VOL. 1, ISSUE 23 | MAY 9, 2021 WEEKLY E-BULLETIN

Saint Dunstan's Parish, Scarborough



From the Administrator's Desk

Dear Parishioners,

May the peace and joy of the Lord abide within us on this blessed **Mother's Day weekend**. I would like to extend my best wishes to mothers everywhere. And, I'd like to pray in a special way for those who have labored and sacrificed for their children selflessly. I also pray for many women who offer love and support to people in need: teachers, friends, aunts, grandmothers, nuns, and women who continue to nurture life and help the young grow. *May God keep his loving hands on you always*.

While we continue our Marian devotion for the month of May, we shall include a prayer to the Holy Spirit from the 14th to 22nd of May. Please say this prayer as a novena in preparation for the Pentecost. Whenever we meet together to say the rosary (Monday to Friday) we shall say it together, on Saturday and Sunday pray it individually.

The devotion continues at 8:00PM on our livestream page at <u>https://stdunstanssc.archtoronto.org/en/</u>. Everyone is welcome as we lift our voices to the Lord of Hosts, our strength, and the God of Jacob our stronghold. God bless you today and always,

Fr. Victor Amole

OVERVIEW:

- From the Administrator's Desk
- Parish News
- Around the Archdiocese & Beyond
- Wednesday Audience with Pope Francis
- Featured: Our Lady of Fatima



MASS SCHEDULE

May 10th	9:00AM
May 11th	9:00AM
May 12th	7:00PM
May 13th	9:00AM
May 14th	9:00AM
May 16th	10:00AM



The Holy Spirit fell upon all who were listening Acts (10:44)

The story of Peter and Cornelius is one of the most remarkable in the Book of Acts and worth reading in its entirety (10:1-49). Yet none of it would have happened if these two men had not been open to the possibility of God doing something new.

Peter, a devout Jew, had never eaten anything "unclean." When God gave him a vision asking him to eat one of those forbidden animals, Peter's first reaction was to recoil in horror. But when three men arrived asking him to come to Cornelius' house, Peter realized what the vision meant. Despite the strict separation between Gentile and Jew that had been practiced for centuries, God wanted him to go (10:17-20).

Cornelius was a "God-fearer," meaning he was a Gentile who worshipped the God of Israel. His openness to God had been nurtured through years of following the Lord. So when an angel appeared to him and told him to send for Peter, he obeyed. Than as Peter was proclaiming the gospel, Cornelius received the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues (10:44-46). How can we be open to the Lord and whatever "new things" he may want to do through us? First, like Peter and Cornelius, we need to stay close to God in prayer. Because of their faithfulness, God was able to speak to both men and show them how he wanted to bring salvation to the Gentiles. Second, we should be careful not to place limits on God.

Peter had to trust God with a new and different way of living out his faith. Cornelius had to be open to receiving new life in the Spirit through Baptism. Are you open to anything God might ask of you? Today, pray for the grace to see where you might have drawn a line in the sand that you have asked God not to cross, God can, and will, use you as long as you remain open to him.

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit came down upon all those who were listening.

Source: Living With Christ



Universal Intention of Pope Francis for May 2021: The World of Finance

Let us pray that those in charge of finance will work with governments to regulate the financial sphere and protect citizens from its dangers.

Parish News

Want to become Catholic?

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is process whereby а individuals explore their relationship with God and enter into a faith journey which takes them to a study and reflection on the Bible, the Trinity, the sacraments and the liturgy. We invite all who are interested to contact the parish for information.

Devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Wednesday evenings at 7:00PM. Please Join Us *Online*.



New Covid-19 Restrictions PLACES OF WORSHIP, AS OF APRIL 19, 2021

Eventbrite

Kindly book a spot for Communion service on the website. It is a very short service of the word and the Eucharist which nurtures us and keeps us going while these restrictions last. We continue to follow proper WorshipSafe measures to keep us all safe.

Kindly wear your mask before entering the church, use the sanitizer by the door.



The Saints' Corner

CLICK HERE

For the sacrifices you

make and the love

you give: Thank you

to all the moms out

there!

Saint John Bosco

by Paula de Rushe - Quintal

Saint Dunstan's Catholic Church

Toronto, ON

Sincerest Condolences

Our heartfelt sympathy to the Jalsevac family on the passing of **Marie Jalsevac** on May 1, 2021. May her Soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace. Amen.



Join us at 8 pm from Monday to Friday for the recitation of the rosary on our livestream page. Let us pray, aspire, reflect and rest together in the peace and reassurance of the Blessed Virgin Mary. May she intercede for us, for our families, and for the entire world.

Holy Spirit Novena Prayer

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth.

O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations, Through Christ Our Lord, Amen



The Cardinal Virtues

Thanks to the collaborative efforts of Michael Schaub, and Theresa and Charles Kellen, we now have the "Cardinal Virtues Series" on our website.

The team is exploring the meaning of four cardinal virtues (Justice, Prudence, Fortitude and Temperance) in a delightfully fresh way. Follow the weekly series by clicking on the red button (above). This week, the virtue is "justice".

Around the Archdiocese & Beyond

THE FIRST LADY AND HER SUCCESSORS



"The First Lady and Her Successors" is a documentary film written, produced and directed by Dr. Josephine Lombardi. The film follows Biblical accounts associated with Mary and shows how all women all called to relate to Mary's experiences.

It premieres on Thursday, May 13, 2021 at 7:00 pm EST directly on Dr. Josephine Lombardi's website. Click on the poster to be directed there.

New Intersessory Prayer in Times of Covid-19

Bishop Robert Kasun has issued a special



prayer of healing and hope. He has asked that we lift up our voices to God together at this time of distress. Click on the prayerful hands (*top*) to be directed to the prayer.

Holy Spirit Novena

are We all invited to participate 14th in the annual Holy Spirit Novena presented by Our Lady of Counsel Caribbean Good Catholic Church held on Friday, May 14, 2021 to Saturday, May 22, 2021.

To participate in this special event, please call **416-534-1145 (x 23)** Tuesdays & Thursdays for Zoom Access and information about the Novena Package.

MARCH FOR LIFE

This year, we can't all march to Parliament Hill but we can still show our support for ending over 50 vears of abortion on demand! EWTN brings Canada's 24th National March for Life to your home by offering complete live coverage of the events. Archbishop of Ottawa-Cornwall, Marcel Damphousse, celebrates the National Mass for Life at 10:30 a.m., with greetings from Archbishop of Toronto, Cardinal Thomas Collins and Archbishop of Montreal, Christian Lépine. The March for Life will air from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. To participate in the event virtually:

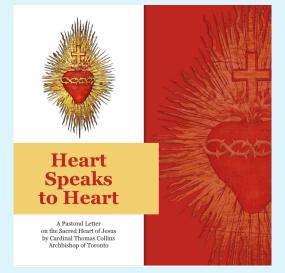
<u>https://www.ewtn.com/tv/extr</u> <u>a-watch-live/canada</u>



On April 28, 2021, Cardinal Thomas Collins, Archbishop of Toronto, released a new pastoral letter on the Sacred Heart of Jesus. This is a significant reflection on one of the most sacred symbols in the Catholic faith and what it can teach us in these difficult times.

If you wish to read the document in its entirety, simply click on the image on your right and you will be directed to it.

However, we will be featuring a section *each week* for several weeks as we approach the Feast Day of the Sacred Heart on **Friday**, **June 11**, **2021**. Part 2 of the letter follows.



2. The Symbol of the Sacred Heart

We are not angels. We are flesh and blood, rational creatures. We always think and imagine and communicate, in this incarnate world, through material signs which point beyond themselves. We require visible signs and symbols that speak to us in our humanity.

That is what the image of the Sacred Heart does. It is a visual sign, an image, that helps us to experience the meaning of the love of Jesus, made manifest, especially on Good Friday. It is drawn from Scripture (which itself is the Word of God made flesh in human language), and from our human experience. We must not live abstractly, from the neck up: we need visual symbolism.

The ultimate encounter with divinity in humanity is found in the incarnation of Jesus Christ: "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us." (John 1:14) We continue to encounter Jesus now, in our lives as his disciples, through the sign of language in the Scriptures, and through the signs of matter and words in the Sacraments, which effect what they signify. Those are all acts of God. But the encounter with Jesus in our human life is also experienced in other ways, and especially through the prayerful practices of devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, which engage us personally in the love of Christ among us.

Even in our secular society, **the heart** is the common sign for love, as we see every Valentine's day. But for a Christian, the love signified by the Sacred Heart is not a passing emotion, but the steady, reliable, faithful, lifegiving love which we experience in Jesus as we encounter him in the Gospels, in the Sacraments, and in our life of faith. We are called to imitate that faithful love.

The heart is a natural sign of true love: it is hidden, it is steady, and it is reliable. As it beats, moment by moment, day by day, year by year, it keeps us alive. That is true love, not the sentiment that deceives, nor the passing infatuation that blows away like a cloud. That is the Sacred Heart of Jesus, steady and true, and that is what we must take to heart. Our life of Christian discipleship must be guided by the profound vision of love represented by the Sacred Heart.

The Sacred Heart image shows **the heart as wounded**, and this reminds us of a scriptural foundation of the devotion, the reference in John 19:34 to the lance piercing the side of Christ on the cross. From this verse, there developed Christian meditation upon the wounds of Christ, especially the wound to the heart, from which, the Gospel states, flowed blood and water.

Doubting Thomas (John 20:24-29) said that he would not believe unless he put his hands into the wounds of Christ. And in the Apocalypse, we see the image of the Risen Lord as the Lamb before the throne of God in glory, and yet slain (Apocalypse 5:6). All of this reminds us that the love of Jesus for us was not some theoretical love. He actually suffered with us and for us, in the midst of brutality and injustice greater than anything you or I will ever experience. That love is not superficial, but involves the readiness to enter into suffering, to take up our cross and follow Jesus. Such is the love of Christ symbolized by the Sacred Heart. Such is the love expected of a disciple of Christ.

The Sacred Heart is portrayed as encircled by a crown of thorns. As with the wound in the heart, the crown of thorns reminds us that real love, faithful love, totally committed love for others, can lead to rejection and suffering. If we only act in order to attract applause, and shift our principles to guarantee that approval, we will never truly live or love at all, and we will lose our very self. Real love is inseparable

2. The Symbol of the Sacred Heart (cont'd.)

from integrity, and may well include a crown of thorns, which reminds us of the cost of discipleship. It also reminds us that whenever people are mocked, marginalized, bullied or rejected in any way, the disciple of Jesus must be with them to care for them with the compassion of Christ.

Christians in fact have been doing that, for two thousand years, and do so to this day, around the world and, unrecognized, in our own community.

The Sacred Heart is surmounted by a cross, the primary symbol of Christian faith: it draws us to contemplate sacrificial love of Jesus, as he lays down his life for us on the cross. In a world that would crucify an innocent man, Jesus returns love for hatred and says: "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." (Luke 23:34) The love represented by the Sacred Heart is that sacrificial love which is centered not on self, but on others. We must go and do likewise.

As Saint Paul says, we must have among ourselves the mind of Jesus who "though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross." (Philippians 2:6- 8) Jesus calls on his disciples to show that same generous and sacrificial love, as we take up our cross and follow him each day. The Sacred Heart is **surrounded by flames**. These are flames of glory, for love of the quality represented by the love of Jesus is truly glorious. They are flames that provide light in a world darkened by sin, and warmth in a world that too often is cold, that treats people as things to be used, not as persons to be loved. They are flames of zeal, sign of the fire that came down upon the disciples at Pentecost, as they were sent out to set the world on fire for Christ, as are we all.

Sometimes, Jesus **points to the Sacred Heart**, inviting us to come to him when we labour and are heavy laden; sometimes **the arms of Jesus reach outward**, welcoming everyone, as he calls us to do. The Sacred Heart is a powerful symbol of the love of Jesus, which each of us was commissioned to make present in this world on the day we were baptised. More than ever before, our fractious world now needs the love symbolized by the Sacred Heart of Jesus.



Weekly Catechesis by Pope Francis

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning!

We continue the catechesis on prayer and in this catechesis, I would like to reflect on contemplative prayer.

The contemplative dimension of the human being - which is not yet contemplative prayer - is a bit like the "salt" of life: it gives flavour, it seasons our day. We can contemplate by gazing at the sun that rises in the morning, or at the trees that deck themselves out in spring green; we can contemplate by listening to music or to the sounds of the birds, reading a book, gazing at a work of art or at that masterpiece that is the human face... Carlo Maria Martini, when he was sent to be the Bishop of Milan, entitled his first Pastoral Letter The contemplative dimension of life: the truth is that those who live in a large city, where everything - we can say - is everything artificial and where is functional, risk losing the capacity to contemplate. To contemplate is not primarily a way of doing, but a way of being. To be contemplative.

And being contemplatives does not depend on the eyes, **but on the heart**. And here prayer enters into play as an act of faith and love, as the "breath" of our relationship with God.

Prayer purifies the heart and, with it, also sharpens our gaze, allowing it to grasp reality from another point of view. The



twitter

Pope's Thoughts in Tweets: Loving contemplation, typical of the most intimate #prayer, does not need many words. A gaze is enough. It is enough to be convinced that our life is surrounded by an immense and faithful love that nothing can ever separate us from. #GeneralAudience

Catechism describes this transformation of the heart that prayer effects, citing a famous testimony of the Holy Curé of Ars who said this: "Contemplation is a gaze of faith, fixed on Jesus. 'I look at him and he looks at me': this is what a certain peasant of Ars used to say to the holy curé while praying before the tabernacle. [...] The light of the countenance of Jesus illumines the eyes of our heart and teaches us to see everything in the light of his truth and his compassion for all men" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2715). Everything comes from this: from a heart that feels that it is looked on with love. Then reality is contemplated with different eyes.

"I look at Him and He looks at me!" It is like this: loving contemplation, typical of the most intimate prayer, does not need many words. A gaze is enough. It is enough to be convinced that our life is surrounded by an immense and faithful love that nothing can ever separate us from.

Jesus was a master of this gaze. His life never lacked the time, space, silence, the loving communion that allows one's existence not to be devastated by the inevitable trials, but to maintain beauty intact. His secret is his relationship with his heavenly Father.

Excerpt from General Audience of May 5, 2021

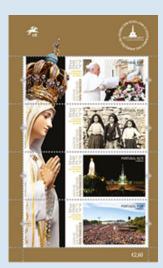
Featured: Our Lady of Fatima (May 13th)

he story begins in the village of Fatima, Portugal, on May 13, 1917. On that fateful day near that tiny village, The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, appeared to three young peasant children: Francisco,

Jacinta, and Lucia; ages 10, 9 and 7. As was the custom, these youngsters were tending their family's sheep when "a Lady all in white, more brilliant than the sun... indescribably beautiful," standing above a bush, appeared to the youngsters. From May through October 1917, the Lady appeared and spoke to the children on the 13th day of each month.

News of these apparitions began to spread throughout the region. The children recounted that the Virgin told them that God had sent her with a message for every man, woman, and child living in the century. She promised that God would grant peace to the entire world if Her requests for prayer, reparation and consecration were heard and obeyed. While many people believed the children had actually seen the Virgin, many others discounted the children's story, subjecting them to much derision and ridicule. When it became known the Lady would visit the children for the last time on October 13, 1917, and had promised a sign that would convince the world she had appeared, many pilgrims made plans to attend.

Keeping You Posted by Jay Franco



Our Lady of Fatima first appeared on 13th May 1917 to three shepherd children – Lucia, Francisco and Jacinta and revealed three secrets to them.

This set of stamps was released by Portugal Post in 1917 to celebrate the centenary of the apparitions. Nearly 70,000 people journeyed through the heavy rain and mud to the place of the previous apparitions to witness the predicted miracle. Suddenly the "clouds separated...and the sun appeared between them in the clear blue, like a disk of white fire." The people could look at the sun without blinking and while they gazed upward, the huge ball began to "dance". The huge fireball whirled rapidly with dizzy and sickening speed, flinging out all sorts of brilliant colors that reflected on the faces of the crowds. The fiery ball continued to gyrate in this manner three times, then seemed to tremble and shudder, and plunge in a mighty zigzag course toward the earth. The crowd was terrified However, the sun reversed course and, retracing its zigzagging course, returned to its normal place in the heavens. All of this transpired in approximately ten minutes.

After what has become to be known as "The Miracle of the Sun," the children were grilled many, many times, about what they had seen and been told. Their story never changed. *Source: Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church, New Mexico*

Pope Saint John Paul II was shot on the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima, May 13, 1981, in St. Peter's Square in Rome. He was grievously injured but survived. He later said that one hand pulled the trigger, but another hand guided the bullet. He went on pilgrimage to Fatima to give thanks for that saving hand. The bullet that penetrated his torso, and was removed by doctors, was placed into the silver crown of Our Lady of Fatima. It rests there today. We honor Mary for many graces, we petition her for many favors, and we thank her for many gifts -for the battle won, for the plentiful harvest, for the healthy baby, for the calm sea, and for the lives saved, dramatically, from an assassin, or mundanely, from everything else.

For our Wonderful Moms

The officer at the driving license counter asked the lady: "What is your occupation?" The woman, seeking a renewal of her license seemed to be puzzled. so the officer said "Ma'am, are you employed, have your own business or..."

"Oh yes!' The woman replied, "I do have a full-time occupation. I am a mother!" The officer rolled his eyes: "We don't have 'mother' as an option for occupation. I'll write it down as 'housewife'. That takes care of all questions."

This had happened long ago and was forgotten. Years later, when I (*the woman in the story, if you hadn't guessed*) went to get my license, the public relations officer was a somewhat pompous woman. "Your occupation?" she asked in a rather authoritative tone. I just had a moment of inspiration and replied, "I am a researcher in the field of child development, nutrition and interpersonal relationships." The lady officer stared at me in amazement. I calmly repeated my statement and she wrote it down verbatim. Then, unable to conceal her curiosity, she politely asked "What exactly do you do in your profession, ma'am?"

I was feeling good about having described my occupation so calmly and confidently, so I replied "My research projects have been going on for a number of years [mothers NEVER retire]. My research is conducted in the laboratory as well as in the field. I have two bosses [one is God and the other is my entire family]. I have received two honors in this field [a son and a daughter]. My topic is considered to be the most difficult part of sociology. [All moms will agree]. I have to work more than 14 hours every day. Sometimes even 24 hours are not enough, and the challenges are tougher than many other professions. My compensation is in terms of mental satisfaction rather than money." I could see that the officer was thoroughly impressed. After completing the licensing formalities, she came to the door to see me off.



BY FATHER VICTOR

Due to the limitations caused by the pandemic, many parishioners have not been able to offer their donations to help upkeep our Church.

I've listed a few ways in which you might like to continue supporting Saint Dunstan's Parish.

We appreciate your generosity at this difficult time.

Credit Fr. Anthony Kadavil

- ENVELOPES: Envelopes can be dropped off at the church office. Please call ahead: 416-694-2811
- MONTHLY WITHDRAWLS: Consider pre-authorized giving For more information: https://stdunstanssc.archtoronto.or g/About-Us/donate
- **CREDIT / DEBIT**: Donate online using your credit card or your chequing account. Visit: https://stdunstanssc.archtoronto.or g/About-Us/donate
- ON-LINE BANKING: Contribute to the offertory via on-line banking. Visit: <u>https://stdunstanssc.archtoronto.or</u> <u>g/About-Us/donate</u>

CONTACT SAINT DUNSTAN'S CHURCH

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In this year of Saint Joseph, we are encouraged to say this special prayer, asking for his intercession.

Special Prayer to St. Joseph

To you, O blessed Joseph, do we come in our tribulation, and having implored the help of your most holy spouse, we confidently invoke your patronage also. Through that charity which bound you to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God and through the paternal love with which you embraced the Child Jesus, we humbly beg you graciously to regard the inheritance which Jesus Christ has purchased by his Blood, and with your power and strength to aid us in our necessities.

O most watchful Guardian of the Holy Family, defend the chosen children of Jesus Christ; O most loving father, ward off from us every contagion of error and corrupting influence; O our most mighty protector, be propitious to us and from heaven assist us in our struggle with the power of darkness; and, as once you rescued the Child Jesus from deadly peril, so now protect God's Holy Church from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity; shield, too, each one of us by your constant protection, so that, supported by your example and your aid, we may be able to live piously, to die holily, and to obtain eternal happiness in heaven. Amen