

The reading from Acts sets the tone for today's celebration. Luke tells how the Church's universal mission was inaugurated, in the power of the Holy Spirit, as faithful Jews gathered for their Pentecost festival, fifty days after the Passover celebration.

Luke was conscious of his task of telling the world what had really happened – as he makes clear in introducing each of his two works. He faced a great challenge, however, as he set out to describe and interpret the vast complexity of the Church's early development. He met this difficulty by choosing several events that were turning points in the Church's history, and presenting them in a dramatic way that made clear their profound significance – a device used by other writers of the day.

Luke's story of the Church's first Pentecost is an example of this approach. The Church's first courageous witness, and its subsequent announcing of the Good News throughout the known world, was a remarkable fulfilment of the Saviour's promise that he would give his disciples courage and power through the gift of his own Spirit (Mk 13.9-11). The universality of the Church's mission is made clear. The Church's first witness is to 'devout people from every nation' - in the first place to 'Jews', but with the mention of 'proselytes' among the crowd addressed the conversion of the gentiles is also anticipated. In the continuation of our passage, Peter's sermon gives a summary of the Church's early witness.



New life in the Spirit of Christ

It is in the power of the Spirit that the Church takes up its mission. Today, before all days, the Church invites us to deepen our faith in the Saviour's gift of his own Spirit. Already in the Old Testament, 'the Spirit of God' was active as a life-giving force at work in creation. Anointed by the Spirit as God's 'Servant', in fulfilment of the prophecies of the Book of Isaiah, Jesus has led us to know the Spirit as a Person sharing the one divine life with the Father and the Son. Today's gospel reading is a meditation upon this shared life, and the way in which those who find faith in Christ are made to share in it. Those who have received the gift of the Spirit can tell the world the 'complete truth' about the Saviour of the world, and can announce 'the things to come', because the mystery of God's final plan for the world has been revealed in the events which took place in Jerusalem at the time of the Passover.

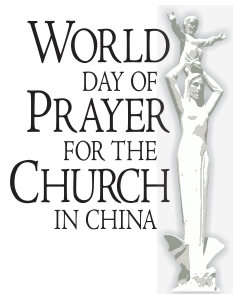
The Spirit is the Spirit of Christ; the Spirit is the very life principle of the Church; the Spirit dwells in each believer as our 'paraclete' – the companion who stands by us in all our trials, providing whatever is needed to survive every trial. We live 'in Christ' because he has given us his own Spirit. Paul's letter to the Galatians contrasts the ugly manifestations of a selfish abuse of our freedom with the 'fruits of the Spirit' which are to be seen in the lives of those who chose to 'belong to Christ Jesus': 'love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, truthfulness, gentleness and self-control'. In these things, the Spirit gives us an intimation of 'the things to come', the fullness of God's Kingdom.

John Thornhill sm
www.themmausseries.com

In today's Church God calls priests, religious and deacons to serve Him and to serve others especially by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

If you feel God may be calling you to this ministry, contact Fr. Chris Lemieux.
416-968-0997 vocations@vocations.ca www.vocationstoronto.ca

In his Apostolic Letter to the faithful of the Catholic Church in the People's Republic of China, Pope Benedict XVI wrote:



"...24 May could in the future become an occasion for the Catholics of the whole world to be united in prayer with the Church which is in China. This day is dedicated to the liturgical memorial of Our Lady, Help of Christians, who is venerated with great devotion at the Marian Shrine of Sheshan in Shanghai."

To read the entire letter, use your smartphone to scan the QR code or browse to www.goo.gl/PsGpYM



PARISH

Readings
Acts 2.1-11
1 Corinthians 12.3b-7, 12-13
John 20.19-23

Mass Intentions This Week – May 25 to 31

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

	Intention(s):	Offered by:
Monday, 9am	✠ Christina Valentini	The family
Tuesday, 9am	✠ Shirley & Dan Scanlan	The family
Wednesday, 9am	✠ Valerio Cosentino	The Shaw family
Thursday, 9am	✠ Dominic Valle	The family
Friday, 9am	✠ Lorraine Ambler	A.E. Burke
Saturday, 9am	✠ Delia Montoya Ortiz	Delia Urosecic
5:15pm	✠ Lena Luis	Diana Lumba
	✠ Elizabeth Montrichard	The family
Sunday, 8am	✠ For the needs of our parish and faithful parishioners ✠	
9:30am	✠ Gerald Brukner	The family
11am	✠ John Justyn	Kazia Justin
12:30pm	✠ Charles Lecours	Rena & Denis Guerard

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

Thank you to the families who have said "yes" to our call for billets for members of this world-renowned boys choir. We are still looking for a few more places for the boys and their 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 or contact our Music Director, Gordon Mansell at gdmansell@sympatico.ca

'Final Fridays' Fellowship – last Friday of each month, after 9am Mass

Everyone is invited to the parish hall for coffee, tea and breakfast rolls. Take advantage of this special opportunity to get to know your neighbour. **All are welcome... bring a friend!**

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.

"Whoever spreads the Rosary is saved." – **Blessed Bartolo Longo**

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

Join the Scholars as they present the finale of their 22nd 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

Coming Soon! It's almost time to 'Bundle Up' for St. Vincent de Paul!



Volunteers will assist with the collection & loading of securely tied or sealed bags or boxes of gently used items (think: textiles, shoes, clothing, bedding, draperies & small household goods) on the weekend of June 6/7. Larger items (i.e. furniture & appliances) & computer hardware **cannot** be accepted.

"To be Spirit-filled is to be Christ-centered." – John F. MacArthur Jr.

COMMUNITY

Working wonders for those who need help in our neighbourhood...

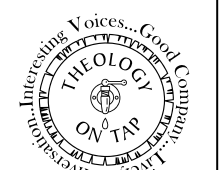
"What an ambassador for Mary Centre he was, and Gord was really tickled to be chosen for this role as co-speaker." said Dominic Conforti, retiring Director at Mary Centre. Gord, who is intellectually challenged, shared his story at the 2014 ShareLife Golf tournament about how he and his two brothers came to be part of Mary Centre. He spoke about Christina who helps them during the day involving them in activities in the community and teaching them to do things for themselves. Then there was James who is with them on the weekends and helped them grow a veggie garden every spring and summer and the pride they feel when they pick their vegetables. Last year, over 2,300 people with special needs received the compassion and care they needed to enjoy their life and be productive in their homes and communities.



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

Theology on Tap: Living Saints – May 25, 7pm

Faith Connections (Fontbonne Ministries, Sisters of St. Joseph) invites young adults (19-39) to join us for an evening of thought-provoking theological discussion in a comfortable and relaxed setting, with special guest: Deacon Pedro Guevara Mann, Producer, Salt + Light Media. Munchies provided, cash bar. Come and bring a friend! Duke of York, 39 Prince Arthur Ave. For info, contact John-Paul Markides at 416-467-2645 or visit www.faithconnections.ca



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 aaasalv@yahoo.ca

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

Join Fr. John Bertão, Pastor of St. Gregory's Church (122 Rathburn Rd.) and representatives from two local family-owned funeral homes for a presentation addressing the topic of a Catholic funeral. Light refreshments & snacks will follow a Q&A session. 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

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 Scarborough 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.

Hike & Prayer: Toronto Island May 31, 1:45pm

Faith Connections invites young adults (18-39) to join us for a hike and prayer at Toronto Island. We'll gather at the Toronto Ferry Docks to take the 2:15pm ferry to Hanlan's Point. Bring sturdy shoes, water and weather-appropriate gear (rain or shine). RSVPs appreciated. For info, contact John-Paul Markides at 416-467-2645 or visit www.faithconnections.ca

What's OK and What's Not OK with End-of-Life Care – June 1, 5:30pm

All are welcome to learn more about Catholic teaching on end-of-life care. The talk will be delivered by Dr. Bridget Campion, Bioethicist & Researcher with the Canadian Catholic Bioethics Institute. Q&A and discussion will precede a short reception. To register, contact Sonal Castelino at sonal.castelino@newmantoronto.com