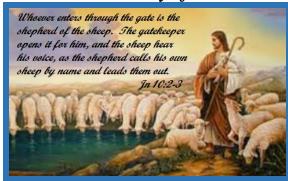
Fourth Sunday of Easter



From The Desk of Fr. Dunstan: Dear brothers and sisters, greetings in the Risen Lord Jesus and Blessed Mother Mary! We are entering into the Fourth Sunday in Easter season. We are also about to begin the month of Blessed Virgin Mary. As you know the month of May and month of October, are dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary by the Holy Catholic Church. October is dedicated because it falls with the Feast of the Holy Rosary, as well as it is the last month in which Our Lady of Fatima appeared.

The month of May falls during the Easter Season, a time of new life, a time when the flowers bloom, and the first apparition of our Lady of Fatima to the three children; Francisco, Jacinta, and Lucia, who were tending the sheep of their family in Portugal. As well on May 31st, we celebrate the Feast of the Visitation of Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth.

I would like to talk about three things in this month. First, Blessed Virgin Mary was given to the whole church at the foot of the Cross. Jesus, in that last act of sorrow of the Passion, detaches Himself from His Mother and gives her to us as our Mother. Let us not forget that we have the greatest jewel in the crown of the Lord, His Mother.

Second, if you take very carefully, the Visitation of Blessed Mother to Elizabeth, the encounter of Jesus and John the Baptist, the sins were washed away from John the Baptist. Besides Jesus and the Blessed Mother, he was the only one who was born without sin. He was purified from original sin in his mother's womb by the presence of the Holy Spirit with which Elizabeth was filled. This is the assurance to all the Christians, that our Lady leads us to the Holy Spirit not only through her being, but also through her mission.

As a final note, in this fourth Sunday, Jesus is depicted as the Good Shepherd who takes care of the sheep. According to the scriptures, the first miracle performed by Jesus towards his sheep was due to the intercession and the good counsel given by Blessed Mother. She told the servants to do whatever Jesus tells them. This first intervention of Mary in the public life of Jesus highlights her cooperation in the mission of her Son.

Let us pray the Rosary during the month of May and give our devotion to her, if it is hard, say at least one decade or one Hail Mary per day in joining the Universal Church to march towards heaven with Blessed Mother Mary. May the Risen Lord grant us salvation through His Mother

Mary. Amen

#### **Mass Intentions**



Saturday, April 29nd For INTENTIONS OF CATHERINE CHANG

> Tuesday, May 2nd For + TED SHEA Requested by Caroline Shea Oliver

Wednesday, May 3rd For INTENTIONS OF MICHAEL LANNO Requested by Georgina Revells

> Thursday, May 4th For + RICHARD MALONE Requested by Margaret Malone

Friday, May 5th For + GRETA SHEHAN Requested by Debbie & Joe Murphy & Family



## Rest in Peace

In your charity please pray for the repose of the soul of

Jackie Ross

#### Please Pray For The Sick

Marianne Loranger, David Hibberd, Christine Curran, Jacob McLean, Carl D'Sousa, Joan Tierney, Diane Meldrum, Jack Lees, Carmel Richard



The Sanctuary Light burns this week in loving memory of

Peter Holliday

Come join us in praying the ROSARY before Mass, Tuesday to Friday at 7:45 am





Help support your parish so that we are able to OFFERING keep our doors open to support you when you need us. Contact the office if you wish to

begin using envelopes or for more information on our Pre Authorized giving (PAG). Alternatively, scan the QR code below and the link will take you to our "Donate" button on our website where you can donate through your credit card; don't forget to select "St. John's Parish, Toronto" in the drop down menu. Thank you for making a gift to your Parish.

|                  | 2019           | 2023           |
|------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Sunday Offertory | <i>\$ 5157</i> | \$ 4480        |
| Offertory PAG:   | \$ 1110        | <i>\$ 1421</i> |

### In The News

MAY 7<sup>TH</sup> MENTAL HEALTH SUNDAY: Catholics throughout the Archdiocese are encouraged to participate in Mental Health in the Faith Communities Awareness Sunday. The special focus for this day to raise awareness in our parish communities of the importance of mental health, how we need to look after it, and how important it is to get help if we are struggling. In our faith communities, people often report experiencing shame or stigma attached to mental health and mental health illness. Having open conversations about mental health issues, listening, and sharing information, opens doors to seeking help, and healing. So, on Sunday, May 7, 2023, let's talk about mental health and help stop the silence, stigma and shame.

NEW BEGINNINGS: Blended Families Online Seminar May 18, @ 7 pm. Register at: https://nbbf0523.eventbrite.ca For more information please contact: Arcangelo Limanni, MRE alimanni@cfstoronto.com (647) 215-3978.

Share discussions with others in a safe, welcoming and non-judgmental online forum. Join us on May 24th at 7 pm, as we discuss Spring Grief: Possibilities and Promises with Moderator: Arcangelo Limanni, MRE. Register at: <a href="https://nbbd05.eventbrite.ca">https://nbbd05.eventbrite.ca</a>. Or for more information please contact: Arcangelo Limanni, MRE <a href="mailto:alimanni@cfstoronto.com">alimanni@cfstoronto.com</a> or 647.215.3978. New Beginnings ministers to those who have suffered a loss through separation, divorce or bereavement.

#### OFFICE OF CATHOLIC YOUTH & OFFICE OF

VOCATIONS: The Office of Vocations and the Office of Catholic Youth are preparing for Totus Tuus Toronto 2023. They've recruited 16 young Catholic leaders who will be formed and sent out in teams of four to serve as missionaries in parishes throughout the Archdiocese, facilitating week-long summer camps. This year, we are in need of a vehicle for one of our teams for 6 weeks in July-August, which will allow them to travel between parishes and host families, sharing the joy of Jesus with youth throughout our Archdiocese. If you have a second vehicle or are able to lend your vehicle for the dates noted above please contact our Office of Catholic Youth at youth@ocytoronto.org, or 416.599.7676.

PRAYER VIGIL: Please be advised that the Prayer Vigil, for our soon-to-be priests is being held at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica on Friday, May 12 from 5:30 pm to 10 pm. There will be praise and worship, interspersed throughout the evening, communal prayers, such as the Rosary and a sung version of the Divine Mercy Chaplet. For more information please contact the Office of Vocations via email —

<u>vocations@archtoronto.org</u>. Please note, this event is open to the public.

<u>Little Levity</u>: A German shepherd, a Doberman and a cat died. In heaven they faced God, who wanted to know what they believed in. The German shepherd said "i believe in discipline, loyalty and training to my master". "Good" said God. "You may sit on my right side". The Doberman said "I believe in love, care and protection of my master". "Aha, you may sit on my left" said God. Then God looked at the cat and said" and what do you believe in"? The cat replied "I believe you are sitting in my seat".

Peace begins with a smile......Mother Teresa

#### **Parish News**

# **SL** ShareLife

ShareLife Sunday and the World Day of Prayer for Vocations

When you support ShareLife, you help educate our future priests. This past year, you invested in our Church's future by supporting 58 seminarians at St. Augustine's Seminary, like Alphonse Choi & Francesco Rampino, and Redemptoris Mater Missionary Seminary. Thus far we have raised \$14,830 toward our goal \$76,000. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate. Thank you for supporting ShareLife!

PLEASE JOIN: family and friends to celebrate the life of Deacon Gerry Godsoe. A special Mass will be held on Saturday, May 13th at 11 am here at St. John's, followed by a small reception in the church hall. All parishioners are welcome! Contact or RSVP:deborahgodsoe1@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE: Weekend of May 14th. The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a Mother's Day social <u>after all Masses</u> & there might even me a special guest. Please plan to join us and honour all the Mothers and Mother figures in our lives.



Congratulation First Holy Communicant's who received Holy Eucharist last weekend, amongst their fellow parishioners, family and friends.

Gillian Caramat, Leia Currie, Xavier Egan, Michael Keane, Saoirse Keane, Clare Sherlock, John Woods, Gabriel Zank



Benjamin Caradonna & Hudson Tearne



Isla Bourqui, Madelyn Ennis, Nora Heredia, Kate Holland, Livia Iera, Olivia Zenck, Talisa Santana

