



# Sixth Sunday of Easter



May 5, 2024

6th Sunday Year B John 15:9-17  
Easter Season

05 May

*You did not choose me  
but I chose you*



### BACKGROUND ON THE GOSPEL READING

Today's Gospel follows immediately after the Gospel proclaimed last week, in which Jesus taught that he was the vine and that his disciples were the branches. In the example of the vine and the branches, we learned that our union with Jesus will lead to fruitful service. Today's reading extends this teaching to describe the kind of service that Christians are called upon to offer to others.

In the Greek, there are two words for love that are used in this passage. The first is agape. The second is philia. The first word is most often used to describe love for other persons and for God. It is understood as the highest and most perfect kind of love. The second word is used to describe the affection of friendship. In this context, John appears to use these words as synonyms. The root of the Greek word for friend comes from this second term for love, philia.

By using this word, Jesus transforms the terms of his relationship with his disciples and redefines for them their relationship with God. In the Hebrew Scriptures, faith in God made one a servant of God.

Here Jesus teaches that his relationship to his disciples is based on friendship, not servitude.

As we gather, let us remember and pray for . . .



### Monday, May 6

(8:30 a.m. rosary)

9:00 a.m. † Walter & Fatima Rodrigues

### Tuesday, May 7

(8:30 a.m. rosary)

9:00 a.m. † Eva Hunsberger

### Wednesday, May 8

(8:30 a.m. rosary)

9:00 a.m. † Co Peter Choolakkal

### Thursday, May 9

(8:30 a.m. rosary)

9:00 a.m. † Andrej Czynny

### Friday, May 10

(8:30 a.m. rosary)

9:00 a.m. † Benito DiDomenico

The Ascension of the Lord  
Seventh Sunday of Easter

### Saturday, May 11

5:00 p.m. ♦ Thanksgiving Respicio family

### Sunday, May 12

9:00 a.m. ♦ People of the parish

11:00 a.m. † Guy Chartrand

5:00 p.m. † Eugenio Tamburri



MAY GOD BLESS YOU  
FOR YOUR FAITHFUL  
STEWARDSHIP!

Sunday Collection

April 28 \$5,210

Repairs \$1087



### DEVOTION TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

During the month of May members of the Legion of Mary will be leading the prayers of the Rosary 30 minutes before the start of each weekend Mass. Please join and share your faith with us. Our Blessed Mother needs our prayers.

### DIOCESAN SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Pope's Pastoral Work May 5

### Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for the Month of May:

For the Formation of Religious, Monks, Nuns, and Seminarians

The Pontiff urges prayers "so that religious, monks, nuns, and seminarians may grow in their vocational journey through human, pastoral, spiritual, and communal formation, leading them to be credible witnesses of the Gospel."

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

We want to extend prayerful best wishes to the children who recently received the Sacrament of First Holy Communion.

May God bless and guide each of them! And may we be there to support them in prayer and encouragement.

## CONFIRMATION

We want to congratulate our students who were confirmed on April 20 and 27 by Bishop Bergie. Our prayer is that they are filled with the gifts of the Holy Spirit, these young adults will be faithful witnesses to Christ.



## Upcoming Marriage



Jay Tolentino and Grenadine So  
on Friday, May 17, 2024

Our next CWL meeting is Wednesday May 8th. We will gather to pray the Rosary in the church at 6:30 p.m and start our meeting and refreshments at 7:00. All ladies of the parish are invited and most welcome to attend!

In April, our council distributed Rosaries to 64 children making their First Holy Communion and commemorative bookmarks to 104 Confirmation Candidates. We keep them and their families in our prayers - May God Bless them and help them grow in their faith



## ST. THOMAS MORE GARDENING TEAM

As spring is approaching, we are looking for parishioners to join our Gardening Team and help with the clean up of our gardens and maintaining them over the summer.

There is no specific time commitment but we welcome anyone who can lend a helping hand.

Please contact Anna Racine at 905-358-3412 or [rracine37@cogeco.ca](mailto:rracine37@cogeco.ca) if you are able to help or for further information.

Help keep our grounds beautiful.



## BINGO! BINGO! BINGO!

Please come out and support

St. Thomas More Bingo May 15.

Delta Monte Carlo Bingo Hall 4735 Drummond Rd.

Your support is greatly appreciated!



## PLEASE NOTE

**ST. THOMAS MORE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HAVE POSTPONE THEIR DINNER due to unforeseen circumstances.**

To Saturday, JUNE 1, 2024

Tickets that have been purchased will still be honoured. Thank you for your corporation.

## SPECIAL COLLECTION: POPE'S PASTORAL WORKS

Allows the Pope to contribute to various charitable causes around the world, particularly in aiding victims of war, famine and natural disasters. By contributing to the Pope's Pastoral Works, the faithful of Canada give a universal dimension to their charity.

## WELLAND PORT COLBORNE

### PRO LIFE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday June 1, 2024. St Mary Parish Hall,  
90 Griffith St, Welland ON

Doors Open 6p.m. Dinner : 6:30 p.m.

Guest Speaker: Jeff Gunnerson, National President of Campaign Life Coalition.

Tickets are 40.00 per person, last day to purchase tickets is Saturday May 25th, there will be no tickets available for purchase at the door.

To purchase tickets call 905-735-3666 or email  
[rocca\\_iesie@hotmail.com](mailto:rocca_iesie@hotmail.com)

## CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK 2024 BEGINS ON SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2024.

The Catholic schools in our parish will engage in a series of events to celebrate the ongoing gift of publicly funded Catholic education. You are invited to learn about the various celebrations that are happening in your children's school, and are welcome to attend, if possible. Publicly funded Catholic education has existed in Ontario since 1841 and its graduates have served Ontario and Canada very well. The current generation of students in our publicly funded Catholic schools will serve with the same spirit and generosity as their previous generations.

This year's Catholic Education Week theme is, "We are called to love."



## ST. CATHARINES' DEVELOPMENT & PEACE DIOCESAN COUNCIL AGM

Come learn about D&P's mission, inspired by the call to respond to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor

Saturday June 1st - 10am - noon

(refreshments provided)

St. Julia's Parish (251 Glenridge Ave. St. Catharines)  
Agenda to include selection of new executive, review of finances & activities since last AGM + guest speaker

Guest speaker - Fr. Eduardo Soto Parra, S.J.  
of Venezuela (via Zoom)

All are welcome - please plan to attend!