

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:

One of the strongest images from my time in Jamaica occurred with the military incursion on our neighbourhood in which so many people were killed. At one point I remember cautiously looking out a window and seeing a crowd of about fifty women and children screaming and running up the lane to seek safety from the army's gunshots. When we have experiences like this we are often deeply confused and uncertain, and we wonder how God could permit such things? While this question has been addressed to the Christian faith since the faith's beginning, perhaps, in light of the feast of the Ascension, we could ask a different and more accurate question. The question is not how does God permit such things, rather, how do we permit such things?

With the feast of the Ascension our mission is clear – the Lord Jesus has put his mission into our hands. Christ said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." As Catholic Christians our fundamental work is the work of proclaiming and seeking to realize the Reign of God in our lives and in our world. In other words, our primary call is the call to discipleship. Many of us in the Church think of this work of proclamation in one of two ways. On the one hand it can simply be a proclamation of words. On the other hand it can also be seen as simply a proclamation of action, that is, by fostering works of charity and justice. My own experience and belief is that our call is less simply than choosing one of the two ways. We are absolutely required to proclaim with both words and actions, but we are to do so with "the eyes of the heart," as St. Paul writes. With "the eyes of the heart" we can see and know, to some extent, the substance of our proclamation. And that content is given to us by Christ who has said that the life he offers for all people is a life rooted and grounded in the life of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. What then is this life? The inner life of God is love. And so our sharing in the mission of Christ is the sharing in his work of love and mercy. In order to speak words of love and to make real actions of love we must know love in our hearts. When I put my head on the pillow I often ask God to make me more loving. We can become more loving by seeing through the Lord Jesus how we are loved by God – our sins are forgiven and forgotten, the sick are lifted up, our darkness is replaced with his light, the isolated are embraced and the unloved are loved. When we glimpse who we are in God's eyes we begin to be made more loving.

Words without love is merely noise. Action without love is merely a program. A Church and community without love is merely a group. Nothing else matters other than love, because God is love. And so Church the mission that our Lord shares with us is his own mission, it has been put into our hands. We speak his words, we do his actions, and we do both through love. If we want human life to be kinder, more gentle, more understanding, more just, more merciful and more loving, then, in a way it is up to us. Relying on his Grace, with our mouths; with our hands, let us express tenderness and justice; and with our whole lives let us express love and mercy. His mission is our mission, his mission he has placed in our hands.

God Bless and Take Care!

Fr. John

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Annual Parish Bazaar Saturday, June 21, 2014

Have You Done Your Spring Cleaning Yet? The time is drawing near. Our Parish Bazaar will be held on **Saturday, June 21**. Start to organize the things you would like to bring for the sale. If you are thinking of bringing in 'gently used' clothing, please ensure that the items are clean. *Any items you would like to donate for our bazaar can be dropped off in Lynch Hall and Bernadette Hall from Tuesday, June 17 until Friday June 20.*



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Volunteers Needed For our Annual Parish Bazaar: Preparations are beginning for our Annual Parish Bazaar and we are looking for people who would like to help out. *Before the big day, we really need people who can help sort donations as they come in from Tuesday June 17 until Friday June 20. If you are able to spare a couple of hours either during the day or in the evening, through the week, please let us know!* On the day of the Bazaar, 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. If you are interested, please call the Parish Office at 416-924-6257.

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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 during the week.

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ShareLife This weekend, for those who wish, there will be an opportunity to contribute to **ShareLife**. 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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Prayer especially for the kidnapped Girls in Nigeria: Saturday June 14 in Loyola Hall from 10.00 am to 1.00pm: Join us in urgent prayer in response to the call for "the global mobilization on the Day of the African Child, (June 16) - in support of the Chibok girls in Northern Nigeria and in support of safe schools for girls and boys everywhere." We will also include prayer for the 1200 murdered or missing Aboriginal women in Canada and for violence done to women and children everywhere. For information call: Sister Hazel -416-920-0132 or Bernadine 416 -504 -1507.

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MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, June 2

- 8:00 am Deceased Hosana & Casida Families +
[Elena Casida Calvelo]
- 12:10 pm Thanksgiving to St. Anthony & the Infant Jesus
[Beryl Fernandez]
- 5:15pm Nelsia & Flor Leal + & Souls in Purgatory [Flor Mendoza]

Tuesday, June 3

- 8:00 am Angelo, Adele & Bruna Minervini + [Maria Antonietta]
- 12:10 pm Alfredo Fanugao & Kalayaan Cruz + [Henry Fanugao]
- 5:15 pm Melissa M. Biding, Birthday [Grandad Dan Biding]

Wednesday, June 4

- 8:00 am Patricia Mary Barrett + [Sr. Elaine]
- 12:10 pm Allan Gordon Tapley + [Santiago Family]
- 5:15 pm Homer Bolus + [Sylvia]

Thursday June 5

- 8:00 am Trini Dawson & Jean Hick's Intention [Narcis]
- 12:10 pm All Souls in Purgatory [Violy Balayo]
- 5:15 pm Thanks to St. Boniface [Joseph Kaposi]

Friday, June 6

- 8:00 am Andres Rivera Jr.'s Intention [Helen Rivera]
- 12:10 pm Arsenia Chuaso Dy + [Victoria & Emily Dy]
- 5:15 pm Nadur Balatero, Alfonso & Fidel Abella + [Family]

Saturday, June 7

- 8:00 am
- 12:10 pm Debra Backer + [Ann Wong]

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Gloria Estrella Flores, Juanita Gales, Fe Estocapio & Romeo Ulangkaya

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Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Every 1st Friday of the Month 8:30 am until 7pm

Come and spend some time in quiet prayer

Next date: **Friday, June 6, 2014**

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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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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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Help For Our Gardens: *Do you have Hostas growing in your garden? We would be very grateful for cuttings as part of our new plantings on Earl Street and we will get them planted. We would also be very thankful for four white flowering rose bushes to replace the ones killed by our heavy winter. Thank you for helping us and appreciating our work in the church gardens. For more information on donating plants to our garden, call Joanne at 647-351-2627.*

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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.

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The Feast of St. Anthony: You are invited to come and celebrate the feast of St. Anthony:

Rosary, Novena & Benediction:

Wednesday, June 11 begins at 6:30pm

Thursday, June 12 begins at 6:30pm

On the Feast day, Friday June 13 Rosary, Novena and Benediction begins at 6:30pm and Feast Day Mass and Procession follow the devotions. All the liturgies will take place in the church. A social will follow in the parking lot. Special thanks to the Tamil members of our Lourdes community who are spearheading our celebration again this year. All are Welcome.

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BEAUTY FROM OUR FAITH

"Take up the sword of the Spirit. Let your heart be an altar. Then, with full confidence in God, present your body for sacrifice. God desires not death, but faith; God thirsts not for blood but for self-surrender; God is appeased not by slaughter, but by the offering of your free will."

- St. Peter Chrysologus, Fifth Century

Lourdes @ a glance: the week of June 1-7						
Sun 1	Mon 2	Tues 3	Wed 4	Thurs 5	Fri 6	Sat 7
<i>Feast of the Ascension</i>	<i>Novena to the Holy Spirit 4:30 pm</i>	<i>Novena to the Holy Spirit 4:30 pm</i>	<i>Novena to the Holy Spirit 4:30 pm</i>	<i>Novena to the Holy Spirit 4:30 pm</i>	1 st Friday Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<i>Novena to the Holy Spirit 4 pm</i>
<i>Novena to the Holy Spirit 4 pm</i>	Faith Formation: Church 7pm [Library]		Faith Formation: History 7pm [Library]	Faith Formation: Gospel of Matthew 7pm [Library]	<i>Novena to the Holy Spirit 4:30 pm</i>	