

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:

When we first entered as Jesuit Novices, I can remember being impressed by some, thinking them terrific, and not being so impressed with others. And if family or friends came to visit we tended to be so excited to introduce them to those we thought were terrific and trying to avoid those we were less impressed with. I may have felt that their opinions were wrong, their personalities were strange, or just, in general, not my kind of person. Looking back I realize why I didn't want those I care about to meet those I had difficulty with. The reason was I didn't want to be seen as part of their group nor did I want to be seen with them as part of my group. You may read this and say, "Yeah that makes sense, some people we like more than others, some people we want to be more associated with." The problem is that it's not following in the footsteps of the Lord. I was wrong and sinful to overvalue one person over another just because they liked sports, or Bruce Springsteen, or had similar views of the Church or religious life.

In this week's Gospel, the Lord tells us "In my Father's house there are many dwelling places." And so it seems that God does not require nor desire unanimity of personalities, opinions and ways of living one's faith. We can understand this variety as expressing God's pleasure in diversity. I think this would be a superficial interpretation because what the Father loves should really be expressed as *who* the Father loves. Jesus says "If you know me you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him, you have seen him." In the Gospels over and over again we see the Lord loving all. He loves the saint and the sinner, the Jew and the Gentile, the popular and the lonely, the strong and the weak, the man and the woman, the old and the young. And so what we can see then is that God has an understanding and a tender love for each of us. We can have different opinions, different likes and dislikes, different faiths and Jesus shows us that there is one thing infinitely more important. And that is that we are known and loved by the Father.

If we are coming to know God's personal love then there is one honest thing that each of us can say – I can no longer be the person I was yesterday. The way is the path of love. The truth is the foundation of love. And the life is the experience of love. As we come to know in our hearts the reality of His love, His love grows within us and His love slowly becomes our own love. As such, we become less willing to say mean words and less willing to do mean things. We can have a growing awareness that we are, each of us, "like living stones." And that we are being "built into a spiritual house,... a holy priesthood." If we are living stones in God's hands than we have a living faith in God's heart. The Church is not a place controlled by rules. The Church is not a place governed by fear. The Church is not a place where God's sons and daughters are excluded. Rather, the Church is a place where love is our only way, our only truth and our only life.

This week then, we are again called to accept and believe that which seems so hard to accept and believe. None of us are perfect, none of us have angel wings. But this is not the revelation of God in Christ. What is His revelation is that we are loved by the Father. We are so loved by him that he identifies Himself with us and us with Him. We are part of his group! We

are so much a part of him that we are his living stones. We are his living stones which are making his spiritual house. And his house is the house of love.

God Bless and Take Care!

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Crowning of Mary: Friday, May 30

Join us on **Friday, May 30 at 7pm** in the church for the Crowning of Mary. The evening begins with a short prayer in the church and continues with an outdoor procession of song to our outdoor grotto. Those who wish to bring flowers to lay by the statue of Mary in the outdoor grotto are most welcome and we invite children to bring along bubble juice and bubble making wands if you have them. We will top off the celebration with ice cream in the Rectory Backyard! Please join us for this evening of prayer, community and fun as we share in our affection for Mary, our Mother.

Lourdes Food Bank Needs You!

Lourdes Food Bank is looking for volunteers. For the sorting of food, preparation of hampers and clean up we need the following: Mondays from 1-3 pm we are looking for two people; Wednesdays from 9-11:30 am we need two people; Wednesdays from 1-3pm we also need two people; and Thursdays from 1-3pm we need one person. On Tuesdays from 9:30 am –noon (and sometimes beyond) we need one person to help unload food delivery (requires heavy lifting) and from 1-3pm we need two people for food delivery and sorting. If you are 18 years of age or older and would like to give some of your time and effort to this important service please contact the parish office at 416-924-6257.

Volunteers Needed For our Annual Parish Bazaar – June 21, 2014:

Preparations are beginning for our Annual Parish Bazaar and we are looking for people who would like to help out. We need people throughout the day, to help set up in the morning, help out during the day and clean up in the afternoon. Join us for a couple of hours or for the whole day. It is always a fun day and a wonderful community experience. If you are new to the parish, or looking for a way to become more involved, this is a great opportunity to get to know people in our parish. **There will be a planning meeting for Bazaar volunteers on Sunday, May 25 at 1pm in the Library.** If you are interested, please call the Parish Office at 416-924-6257.

Our Famous 50/50 Draw is back again for this year's Parish Bazaar. This year's possible jackpot is bigger than ever. 7,500 tickets have been printed and are priced at \$2.00 apiece. Tickets are available from our Welcome Desk or from our Parish Office next weekend.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, May 19

8:00 am Ana's Special Intention [Ana]
 12:10 pm Celestino Benedicto + [Benedicto Family]
 5:15pm Ada Winston's Intention [Cora Twohig]

Tuesday, May 20

8:00 am Estevan Gonzales' Intention [Rosario Reyes]
 12:10 pm Joseph Warecki + [Susan Warecki]
 5:15 pm Stanley Schatz + [Barrack Family]

Wednesday, May 21

8:00 am Mr. Wong's Quick Recovery [Cathy Sorhaindo]
 12:10 pm Thanksgiving to the Infant Jesus [Farhana Chowdhury]
 5:15 pm Petrone Markunas + [Joseph Markunas]

Thursday May 22

8:00 am Elisa & Donato + [Anna Maria]
 12:10 pm Anne & Vincent J. MacDonald + [Ada MacDonald]
 5:15 pm Gloria Go's Intention [Virginia]

Friday, May 23

8:00 am Pacienico Cardosa + & All Souls [Lucy, Ross & Family]
 12:10 pm Gonzalo De La Cueva + [Bing Arellano]
 5:15 pm All Souls in Purgatory [Cora Balatero]

Saturday, May 24

8:00 am Violeta Ilar + [Michael]
 12:10 pm Thanksgiving for many blessings [Angela & Raul]

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

*Estella Gumba, Consolacion Lucban Tan,
 Eduardo Mabugat & Dawn Mabugat*

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Parish Picnic - Mark the Date!

Summer is coming and we're gearing up for some summer fun with a Parish Picnic! The picnic will take place **Saturday, August 16** in the afternoon. Details will follow in upcoming bulletins. Put the date in your calendar and plan to be there.

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POPE'S PASTORAL WORKS COLLECTION: Next weekend, for those who wish, there will be an opportunity to contribute to the **Pope's Pastoral Works**. Envelopes can be found in the pews during all of our Sunday Masses. Please put your offering in the collection basket during the Offertory Collection. *Thank you for your thoughtfulness and generosity.*

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Jesuit Ordinations: Next Saturday, May 24 there will be a Celebration of Ordinations at 9:30 am in the Church. Matthew Livingstone, SJ will be ordained a Priest and Greg Kennedy, SJ., Joseph Koczera, SJ and Boniface Mbouzaou, SJ will be ordained to the Diaconate. With joy we give thanks to God and pray for each of them and ask for your continued prayers for them and for the Jesuit community.



Novena to the Holy Spirit: In anticipation of the Feast of Pentecost, you are invited to join us in a Novena to the Holy Spirit, **May 30 to June 7. The novena will take place in the church at**

4:30 pm Monday to Friday and 4pm on Saturday and Sunday

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Sacramental Preparation

Are you hoping to have your child baptized in the near future? Are you looking to prepare for the Sacrament of Marriage? Perhaps you, yourself are, or someone you know is considering becoming a Roman Catholic? For details on the process of preparation for any of the Sacraments, call the Parish Office at 416-924-6257 or email us at parish@ourladyofloudes.ca.

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As part of their rummage sale at the beginning of March, Catholic Women's League had 50/50 raffle draw with a winning jack-pot of \$268.00. The winning ticket number was #725734. Unfortunately, the winning ticket does not have the contact information needed to contact the winner. If you have the winning ticket, please contact the Parish Office at 416-924-6257 and leave a message for Caridad from the CWL.

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Pre-Authorized Giving Plan

Pre-Authorized Giving allows those who wish, to have their monthly donations debited directly from their bank accounts. Our Lady Of Lourdes has this program in place and we are giving our parishioners this option for their method of giving. We respect that giving is a very personal thing, but we hope the implementation of this optional plan will be a source of convenience for some of you. Brochures are available in the front vestibule or the Parish Office. For information contact us at 416-924-6257 or parish@ourladyofloudes.ca

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BEAUTY FROM OUR FAITH

"Christ has no body now on earth but yours; no hands but yours; no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes through which He is to go about doing good, yours are the hands with which He is to bless people now."

~ St. Teresa of Avila

Lourdes @ a glance: the week of May 18-24						
Sun 18	Mon 19	Tues 20	Wed 21	Thurs 22	Fri 23	Sat 24
5 th Sunday of Easter	Victoria Day Parish Office Closed	Mass Coordinators Meeting	Faith Formation: Church 7pm [Library] Faith Formation: History 7pm [Loyola Hall]	Faith Formation: Gospel of Matthew 7pm [Library]		Jesuit Ordinations 9:30 am