

ST. DENIS Parish

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LOVE GOD LOVE OTHERS

TRAIN DISCIPLES

Eucharistic Celebrations:

Sunday, May 10th - private mass – Angèle Rouire (Maurice & famille)

Friday, May 15th - 9:00 am Adoration and reconciliation

private mass - Ernest Montsion (funeral collection)

Sunday, **May 17th - private mass – Lucien & Alexine Rouire**(Marcel & Dorothée Dequier)

Sanctuary Lamp – this week: for all Mothers

God's Share for May to date: \$380.00 + \$35.00 (DD) = \$415.00

Readings for Sunday: May 17, 2020

Acts 8, 5-8, 14-17; Psalm 65 (66), 1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a, 16.20;

1 Peter 3, 15-18; John 14, 15-21

Let us keep a thought in our prayers for: Mr. Aurèle Gagnon, father of Mrs. Lynne Lesage, who passed away in Winnipeg on Friday, April 24, 2020 at the age of 86 years. Our condolences go out to Marcel and Lynne Lesage, as well as to family and friends who are grieving.

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 Tips: Recognize that marriage, by its very nature, has its ups and downs – so don't be shocked by the "downs" when they happen. In fact, every vocation and state-in-life has its ups and downs (singlehood, widowhood, consecrated life). Accept this as a fact of life. Own it. Face the trials when they come. And face them together.

May 10, 2020

Fifth Sunday of Easter (A)

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

Brothers and sisters,

This Sunday, the second Sunday of May, is Mother's Day. This beautiful tradition gives us a precious opportunity to express our deep respect, gratitude and love towards our mothers.

First of all, we give thanks to God for the gift of life. Thinking of the gift of life, we think first of our parents because whose fruits of love are children. No matter who we are, a president, a doctor, a nurse, a scientist, a priest, a teacher or a farmer... we all are born of a mother. No matter what we have now, millions of dollars in the bank, a big mansion, a luxury car, or just a simple house... we all first have a mother. When we grow up, we have many different relationships and sentiments such as friendship, colleagueship, patriotic love, conjugal love, etc, but first and foremost, we all have motherly love. The motherly love is so beautiful, pure, and immense that no words can fully describe it. However, we all can experience this noble love and cherish it deep in our hearts.

Among many good characteristics of a mother, such as kindness, tenderness, gentleness, patience, etc, I think love and sacrifice are the most outstanding ones. For me, the best definition of a mother is love. Love leads a mother to sacrifice herself in many things: her youth, her beauty, her energy, (in some cases) even her death for the sake of her children. Can we count how many meals that our mom cooked for us? Have we ever thought of the white nights our mother spent when we were ill? How many times did we make her sad? We will never able to count fully or repay enough all what our mother did for us. Her silent sacrifices are invaluable. In short, all that we are, all that we have now, we owe to our mothers.

With gratitude let us offer our mothers on the altar today. I will be celebrating this Sunday Mass to pray for all mothers. For mothers who are still alive, we ask the Lord's blessings upon them so that they continue their role as good wives and happy mothers in their families. And for mothers who have gone before us, may God welcome them into heavenly homeland.

As Catholics, we are blessed because we have two mothers: our earthly mother and our Heavenly Mother, Our Lady Mary. At the foot of the Cross, Jesus gave us his very Holy Mother Mary to accompany us in our lives. Mary is the perfect model of faith for all of us, and for all mothers, she is the true model of motherhood. She was called by God to be the Mother of Jesus, the Son of God. She lived out her vocation as a humble, loving mother and as a faithful disciple by her constant yes throughout her entire life. "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word" (Luke 1:38).

"It can thus be said that women, by looking to Mary, find in her the secret of living their femininity with dignity and of achieving their own true advancement. In the light of Mary, the Church sees in the face of women the reflection of a beauty which mirrors the loftiest sentiments of which the human heart is capable: the self-offering totality of love; the strength that is capable of bearing the greatest sorrows; limitless fidelity and tireless devotion to work; the ability to combine penetrating intuition with words of support and encouragement" (Saint John Paul II, Redemptoris Mater).

Life is beautiful but it is not always smooth like a quiet river. Besides happy women with happy marriage life, there are many less fortunate ones who are suffering from illness, domestic violence, loneliness, divorce, separation... We pray in particular for these women.

I invite all mothers and grandmothers to follow the perfect example of faith, hope, love and fortitude of Mary, our Blessed Mother, to stand firm at the foot of the cross of our lives as Mary did to remain faithful till the end. All suffering has power and redemptive meaning when we unite our suffering to the cross of Jesus. Offer your own suffering to pray for your children and grandchildren. Pray for their perseverance in faith and for their conversion if they have gone away from the Church.

The best gift all mothers can give their children is the heritage of faith. In order to pass on this heritage, the mothers must become first the women of faith. Take your children to the Church. Equip them with the moral life and the education of faith. At home, teach your children how to pray the Holy Rosary, spend time to pray with them. You will reap what you sow. I had the chance to witness the touching moments when celebrating the last rites for a dying woman. At very last hours of her life at the deathbed, her children and grandchildren surrounded her with love and prayers. Holding the holy rosary in her hands, she passed away peacefully. What a beautiful passing. As a priest, it was such a touching moment for me. I was happy to see that. A peaceful death is the happy ending for a Christian life. Again, you will reap what you sow! This is a great reminder for all mothers and children.

"Holy Mary, mother of God, pray for us, sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen".

Happy Mother's Day to all mothers and grandmothers. We are grateful for what you have done for us. May God bless you all!

You are in my prayers!

Fr. Peter Le

Two little funny stories concerning the Mother's Day to share with you; I hope this can bring you a smile.

One Mom had a most revealing experience on the Mother's Day. Her two boys ordered her to stay in bed. She lay there looking forward to being brought her breakfast, as the inviting smell of bacon floated up from the kitchen. At last the children called her downstairs. She found them sitting at the table, each with a large plate of bacon and eggs: "As a Mother's Day surprise," one explained, "we've cooked our own breakfast."

Angie, 8 years old, wrote: "Dear Mother, I'm going to make dinner for you on Mother's Day. It's going to be a surprise. **P.S. I hope you like pizza & popcorn."**

May 10, 2020 May 10, 2020

Fifth Sunday of Easter (A) Fifth Sunday of Easter (A)

Show us the Father



Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me (Jn 14:1). It's with these words that Jesus began his farewell speech. This spiritual testimony is recorded in four chapters in St. John's Gospel. Today, we read the beginning.

When Jesus said: Do not let your hearts be troubled, it is understood in the context of Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples, which began with washing their feet – a sign of Jesus' complete gift of himself. This is followed by announcing His departure and Judas' betrayal, and finally by the new commandment: Just as I have loved you, you also should love

one another (Jn 13:34). With these significant words and gestures, we can only imagine that the disciples were profoundly moved.

We relate to the disciples' emotions by confirming the essence of Christ's identity and his mission. Jesus' identity is further clarified when Philip asked: *Lord, show us the Father and we will be satisfied* (Jn 14:8). Jesus responded by affirming that He is the Father's Son: *Whoever has seen me has seen the Father*. [...] *Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?* The rest of Christ's answer refers to His mission to reveal God's plan to give His life to the world: *The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works (Jn: 14:10).*

Jesus presented himself as the Way to proceed in order to take our place within the divine family. We live in faith and hope established in the communion of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Even if, like Philip, we would like to see the Father, Jesus leaves us with a legacy of His life's work which manifests the Father's love. Many believers have preceded us on the journey to the Father's house. They have followed the Gospel teachings and lived enlightened and transformed lives. They are proof that God is always at work among those who, through faith and their desire to love, are open to Him. They serve and give themselves as Jesus did: Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and in fact will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father (Jn 14:12).