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 Liliana Haynes
 Office Administrator



Fifth Sunday of Easter

"I give you a new commandment: love one another." With these words, Jesus sums up the law and the prophets in one concise phrase. Love one another. After 2,000 years, you'd think we'd have it figured out by now! But all too often we fail in this commandment. Perhaps we mistake "love" for mere "common decency." Perhaps we've been betrayed, or our own visions of love have been tarnished or misrepresented in our lives. Blessedly, Jesus doesn't leave us without a guide.

"As I have loved you, so you also should love one another." Jesus himself modeled what this love should look like. So what are some of the characteristics of the love of Christ? Humility, for one. St. Paul writes that Jesus "emptied Himself." In becoming man, Jesus puts aside the full splendor of the Godhead. Not only does he become human, but he takes on many of the mundane privations of human life. He spent most of his life in relative poverty - especially by our standards - as a common laborer. When he began gaining popularity as a preacher, he still traveled on foot and spent nights in other people's homes or outdoors.



Jesus' love is generous. He was always available to the crowds and to being interrupted by people in need. He invested time in his disciples and patiently taught them about the kingdom of God. The love of Jesus is also courageous. He encountered many people deemed less worthy of human respect, due to being public sinners or having a physical or mental disability. Jesus was brave in breaking these social boundaries to show care and concern to the outcast. These traits are possible for us to imitate! Indeed, we are hardly identifiable as Christians without them. "This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

World Day of Prayer for the Church in China: In May 2007, Pope Benedict XVI asked that May 24th be observed as a Day of Prayer for the Church in China. He chose this day since it is the traditional Feast of Our Lady of Help of Christians, venerated at the Shrine of Sheshan in Shanghai.

Cathedral Appeal: In 2020, the Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria (The Mother Church of our Diocese) will celebrate its 175th anniversary. In preparation for this significant event, a restoration process has begun. Parishioners in the 44 parishes of our diocese are asked to make a donation to assist with the project. Information packages with brochures and pledge forms are available at the back of the church. They are set up on a small table at the entrance. **Please consult the brochure for various ways to donate.** If you are donating by cheque through the parish, please make it payable to "St. Ann Parish." All donations will be forwarded to the diocese for this project and are tax deductible.

Special Collection May 25/26—Pope's Pastoral Works: This collection provides an opportunity for Catholics to make a financial offering to assist the Holy Father. One third of the funds collected is for what is traditionally known as Peter's Pence: donations used by the Pope for his charitable contributions to those most in need. Two-thirds of the collection is to support the Holy Father in administering the Holy See and serving the universal church. Envelopes are in your offertory boxes. If donating by cheque, make payable to "St. Ann Parish."

Confirmation classes: have begun. They will continue through the month of May each Wednesday from 3:30-5pm in the parish hall. Classes will resume on Wed. Sept 4th and continue each Wednesday through to Oct 30th. Confirmation Retreat will be held Nov. 2nd. If you have not registered your child, please do so as soon as possible.

Elisha House Pregnancy & family Support Centre—Baby Bottle campaign will run from **MAY 12 (Mother's Day) to JUNE 16 (Father's Day)** Fill a bottle with coins, bills or a cheque made out to Elisha House. 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 \$945.30 to this campaign.**

Our Lady of the Rosary Shrine/Le Sanctuaire du Rosaire, 4706 Miller Road, Port Colborne is open for another season. The rosary is prayed at 7:00pm and Mass is celebrated at 7:30pm every Thursday evening from the first Thursday in May to the last Thursday in October. On the third Thursday of every month, with the exception of June which will occur on Thursday, June 27, this year Fr. Paul McDonald will give a presentation on Holiness from 6:30pm – 7pm. All are welcome to attend.

Migrant Ministry: The Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be collecting items for the men as they begin to arrive. Items most in need are socks, work gloves and toiletries, warm sweaters, jeans and T-shirts. Thank you for your continued support.

SEPARATED AND DIVORCED HEALING MINISTRY. May topics : 'Learning to Forgive' (May 27). Meetings are 7 to 9 pm at Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre, 7020 Stanley Ave, Niagara Falls. Pre-registration is not required. For information call 905-356-4113 or 905-684-0154 or email: separatedanddivorced@saintcd.com

The Diocese of St. Catharines is offering a **Day of Reflection for Women on the Gift of Hope** with Dr. Josephine Lombardi on Saturday, June 22, 2019 at Gethsemane Ministries Centre, 84008 Wellandport Road, Wellandport, from 9:45am – 3:00pm. To register please call Rose Marie at the Office of Religious Education at 905-684-0154, ext. 207 or offreled@saintcd.com. Lunch will be provided. (Free Will Offering) Registration deadline is June 14.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Central Council will be hosting their annual trivia night at St. Alfred Church on Friday May 31, 2019. Doors open at 6:30pm and trivia starts at 7pm. Tickets are \$20.00 per person and include trivia, snacks, pizza and door prizes. There will be a silent auction, penny sale and a 50/50draw. For tickets or more information please contact Shelley at 905-329-8568 or shelleyssvp@gmail.com. Proceeds will go to sending kids to the St. Vincent de Paul camp.

Volunteers needed to assist with church cleaning (worship area) approximately every 4-5 weeks. Training will be provided. Please phone the office soon if you can help. Thank you.

Knights of Columbus Council 1394, St. Catharines, Huge Annual Charity Yard Sale & B.B.Q., Saturday, May 25, 8:00 am – 2:00pm, Inside the Knights Hall, 235 Church St., St. Catharines. Parking in the back of the hall.

Parish Calendar

- May.....
- May 20th..... **Holy Hour 7-8pm Cancelled**
- May 20th-23rd... **Weekday Masses cancelled**
- May 22nd..... Confirmation Class 3:30-5pm
- May 23rd..... Knit and Crochet group will meet at 2pm in the parish meeting room. All are welcome.
- May 26th.... Special Collection—Pope's Pastoral Works
- May 29th..... Confirmation Class 3:30-5pm
- June.....
- June 2nd.... Spanish Mass 1pm
- June 2nd.... Ascension of the Lord
- June 3-7.... Priest Retreat. **Weekday Masses cancelled.**
- June 7th.... **Holy Hour June 3rd cancelled.**
- June 7th.... First Friday Holy Communion to sick and homebound. Phone the office to arrange a visit.
- June 9th.... Pentecost Sunday
- June 9th.... Special Collection—Education of Seminarians
- June 16th.... Solemnity of The Most Holy Trinity
- June 16th.... Father's Day
- June 18th... CWL Year end gathering. More to follow
- June 19th.... St. Ann School Year end Mass 9:30am.
- June 23rd.... The Solemnity of The Most Holy Body and Blood Of Christ.

Youth Ministry—Grades 5-8 and high school students are welcome to attend. Wednesday evenings 6:30-8:30pm.

Bingo: Thursday Evenings 7pm in parish hall. All welcome to attend.

Everyday Stewardship

I was recently reading an article about the real aspects of true love. The psychologist writing the piece said that many people hide behind the words "I love you." They can start believing that if they say it enough times, it simply becomes true.

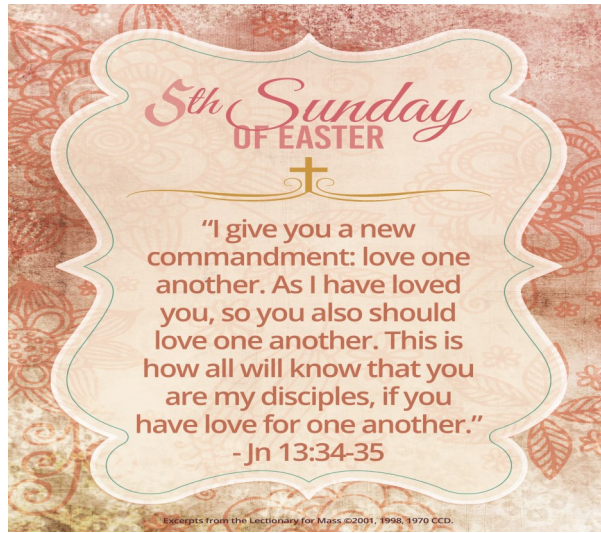
Jesus claimed that the world would know his disciples by the fact that they loved one another. In the Church, we speak of loving one another quite frequently. I hope that someone can tell that I am a disciple of Jesus by the way I love others. However, that hope is something I have to keep in the center of my mind because I fear too often that I speak more of love than act out of love.

As Christians, we can find ourselves hiding behind our words. History, unfortunately, has shown us that our witness of action has not always been profound enough. The world will surely know whom it is we serve if we love like Jesus, we act like Jesus, and we serve others like Jesus. Our stewardship will bear witness to the transforming power of Jesus Christ, and we will bring others to him. Our love will be an instrument of our evangelization. Our words will become true, not because we said them enough, but because they are true.

Healing after Abortion – Day of Prayer and Healing for Women, Saturday, June 1; Toronto, ON

The Sisters of Life are hosting a Day of Prayer and Healing for women seeking healing after abortion. The day is an opportunity to experience the loving mercy of God and the joy of healing in Christ, in a confidential and sacred space. It will include a witness of mercy, a Scripture reflection, personal prayer, opportunity for Sacramental Confession, and the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. There is no fee for the day, lunch will be provided. Time & Location: Please contact the Sisters for more information 416-463-2722; email: toronto@sistersoflife.org; Website: <https://www.sistersoflife.org/hope-and-healing-after-abortion>

Sunday, May 19th, 2019



Sat. May 18	9-10am	Confessions Cancelled
4	-4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confession
	5:00pm	✠ Isaiah (Magazzeni Family)
Sun. May 19	9:30am	Missa Pro Populo
	11:00am	Ava Wilson (Jack & Ivana Wilson)
Mon. May 20	9:30am	Mass cancelled
	7-8pm	Holy Hour & Confessions Cancelled
Tues. May 21	9:30am	Mass cancelled
Wed. May 22	9:30am	Mass cancelled
Thurs. May 23	9:30am	Mass cancelled
Fri. May 24	9:30am	✠ William Young (Mike & Anne Young)
Sat. May 25	9-10am	Confessions
4	-4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confession
	5:00pm	✠ Gerry Berkhout (Christine Meyo & Family)
		✠ Tim Hunter (Diane & Ben Kooter)
Sun. May 26	9:30am	Missa Pro Populo
	11:00am	✠ Mary Wood (Joan & Tim Crowther)

Reconciliation from 9-9:20am before all weekday Masses. Offertory May 11th & 12th, 2019

82 Envelopes	\$2, 133.65
Loose Collection	\$ 104.65
Total Offertory	\$2, 238.30
Maintenance	\$ 70.00



The month of May is traditionally dedicated to Our Blessed Mother Mary. Let us continue to seek Mary's prayers for our parish and diocese and promote devotion to her as Mother of God and the model Christian.

