



Fifth Sunday Of Easter~Year B

Diocesan Theme: **The Gospel of the Family: Joy for the World**

"Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness and patience
...above all, clothe yourselves with love!" (*Colossians 3.12, 14*)

Parish Mission Statement: "LOVE GOD, LOVE OTHERS, MAKE DISCIPLES"

Mass  for the
Intentions  for the
Week

Gospel Reflection

The gospel reading reminds us that as baptised Christians we are not just intimately interlinked but that the source of our unity is the Risen Christ. As limbs and leaves and sap of the same vine, we simply cannot survive in isolation. The vine image picks up one of the most potent biblical images for God's relationship to the people of Israel. It is an image of life and growth, of colour and vibrancy. It holds the promise of a life-sustaining grape harvest that is ultimately transformed into wine, the biblical symbol for joy. God brought Israel "the vine" out of Egypt. For the prophet Isaiah, Israel is also a vineyard planted and nurtured by God. For Jeremiah, Israel is the choice vine "of fully tested stock" planted by God. Jesus makes the claim: "I am the true vine/vineyard" and God is the "vinegrower". He goes further: "I am the vine/vineyard and you are the branches". The potency of this image resides in the fact that a vine without branches is inconceivable. It invites us to acknowledge our interconnection with the whole of the earth community and to accept the inevitability of "pruning" if we are to "bear fruit" and "become disciples". "Pruning" can take various forms; a chance encounter, a sudden inspiration, a word from a friend, an unexpected illness, a confronting story: any such experience can bring us to our senses and serve as a "pruning" device.

The first reading for today recounts the story of Saul who is "pruned" quite dramatically through his encounter with the Risen Christ on the road to Damascus. He is transformed from persecutor to defender of Christ and Christ's followers. Saul becomes a disciple and "bears much fruit". The Greek-speaking Christian Jews are suspicious, even murderous, when he tries to preach the gospel among them. Peace ensues, however, and the movement takes hold in the regions where Jesus had first preached the gospel. It is worth reflecting on the cultural diversity that characterised earliest Christianity and the tensions that had to be resolved between different language groups or groups of different ethnic origin for the gospel to flourish and bear fruit. John's gospel is written against the backdrop of such "pruning" within the early communities. Sometimes the requisite "pruning" is hearing respectfully a point of view that differs from one's own.

Blessings,
Have a great week!

Saturday, April 29th

4:30pm~For the repose of the soul of Lucien Laurin by his family

Sunday, April 30th~Fifth Sunday of Easter

9:00 am~ For the repose of the soul of Agnes Coffey by Bruce & Margaret Helliker

10:45am~For the intentions of the parishioners by the pastor

Tuesday, May 1st

7:00 pm~For the repose of the soul of Alison Cooke by the James family

Wednesday, May 2nd~St. Athanasius

8:20am at STA~

9:30am at OLMM~For the repose of the soul of Rodney McFarlane by Bill & Lorraine Barker

Thursday, May 3rd~St. Philip & St. James

9:00 am~For palliative care by the CWL

Friday, May 4th

9:00 am~For the repose of the souls of George Hendley, family members & friends

Saturday, May 5th

4:30 pm~For the intentions of all the children who had made their first communion in April

Sunday, May 6th~Sixth Sunday of Easter

9:00 am~For the intentions of the parishioners by the pastor

10:45 am~For the intentions of the Salvatorian fathers

~IN OUR PRAYERS~

For the sick among our families and friends especially:

Alice Lavigne, Melanie Joannette,
& Marie Kirkham

YOUR OFFERINGS FOR

April 22nd, 2018~\$3,823.00

Thank you for your generosity and support

INTENTIONS OF THE HOLY FATHER FOR MAY:

That the lay faithful may fulfill their specific mission, by responding with creativity to the challenges that face the world today.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE at www.olmm.ca

Email: admin@olmm

April 29th, 2018

Are you new to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Parish?

WELCOME! If you have not yet registered, please complete a registration form found in the foyer or in the office.

You may bring the completed form to the office

THIS WEEK AT OUR LADY'S

- Mon. April 30~ Bible & Virgin Mary study group
group~7:15pm~hall
- Wed. May 2~Bible study~7:00pm~hall
- Sat. May 7~ Bible & Virgin Mary study group
group~11:00am~hall

Parish Clean-up Day is Saturday May 12th from 9:00-12:00. Volunteers are needed for this year's parish spring clean-up. We need to clean, sweep and rake in and around our parish including the parking lot. We would also like to do a cleaning in the church to give everything a fresh look. Those who wish to volunteer are encouraged to sign up. Sign-up sheets are in the foyer. Remember that students in high school can earn volunteer hours for this.

Friday, May 11th at 6:15pm there will be adoration of the blessed sacrament and praying the rosary followed by a healing mass at 7:00pm with the anointing of the sick in honor of the first apparition of Our Lady of Fatima.

The annual March for Life will take place on parliament hill on Thursday May 10th. Those who wish to take part in this public witness to the sanctity of human life may join the bus leaving OLMM parish parking lot at 8:30 am. The bus will drop us at St. Patrick's Basilica for mass at 10:00 am. Following mass we will walk to parliament hill for the march and prayer. The bus will leave St. Patrick's Basilica at 3:30pm to return to OLMM parish. Please join us! Sign-up sheets are in the foyer. **LET'S FILL THAT BUS!**

The bible and the Virgin Mary: come join us on a six week journey through scripture on Saturday mornings in the hall starting April 28th until June 2 from 11:00am to 12:30pm. Also, Monday evenings in the hall from April 30 until June 4 from 7:15 to 8:30pm. The videos will show some of the apparitions and how the bible reveals Mary through the old and new testament. This beautiful, awe-inspiring series of the doctrine and comes alive in a powerful way.

This fall, OLMM is offering Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) Level 1 for children aged 3-5 years old (born in 2013- 2015), **Level 2** for 6-8 years old (born in 2010-2012) and **Level 3** for 9-11years old (born in 2007-2009). CGS is a Montessori approach to sharing the Christian faith with children. Together with trained catechists, children will listen to and wonder about scripture, and be engaged in elements of the Church in a space called the atrium. The cost is \$200.00 for one child, \$100 for each additional child in the family. Payment plan options available upon request. Please pick up registration forms in the foyer or at the parish office. Space is limited. Drop off completed forms to the parish office.

3 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care

All parishioners, family and friends are invited to join the OLMM CWL in prayer and solidarity for this important cause as we enter the National Hospice Palliative Care week. Please join the CWL on Thursday May 3rd, 2018 beginning with mass at 9:00am followed by prayer and meditation in the church until 12 noon.

Catholic Education Week 2018 begins on Sunday, May 6.

The Catholic schools in our parish will engage in a series of events to celebrate the ongoing gift of publicly funded Catholic education. In particular we invite you to our Catholic Education Week Mass at St. Thomas Aquinas on Wednesday, May 9 at 8:30am & 10:00am. Publicly funded Catholic education has existed in Ontario since 1841 and its graduates have served Ontario and Canada very well. The current generation of students in our publicly funded Catholic schools will serve with the same spirit and generosity as their previous generations.

This year's Catholic Education Week theme is "Renewing the Promise."

The theme for CEW 2018 draws upon previous documents on Ontario Catholic education, namely, "This Moment of Promise" (1989), "Fulfilling the Promise" (1993) and "Our Catholic Schools" (2006-2007). These three documents, while several years apart from each other, all speak of the unique mission of Ontario Catholic education, the importance of its shared leadership by all those involved in Catholic education and the critical role of Catholic education in contemporary society.

Catholic Education Week 2018 combines the themes of reconciliation, solidarity, love, justice and ecology. The CEW biblical quote is "For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." Acts 2:39

BAPTIZED IN THE HOLY SPIRIT



**Welcome to the family of God:
Everly Lemieux, Owen Gorman,
Nathan Lacroix and
Benjamin Lacroix**

First Friday Adoration~ Friday, May 4th, 4:00 pm to Saturday, May 5th, 4:00pm.