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ASCENSION OF THE LORD

May 28, 2017

"I am with you always — to the close of the age"



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 into heaven 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). He assured them of his power – a power which overcame sin and death. Now as the glorified and risen Lord and Savior, ascended to the right hand of the Father in heaven, Jesus promised to give them the power his Holy Spirit, which we see fulfilled ten days later on the Feast of Pentecost. When the Lord Jesus departed physically from the apostles, they were not left alone or powerless. Jesus assured them of his presence and the power of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus' last words to his disciples 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 saviour of the world. We have not been left alone in the 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."

THE RELIC OF ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA



On Wednesday, June 14 the relic of St. Anthony of Padua is coming to St. Christopher Church in Mississauga. There will be veneration all day and Masses as 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. For more information call the St. Christopher office at 905-822-1171.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPE NUMBERS



We have several offertory envelopes with no name attached to them. These numbers are 213, 314, 346, 352, 517, 558 and 692. If one of these numbers belong to you and you

would like to receive a tax receipt, please notify the office as soon as possible.



MONDAY, MAY 29 - 7:00 P.M.

S.I. Greg Davis and Family

+ Cathal Boyd

TUESDAY, MAY 30 - 8:00 A.M.

Intention Available

WEDNESDAY, MAY 31 – 7:00 P.M.

Intention Available

THURSDAY, JUNE 1 - 8:00 A.M.

In reparation for offences committed against the Most Holv Eucharist

FRIDAY, JUNE 2 – 7:00 P.M

S.I. Hatch Family

S.I. For priests and deacons living and deceased

+ Souls in Purgatory

SATURDAY, JUNE 3 - 5:00 P.M.

Intention Available

SUNDAY, JUNE 4 – PENTECOST SUNDAY

8.00 A.M. Intention Available
9:30 A.M. S.I. Parish Community
11:00 A.M. Intention Available
12:30 P.M. Intention Available

THEOLOGY OF THE BODY

Are you the person you want to be? Are you happy and fulfilled? If you're wondering if there is more to life than just "getting by" and are ready to focus on what really matters, then discover this extraordinary Catholic teaching called Theology of the Body. Given to us by St. John Paul II, author and presenter Christopher West unpacks this teaching in his DVD series, "Discovering the Master Plan for Your Life." It will be presented for adults in DVD format with open discussion. There will be 4 consecutive sessions every Tuesday from May 30 to June 20 at 7:30 - 9:30 PM, held in the Merciful Redeemer Parish Hall. A fee of \$20.00 per person (includes workbook) or \$25.00 per couple (includes workbook) or \$5.00 for repeat participants will be collected at the first session on May 30. For information and pre-registration, please contact Anthony at (416) 302 4253, Tod at TOB@bell.net, or Melvin at

marquesm2020@gmail.com.

SECOND ANNUAL RETREAT FOR WOMEN

"At His service, At His feet, In His name". Join us for a day of reflection on what it means to know, love, and serve Jesus. We are all called to experience a unique relationship with our Lord. Come for a day of reflection, prayer, and Mass. Bring a friend! The retreat is being held at St. Augustine's Seminary June 3rd from 9:30-2:30. Cost is \$50.00. For more information call 416-261-7207 ext. 235 or email ioft@sastoronto.org



Living the Gospel by providing a summer camp experience for young boys...During his years as a young camper at Camp Ozanam, Niro experienced significant moments of personal growth in his life, which had a

lasting impact on him. Later on, he became a staff counselor at Camp Ozanam, where he now has the opportunity to become involved in and positively influence the lives of current camp participants. "When you are with your brothers at camp, it is okay to show your feelings. These memories become important, because these kids really get to know each other and stand by each other. Thank you, ShareLife, for all the work you do to make this possible at Camp Ozanam!" says Niro. Last year, ShareLife-supported Camp Ozanam provided a unique camping experience for 600 boys from underprivileged homes in the GTA.

Next ShareLife Sunday is June 4, 2017 Please give generously.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Please pray for the young people of our parish

schools who will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation.

St. Francis of Assisi School – Wednesday, May 31st

St. Margaret of Scotland – Wednesday, June 7th

Christ the King & Other Schools – Wednesday, June 14th

ACTS RETREAT FOR MEN

Thursday, June 8 to Sunday, June 11 Queen of Apostles Renewal Centre 1617 Blythe Rd., Mississauga

Consider registering now to reserve a place at the Men's ACTS Retreat at Queen of Apostles Retreat Centre in Mississauga. Experience the beauty and spiritual miracles that many men from around Ontario have enjoyed. The host parish for this retreat is St. Martin of Tours, Mississauga.

Contact Ray Pellerin at 905-327-1425 for more info nrpts rp@hotmail.com

ST. PAUL'S BASILICA TAIZE PRAYER SERVICE

On Sunday, Jun 11 from 3:30-4:30 St. Paul's Basilica Parish invites you to meditative scripture-based prayer and music in the Taize tradition. Join us in celebrating the Pentecost season through contemplative song, scripture and silence. All are welcome. Social and light refreshments to follow. RSVPs appreciated. Contact St. Paul Taize Prayer Group at stpaultaize@gmail.com

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