Fifth Sunday of Easter





BACKGROUND ON THE GOSPEL READING

Today's reading from the Gospel of John is part of Jesus' discourse at the Last Supper. Recall that John tells the story of Jesus' Last Supper differently from the other Evangelists. In John's Gospel, the Last Supper begins with Jesus washing his disciples' feet. Jesus then provides them with a series of instructions. We call this section the Last Supper discourse or Jesus' farewell discourse. In these chapters of John's Gospel, Jesus instructs his disciples about the importance of following his example of love and service, about the gift they will receive when Jesus sends them the Holy Spirit, and about their relationship with Jesus and with the world. The Last Supper discourse concludes with Jesus' prayer for his disciples.

Today's Gospel reading is taken from middle of the Last Supper discourse. Jesus speaks about his relationship to his disciples. In his metaphor of the vine and the branches. Jesus is referencing the Hebrew Scriptures. In the Hebrew Scriptures, Israel is the vineyard, and Yahweh himself tends the vineyard. One of the primary themes of John's Gospel is to show Jesus to be the fulfillment of God's promises to Israel.

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

Eucharistic Adoration, Confession, Benediction follow 9:00 am Mass. You are invited to come and spend some time with Jesus



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

<u> Monday, April 29</u>

(8:30 a.m. rosary)

† Struthi Joseph 9:00 a.m.

Tuesday, April 30

(8:30 a.m. rosary)

† Michael Cocucci 9:00 a.m.

Wed<u>nesday, May 1</u>

St. Joseph the Worker

(8:30 a.m. rosary)

† Cesar de Guzman Peres 9:00 a.m.

Thursday, May 2

St. Athanasius, Bishop & Doctor

(830 a.m. rosary)

† Co Peter Choolakkal 9:00 a.m.

Friday, May 3

Sts. Philip and James, Apostles

(8:30 a.m. rosary)

9:00 a.m.

† Ronny Trinidad



Saturday, May 4

† Gino Felicetti 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 5

Sixth Sunday of Easter

9:00 a.m.

♦ People of the parish

11:00 a.m.

♦ In Thanksgiving

Mr. & Mrs Akongwi Nchang

5:00 p.m.

† Ioe Monteleone

DIOCESAN SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

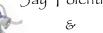
Pope's Pastoral Work May 5



FOR YOUR FAITHFUL STEWARDSHIP!

Sunday Collection April 21 \$4,788





Grenadine So on Friday, May 17,

2024

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." Dear Parishioners,

I wanted to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you for making my day extra special. Your presence, kindness, and warm wishes truly meant the world to me. It's moments like these that remind me of the beauty of our community and the love we share. Thank you for your thoughtfulness and for being a part of this wonderful journey together.

With sincere appreciation, Fr. Mathew.



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 if you are able to help or for further information. Help keep our grounds beautiful.

ST. THOMAS MORE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Are hosting their charter night and induction of officers banquet.

Saturday, May 4, 2024 at 6 p.m.
7 p.m. dinner
tickets \$40 each or \$75 per couple
kids under 12 year \$10 and under 5 free
Call or text Martin Marko 905 401 5646
or email stthomasknights17273@gmail.com



CATHOLIC EDUCATION EDUCATION

MAY 5-MAY 10, 2024 Each year, the Catholic community of Ontario engages in a week-long celebration of the unique identity and distinctive contributions of Catholic education during Catholic Education Week. This year's

during Catholic Education Week. This year's celebration is entitled, *We Are Called To Love and will be celebrated during the week of*

 $\begin{array}{l} \text{May 5th} - \text{May 10th, 2024.} \\ \#CEW2024 \end{array}$



BINGO! BINGO! BINGO!

Please come out and support
St. Thomas More Bingo May 1 & 15.

Delta Monte Carlo Bingo Hall 4735 Drummond Rd.

Your support is greatly appreciated!

RADIOMARIA Join in the Mariathon 2024 WITH RADIO

MARIA CANADA! Throughout the month of May, we celebrate the month of Mary and join volunteers from around the world to raise donations to open a new radio station. We want to bring the voice and Catholic faith to every corner of the world, and your support is essential to achieve this. Join us in this beautiful initiative, where every donation counts and every action brings us closer to our goal. Together, we can bring the light of faith to those who need it most.

Let's show that solidarity and faith that can change the world! Join the Mariathon 2024 with Radio Maria Canada and be part of this story of love and hope!

Our programming can be accessed online through this website. Just Click on **LISTEN LIVE** and Choose English or Italian

Live Mariathon will take place for each language on:

May 22nd: Spanish May 23rd: English May 24th: Italian

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. Catharine's) 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!

THE SERRA CLUB OF ST. CATHARINES

"Heaven Help Us!"
In support of Seminarians, diaconate,

and religious Sisters in the Diocese of St. Catharines,
Trivia Night -- Thursday, May 30
Doors open 5:00pm Trivia Begins at 6:00pm
St. Alfred Church, St. Catharines
tickets \$25 person

For tickets, contact Katae (905 407-3994) or online serrastc.ca