

ASCENSION OF THE LORD

May 16, 2021

“The Lord Jesus was taken up into heaven”



Why did Jesus leave his disciples forty days after his resurrection? Forty is a significant number in the scriptures. Moses went to the mountain to seek the face of God for forty days in prayer and fasting. The people of Israel were in the wilderness for forty years in preparation for their entry into the Promised Land. Elijah fasted for forty days as he journeyed in the wilderness to the mountain of God. For forty days after his resurrection Jesus appeared numerous times to his disciples to assure them that he had risen indeed and to prepare them for the task of carrying on the work

which he began during his earthy ministry.

Jesus' departure and ascension was both an end and a beginning for his disciples. While it was the end of Jesus' physical presence with his beloved disciples, it marked the beginning of Jesus' presence with them in a new way. Jesus promised that he would be with them always to the end of time (Matthew 28:20). Now as the glorified and risen Lord and Savior, ascended to the right hand of the Father in heaven, Jesus promised to send them the Holy Spirit who would anoint them with power on the Feast of Pentecost, just as Jesus was anointed for his ministry at the River Jordan. When the Lord Jesus departed physically from the Apostles, they were not left in sorrow or grief. Instead, they were filled with joy and with great anticipation for the coming of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus' last words to his Apostles point to his saving mission and to their mission to be witnesses of his saving death and his glorious resurrection and to proclaim the good news of salvation to all the world. Their task is to proclaim the Gospel - the good news of salvation - not only to the people of Israel, but to all the nations as well. God's love and gift of salvation is not reserved for a few or for one nation alone, but it is for the whole world - for all who will accept it. The Gospel is the power of God, the power to release people from their burden of guilt, sin, and oppression, and the power to heal, restore, and make us whole. Do you believe in the power of the Gospel?

This is the great commission which the risen Christ gives to the whole church. All believers have been given a share in this task - to be heralds of the good news and ambassadors for Jesus Christ, the only savior of the world. We have not been left alone in this task, for the risen Lord works in and through us by the power of his Holy Spirit. Today we witness a new Pentecost as the Lord pours out his Holy Spirit upon his people to renew and strengthen the body of Christ and to equip it for effective ministry and mission world-wide. Do you witness to others the joy of the Gospel and the hope of the resurrection?

“Lord Jesus, through the gift of your Holy Spirit, you fill us with an indomitable spirit of praise and joy which no earthly trial can subdue. Fill me with your resurrection joy and help me to live a life of praise and thanksgiving for your glory. May I witness to those around me the joy of the Gospel and the reality of your great victory over sin and death.”

SUNDAY MASS ON YOUTUBE

Mass is being live streamed on our Parish YouTube Channel on Sunday morning beginning at 10:00 a.m. and every Wednesday at 7pm (preceded by the Rosary at 6:40pm).

The link to our parish YouTube channel is:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCokoBfidkSQAZ_Buk3g-bhw?

EXPOSITION AND ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place in the church on Fridays from 6:30pm to 7:30pm.

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/exposition-of-the-blessed-sacrament-and-adoration-tickets-130608933837>

MONDAY, MAY 17 – 7:00 P.M.

Intention Available

TUESDAY, MAY 18 – 8:00 A.M.

Intention Available

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19 – 7:00 P.M.

+ Gerry Mayo

+ Karl Link

+ Donald Clarke

THURSDAY, MAY 20 – 8:00 A.M.

S.I. For healing and reconciliation in troubled marriages and families.

FRIDAY, MAY 21 – 7:00 P.M.

Intention Available

SATURDAY, MAY 22 – 5:00 P.M.

Intention Available

SUNDAY, MAY 23 – ASCENSION OF THE LORD

S.I. Parish Community



Living the Gospel locally and around the world

“You – the clergy, religious and lay faithful of the Archdiocese – haven’t forgotten the needs of your neighbours.”

“Thank you to our pastors and parish staff who have continued to educate the faithful about the work of ShareLife agencies.”

– Cardinal Thomas Collins

Thank you for supporting ShareLife!

NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Fr. Damian is inviting parishioners to join him for an "Ecumenical Novena to the Holy Spirit" in preparation for the Solemn Feast of Pentecost. Fr. Damian will live stream the Novena Prayers every day at 2:30pm on the Parish YouTube Channel beginning Friday, May 14th and concluding on Saturday, May 22nd. The live stream will be uploaded so you can do the prayers with your family at a time convenient for you later in the day if you wish. Please visit www.Pentecost.Cmaxty to download your own copy of the novena prayers. Parishioners may print a hardcopy for private use at home but are asked not to share the novena digitally.

St. Francis of Assisi Parish welcome’s Seminarian Alvin Joys



A few words of introduction from Alvin

Hello! My name is Alvin Joys. I’m currently going into my fourth year of formation, studying Theology at St. Augustine’s Seminary.

I was born in India and moved to Canada where I have lived since the age of 5. My uncle, a priest in India, was the first encounter I had with what a priest was, and his witness was what planted the seeds of priesthood in my heart from a very young age.

I grew up in Woodbridge, attending elementary school and high school there. Upon graduation, I moved away to the University of Waterloo to study Computer Engineering, graduating in 2018. I joined St. Augustine Seminary later that year.

I am looking forward to my time here this summer and hope, God willing, I can meet many of you! Please pray for me as I continue to discern my vocation, and be assured of my prayers for you all. God bless!

HOLY COMMUNION SERVICES

Every weekend while the provincial “Stay-at-Home” order persists, Communion Services will be held on Saturday evening and on Sunday during the times when our regular Sunday Masses would normally be celebrated. Those with compromised immune systems or other health conditions are strongly encouraged to remain home. No public Masses are taking place at this time. The dispensation from the Sunday Eucharist remains.

Each Communion Service can only accommodate 8 people, in addition to an usher and the presiding priest or deacon. Registration is required in order to attend a Communion Service. Walk-ins are not permitted. Please register on our parish website as you have done in the past.

THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS



June is the “Month of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.” Cardinal Collins has written a Pastoral Letter on the Sacred Heart which he has asked us to make available to parishioners. A link to this letter

can be found on our parish website. A limited number of hard copies of the Cardinal’s Pastoral Letter are also available from the Parish Office.

To read the letter click on the following link:

<https://www.archtoronto.org/siteassets/media/archdiocese-of-toronto-main-site/files/sacred-heart-of-jesus/sacred-heart-pastoral-letter.pdf>

HUMANITARIAN RELIEF – INDIA’S COVID-19 OUTBREAK

India is reeling from a devastating COVID-19 outbreak. The Archdiocese of Toronto will send donations through Development and Peace to Caritas Internationalis, an international confederation of Catholic humanitarian organizations that is already in India helping those who are suffering during this COVID-19 outbreak. Since the pandemic began, India’s Catholic Church, acting principally through Caritas India, has been supporting some of the most disadvantaged groups.

To learn more about Caritas’ work in India, please watch this video:
<http://bit.ly/CaritasIndiaRelief>.

Those wishing to help may do so in the following ways:

- Online through the Archdiocese of Toronto website: www.archtoronto.org
- By phone through the Development Office – 416-934-3411
- Through the parish, making cheques payable to: Name of Parish – India’s COVID-19 Outbreak – Disaster Relief

FORMED

Our parish now has a subscription to FORMED, a premier online platform. Best of all, this material is free to you.

There are 3 easy steps to Sign Up on FORMED:

1. Visit <http://signup.formed.org/>
2. Enter our parish code: L5K
3. Enter your name and email

RECONCILIATION

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) is offered every Saturday from 4:00pm to 4:45pm in the Reconciliation Room of the church.

PRAYER GROUP VIDEO SERIES

Join Deacon Don and the Prayer group on Zoom from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm on Thursdays, for a new video series. “Divine Mercy in the Second Greatest Story Ever Told” is a dramatic 10-session journey featuring best-selling author and popular speaker Fr. Michael Gaitley. All are welcome. To get the Zoom link please contact Deacon Don at ddroberts828@yahoo.ca

FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK
May 16, 2021

WATCH CITY OF SAINTS
In this series, award-winning director Charles Francis Kinnane tells the true stories of God's grace through the ministries of the Norbertine Fathers of St. Michael's Abbey. This influential Catholic film series has inspired over 12 million people worldwide.

LEARN LECTIO: EUCHARIST WITH DR. BRANT PITRE
"The Lamb of God," "The Bread of Life," "The Body and the Blood of Christ"—these are phrases we know from the Mass. But do we understand what they mean in the greater context of Church teaching? In this program, discover firsthand how Christ's Body and Blood are an integral part of God's plan for our salvation.

LISTEN THE FOUR LAST THINGS: DEATH, JUDGEMENT, HEAVEN, HELL BY FR. MIKE SCHMITZ
In this exceptional presentation, Fr. Mike tackles four topics that many of us understandably struggle with: death, judgement, Heaven, and Hell. As you listen to this talk, you'll be reminded that God wants to welcome you into Heaven, your true home!

Our parish has a FORMED subscription. To set up your free account visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.