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**The Diocese of St. Catharines
 60th Anniversary—1958-2018**

“Put out into the deep water and let down your nets.” (Lk 5:4)

**Sunday, May 13th, 2018
 The Ascension of the Lord**

“Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved; whoever does not believe will be condemned. These signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will drive out demons, they will speak new languages. They will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.” — Mk 16:15b-17, 18c

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Sat. May 12	9-10am	Reconciliation
	4-4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation
	5:00pm	✠ Nicola Colangelo (Rosa Colangelo & Family)
Sun. May 13	9:30am	Missa Pro Populo
	11:00am	✠ Teresa & Martin Bajuk (Frank & Ivanka Plesko)
Mon. May 14	9:30am	✠ Benito Bachetti (Michael Wilson)
	7-8pm	Holy Hour & Reconciliation
Tues. May 15	9:30am	Mass Cancelled
Wed. May 16	9:30am	Mass Cancelled
Thurs. May 17	9:30am	Communion Service
Fri. May 18	9:30am	Communion Service
Sat. May 19	9-10am	Reconciliation Cancelled
	4-4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation
	5:00pm	Missa Pro Populo
Sun. May 20	9:30am	✠ Aladino Magazzeni (Marco Magazzeni & Family)
	11:00am	✠ Mary Voogt & David Green (Voogt & Green Families)

**Reconciliation from 9-9:20am before all weekday Masses.
 Offertory May 5th & 6th, 2018**

80 Envelopes	\$2,065.00
Loose Collection	\$ 623.65
Total Offertory	\$2,688.65
Pope's Pastoral Works	\$1,340.45

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

We are called to be missionaries. Jesus said to his disciples: “Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature.” Proclaiming the Gospel means looking out at my brothers and sisters and choosing to walk with them on their journey of life. It means having a listening, loving presence that allows the Holy Spirit to work in and through us. In this way we can show them—not only in speech, but in action—the difference a relationship with God and a life of faith really makes. Even though Jesus has ascended to the Father, he still remains with us. Helping us proclaim the mission of the Gospel. Are we willing to allow him to do so?

The Ascension of the Lord

The Ascension is an interesting feast when you think about it. We celebrate Jesus leaving! Jesus' first departure from the earth was sudden and unexpected, at least to his followers. That Good Friday departure was characterized by sorrow, confusion, and loss. This departure has a different feel: anticipation.

Today's Gospel is full of the mighty deeds Jesus predicts for his followers. “In my name they will drive out demons, they will speak new languages. They will pick up serpents [with their hands], and if they drink any deadly thing it will not harm them. They will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.” Mark's account of the Ascension is abrupt and succinct. “Then the Lord Jesus, after he spoke to them, was taken up into heaven.” Jesus ascends and the Apostles go. “But they went forth and preached everywhere.” The real moment likely had a bit of lag time. Realistically, the Apostles had quite the task in front of them. Can you imagine those first few moments on the hilltop after Jesus disappeared, as the Apostles met each other's eyes? “This is it. He really is gone this time. It's up to us now.”

Mark's abrupt transition from Ascension to action makes his meaning clear. The Ascension isn't just about Jesus. It's about us. Are we ready to go? Are we ready to be commissioned? This is the heart of the Ascension message—Jesus leaves so we can go. We might not “go into the whole world,” but we all live in a corner of it. The command to “proclaim the Gospel” isn't a call for everyone to be formal preachers of the Word. We do, however, proclaim our beliefs with the way we live our lives. Do our lives proclaim Easter joy?



The month of May—The Month of Mary—is a special time for Catholics to pay homage to our Blessed Mother Mary. She has a unique role in salvation history as the Mother of God, conceived without sin, who by her own free will agreed to bring the “Word made flesh”, (John 1:14) our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ into the world. Her life in the Gospel years was one of service and great devotion to Jesus, from the cave in Bethlehem where she gave birth to Him, to Calvary in Jerusalem where she stood by His cross in His Crucifixion, from Crib to Cross, as it were. Her words still resonate with us today and challenge us to follow her example of humility, obedience, and service to God.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY: A Prayer for Mothers—Where would we be without our mother's love? Lord, bless our mothers with wisdom to teach and guide their children in a way that will help them to follow You and to become men and women who will be pleasing in Your sight. Give all mothers the patience to deal with the difficulties of their job and, most of all, give them a special blessing as they care so lovingly for the gifts that You have allowed them the honour of raising. Amen.

St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Ann: Last year the St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Ann's Church participated in the North of 60 project. Through this project, a sea container was packed with non perishables and sent to Naujaat (now-we-aught) a hamlet on the shores of Hudson's Bay in Nunavut. You may remember that our parish was responsible for providing oil. The generosity of parishes across the region made this happen. However the need was much greater than anticipated and this year the aim is to fill two containers. This is a very isolated community and access by sea is limited to a few weeks in the summer. Food is very expensive and there is much poverty. During May all donations put into the St. Vincent de Paul box will be put toward this initiative. Tax receipts are available for donations over \$20. **Please make cheques payable to: SSVDP Welland Par-ticular Council.**



St. Ann Youth Ministry

Confirmation classes: will begin on **Wed. May 16th** from 4-5:30pm in the parish hall. They will continue through the month of May each Wednesday evening. Classes will resume on Wed. Sept 5th and continue each Wednesday through to Nov. 3rd. If you have not registered your child, please do so as soon as possible. Youth Ministry will participate in this year's **Fenwick Lion's Parade on Friday, May 25th.** Come out and support our youth! Friday, June 1st, Nickel Bingo, Lookout Ridge 6:30-8:30pm Youth Ministry will also host the luncheon following the Spanish Mass on Sunday, June 3rd.

First Communion Class 2018

Congratulations to our young children who received the Sacrament of First Eucharist on May 6th.

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|-----------------|-------------------|
| Sycilia Bews | Emma Kelly |
| Benjamin Boyce | Brook Lilliot |
| Marco Butera | Derek MacDonald |
| Lidia Cargnelli | Jenny Vani |
| Cameron Conley | Evan Vanderzanden |
| Myles Couturier | Hudson Zari |



Elisha House Pregnancy & family Support Centre—Celebrating 30 Years. campaign runs from **MAY 13 JUNE 17 (Father's Day)** Fill a bottle with coins, bills or a cheque made out to Elisha House. See your Church Rep for more info. Thank you for investing in the lives of young women and families in the Welland area. The bottles are now available at the back of the church. Please return them to the parish by the Father's Day weekend. Your support is very much appreciated. **Last year, our parish donated \$611.45 to this campaign.**

Seasonal Agricultural Worker Program

There is always a need for new or gently used items; sweaters, light coats, socks, work gloves, new toiletries. Please contact the office or leave in the church hall.

World Youth Day 2019: Panama City, Panama Jan. 18 – 26,

2019 OR Jan. 22 - 28, 2019 : Calling all young adults, 18-30 years of age! Come learn more about the pilgrimage to WYD 2019 in Panama. Those interested are asked to attend an Information Session at 7:00 pm at the Catholic Centre, 3400 Merrittville, Thorold on **Thursday, May 17, 2018** Questions? Contact Raoul Masseur (wydpanama2019saintcd@gmail.com) or Terri Pauco, Family and Youth Office at 905-684-0154, or familyandyouth@saintcd.com.

Parish Calendar

May.....	
May 13th.....	Ascension of the Lord
May 13th....	Mother's Day
May 15-25.....	WEEKDAY Masses cancelled
May 16th.....	Confirmation Class 4-5:30pm
May 20th.....	Pentecost Sunday
May 20th.....	Spanish Mass 1pm
May 23rd.....	Confirmation Class 4-5:30pm
May 27th.....	The Most Holy Trinity
May 30th.....	Confirmation Class 4-5:30pm

STRAWBERRY FAIR JUNE 10TH, 2018, 10AM-1PM



Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to assist. This event is one of our major social events of the year bringing together our parish community before the summer break. Your support is most appreciated!!

Volunteers are needed for cleaning the berries on **Saturday, June 9th from 9-11am. Please join us in the parish hall.**

We also need the following positions to be filled:

- 1 person to make pancakes
- 2 people to assist with the bake table
- 1 person to sell tickets
- 1 person to assemble the shortcakes & sundaes

Our next planning meeting will be held on **Tuesday, May 29th at 6:30pm.**

Bake Table: Items would be appreciated and can be dropped off Saturday, June 9th before or after Mass or early the morning of the event.

As always, your help & support is greatly appreciated!

The National Week for Life and the Family will be celebrated across Canada, the week of May 13-20, 2018, from the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord to Pentecost Sunday. Ascension Sunday this year also coincides with Mother's Day. The theme for 2018 is “Love: Encountering the Other”.

Love is first meant to be discovered and experienced in the family. According to the divine plan for humanity, the family is the sacred place where, through loving encounters with others—parents, siblings, grandparents, aunts and uncles—the child makes room in his or her heart for an encounter with the Other who is Love (see 1 Jn 4:8). For many of our contemporaries, however, day-to-day life has become a relentless cycle of work and activities which allows little time for anything beyond the most routine interaction between family members. How often do our times spent “together” actually find us isolated from each other, engrossed in our smartphones or ipads? Today, even within families, there seems to be less authentic communication and more loneliness than at any point in the past. Everywhere we look we see the results of impersonal living: failures of love in families, in nations and among peoples.

Pope Francis tells us that “in the family, we learn closeness, care and respect for others. We break out of our fatal self-absorption and come to realize that we are living with and alongside others who are worthy of our concern, our kindness and our affection” (Amoris Laetitia, 276). In the words of St. Paul, “Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others” (Phil 2:4). The Holy Father reminds us that “the Bible makes it clear that generously serving others is far more noble than loving ourselves” (Amoris Laetitia, 101).

Prayer: Lord, by your glorious Ascension you have married earth to heaven, and prepared a way for the Holy Spirit. Empower us by that Spirit, so that, transformed into your image, we may extend your presence in the world. Sanctify our families through your abiding presence and make us gifts to each other and to the world. Mary, Temple and Spouse of the Holy Spirit, pray for us! Amen

