# THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. JOHN THE APOSTLE

2340 Baseline Road, Ottawa, Ontario K2C 0C9 Parish Office: 613-829-1760 / Fax: 613-829-2931 Office email: office@stjohntheapostleparish.com Website: www.stjohntheapostleparish.com Bookkeeper's email: bookkeeper@stjohntheapostleparish.com Pastor's email: pastor@stjohntheapostleparish.com

> Pastor: Rev. Emeka Onyeogubalu Deacon: Deacon Victor Mesta Office Administrator: Franca Morrison Bookkeeping: Joanne Bazdell Maintenance: Steve Short



Sterice, Meluial



### PASTOR'S EASTER MESSAGE

... He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" Lk 24:25-26.

#### Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

"Why do you seek the living one among the dead? He is not here, but he has been raised". Lk 24:6. That was the testimony of "two men in dazzling garments" that appeared to Mary Magdalene, Joanna and Mary the mother of James. He has indeed been raised and has defeated the power of evil, sin and death. It is that tremendous miracle that we are celebrating at this paschal time.

Our world is bedeviled by lots of uncertainties that breeds lots of confusing emotions amongst us. There are a series of unanswered questions. We sometimes feel forgotten and/or overwhelmed. The message of hope and trust in God's love for us sometimes sounds hollow. That was precisely the way the disciples of Christ on their way to Emmaus were sounding. A lot was not making sense to them and then came Christ in their midst. It was a rude awakening.

Dear friends, let us, as we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord and saviour Jesus Christ, remind ourselves of who we are, as the children of God. We need to remind ourselves of 'the type of blood with which we were redeemed' and the special position that we occupy in the heart of our loving Father.

It is true that in our world today there is lots of chaos and uncertainties. There is a rude awakening that our lives can change in an instant. But there is one thing that cannot change, there is a love that is immutable and eternal, a love that God has for us and sent His only son to die for our sins. Let us encourage each other with that.

In our parish community, let us allow that love to prevail in the way we live, the way we relate with each other and the way we make ourselves available to the activities that unite us here. The plans God declared for us are *"plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future"* (Jer 29:11). Let us then, as we sing and pray the 'Regina Caeli Laetare', be joyful for God's love for us and unshakeable commitment to our course. May His mighty name be blessed both now and forever...Amen! Alleluia!!

Have a wonderful Easter celebration. Sincerely yours in Christ, Fr. Emeka

	Lectors
April 26 <sup>th</sup> /27 <sup>th</sup> Second Sunday of Easter Divine Mercy Sunday	
	Presider: Fr. Emeka Onyeogubalu
5:00 pm	#1 Ian Moffat
	#2 Mary Ellen Agnel
	Presider: Fr. Emeka Onyeogubalu
	#1 Sabrina Pedulla
8:00 am	#2 Rexita Xavier
	Presider: Fr. Emeka Onyeogubalu
10:30 am	#1 Chris Pereira
	#2 Judith Gray

If you are unable to serve as scheduled, Please ensure that you have found a replacement.

## Dates to Remember

April 26<sup>th</sup> – Hike for Life April 27<sup>th</sup> – Divine Mercy Sunday May 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> – First Communions May 7<sup>th</sup> – Seniors Mass and Social May 10<sup>th</sup> - Confirmations

HIKE FOR LIFE – SATURDAY, APRIL 26<sup>TH</sup> You are invited to participate in Action Life's 34th Annual Hike for Life on **Saturday**, **April 26<sup>TH</sup>**, a fun event for the whole family: refreshments and prizes. Rain or shine, **registration takes place from 8:00am – 10:00am** in St. Theresa's Parish hall at 95 Somerset St. West. The Hike is a 5 km route. Pledge forms are available at the entrances of the church. Enjoy a walk on the "side of life" while earning much needed support for Action Life, Ottawa's pro-life educational organization. For more information visit <u>www.actionlife.org</u>



<u>Children's Liturgy</u> There will be no Children's Liturgy this weekend, so families can celebrate in the Church together. It will resume again next **Sunday, April 27**<sup>th</sup>.

Children's Liturgy

Children's Liturgy takes place at every 10:30am Mass. Kindergarten aged children through grade 6 are welcome to join us in the main hall for a child friendly liturgy. Parents are welcome to attend with younger children!



## SUNDAY SMILE

What do rabbits say before they eat? "Lettuce pray".

What sport are eggs the best at? Running!

Why did the Easter egg hide? He was a little chicken!

Next Seniors Mass and Social Wednesday, May 7th at 1:00pm

Bring a friend, bring a mug and bring some goodies. Coffee and Tea provided. Everyone 55 plus is welcome. We are looking forward to seeing you!



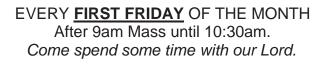
Pilgriming with Deacon Victor

Deacon Victor has now launched his new youtube channel and is happy to share the link with you:

https://www.youtube.com/@pilgrimingwi thdeaconvictor

Share the link with your family and friends, and journey with the Deacon to explore sacred places.





#### **Mass Intentions**

<u>Sun. April 20th – 8:00am</u> For the intentions of all our parishioners.

<u>Tues. April 22nd – 9:00am</u> For the conversion of Jerome Mourits

Wed. April 23rd - 9:00am

Thurs. April 24th – 9:00am

Sun. April 27th - 10:30am For the intentions of all our parishioners

indicates deceased



Please remember the sick and their families who journey with them, especially Bosco Huang, Paul Chamaillard and Deborah LaRiccia.



Easter is not just a day to celebrate; it is a season to live with renewed faith and hope.

St. John Chrysostom

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