

### Fourth to Fifth Sunday of Easter - Year C

Diocesan Theme: **Christ is Everything for Us!** "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life". (John 6.68).

Parish Mission Statement: **Love God, Love Others, Make Disciples!** Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal parish through the liturgy, faith formation and sacramental life, provides opportunities for members to develop their faith and service to others.

Saturday,	<i>May</i> 7 <sup>th</sup>
4:30pm	Repose of the soul of Barbara Fleet by the James
	Family
Sunday, M	lay 8 <sup>th</sup> – Fourth Sunday of Easter
9:00am	Intentions of the Parishioners by the Pastor
10:45am	Repose of the souls of Jackie Sisk and Rose Brown
	by Ken and Heather Sisk
Tuesday,	-
7:00pm	CANCELLED
Wednesd	ay, May 11 <sup>th</sup>
9:30am	CANCELLED
Thursday	, May 12 <sup>th</sup>
9:00am	CANCELLED
Friday, M	ay 13th – St. Catherine of Siena
9:00am	CANCELLED
Saturday,	May 14 <sup>th</sup> – St. Matthias
4:30pm	Intentions for our Mothers, Grandmothers and
	Godmothers by the James Family
Sunday, M	lay 15 <sup>th</sup> – Fifth Sunday of Easter
9:00am	
10:45am	Intentions of Father Paul Gaudet by the CWL
	Members
Tuesday,	May 17 <sup>th</sup>
7:00pm	CANCELLED
Wednesd	ay, May 18 <sup>th</sup>
9:30am	CANCELLED
Thursda	y, May 19 <sup>th</sup>
9:00am	CANCELLED
Friday, N	lay 20 <sup>th</sup>
9:00am	CANCELLED
	y, May 21 <sup>st</sup>
4:30pm	Thanksgiving for Sally James on the occasion of he
4.50pm	90 <sup>th</sup> birthday by the James Family
	May 22 <sup>nd</sup> – Sixth Sunday of Easter

Intentions of the Holy Father for May: FAITH-FILLED YOUNG PEOPLE

We pray for all young people, called to live life to the fullest. May they see in Mary's life the way to listen, the depth of discernment, the courage that faith generates, and the dedication to service. *Fourth Sunday of Easter (Year C)—Good Shepherd Sunday* "My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me." <u>John 10:27</u>

Jesus offers a clear contrast among shepherds. This would apply to priests, parents and all of us in our own unique way. The contrast He offers is between the ones who care deeply for those entrusted to their care, and those who are just going through the motions and are more motivated by selfishness than sacrificial love.

Jesus perfectly manifested sacrificial love as the Divine Shepherd. He was willing to go all the way for us, His sheep. He was willing to sacrifice everything. He did not let suffering, persecution, rejection and the like deter Him from His responsibility of caring for us in a total and complete way. It should inspire us, console us and encourage us to know how deep His love for us really is.

This love is seen, also, in the unwavering love of a parent, sibling, or dear friend. When the love one offers us is unwavering, especially in difficult times, this is a great support. And love offered to another like this forges a deep spiritual bond that is stronger than any hardship we may face. No matter what "wolf" comes our way, we must know of the unwavering support of the Divine Shepherd. And when we can see that love made manifest in the unwavering support of others, we are doubly blessed.

But the contrast should not be ignored either. Jesus gives the example of "a hired man who is not a shepherd" who sees the wolf coming and runs. It's important to point out how damaging this man is to the people of God. When he runs from his responsibility and gives into selfish motivation, he leaves the flock untended and vulnerable to attack.

We should see in this hired man the temptation we all inevitably face in life. It's hard to stick with it through the hard times. It's hard to be there for those who need us when they
need us. It's hard to be faithful in all things and to never shy away in the face of the temptation of fear.

Jesus offers His unwavering love and support to us as our
Shepherd, but He also wants us to return this gift to Him by offering this same unwavering commitment to one another.
Reflect, today, how well you imitate the Good Shepherd. Where you are lacking, let Him shepherd you so that you may shepherd r others. Run to the Good Shepherd and trust in His perfect love for you.

Jesus, our Good Shepherd, I thank You for Your unwavering support of me as my Shepherd. And I thank You for those who act as Your instruments of this deep love and commitment. Help me to fulfill my role of shepherding Your people, the people You have placed in my life. May I never run from the glorious responsibility You have called me to. Jesus, I trust in You.

> YOUR OFFERINGS FOR: May 1<sup>st</sup> -\$2,712 Thank you for your generosity and support

May 8<sup>th</sup> - May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022 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

#### Fifth Sunday of Easter (Year C)

When Judas had left them, Jesus said, "Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him." John 13:31 It is essential to know the end of the story. Jesus knew the end when He spoke these words to the Apostles at the Last Supper right after Judas left to go and betray Him. It's important to put this situation within the context that Jesus understood it. From a purely human point of view, one of Jesus' closest friends was about to betray Him for money. For most of us this would have been devastating and the cause for anger and hurt. But because Jesus knew the end of the story, He was able to see Judas' betrayal as the means to His glorification, not His defeat. He turned His eyes toward Heaven and all that He would accomplish through His suffering rather than look at the immediate pain He would soon endure.

This is a powerful lesson for us all. First, it's essential that we look at Jesus' glorification through His betrayal, suffering and death. But we must also strive to see the potential that our own sufferings have when united to the Savior of the World.

How do you react when another sins against you? How would you have reacted to Judas betraying your love? This is a very difficult question to face in honesty and it is even harder to live the response that Jesus lived. The truth is that every time we are mistreated by another, we are given an opportunity to glorify God and further the Kingdom of Heaven by forgiving, uniting our suffering with Christ's, and offering mercy. This is much easier to speak about than to live.

Reflect, today, upon this scene of the Gospel. Gaze upon Judas leaving the Last Supper and going out into the night to betray our Lord. But look at it in the way Jesus saw it. Look at it with the understanding that this was the means chosen by the Father to bring salvation to the world. Reflect, also, upon every opportunity that you are given to do as Jesus did. Try to be concrete and specific and see any and every suffering you endure as a glorious opportunity to dispense the mercy of God. Though this may be difficult at first, it is this act of love that will give great glory to the Father in Heaven!

My dear Lord, You were betrayed by the kiss of one of Your closest friends. But in Your perfect wisdom, You saw this betrayal as the perfect opportunity to glorify the Father through Your mercy and forgiveness. Lord, I also have betrayed You countless times. For that reason I am sorry. But I thank You for loving me and forgiving me with Your Heart of perfect mercy. Help me to receive that mercy and to offer it to others who have sinned against me. Jesus, I trust in You.

Please Note: Weekday Masses are cancelled until Wednesday, May 25, 2022.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

National March for Life 2022: Parliament Hill & online, May 8-13. Find all the details at (https://marchforlife.ca/).

**The Office for Evangelization and Catechesis** - Webinar Series for a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission. Three-part series on May 18, May 25 & June 1, 1:00 – 2:30 pm. Info: m.shea-lawrence@cccb.ca; <u>www.cccb.ca</u>.

**Canadian Federation of Catholic Physicians and Societies Annual National Conference:** Catholic physicians, medical residents, students, clergy, healthcare professionals and those interested are invited to attend the annual virtual conference, June 3-5, 2022. Theme: Joys, Trials, and Perseverance. To register: https://canadiancatholicphysicians.com.

Journey of Discovery (Spiritual Gift Seminar):

Discover your God-given gifts (charisms) for service and ministry. Sign up for a face-to-face interactive workshop at St. Mary's Parish, 100 Young St., Ottawa on Fri., May 20, 7-9pm & Sat., May 21, 9:45am-4pm. Lunch provided. Register at spiritual.gifts@stmarysottawa.ca. Free will offering. Info: 613 224-5723.

## **BAPTIZED IN THE HOLY SPIRIT**



Welcome to the family of God: Oliver Charles Denis & William Douglas Garnet Guertin



# Happy Mother's Day

Heavenly Father, on this Mother's Day, we thank You for our mothers through whom Your gift of Life begins and through whom we are nurtured into great human beings. We lift up all mothers to Your love and care. We pray for them, for their needs of strength and support to continue to nurture a family love, in honor and love for You, our God. Amen.