



Welcome To St. Joseph's Parish

We extend you a warm welcome to
St. Joseph Parish.

We pray that you feel at home.
Please introduce yourself and
consider becoming a member of
our Family of Faith.

Prayer Intentions

Tuesday, May 25

Intentions of Sonny Clerkin

Wednesday, May 26

Intentions of those struggling with Mental Health Issues

Thursday, May 27

Gordon Taverner

Friday, May 28

Souls in Purgatory

Saturday, May 29

Special Intentions

Doug MacLean

Sunday, May 30 – Livestreamed at 10am

Intentions of the Parish

Special Intentions

Diocesan Prayer Calendar

May 24

Rev. Peter Pigott, C.R.

May 25

Rev. Chester Chmurzynski, C.R.

May 26

School Sisters of Notre Dame (SSND)

May 27

Rev. Jim Valk, C.R.

May 28

Rev. Raymond Reitzel, C.R.

May 29

Rev. Frederick Scinto, C.R.



Pentecost Sunday, May 23, 2021

The confused and fear filled apostles were totally changed by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit as they became powerful and dynamic proclaimers of their faith in Jesus Christ. In today's Church God calls priests, religious and deacons to serve Him and to serve others, especially by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. If you feel that you are being called to this ministry, please call the Hamilton Diocese at 905-528-7988 or email vocations@hamiltondiocese.com.

Pentecost Messages

Both the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops and Our Lady of Guadalupe Circle have published messages for Pentecost 2021 and we are pleased to provide you with copies of both, attached to this bulletin.



Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

The **Institute for Catholic Education** has released a *Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus* to be used at the beginning of June. It is an invitation to those involved in and those who care for Catholic Education in the province of Ontario to pray together. If you are interested, please visit www.hamiltondiocese.com and click on the link.

Did you know that May is Mental Health Awareness Month?

It is a time to help destigmatize mental health and treatment. There is growing research and support for connecting a person's religious beliefs and spirituality into their mental health treatment. We can all offer a listening ear and an understanding heart.

Development and Peace Commits to Helping India

In India, a terrible new wave of the COVID-19 pandemic is infecting over 300,000 people and killing more than 3,500 every day. To help Caritas India cope with this emergency, *Development and Peace* has committed an initial sum of \$50,000.

Given that much of the Indian subcontinent is vulnerable to this crisis, much more help will be needed. Caritas India's executive director, Fr. Paul Moonjely, has appealed to "the community of [the] faithful, institutions and people of goodwill to contribute generously." Let's respond with open hearts! If you are interested in learning more, visit www.devp.org.



PENTECOST MESSAGE TO CATHOLIC MOVEMENTS AND ASSOCIATIONS

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ,

Spiritual realities are usually so sublime that we only understand them not by speaking about them directly, but by using images and allusions. Jesus was a master at this, especially when it came to speaking about the Kingdom of God. In fact, the Kingdom of God was the object of his parables. “To what can I compare it?” He asks (Mark 4:30). It is like a mustard seed, the smallest of seeds; it is like yeast that a woman mixed with measures of flour; it is like a merchant in search of fine pearls. These images challenge the listener to ponder the qualities and characteristics of the image itself, and then to grasp the meaning of the spiritual realities they reflect.

As we celebrate the solemnity of Pentecost 2021, let us linger a while on the action of the Holy Spirit in the Christian community. We speak of Pentecost as “the birthday of the Church”. The earliest disciples, who had encountered Jesus during his time on earth, had sufficient teachings and instructions to continue His mission on earth. But they lacked the Spirit. With the coming of the Holy Spirit, they had the confidence and courage to proclaim Jesus and His message. The Church was indeed born.

The eminent Bishop and theologian St. Irenaeus of Lyons (130-202 AD) uses a fine image in speaking about the formation of the Church: *“Like dry flour, which cannot become one lump of dough, one loaf of bread, without moisture, we who are many could not become one in Christ Jesus without the water that comes down from heaven.”* What water might that be? Irenaeus goes on to say, *“Through the baptism that liberates us from change and decay, we have become one in body; through the Spirit we have become one in soul.”*

Brothers and sisters, let us hold these images close to our heart. Jesus prayed that we may all be One in Him. This unity with the Risen Lord is our source of hope as we continue to face the challenges of the pandemic. We likewise receive hope through the solidarities of our communities. The differences of language and culture that distinguished Christian communities in the early Church did not keep them apart. We see in contemporary society (and sadly, in the Church in some quarters) unsettling cracks that arise from ideologies and alliances. “I’m for Paul.” “I’m for Apollos.” (1 Cor. 3:4) And who is for Christ? Only those who are imbued with the true Spirit of Jesus Himself.

During these days of Pentecost, let us be of one mind and one heart. There is but one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism. (Ephesians 4:5)

Standing Committee for Relations with Movements and Associations
Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops

Pentecost 2021



*Our Lady of
Guadalupe Circle*

Message from Our Lady of Guadalupe Circle

Pentecost 2021

Send forth your spirit and renew the face of the Earth (Ps. 104)

Greetings and blessings on the Feast of Pentecost,

As Our Lady of Guadalupe Circle, focused on the work of reconciliation between Indigenous and all Canadians, we want to renew and celebrate the Spirit of Pentecost. Still relatively new as a coalition we are convinced of the importance of language, the challenges of unity in diversity, and the impossibility of progress in reconciliation in our Church and communities apart from the work of the Holy Spirit. It is urgent that we pray for each other in these times when, even as we see signs that the Covid 19 pandemic is lifting, the effects of isolation, of our immense vulnerability and of our profound loss and grief still weigh on our spirits individually and as communities. Surrounded by this shared suffering, but also grateful for the many acts of love and compassion that we have all witnessed, may we find the strength as the disciples did on the first Pentecost, to step out in faith to build a new way forward together.

Holy Scriptures tell us that the Church was born at such a time as this. The first disciples found themselves still huddled together, with the windows of their souls guarded and the doors to their hearts locked. Into this reluctance and uncertainty, the Holy Spirit poured as a mighty wind and as fire. The Church at Pentecost was born with a oneness that welcomes and celebrates a wide diversity of languages and cultures. As a part of the Community of Faith born in this outpouring of the Holy Spirit, the Our Lady of Guadalupe Circle strives to be a sign of that "one faith expressed in many different ways."ⁱ

In the Acts of the Apostles, we are told of people from many nations proclaiming with amazement, "we hear them speaking in our own tongues of the mighty acts of God." (Acts 2:11). This action of the Holy Spirit highlights the importance of speaking and hearing one's own language. Convinced of the prophetic significance of this message, the Our Lady of Guadalupe Circle continues to emphasize the importance of Indigenous languages. We strongly support the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) which states "Indigenous peoples have the right to revitalize, use, develop and transmit to future generations their histories, languages, oral traditions, philosophies, writing systems and literatures, and to designate and retain their own names for communities, places and persons".ⁱⁱ Members of the Our Lady of Guadalupe Circle are committed to encouraging and celebrating the revitalization of these teachings and languages.ⁱⁱⁱ

More than four centuries ago the Church was again birthed in this land among Indigenous Peoples amid crisis, conflict, and cultural diversity. Indigenous members of the Our Lady of Guadalupe Circle express one faith in Christ through their own cultural and spiritual diversity. The Holy Spirit through them and other Indigenous people, witnesses to the truth of the words spoken by Saint Pope John Paul II at Huronia: "There can be no question of adulterating the word of God or of emptying the Cross of its power, but rather of Christ animating the very centre of all culture. Thus, not only is Christianity relevant to the Indian people, but Christ, in the members of his Body, is himself Indian."^{iv} The Our Lady of Guadalupe Circle is committed to working to reconcile the participation of Indigenous members in the Church.

The gift of the Holy Spirit is not for the Church alone but is the Spirit renewing the whole world—the land, the people, and all living things. Moved by this Spirit and prompted by his Holiness Pope Francis we are sent to go boldly into our families and communities, into our educational, health, and social institutions, and even into the world of politics to bring the power of unity and love that are the true fruits of the presence of the Spirit of God. We are called to do the difficult work of justice and reconciliation, "to build a better kind of politics, one aimed at the service of the Common Good".^v The Our Lady of Guadalupe Circle sees in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples a framework to guide our work toward this goal. In language that is embraced by the international community this declaration helps us to concretize the goal set before us by Pope Francis when he stated, "it is essential to show special care for indigenous communities and their cultural traditions. They are not merely one minority among others, but should be the principal dialogue partners, especially when large projects affecting their lands are proposed."^{vi} With the boldness that is asked of us, we members of the Our Lady of Guadalupe Circle pledge to do what we can to help our Catholic community to increase awareness of the significance of UNDRIP as a framework for reconciliation and just relations in Canada.^{vii}

On this great feast of Pentecost, the coming of the Spirit of God, we invite you to pray with us the ancient song of the People of Israel: "send forth your spirit and renew the face of the Earth." (Ps. 104)

ⁱ Homily of Pope John Paul II at Martyr's Shrine (Huronia) September 15, 1984.

ⁱⁱ United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Article 13.

ⁱⁱⁱ Message of Support from Our Lady of Guadalupe Circle on the occasion of the United Nations 2019 Year of Indigenous languages.

^{iv} Homily of Pope John Paul II at Martyr's Shrine (Huronia) September 15, 1984.

^v Pope Francis, Encyclical Letter Fratelli Tutti: On Fraternity and Social Friendship, October 3, 2020 (#154)

^{vi} Pope Francis. Encyclical Letter Laudato si: On Care for Our Common Home, May 24, 2015 (#146)

^{vii} Our Lady of Guadalupe Circle Statement on Including UNDRIP in Canadian Law