Luke the angels tell the disciples not to seek the Lord ‘in the sky’, but to take up the mission they have received, to be his ‘witnesses’ throughout their world. The era of the pilgrim Church that is about to begin – the angels tell them - will end when Jesus returns, and the Church’s life in faith and sacraments gives way to the absolute fulfilment of the final Kingdom.



‘I am with you always’ – the Paschal Mystery is the life of the pilgrim Church

Our readings describe the task of the Church as it journeys through history towards the final Kingdom, bringing the ‘Good News to all creation’. Its life together - in the power of the Resurrection - should be a living sign, confirming the message it brings. ‘Charity, selflessness, gentleness and patience’ should be an expression of the ‘unity of the Spirit’ – the unity which only God can give, the unity of the ‘one Body’ of Christ, the unity of those who know that they are called together by the ‘one God who is Father of all’.

United, through their ‘baptism’, in the blessings of the Paschal Mystery, Church members should share the many gifts they receive from ‘the one who rose higher than all the heavens to fill all things’. Doing so they will show their world the pattern of authentic human fulfilment, in ‘the fullness of Christ’

On Ascension Day we celebrate our Christian hope - where Jesus, our brother and our Lord has gone we shall follow. The pilgrim Church must bring to our struggling world the Good News that, through his Paschal Mystery, the Saviour calls the whole of the human family to live forever with him in the bosom of the Father.

John Thornhill sm  
www.themaussseries.com

**Before the Ascension, Jesus tells His Apostles not to leave Jerusalem - to wait - to pray for the Holy Spirit to show them God’s will for their future. Where is the Holy Spirit leading you?**

If you feel that you are being led to a Church vocation, call Fr. Chris Lemieux.  
416-968-0997 vocations@vocations.ca www.vocationstoronto.ca

The Archdiocese continues to accept financial contributions for humanitarian relief for victims of the recent earthquakes in Nepal. **Thank you to those who have helped.** Those wishing to contribute may do so as follows: ① At www.archtoronto.org ② By phone at 416-934-3411 ③ At the parish office or via the offertory collection, making cheques payable to “OLS – Nepal Earthquake – Humanitarian Relief”. **Please pray earnestly for those affected by this natural disaster.**

**WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY** Today, Catholics are invited to reflect upon the media of social communications (film, radio, television, print and Internet media) and how these influence our lives. The media can promote values that lead to a more fully human society. The Church’s ministry is twofold. The media can be used to help promote the Gospel. At the same time, as receivers of the materials presented by the media, the faithful have a duty to support and promote worthwhile presentations on media and reject those which promote values contrary to spiritual growth.

PARISH

Readings ~ Acts 1.1-11 ~ Ephesians 1.17-23 ~ Mark 16.15-20

**Mass Intentions This Week – May 18 to 24**

Please join us as we pray for the following announced intentions...

	Intention(s):	Offered by:
Monday, 9am	✠ Jean Kramar	Her nephew & sister
Tuesday, 9am	✠ Joe McBride	Wendy & Tom Brennan
Wednesday, 9am	✠ Maureen Keane	Philip Keane & family
Thursday, 9am	✠ Lovey Moran	The family
Friday, 9am	✠ Lily & Eugene Kinahan	Dan Kinahan
Saturday, 9am	✠ Albina Macri	The family
5:15pm	✠ Bob & Neal McCarthy	The family
Sunday, 8am	✠ Rona & Irene Newton-John	Michael Foran
9:30am	✠ For the needs of our parish and faithful parishioners ✠	
11am	✠ Horace McCubbin	Adele McCubbin
12:30pm	✠ Isilda Gonsalves	The family

**OLS Religious Education Program 2015/16 Registration now open!**

Registrations are now being accepted from **registered parishioners** for their children (grades 1 thru 8) who attend non-Catholic schools. Forms are available from the parish office. **Note:** the program is run largely by qualified volunteers and parental assistance is vital!

**La Maîtrise des Hauts de France – in concert @OLS – July 12, 4pm**



Petits Chanteurs de Lambersart

This celebrated boy’s choir is from the municipality of Lambersart, a suburb of the northern French city of Lille. A group of about thirty singers, these children & young adults perform on a regular basis, thrilling audiences throughout Europe and North America. We are honoured to host the group for a performance as part of our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations. As their hosts, we have been asked to provide places for the children and their six adult chaperones to stay on the evenings of July 11 & 12. **Are you able to help by taking in one or two boys or an adult on these two days?** If so, please contact the parish office this week. The best-case-scenario for billeting the boys would be a family with younger children with whom they may interact and share some time. They do speak some English but are naturally more comfortable speaking French. Wouldn’t this be a perfect opportunity for kids in French immersion to get in some practice? For more info about the choir, visit their website at www.goo.gl/hulfqx or contact our Music Director, Gordon Mansell at gdmansell@sympatico.ca

**Annual Outdoor Mass & Picnic – Mark your calendars! – Saturday, June 20**

This family-friendly parish event is scheduled to take place at Our Lady of Sorrows School, 32 Montgomery Road. Mass begins at 4pm with a picnic to follow from 5–9pm. Rain or shine!

**Rosary Group – Stay and Pray Daily, After 9am Mass + Fridays, 2pm**

Five decades daily, fifteen decades on Fridays followed by the Chaplet of Divine Mercy.

**Stretch & Flex cancelled May 19 + 26 – Stretchers... see you in a few weeks!**

**Victoria Scholars – Simple Gifts – Sunday, May 31, 7:30pm @OLS**

Join the Scholars as they present the finale of their 22<sup>nd</sup> season. Enjoy the music of Casals, Copland, Debussy, Kodaly and Lauridsen. An evening full of surprises. Tickets available at the door. Doors open at 7pm. Regular tickets: \$30, student/senior: \$25. www.victoriascholars.ca

“Each truth we find (in life) leads us a step closer to God.” – Donald L. Hicks

COMMUNITY

**Working wonders for our new arrivals in Canada...**

Within one year of arriving in Canada, large numbers of immigrants who had no prior mental health problems experience mental health challenges that often impede their ability to settle in Canada. In addition, there are few culturally and linguistically appropriate mental health services. Last year, ShareLife agencies helped to meet this challenge by providing advocacy programs for more than 40,000 immigrants and refugees in the GTA.



**ShareLife’s campaign continues . Please give generously. You can work wonders!**

**Mary, Mother of God School – now registering for September 2015/16**



Have you heard of Mary, Mother of God School? We are an affordable private school (Grades JK-12), deeply rooted in the Catholic tradition & located in the Roncesvalles/Parkdale area. We have an excellent academic program, a dynamic & joyful student life, & small classes where each student is known & loved. For more info, please visit www.marymotherofgodschool.org or call us at 416-531-7897.

**Federal Forum on Social Justice – Wednesday, May 20, 7–9:30pm**

Make your voice heard and exercise your responsibility as a Canadian citizen prior to the upcoming federal election. If you care about social justice issues, such as the reduction of child poverty, unemployment and refugees or have other concerns, plan to join Etobicoke Lakeshore residents and members of area churches for an opportunity to obtain answers to your questions. This event takes place at Royal York Road United Church, 851 Royal York Rd. (south of Bloor St.) and is sponsored by EcuLinks Etobicoke, an ecumenical, faith-based committee of which OLS is a member. For info, contact Ruth at 416-233-4216 or rschembri@rogers.com

**Project Rachel Retreat – Let God show you His love – May 22–24**



“The Lord is my shepherd. There is nothing I shall want.” –Psalm 23  
Do you need to rest from your burden? We can help. This weekend retreat is for women whose hearts have been broken by abortion. Private, confidential and non-judgemental. Call 416-629-8264 or email projectrachel@stmarysrefuge.org

**Thinking Ahead Information About Catholic Funerals – Saturday, May 30, noon**

Fr. John Bertão, Pastor of St. Gregory’s Church (122 Rathburn Rd.) invites you to join him and representatives from two local family-owned funeral homes for a presentation about advanced planning and to address the topic of a Catholic funeral. Your questions will be answered and you will leave with a better understanding of how you can plan for tomorrow. To help us prepare for light refreshments & snacks, please RSVP via phone or email to either Turner & Porter Funeral Directors, 416-767-6793 or comments@turnerporter.ca or Newediuk Funeral Home, 416-745-7555 or infonewediuk@newediukfuneralhome.com

**Weekend Retreat for Men & Women – May 29, 8:30pm–May 31, 1pm**

“No one can be a real success without God.” You are cordially invited to spend a weekend with God “not in the wind, earthquake, or fire, but in the sound of silence” at Manresa, The Jesuit Spiritual Renewal Centre in Pickering. For more info, please visit www.manresa-canada.ca and to reserve, contact Tony Salvosa at 416-494-0560 or aasalv@yahoo.ca

**Seeing with Heart Catholic Parents of Lesbian Daughters and Gay Sons**

The thirteenth Canadian day of reflection takes place on June 6 from 9am–5pm at Scarboro Missions, 2685 Kingston Rd. In a relaxed and supportive atmosphere, this day will involve storytelling, presentations, discussions, communal prayer, quiet time, worship and socializing. For a brochure and information call John Montague at 416-523-6449.