

LETTING GO ... AND LETTING GOD

Transitions are difficult moments in our lives. Whenever we come to the end of something in our life, we face the challenge of letting go of what is familiar, of plunging into the unknown. Letting go is hard. No less, beginning again is hard, even when the new reality is something to which we've been looking forward for a long time. As anyone who has worked their way through a 12-step recovery program knows, there is no other way: all we can do is "*let go and let God*", living life "*one day at a time!*"

Today's feast of the **Ascension** is both about letting go and the promise of new beginnings. This is beautifully illustrated by the work of the evangelist St. Luke. One story comes to a close: the *Gospel*, the time in which Jesus is present and visible to his followers: he is God the Son, the Word made flesh. Immediately, another story begins: the *Acts of the Apostles*, the initiation of the realm of God the Holy Spirit. The principle of **continuity** between the two stories is **Jesus**, who promises to be present to his disciples forever: "Remember, I am with you always, to the end of time." What is different is the **form** of his presence: henceforth, the followers of Jesus must discern his presence in the world through his empowering and indwelling **Spirit**.

Once again, the poetry of mystic Malcolm Guite brings us to a deeper appreciation of this mystery, and its meaning for us today:

***WE SAW HIS LIGHT BREAK THROUGH THE CLOUD OF GLORY
WHILST WE WERE ROOTED STILL IN TIME AND PLACE
AS EARTH BECAME A PART OF HEAVEN'S STORY
AND HEAVEN OPENED TO HIS HUMAN FACE.
WE SAW HIM GO AND YET WE WERE NOT PARTED
HE TOOK US WITH HIM TO THE HEART OF THINGS
THE HEART THAT BROKE FOR ALL THE BROKEN-HEARTED
IS WHOLE AND HEAVEN-CENTRED NOW, AND SINGS,
SINGS IN THE STRENGTH THAT RISES OUT OF WEAKNESS,
SINGS THROUGH THE CLOUDS THAT VEIL HIM FROM OUR SIGHT,
WHILST WE OURSELVES BECOME HIS CLOUDS OF WITNESS
AND SING THE WANING DARKNESS INTO LIGHT,
HIS LIGHT IN US, AND OURS IN HIM CONCEALED,
WHICH ALL CREATION WAITS TO SEE REVEALED.***

**MATRIMONY MASS**

Are you celebrating a special wedding anniversary this year? Please consider participating in the Matrimony Mass on Saturday, June 17th at 4 p.m. Couples married at St. Monica's over the past year are also invited. There will be a small reception after the mass. To participate, please sign up at the back of the church or call or email the parish office before June 13th. We also ask participating couples to please bring a photo of themselves. This will be put on display at the back of the church and returned to the couple after the mass.

MENTORSHIP MINISTRY A CALL FOR MENTEES

The Mentorship Ministry is a group of Catholic friends journeying with God and each other. We are seeking MENTEES, young adults (18–35 years of age) who are embarking on or have begun on their career path and would benefit from contact with a Mentor, Mentors are available to guide you on your career path with their experience and friendship. To sign up as a Mentee or for further info on the Ministry email Patricia Tuck at mentorship@gmail.com or telephone 438-399-4088 by May 29th, 2017.

RELIGIOUS BULLYING: WHAT IS IT AND DOES IT HAPPEN IN MONTREAL?

SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 12:15 PM IN THE PARISH RECTORY

Bullying is a buzzword that people often hear but it is a long-term communal concern that is often misunderstood. Religious bullying is even less understood. Join Alice Chan, Ph.D. Candidate, McGill University, to learn about religious bullying, and what you can do as a parent, adult, or student in your community to prevent bullying – which is problematic as it can influence someone into adulthood. "Light refreshments will be served."

MASS INTENTIONS MAY 27 TO JUNE 4, 2017

Saturday, May 27: St. Augustine of Canterbury

4:00 Vincenzo & Antonietta La Posta By Concetta La Posta
Antonio Bei By Gabriella Bei & Family
Ignazio Buscemi By wife Graziella & Family

Sunday, May 28: The Ascension of the Lord

8:30 **In Loving Memory:** Alba & Luigi Paliotti, Emma & Colombo
Salvati, Pietro Di Meglio, Deceased members Galanate Family,
Jean Riti.

11:00 Fioravante Rotiroti By Rotiroti Family
Jeannette Potvin By Lisa Brimo
Maria Cannizzaro Catalano By the Family

Monday, May 29: Weekday Mass

8:00 Aldo Brocca By his Daughter

Tuesday, May 30: Weekday Mass

8:00 Deceased members of the Deane Family By Cecila Clarke

Wednesday, May 31: Visitation of the blessed Virgin Mary

8:00 Maria & Guido De Ciccio By Maria Bruno De Ciccio
William K. Joseph By Anne Joseph

Thursday, June 1: St. Justin

8:00 Agnesa, Martino & Antonio Gagliardi By the Family

Friday, June 2: St. Marcellinus & St. Peter

8:00 Antonietta Cioffi D'Addio By Franca & Family

Saturday, June 3: St. Charles Lwanga & Companions

4:00 Ermando Giuseppie Nudo By his wife Elvira Nudo
Aniello D'Addio By his wife Franca
Carlo Scarsella By Serafino Ciambella

Sunday, June 4: Pentecost Sunday

8:30 Antonio Cavallaro By Cavallaro Family
Giovanni, Maria & Elena Piccolino By Piccolino Family
Mona Montrichard By Ann Marie

11:00 **In Loving Memory:** Deceased members of the Cullen Family,
Antonio Ricci.

Your Generosity...

Thank you for your on-going support of our parish... Collection for the weekend of May 20/21, 2017 totalled \$2,647.10. The special collection for the Montreal archdiocesan Campaign totalled \$2,115.00.

FILM FUNDRAISER "ST IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA"

Don't miss this opportunity!

Fr. Raymond's Video Divina presentation of the movie **Best Exotic Marigold Hotel** originally scheduled for **Friday, June 2 at 7 p.m.** has been cancelled in support of the Ignatian Centre's fundraising presentation of the movie **St Ignatius of Loyola**.

There are two screenings in Montreal, at the Eric Maclean Centre, 2477 West Broadway (Loyola High School), on **Friday, June 2 at 7 pm** and **Saturday, June 3 at 3 pm**. Tickets are \$10 each.

To see the trailer, or for information on the cast, please visit www.ignatiusmovie.com.

To purchase tickets, please contact the Ignatian Centre at [514-481-1064](tel:514-481-1064) or centre@ignatiancentremtl.ca.

For complete details, please consult the attached poster. We encourage you to attend this special screening, and please bring a friend!

FAITH FIRST REGISTRATION

Registration forms for **2017-18** Season are now available at the entrances of the church, church hall, & rectory. **PLEASE NOTE: All new, as well as, returning students must fill out a form before August 14 (to know how many books to order) & return it to the rectory to guarantee a spot.** Cost of program is \$80 for one child, \$105 for 2 children, and \$125 for 3 or more if you register by Sunday, June 25. **(After that date, \$20 will added on: \$80-\$100, \$105-\$125, \$125-\$145).** Please note that your child will not be denied access to the program if you are unable to pay the fee. For further info or an electronic copy of the registration form, please contact Jennie Parsons-Armstrong at (514) 481-0267 or by email at jennie.armstrong@bell.net.

SUMMER RETREAT AUGUST, 2017

Montreal Directed Retreats: offers the opportunity for a silent, personally-directed summer retreat from August 7-11, 2017 in Rougemont at the Cistercian abbey—a quiet oasis of peace and tranquility in the countryside. The abbey is a 45 minute car drive from Montreal, or is easily accessible by public transportation. Cost is \$295, all-inclusive. Individual rooms, and most have private toilet and shower in each room. Limited spaces. For further information, call Paul Empsall 514-626-9462 or visit: www.montrealretreats.org.

