

IN OUR PARISH

A Note of Thanks

A heartfelt thank you to all who were involved in making our Holy Week and Easter celebrations so beautifully prayerful and memorable. Thanks to our liturgical ministers (choir, cantors, lectors, hospitality ministers, ministers of the Eucharist, altar servers) and to our sexton, Frank for your hard work.

We would also like to add a note of appreciation to all our parishioners for their generosity to the parish during Easter.

Meals on Wheels

Volunteers are always in need to help deliver, drive or cook meals in the Westmount/downtown area on Tuesday and Friday mornings. The meals are prepared at the Greene Ave center and the time commitment is 2 hours. Volunteers are scheduled once or twice a month depending on their availability. For more information please contact Frances de Verteuil 54-937-3317 or fdev@primus.com

Death of Cardinal Jean-Claude Turcotte , Archbishop Emeritus of Montreal

With deep regret the Archbishop of Montreal, Most Reverend Christian Lépine, announced the death of his predecessor, Cardinal Jean-Claude Turcotte, on April 8, 2015. He was 78 years old, and served as Archbishop of Montreal from 1990 until his retirement in 2012. He was a great witness to Jesus Christ present in our world and a dedicated servant of the Church. The Holy Father sent a telegram of condolences to Archbishop Lépine on learning of the death. Recalling the Cardinal's devoted service to the Church as diocesan pastor, president of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, and member of several Roman congregations, Pope Francis noted the Cardinal's earnest focus on the challenges facing today's Church.

The Funeral Mass for Cardinal Turcotte will be held on **Friday, April 17, 2 pm** at Mary Queen of the World Cathedral. The public is welcome to pay their final respects to the Cardinal on the eve of the funeral, **Thursday, April 16 from 7 am-10 pm** at the Cathedral.



REFLECTION



Some of us may remember when we spoke of the Sundays ‘after’ Easter. The terminology has changed and we now speak of the Sundays “of” Easter. In other words, we now recognise that the liturgical readings and prayers for each Sunday between Easter and Pentecost invite us into a different movement of the one great symphony of resurrection faith.

The first scene in today’s gospel has the disciples hiding behind closed doors “for fear” of those who had handed Jesus over to be executed by the Roman authorities. Jesus appears among them, offers a greeting of peace, and tells them that he has been sent by God, his “Father”. They receive from him the gift of the Holy Spirit. He sends them in turn to bring peace and to mediate the forgiveness of God through the power of the Spirit. The story invites us as believers to place ourselves in the shoes of the earliest disciples. It invites us to receive the gift of the Spirit, to emerge from behind the doors that close us in on ourselves, and that prevent us from rising above the fear of reprisals in the pursuit of justice and peace.

The second and third scenes in today’s gospel focus on Thomas who is not with the other disciples when Jesus first appears in their midst. Thomas is not exactly the trusting type. He seems to trust only his own firsthand experience. We all know people like Thomas. They test our patience because they seem to lack imagination. Then they make big statements when they come around to understanding what everyone else has known for a while. If we think, however, that the other disciples are any better than Thomas, we need to note that the doors are still closed eight days down the track! The simple fact of knowing has not dispelled the fears.

Even those of us who do believe and trust need a bit of time and encouragement to take the gospel message to heart. We often need the example and support of others to move out beyond our fears and embrace the pain of the wider world. We may do well to look back to today’s first reading from Acts (2:32-35) where Luke presents an idealised picture of the post resurrection Jerusalem community: all things in common and the gospel received with great respect. We respond with love and generosity in times of crisis. How can we continue to live the gospel message from death through resurrection and into “ordinary time”?

IN THE DIOCESE

Montreal Directed Retreats ~ A Spring Retreat

A spiritual retreat is a time of graced silence and prayer which allows you to re-center your life on God and to deal prayerfully with current life issues. Discover God speaking to you in the silence of your heart! Join us on the weekend of **April 17-19, 2015** at La Maison de Prière Notre-Dame in Longueuil. Cost: \$130 (includes meal and lodging.) For more information, call Paul Empsall (514) 626-9462, or go to our website: www.montrealretreats.org

The Loyola Mothers' Guild Members Tea

Loyola has a rich traditional of graduating Men for Others. Consistent with that tradition, many Women for Others have given of their time and talents, over the last 45 years, by serving on The Loyola Mothers' Guild. All women who have served on the Loyola Mothers' Guild, past and present, are invited to join us for an afternoon of fellowship and sharing **Sunday, April 19th** from 1-3 pm in the Casey Lounge. Enjoy refreshments; share memories and experiences; sign the newly created Mothers' Guild log book. Hope to see you there! Please pass on to any past Mothers' Guild members. RSVP by April 16 by sending an e-mail: mothersguild@loyola.ca

Hearing God in Others: A Listening Skills Course

A 6-session course designed to develop a spirituality of listening. Ideal for those involved in the pastoral care of the elderly, the sick and young adults. Basic skills for fostering communication in family relationships will be developed. The course uses a highly interactive, hands-on approach, with theoretical concepts applied through role-play, prayerful reflection and other exercises. With Cathie Macaulay & Elizabeth Koessler; **April 14, 21, 28 & May 12, 19, 26 at 7:30 pm.** Cost: \$120.

St. Monica Parish: Taken, Blessed, Broken and Shared—Living the Eucharist

Presented by Elizabeth Koessler on **Wednesday, April 15** from 7pm-9pm (6405 de Terrebonne St., Montreal). What are some of the ways in which the Eucharist can help you to become the person that God created you to be? How can it be a touchstone for encountering community, bringing peace, enabling forgiveness, finding wholeness and discovering God's love for us? Join us for an opportunity to discover how the Eucharist gives meaning in our everyday life. Free babysitting upon request at registration. Please register by April 13. Contact Anna at 514-481-0267 x22 or anna.diodati@stmonica.ca.

West Island Women's Retreat

The theme will be JOY - in our Lives and our Churches and will be hosted by the Anglican Diocese of Montreal. Every woman needs some quiet time when she can stop, reflect and turn to God; a time when she can think through the priorities of her life without those inevitable interruptions and those seemingly endless demands on her time and energy; a time for renewing herself mentally, physically and spiritually. Women of all Christian faiths seeking time with God are welcome. This silent, directed retreat will be held from **Friday, April 24 to Sunday April 26** at Ermitage Ste-Croix (21269 Gouin Blvd. West, Pierrefonds Cost is \$145 with partial bursaries available. Contact Liz Glasgow at 514-453-0883.

MASSES THIS WEEK

Saturday, April 11th 2015

Easter Octave
(Acts 4:13-21; Mark 16:9-15)
5:00 Fausto & Lea Bortoluzzi
by Nori Bortoluzzi

Sunday, April 12th 2015

Second Sunday of Easter ~ Divine Mercy
(Acts 4:32-35; 1 John 5:1-6; John 20:19-31)
10:30 Hon. Frederick Collins
& Mrs. Irene Collins by the Family

Monday, April 13th 2015 No Mass

St. Martin I, pope
(Acts 4: 23-31; John 3:1-8)

Tuesday, April 14th 2015

(Acts 4: 32-37; John 3:7-15)
5:00 Art O'Connell by the Flynn Family
through the Intercession of the
Immaculate Heart of Mary

Wednesday, April 15th 2015

(Acts 5:17-26; John 3:16-21)
9:00 The Gracias-Carvalho-Serrao Family
by the Cordeiro Family

Thursday, April 16th 2015

(Acts 5:27-33; John 3:31-36)
9:00 Ted Neville by Frances deVerteuil

Friday, April 17th 2015

St. Kateri Tekakwitha
(Acts 5:34-42; John 6:1-15)
9:00 The Superales & Renomeron Families

Saturday, April 18th 2015

Blessed Marie-Anne Blondin
(Acts 6:1-7; John 6:16-21)
5:00 Sally Donohue Bobkowicz
by Andrea & Aidan Bobkowicz

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

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

WEDNESDAY

Mass for residents of **Westmount Manor**
Mass for residents of **Place Kensington**

THURSDAY 7:30 PM
Choir Practice in the Choir Room

SATURDAY 3:30PM
Be My Disciples
Children's Gathering &
Family Mass (5:00 PM)

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**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.

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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.

