

The Easter season – the principal festival of the Church's year – has ended. The celebrations of the Sundays immediately following are like an afterglow. Today the liturgy invites us to renew our faith in the Trinity of Persons made known to us in what God has done for the world in Jesus Christ.

As Jesus awakened the beginnings of faith in his disciples, filling them with wonder at the mysterious depths they recognised in him, he directed their faith beyond himself, to the One with whom he was in continual communion – their prayer and their trust, he told them, should be addressed to their 'Father in heaven'. Later, as the full impact of what had happened in the world's first Easter galvanised them into action, and they found new strength on the day of Pentecost, they remembered that Jesus had promised them the help of his own Spirit to face what lay ahead of them (Mt 10.20 etc). Faith in their Risen Lord gave the themes of the Old Testament a new depth of meaning for them.

Our first reading from Proverbs recalls one of these themes. For the Old Testament, the 'wisdom' of God, like the 'word' of God' was understood as God's self-expression in creation and the shaping of human affairs. Now, as his disciples recognised the ultimate identity of their Risen Lord, they knew him as the 'Word' of the Father (Jn 1) and the 'wisdom' of God (1 Cor 1.24), through whom 'all things came into being' (Jn 1.1). For the Old Testament, the 'spirit of God' was another self-expression of God in creation. God's 'spirit' worked interiorly – giving the breath of life, and bringing the call of God to human hearts. After the Resurrection, as today's reading from St Paul to the Romans shows, the disciples were vividly aware of the Holy Spirit as a divine agent carrying forward the work of Christ. And they remembered Jesus speaking of the Spirit as someone other than himself, sharing as he does in the life of the Father. And in our second reading from Paul to the Romans, what Jesus has achieved for the world is clearly expressed as a work of the Father, Son and Spirit together – the 'Lord Jesus Christ' gives us God's 'grace', an entitlement to our sharing in the divine 'glory'; and at the same time the Spirit brings us the life-giving power expressed in the love the Father has shown us through the life, death and resurrection of his Son.

The ultimate mystery of God's life is – not surprisingly – far beyond our complete comprehension. It would be tragic, however, if it remained for us no more than a daunting abstraction. Christian faith should bring us the joy of recognising that – in the overflowing tumult of the divine life that we call the BLESSED TRINITY – we find three friends who invite us to share in their common life as the ONE TRUE GOD. Today's gospel from John expresses this sharing in simple terms, and it brings us this astounding invitation: the Spirit 'will lead us to the complete truth', since he shares all with the Son, who in turn shares in 'everything the Father has'.



Everything the Father has is mine

John Thornhill sm
www.theemmausseries.com

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. Listen to what Jesus says: "When the Spirit of Truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth." What is the 'truth' of your life? How can you best serve God?

If God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, contact Fr. Chris Lemieux 416-968-0997 vocations@vocations.ca www.vocationstoronto.ca

Readings ~ Proverbs 8:22-31 ~ Romans 5:1-5 ~ John 16:12-15

PARISH

Mass Intentions This Week – May 23–29

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

	Intention(s):	Offered by:
Monday, 9am	✠ Neal & Bob McCarthy	The family
Tuesday, 9am	... of Isabel Wright	Grace Downie
Wednesday, 9am	✠ John & Teresa Burke	Agnes Burke
Thursday, 9am	✠ Martin Reszetnik	Doug & Maxine
Friday, 9am	✠ Terry & Penny	Linda & Roma Palanica
Saturday, 9am	✠ Domenico Valle	Pina Valle
5:15pm	✠ Rona & Irene Newton-John	Michael Foran
Sunday, 8am	✠ Mary Bardwell	The Bardwell-Thompson family
9:30am	✠ Gerald Brukner	The family
11am	✠ Paul James Winn	Michael & Charlene Yelavich
12:30pm	✠ For the needs of our parish and faithful parishioners ✠	

Victoria Scholars – Those Great Composers – Sunday, May 29, 7:30pm @OLS

Close out the Victoria Scholars' 23rd season with the greatest music from the greatest composers! Listen to Beethoven, Mozart, Wagner, and many more in this tribute to the greats. Tickets are available online at www.victoriascholars.ca or at the door. Doors open at 7pm.

Ecuadorian Earthquakes & Fort McMurray Wildfires

The Archdiocese is accepting financial contributions in the wake of these devastating natural disasters. Those wishing to help may do so as follows: visit www.archtoronto.org or call 416-934-3411 or through the parish (office or offertory collection), making cheques payable to: OLS – Ecuador Earthquake – Humanitarian Relief and/or OLS – Fort McMurray Fires – Disaster Relief. Please continue to pray for those affected by these & other natural disasters. Thank you so much for your ongoing efforts to help those in crisis.

OLS Religious Education Program 2016/17 – Registration now open!

Registrations are now being accepted from registered parishioners for their children (grades 1–7) who attend non-Catholic schools. Forms are available at the parish office.

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.

'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 those in our community...

"I arrived as a pregnant, young mom, thinking this would never happen to me," At 17, Brittany came to the Rose of Sharon to enroll in the mother baby programs designed to assist her and her new family get on their feet. Everything from diapers to food, clothing to completion of high school education and more was available to her. Within a year, she was able to use her new-found skills to adjust to her new life. Brittany thanks ShareLife donors for their financial support to help them deal with the challenges they have faced, and learning to grow as a family and enjoy each other. Last year, over 6,300 young parents received the care, counselling and educational support they needed to care for themselves and their new families.

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



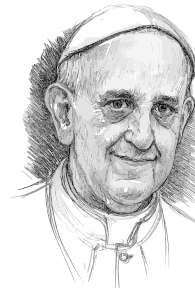
"Amoris Laetitia should be required reading for those in marriage preparation programs." – Bishop Robert Barron

Euthanasia/Assisted Suicide It's Time To Act!

On April 14, the federal government introduced Bill C-14 – legislation that, if passed, will amend the criminal code to make euthanasia/assisted suicide legal in Canada. Thousands of Canadians have contacted their elected officials, respectfully expressing their concerns. We still need your help. Visit www.CanadiansforConscience.ca to urge elected representatives to protect health care workers & institutions from having to provide or refer for euthanasia/assisted suicide. We are also asking Members of Parliament to expand palliative care & support for the vulnerable. Cardinal Collins has released a video statement on this legislation which can be viewed online at www.bit.ly/1Z8aqud – Thank you for your ongoing support!

An Uplifting Read: "Amoris Laetitia" (The Joy of Love)

On April 8, the Vatican released Pope Francis' apostolic exhortation, (papal document to the global church), "Amoris Laetitia: On Love in the Family", bringing together the results of two recent Synods on the family convoked by the Holy Father in 2014 and 2015. You are encouraged to download the full text at www.bit.ly/1WhdLYU or the summary at www.bit.ly/1Y5IXZT & visit www.archtoronto.org/synod for more resources on the Synod of Bishops on the Family.



Adoration Chapel at St. Clement Parish open daily, 6am–midnight

You are invited to spend an hour before the Lord or drop in at any time for a visit. You are also welcome to sign up as permanent or substitute adorer. St. Clement Parish is 409 Markland Drive. For more information, please call Elizabeth at 416-621-4060.

Quo Vadis Vocation Discernment Retreat – May 27, 7pm–May 29, 1pm

The Office of Vocations hosts a weekend retreat designed for single Catholic men who find themselves asking "Lord, what do you want me to do with my life?" This retreat is designed for men 18 years and older, who desire a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ and wish to cultivate a deeper prayer life, helping them to discern God's call for their lives. Our retreat includes daily Mass, Eucharistic Adoration and confession with lots of time to pray, reflect, rest and to meet others considering the same things in life. Location: St. Augustine's Seminary, 2661 Kingston Rd., Scarborough. Call 416-968-0997 or email vocations@archtoronto.org

Scattered Seeds Catholic Family Services Walk-In Counseling

Catholic Family Services of Toronto is now offering walk-in counseling services at their two locations. Their staff is trained to offer same-day service to clients with urgent counseling needs. The single-session consultation is aimed at helping individuals, couples, or family clients address their concerns. No appointment required. The central office (1155 Yonge St., Suite 100 – Yonge/Summerhill – 416-921-1163) is open every Tuesday, 9am–3pm. The north office (5799 Yonge St. – Yonge/Finch – 416-222-0048) is open every Thursday, 9am–3pm. You may also send an email to info@cfstoronto.com

The Faith Explained Conference – Saturday, June 18, 10am–4:30pm

How do we help our friends and family members who have left the Church to come back? How do we invite non-Catholics to discover Christ's Church? The best way is to conduct a "Search and Rescue" operation! Join speakers Patrick Madrid (Author and EWTN host), Cardinal Thomas Collins and Cale Clarke (Director of The Faith Explained.com) and help throw your loved ones the lifeline of God's truth. St. Joseph's Secondary School, 5555 Creditview Road, Mississauga. Doors open at 9:45am. Early bird tickets: \$35 (or 2 for \$60); after June 1: \$45 (or 2 for \$80); group rates available. For more info or to buy tickets, visit www.thefaihtexplained.com

