

IN OUR PARISH

Celebrating Our Parish Feast Day

Sunday May 17th is the Feast of the Ascension of our Lord this year and the patronal feast of our parish. On that day following 10:30 Mass you are warmly invited to gather with your fellow parishioners to partake in a small celebration. We hope you'll take advantage of this perfect opportunity to come together in a spirit of community and share with us on this special occasion. We invite you to add to the festivities by contributing some party sandwiches or cookies & squares for all to enjoy. This weekend, sign-up sheets are available at the back of the church. In addition, we are looking for a few volunteers to help with set up and serving on that day. If you can help out please contact Linda Wiltshire by email at wiltshirecl@msn.com or at the parish office. Thank you!

Sow much love... and thanks to give!

To mark the end of the 2015 Share Lent campaign, Sow Much Love... to Give, Development and Peace wishes to underscore the outstanding contribution of everyone who took part in the campaign and whose deep commitment led them to generously give their time, energy and solidarity to helping our sisters and brothers in the Global South. We also wish to thank our donors whose generosity will directly support communities in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East in their struggle for dignity and justice. Thank you to one and all for your generosity!

Archdiocesan Annual Collection

The Annual Collection provides funds to support projects which assist our diocesan Church in the proclamation of the Good News of Jesus Christ. In the words of our Archbishop, Christian Lépine: "Among the many important projects in which I engage with the faithful of the Catholic Church of Montreal, the Annual Collection is a very special one. Not only does it allow me to highlight your unwavering generosity, but it also provides me the opportunity to have an exchange with you about the vitality and challenges of our diocesan Church. Together, we would like to promote a renewed, evangelistic fervour in the parishes for the good of all the faithful. The diversity of francophone, anglophone, and ethnic missions and parishes in our diocese enriches our communion, for we learn from one another in the accomplishment of our mission, which remains "Proposing Jesus Christ in today's world." I will be counting on your generosity this year as well, knowing that you love and faithfully support your Church in Montreal."

Envelopes are available at the back of the church for your donations. Thank you for your generosity.

REFLECTION

This week's reflection is courtesy of the Catholic Church in New Zealand

In a country where even small children are familiar with sheep it should be easy to relate to Jesus' words about the shepherd and his sheep. New Zealand sheep are well looked after but most don't experience the personal care of a shepherd who calls them by name. They are anonymous members of a large flock, although each one matters to the farmer.



Most of us have elements of both sheep and shepherd in our lives. When we have the care of others, especially vulnerable people like children and the elderly, the shepherd dimension of our lives is very evident.

Our shepherd instincts may not be so obvious – we may be the kind of person who watches out for neighbours, knows when someone hasn't appeared for a few days, rings people to make sure they are ok, tackles neighbourhood or school bullies - doing this kind of thing is shepherding.

Most of us would not want to think about having a sheep aspect to our lives. Shepherds are strong and looked up to – but sheep? We can often understand the shepherding we do – and how to improve it – by having a part of our lives where we are in the sheep role. Sometimes we need to let go of the desire to be out the front, the one doing everything and being all things to all people, and relax into being cared for and led ourselves. If we have shepherd or leadership roles in our lives then it is good to also have an aspect of our lives where we are one of the crowd, not obliged to be out front, able to appreciate the relationship with the shepherd and the company of the other sheep-people in that particular paddock.

We can model ourselves on Jesus in the shepherding aspects of our lives, and grow in the work and mission we carry out for him. We need also to reflect upon ourselves as sheep for whom Jesus is the shepherd, and to allow the experience of being cared for or led by others to help shape our understanding of that relationship. It is this reflection that will deepen our peace and joy as we come to understand just how much Jesus the shepherd cares for us for each of us individually.

<http://www.catholic.org.nz/reflection/dsp-view-reflections.cfm?loadref=57&id=276>

IN THE DIOCESE

Messiah Trap—When Helping You is Hurting Me

With Cathie Macaulay at the Ignatian Spirituality Centre on **Saturday, May 2** from 9am-3pm (4567 West Broadway, Montreal). This workshop explores seven common styles of being a “Messiah” and some of the ways in which we can become aware of unhealthy patterns in our helping relationships. The course also looks at healthy models of Christian service and leadership. In an interactive way, students will explore the balance in their own lives of service, and increase awareness of how to make decisions and find balance in their busy lives. Cost is \$60. For more information or to register, please contact the Ignatian Centre at 514-481-1064 or centre@ignatiancentremtl.ca.

St. Monica’s Parish Video Divina

Fr. Raymond’s movie series “Looking at Life through the Lens of the Sacraments” continues with the movie **Julie and Julia** on **Friday, May 15 at 7 p.m.** in the parish rectory (6405 Terrebonne, Mtl., www.stmonica.ca). Free admission and popcorn, and stimulating discussion to follow! For information, contact Fr. Raymond Lafontaine at 514-481-0267 ext. 23 or fr.raymond@videotron.ca.

National March for Life – Ottawa - LET LIFE WIN

All are welcomed to join us for the National March for Life, **Thursday, May 14, 2015**. This is a yearly gathering on Parliament Hill, Ottawa, 23 000 attended last year to demand protection for children before and after birth. Two 7:00 a.m. chartered buses depart Montreal – Downtown (895 de la Gauchetière) and Laval (Holy Name of Jesus church, 899 Chomedey Blvd.) Mass, pic-nic, and march through the streets of Ottawa. Pick-ups at Fairview Shopping Center (The Bay). Round-trip fare \$40. Reservations before May 7, 2015, at (438) 930-8643 or (514) 344-2686. Details (http://en.cqv.qc.ca/national_march_4_life_chartered_buses)

Permanent Diaconate: Come and See Evening

“Because of Christ, the reality of service is of such importance to the Church that it is a Sacrament incarnated in a particular ministry, that of the diaconate.” There will be a Come and See evening for single or married men who feel they may be called to the permanent diaconate, making Christ the Servant present in the liturgy, in the proclamation of the Word, and in the exercise of charity. Come and see on **Thursday, May 7, 6pm** at the Archdiocese of Montreal (2000 Sherbrooke St. West), within walking distance of Guy-Concordia metro and parking available via du Fort St. For more information and to sign up, please contact Deacon Michael Di Girolamo at 514-925-4300 x278.

Women’s Day Retreat

On **Wednesday, May 20** at Villa Saint-Martin (9451 Gouin Blvd. West, Pierrefonds). Registration begins at 9:15am. Presentations by Sr. Pat O’Neill, SNJM. The day will include music, quiet time for personal reflection and prayer, Eucharistic celebration, sharing for those who wish to participate. ALL women welcome. Please bring a lunch. Coffee and tea provided. Suggested donation of \$15. Contact 514-684-1290.

MASSES THIS WEEK

Saturday, April 25th 2015

St. Mark, Evangelist
(1 Peter 5:5-14; Mark 16:15-20)
5:00 Ted Neville
by Joyce MacNamara & Kieran

Sunday, April 26th 2015

Fourth Sunday of Easter
(Acts 4:7-12; 1 John 3:1-2; John 10:11-18)
10:30 Ted Neville by Jeannine Labreque

Monday, April 27th 2015 No Mass

(Acts 11:1-18; John 10:1-10)

Tuesday, April 28th 2015

St. Peter Chanel;
St. Louis Grignion de Montfort
(Acts 11:19-26; John 10:22-30)

Wednesday, April 29th 2015

St. Catherine of Sienna
(Acts 12:24-13:5; John 12:44-50)
9:00 McAuley & Brunet Families
by the Cordeiro Family

Thursday, April 30th 2015

St. Marie de l’Incarnation; St. Pius V
(Acts 13:13-25; John 13:16-20)

Friday, May 1st 2015

St. Joseph the Worker
(Acts 13:26-33; John 14:1-6)

Saturday, May 2nd 2015

St. Athanasius
(Acts 13:44-52; John 14:7-14)
5:00 Frank H. Carlin by his family

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

MONDAY 6:00 PM
Christian Meditation in the Choir room.
For information call 514-931-5536

THURSDAY 7:30 PM
Choir Practice in the Choir Room

SATURDAY 1:00 PM
First Communion Preparation
in the Parish Room and Church

You are not forgotten

If you, or a loved one, are not able to come to church, we would be happy to come to you, have a little chat and bring you the Lord in Holy Communion. Let us know by calling the parish office (932-3131) and we will get to you ASAP.

Parish Donations

You can now make your donations to our parish ONLINE through **CanadaHelps**. It is a convenient way to donate to our parish even when you are away. The process is simple and you receive your Tax e-receipt immediately. Donations may be made using Visa, MasterCard, American Express, PayPal or Interact. Go to the parish website (www.ascensionofourlord.ca) and click on the button “EVERY DOLLAR HELPS” on the main page for instructions. Thank you for your generosity and God bless you.

