

During these Sundays of Easter, the liturgy has led us to reflect upon how the disciples came to faith in the Risen Lord, and how they came to terms with the future it opened up for them. Clarifying the message of faith they must bring to the Church of all ages, must have involved looking back upon the frightful drama that led to the Saviour's resurrection, and coming to understand how a 'crucified Christ' could be proclaimed as 'both the power and the wisdom of God' (1 Cor 2). In today's gospel reading we hear how the community inspired by the beloved disciple remembered the words of Jesus at the Last Supper as pointing the way towards understanding.

The drama of the passion had begun – Judas had left to carry through his decision to betray his Master – and Jesus makes an astounding declaration: 'Now has the Son of Man been glorified'. Jesus declares himself to be the 'Son of Man' foretold in the Book of Daniel – the one who will establish God's 'everlasting rule' (Daniel 7). We are helped to understand what the declaration of Jesus means, if we consider the basic meaning of 'glory' in the Scriptures. We instinctively associate the word with fame and acclaim; but the original meaning of the term is associated with weight or heaviness. God's 'glory' is the incomparable density of God's being. Jesus is saying that his passion is an expression of the divine mystery itself, in the depths of a lost world – through what he is now undertaking, he is giving expression to the incomparable greatness that is the life he shares with the Father. The Father's response, Jesus continues, will be the Resurrection – the Father will 'glorify' him by taking him, in the humanity he shares with us, into the incomparable greatness of the Father 'himself'. Paul expresses this Paschal Mystery in simpler terms: 'he emptied himself even to accepting death on a cross. And for this God raised him high and gave him a name which is above all names' (Philippians 2). But in what follows our gospel reading leads us deeper into the mystery of God's 'glory'.

'I give you a new commandment', Jesus continues, 'Love one another, just as I have loved you'. In the love that led him to lay down his life for us, Jesus gives expression to the 'glory', the incomparable mystery of all that he shares with the Father. God's 'glory' is shown to the world - not in power and display - but in an act of selfless love that is the expression in our midst of a decision made from all eternity in the depths of the divine freedom. Making our own the ways of God, and making this 'new commandment' our rule of life, we must lead the world to a meeting with the mystery of God and all the blessings this meeting can bring. The vision of the second reading from the Apocalypse tells of what may be hoped for, when the whole of creation is caught up in the 'glory' the Saviour has brought into the world. Meanwhile, the reading from Acts reminds us, the cross is the way to a sharing in God's 'glory': the 'hardships' of life should not surprise us, as we make our way towards 'the kingdom of God'.

John Thornhill sm
www.themmasseries.com

The new commandment of love is required of every one who follows the risen Lord. How do you fulfill the commandment?

If God is calling you, contact Fr. Chris Lemieux, Archdiocesan Vocations Director
416-968-0997 vocations@vocations.ca www.vocationstoronto.ca



Readings ~ Acts 14:21b-27 ~ Revelation 21:1-5a ~ John 13:1, 31-33a, 34-35

PARISH

Mass Intentions This Week – April 25–May 1

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

	Intention(s):	Offered by:
Monday, 9am	✠ Alphonse Bates	The family
Tuesday, 9am	✠ Franco Muto	Pina Valle
Wednesday, 9am	✠ Carazon & Armando Cachuela	The family
Thursday, 9am	✠ Elizabeth Montrichard	The Asher family
Friday, 9am	✠ Rob Ford	The Lonergan family
Saturday, 9am	✠ Loretta Lynch	Jackie Lynch
5:15pm	✠ For the needs of our parish and faithful parishioners ✠	
Sunday, 8am	✠ Nikola Jurilj	The Dodig family
9:30am	✠ Veselko Dodig	The Dodig family
11am	✠ Antonio DeFaria	The DeFaria family
12:30pm	✠ Witld Matulewicz	The family

19th Annual National March for Life™

More than 100,000 preborn children are killed via abortion in Canada every year, costing our healthcare system in excess of \$100 million. 25,000+ concerned citizens – young and old – will join political & religious leaders on Parliament Hill on a police-led procession through the streets of Ottawa to demand justice & human rights for preborn children & to express concerns about a new law for euthanasia and assisted suicide – death by lethal injection. You can join a coach departing from OLS at 6:30am on Thurs. May 12 and returning later that evening. The cost is \$50. To reserve your spot email phil.passarelli@rogers.com or call 416-219-1814. For more info visit www.marchforlife.ca



#endthekilling

Marian Movement of Priests – Cenacle of Prayer May 22, 6pm@OLS

The Cenacle (from the Latin 'cenaculum'; the venue of the Last Supper) will begin with Adoration & Rosary followed by Sunday obligation Mass at 7pm. For more info visit www.mmpcanada.ca

Call for photos! Can you help?

The Commemorative Book committee is looking for photos from any of the 75th Anniversary events, especially the Blue Diamond Dinner Dance, Anniversary Concert and the Blessing of the Doors. Please email photos@sorrows or contact us to arrange to have them scanned.

'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!**

Working wonders for our new arrivals in Canada...

"As an Iraqi Christian, the Office for Refugees (ORAT) has provided me with the opportunity to meet other people who have experienced the same thing that I have. We are able to help support each other in this new journey to Canada and without ORAT, I do not know where I would be today. It is possible I would still be in Jordan, afraid for my life, unable to practice my religion, and under threat of deportation. The work that ORAT did truly gave me hope and a chance at life free from persecution and fear. ORAT has also invited me to volunteer with them, and I am even able to sponsor a new person or family to come to Canada with their help."
—Sara, a Christian refugee from Iraq.



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

Q: What do you get when you cross the Easter Bunny with an over-stressed pastor during Holy Week? A: An Easter Basket Case

COMMUNITY

Your prayers are requested...

...for the young people of our parish family who will be celebrating the sacraments of initiation this Easter Season. First Holy Communion Masses will be celebrated on the Saturdays of May 7, 14 & 21 at 10:30am. Confirmation Masses will be celebrated on May 3, 4, 10 & 11 at 7:30pm.

Office of Vocations – Ordination Prayer Vigil April 29, 6pm– midnight

Let's pray together for an increase in vocations especially to priesthood and consecrated life and for healthy marriages. This special event will be held at St. Michael's Cathedral, 65 Bond St. For more information, contact us at 416-968-0997 or vocations@archtoronto.org



Dorothy Ley Hospice "Hike for Hospice" – Sunday, May 1

We invite you to join the team or donate in support of the Kingsway Hikers (or another) team, by going online to www.dlhike.org, or call DLH volunteer Esther Reid at 416-233-2390. Supporting hospice care and affirming the dignity of each person's end-of-life journey has become ever more important. Come join us for a joyous and family-oriented event.

Lectio Divina with Cardinal Collins – Sunday, May 1, 7pm

This special evening of prayer will be held at St. Joseph's Parish, 5440 Durie Rd., Mississauga.

St. Mike's Faculty of Theology Women and the Future of Ministry

This study day begins with a free keynote by Dr. Phyllis Zagano on May 6 at 7pm, and is followed by a day of presentations and panel discussions on May 7 (\$43). The presentation day wraps up with Vespers, followed by an optional banquet (\$53.60). All events take place on St. Mike's campus. Tickets to all events are available at www.bit.ly/1S7UKoB For info, visit www.stmikes.utoronto.ca/womenstudyday or email events.usmctheology@utoronto.ca

Project Rachel Retreat – We Can Help – May 13–15

Are you longing for mercy from the One who brings peace and healing? This weekend retreat is for women whose hearts have been broken by abortion. Private & confidential. Call 416-629-8264 or email projectrachel@stmarysrefuge.org



"Living Mercy" – a weekend of prayer and contemplation

Single women are invited to a retreat weekend, on Lake Simcoe, in Orillia, offered by a team of Sisters of St. Joseph. Dates: May 13–15, May 27–29. Final registration by April 27. Cost is \$150. Subsidies are available. For information and registration contact Frances Harrison-Atell at fharrison-atell@csj-to.ca or call her at 416-467-2642.



Manresa Retreat For Men and Women June 3, 8:30pm–June 5, 1pm

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, a holy ground (the Jesuit Spiritual Renewal Centre in Pickering) with the retreat theme: "my spiritual bucket list." For more information and reservation, please phone Tony Salvosa at (416) 494-0560 or email aaasalv@yahoo.ca

A Day of Reflection for Women – Saturday, June 4, 10am–4pm

St. Augustine's Institute of Theology would like you to spend the day "Knowing God's Perfect Love Is Knowing God's Mercy" in a retreat lead by Dr. Josephine Lombardi. You will explore obstacles to loving God, oneself and others. There will be time for private reflection and small group sharing, lunch and Mass. Questions? Please contact us at ioft@sastoronto.org or call 416-261-7207, ext. 235. You can pay and register at www.bit.ly/1SnnxPD