



ST. DENIS Parish

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LOVE GOD LOVE OTHERS TRAIN DISCIPLES

Eucharistic Celebrations :

Sunday, May 24th - private mass – Paroissiens défunts (anonymous)

Friday, **May 29th - 9:00 am** Adoration and reconciliation
private mass – Rene Dedieu (funeral collection)

Sunday, **May 31st - private mass – Helen Tranq (Margaret deRocquigny & family)**

Sanctuary Lamp – this week: **Pat Webb**

God's Share for May to date : \$740.00 + \$105.00 (DD) = **\$845.00**

Pope's Pastoral Works to date : **\$100.00**

Readings for Sunday: May 31, 2020



Acts 2, 1-11; Psalm 103 (104), 1-2a, 24, 35c, 27-28, 20bc-30;
1 Corinthians 12, 3b-7, 12-13; John 20, 19-23

Prayer Intention for May 2020:

For Deacons - We pray that deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church.

Marriage Tip

Praise each other, On Purpose! Think of some reason you'd like to praise your partner. That *could* be about the good meal from last night or it *could* be about how good your partner looked on your last date. Any reason is OK, no heartfelt praise is faint. Just be sure to do this, at least twice per day, on purpose and if at all possible, in person (text is OK for a third praise).

May 24, 2020

Ascension of the Lord (A)

Words from Fr. Peter to parishioners of St. Claude and St. Denis,

Brothers and sisters,

This Sunday, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord. When we proclaim: **“He [Jesus Christ] ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father”** (*the Nicene Creed*), we express our belief that **“Jesus Christ, the Head of the Church, precedes us into the Father's glorious kingdom so that we, the members of his Body, may live in the hope of one day being with him forever** (*Catechism of the Catholic Church # 666*).

Today, we celebrate the Ascension with joy and thanksgiving because Jesus completed His earthly mission of bringing salvation to humanity and physically was lifted up from this world into heaven. In ascending to the Father, He raises earth to heaven with Him! Jesus Christ is glorified. We believe and hope that we also will be glorified with Him in heaven after finishing our earthly journey. **“Gladden us with holy joys, almighty God, and make us rejoice with devout thanksgiving, for the Ascension of Christ your Son is our exaltation, and where the Head has gone before in glory, the Body is called to follow in hope”** (*Collect of the Solemnity of Ascension*).

Celebrating the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord reminds us of the meaning of life and of the purpose of our journey of faith. Have we ever asked ourselves these questions: *Why I am on this Earth? Where I come from, or what I am living for?* We know that, human beings are different in many things, such as skin colors, backgrounds, religions, mentalities, etc.; but we have at least one thing in common: the pursuit of truth and happiness. In answering the question: *“For what purpose are we here on earth?”* The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that: **We are here on earth in order to seek God, know God and to love God** (Cf. CCC # 1). **“The desire for God is written in the human heart, because man is created by God and for God; and God never ceases to draw man to himself. Only in God will he find the truth and happiness he never stops searching for”** (CCC # 27). That's why Saint Augustine once said: *“O Lord, you have made us for Yourself, and our heart is restless until it rests in you”*.

It is very important to repeat that we are here on earth in order to seek God, know God and to love God, to do good according to His Will, and to enjoy happiness with Him in this life and the life everlasting in heaven when we finish our earthly journey. This is the reason why we are created for and living in this earthly life.

May Holy Spirit inspire us and guide us so that we know to set our minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth (*Col 3:2*), to follow the right path that leads us to eternal life, the ultimate purpose of our journey of faith and our earthly pilgrimage.

“What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit their very self? (Luke 9:25). I invite you to meditate on this.

Brothers and sisters,
I hope that you all are doing well. I am writing to let you know that you are in my thoughts and my daily prayers! May the Lord keep you safe and healthy!

I would like to thank all of you for your donations to our parishes during these difficult times. We hope to receive your continued support to keep our pastoral ministries going. May the Lord reward you abundantly for your generosity.

Fr. Peter Le

Announcement:

At the request of Mgr. LeGatt, Paul Nguyen, seminarian of our diocese, who was doing his pastoral year in Notre-Dame-de-Lourdes, will continue the rest of his internship in our parishes from now until August. As he moves to stay with Fr. Peter in the rectory this weekend, please welcome him, support him, and keep him in our prayers.

Message from our Archbishop, Mgr Albert LeGatt

As of Friday, May 22, 2020, Manitoba's Chief Health Public Officer, D. Brent Roussin, has increased the limit on the size of public gatherings to 25 people, but no more, for indoor premises, provided social distancing and sanitization measures are in place.

Notwithstanding this government notice, **I am asking all pastors to not increase the limit to 25 people for the masses of this coming weekend, May 23 and 24, but rather to wait until the weekend masses of May 30 and 31.** This will allow the diocese more time to prepare clear and detailed guidelines/information which will be sent to you next week as we issue Protocol IV.

*“I came forth from the
Father and have come
into the world;
I am leaving the world
again and going to the
Father.”
John 16:28*



May 24, 2020

Ascension of the Lord (A)

Sharing Treasures

Who among us would refuse an inheritance - even if it comes from a rather distant relative? Such gifts are always welcome. For anyone who receives this gift, the positive message from beyond the grave is particularly touching, unless our daily life overrides our ability to appreciate it! We don't want to be like distracted children who do not appreciate the gifts showered on them. As parents we may have experienced this bitter disappointment after we had carefully chosen our child's birthday gift or one for our nephew or niece ... We wanted so much to please them! However, the child barely looked at the beautiful gift and immediately moved on to something else.



As Jesus' followers, we may have experienced similar disappointments. We are anxious to bring to others the message of joy and sharing inspired by God. God wants us to deliver his message. What an honour! As we noticed in the second reading, God gives us a Spirit of wisdom and hope, the priceless glory of his heritage. But the Nay-Sayers seem to have the last word: *"Do you still believe that?"*

Our response: *Of course we do! We are on a mission to share our personal convictions and faith!*

Though we generously share God's gifts with others, we may be disappointed by rejection. We may say and repeat that it is God who offers; it is God who gives. Yet these statements may not be considered and even ignored by our neighbours. Like spoiled children, our neighbours, our colleagues, our loved ones may not appreciate God's gifts and quickly move on to other concerns. Yet we keep on moving forward. We continue to marvel at God's energy, strength, and power in the Resurrection which is a prelude to our own resurrection. We continue to welcome God's gifts in our daily lives and be gradually transformed by these wonders. In His absence since the Ascension, Jesus sends His divine blessings and inspires us to take charge and distribute His gifts. The more Jesus seems absent, the more He is present through our words and our actions. What a paradox! We are Christ's presence in His absence!

May we proceed with God's gifts of strength and patience! May we stand ready as reinforcements when our contemporaries' batteries are exhausted! There are many areas of life that we can see where God's gifts are relevant. We can focus on these areas and distribute God's gifts for the well-being of humanity as this season commemorates. Let's share this legacy.

Alain Faucher, priest

Translated by Honore Kerwin Borrelli