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Sunday, May 21st, 2017 Sixth Sunday of Easter

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always, the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot accept, because it neither sees nor knows him.

But you know him, because he remains with you, and will be in you." — Jn 14:15-17

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



Sat. May 20	9-10am 4-4:45pm	Reconciliation cancelled Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation
Sun. May 21	5:00pm 9:30am	Missa Pro Populo † Emil Miklavcic (Family)
	11:00am	† Fr. LeRoy Lee (Voogt & Green Families)
Mon. May 22	9:30am	† Atholean Gray (Voogt & Green Families)
Tues. May 23	7-8pm	Holy Hour & Reconciliation
Wed. May 24	9:30am	† Bill Young (Mike & Anne Young)
Thurs. May 25	9:30am	† Armand & Betty Mei (Patty & Cyril Simek)
Fri. May 26	9:30am	† Jean Frasier (Helena & Adam Sarvis)
Sat. May 27	9-10am 4-4:45pm	Reconciliation Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation
Sun. May 28	5:00pm 9:30am	Missa Pro Populo † Nick Colangelo (Racz Family)

**Reconciliation from 9-9:20am before all weekday Masses.
Offertory May 13th & 14th, 2017**

86 Envelopes	\$1,821.85
Loose Collection	\$163.25
Total Offertory	\$1,985.10
Share Lent	\$250.00

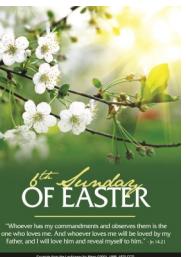
The month of May is traditionally dedicated to Our Blessed Mother Mary. Let us continue to seek Mary's prayers for our diocese and promote devotion to her as Mother of God and the model Christian, especially during this Year of the Rosary.

Sixth SUNDAY OF EASTER

"If you love me you will keep my commandments." It's really as simple as that. We are only paying lip service to the Lord if we externally declare ourselves to be Christians but don't follow through on a life that confirms it.

In our modern culture, we often think of love as a feeling or a kind of devotion. It is thus all too common to separate love from appropriate action. Perhaps we reassure ourselves that we love Jesus because we believe that he is the Son of God and our personal Saviour. But these thoughts—or even any grateful or pleasant feelings that come along with them—are not the fullest manifestation of real love. Rather, as Jesus tells us directly in today's Gospel, "Whoever has my commandments and observes them is the one who loves me."

Now, for those of us who may be asking what exactly these commandments are, it's helpful to remember Jesus' response when he was questioned on the subject. "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself" (Mt 22:37-39). These fundamental principles embrace everything that Jesus calls us to do. If we put God first and foremost in our lives, and if we treat our neighbors as we would wish to be treated, then all the rest falls into place. The Ten Commandments, the Beatitudes, and any other fundamental Christian codes of behavior are all summed up here. Indeed, if we truly seek to love Jesus, putting him first and following his ways won't feel like a burden but rather like a beautiful blessing.



LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

St. Teresa of Calcutta once said, "Spread love everywhere you go. Let no one ever come to you without leaving happier." Keeping the commandments of Jesus ultimately means loving as he loves. How do you think people feel after they leave your presence? This is a question worth pondering if we are serious about being disciples. Gentleness and reverence are beautiful charisms to foster as they speak boldly of love. If we truly love God and our brothers and sisters, we will always be gentle with them and treat them with the reverent dignity they deserve, regardless of what they have done. This is the ultimate challenge of discipleship. Committing ourselves today to following Jesus' commandments and to love as Jesus loves, how can we make those who meet us this week leave us happier and grateful that they have crossed our path?

God is Calling. Will you Answer? Day of Discernment, Saturday, May 27th, Catholic Centre. High School and post secondary students. Meet priests, seminarians, consecrated men and women who will share their stories, answer your questions and help you discover God's will for your life. 10am-2pm, Lunch provided. 3400 Merrittville Hwy, Thorold. RSVP by May 19th—Fr. Michael Basque. 905-899-1699 or vocations@saintcd.com

Outdoor Mass at Holy Cross Cemetery: All are welcome to join with Bishop Gerard Bergie as he celebrates the fifth annual outdoor Mass at Holy Cross Cemetery, 50 Woodlawn Rd., Welland on **Saturday, June 17th at 11am**. In the event of inclement weather, the Mass will be re-scheduled for Saturday, July 8th at 11am.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

STANN VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Summer 2017 Presents: Weird Animals – Where Jesus' Love is One of a Kind! **Monday, August 14 - Friday, August 18 - 9am to Noon** every day! Registration is now open for our summer day camp! All children between the grades of ELKP and Grade 6 are invited to register. Grade 7, 8 and high school students are invited to be junior leaders!

We are in need of volunteers for this camp! If you are interested in volunteering as a VBS Leader please reach out to Genevieve Broadley our Youth Minister – 289-219-4233 – we need leaders for MUSIC, CRAFTS, SNACK, BIBLE STUDY, and GAMES! **A meeting for all volunteers will be held on Wednesday, June 7th at 5:30pm.**

Registration forms are available at the back of the church, through St. Ann School and through St. Ann Parish office.

St. Ann Youth Ministry Trivia Night

Our Trivia Night is officially rescheduled to **FRIDAY JUNE 2nd @ 7:00PM** in the Parish Hall. We will be playing 7 rounds of trivia, having a 50/50 draw, there will be lots of food, snacks, and a cash bar, as well as many door prizes to be won, and prizes for the winning table! Trivia night is open to the everyone. Tickets are 20\$ per person and tables are available in groups of 8. Tickets will be available at the parish office, and after the Masses starting this weekend. You can phone or email to reserve tables. Any sponsors of the night and all those who donate prizes will get an advertisement for their business, during the trivia night, and a flyer on the tables. If you would like to sponsor the event or donate a prize please reach out to Genevieve, our Youth Ministry Coordinator (contact info below). All money raised will go towards supporting our youth ministry program, and will be used towards sending a delegation of high school aged youth to the Steubenville Toronto Catholic Youth Conference this summer.

Thank you for all you do in our Catholic community to show our youth your love and support!

**Genevieve: Mobile: 289-219-4233
gbroadley@branchesoftheword.org**

Confirmation classes: Classes will begin on Wed. June 7th from 4-5:30pm in the parish hall. They will continue through the month of June each Wednesday evening. Classes will resume on Wed Sept 6th and continue each Wednesday in September and October. If you have not registered your child, please do so as soon as possible.

The St Ann's Conference of St Vincent de Paul will be participating in a national initiative to support Inuit peoples in Northern Canada. Our parish, along with others in the Niagara area will be assisting the community of Naujaat (pronounced "now-we-ought"). The primary focus of this initiative is food security, as the cost of food in the northern communities can be as high as five times what we pay here. For the rest of this month, any donations that are placed in the Saint Vincent de Paul donation box will be used to support the community of Naujaat. Further information about this project, including a brief video, can be found at http://ssvp.on.ca/socjus/FirstNations_Inuit.php. We thank you for your continued support of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul.

Parish Calendar

Special Collection: Pope's Pastoral Works
Ascension of the Lord
Strawberry Fair meeting 6:30pm
Weekday Masses cancelled (Priest retreat)

Youth Ministry Trivia Night Fundraiser 7pm
Pentecost Sunday
Spanish Mass 1pm
Confirmation Classes begin 4-5:30pm
Strawberry Fair 10am-1pm
Trinity Sunday
Special Collection—Education of Seminarians
St. Ann School Year End Mass 9:30am
Feast of Corpus Christi (Body & Blood of Christ)
Finance Committee Meeting 6:30pm
Holy Hour Cancelled

STRAWBERRY FAIR JUNE 11TH, 2017, 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!! Thank you to those who have agreed to help. A few jobs need to be filled.

Can you assist with the following?

Making pancakes/kitchen help- 1 volunteer needed.

Phone the office if you would like to assist. As well, volunteers are needed for cleaning the berries on **Saturday, June 10th from 9-11am**. Sign up sheet is at the back of the church.

Our next planning meeting will be held on **Wednesday, May 31st at 6:30pm**.

Bake Table: Items would be appreciated and can be dropped off Saturday, June 10th before or after Mass or early the morning of the event.

ELISHA HOUSE — CHANGE FOR LIFE BABY BOTTLE

CAMPAIGN : Between Mother's Day, May 14th, 2016 and Father's Day, June 18th, 2017, you can fill a Baby Bottle with change, bills or even a cheque. This will help support Elisha House in its pro-life ministry to men, women and families in our community. Please return the bottles to the parish by the Father's Day weekend. Your support is very much appreciated. **Last year, our parish donated \$625.09 to this campaign.**

Festival of Families — Hosted by Niagara Catholic District School Board & the Diocese of St. Catharines: Mark your calendars for **Thursday, May 25th** from 4-8pm at Saint Michael Catholic High School, 8699 McLeod Rd, Niagara Falls. Join us to watch participating clergy of the Diocese, and Niagara Catholic staff and parents face off in a soccer game against an all-star team of Niagara Catholic students! Most Reverend Gerard Bergie, D.D., Bishop of the Diocese of St. Catharines will also be attending. The evening will include a BBQ, family activities, and Christian band competition. Please visit www.niagaracatholic.ca for more information.

Pro-Life Coffeehouse and Dessert Night event, 7:30 p.m., Thursday June 1, 2017 at St. John The Theologian Ukrainian Catholic Church, 91 Lakeshore Road, St.Catharines. **Topic: "A Nurse's Experience Caring for Post-Abortive Women."** Special guest: Polly Corso. For information contact William Mathie at 905-684-7569 or wmathie@brocku.ca