

**THE NATIONAL WEEK FOR LIFE AND THE FAMILY (May 8-15):
IS MY FAMILY A “SCHOOL OF MERCY”?**

Every year the Church in Canada sets aside one week as a special time for prayer and reflection on life and the family. During this year of Mercy, it is particularly appropriate that we turn our attention to the privileged role of the family as the first and most important school of mercy – the place where parents sustained by God’s grace, are meant to become icons of Divine Mercy.

As followers of Christ, each of us—whatever our vocation—is called to imitate Him in His self-giving merciful love. Yet we can only give away that which we have received. It is God’s will that the family be the place where we first encounter unconditional love. Nevertheless, no family is perfect! Only by cultivating an intimate relationship with Christ in prayer and the sacraments, can our weaknesses be healed and our shortcomings overcome, so that we can become the loving and merciful spouses, parents and friends that the Lord calls us to be and on which the future wellbeing of humanity depends. Pope Francis invites us, “*Let us be renewed by God’s mercy, let us be loved by Jesus, let us enable the power of his love to transform our lives too; and let us become agents of this mercy, channels through which God can water the earth.*”

Recent developments in our country touching the issues of euthanasia and assisted suicide reveal the degree to which we are suffering from a “failure to love” and the very real urgency of our calling. Sadly, many appear to believe that some lives are simply not worth living. It is difficult to imagine any person who feels loved and wanted drawing such a conclusion or choosing to end life prematurely. As long as we live, we can both give and receive love. Let us recall the words of Blessed Mother Teresa, “If you want to bring happiness to the whole world, go home and love your family.”

Many ask: “What kind of a world are we bequeathing our children?” Let us rather ask: “What kind of children are we bequeathing to our world?” Reflecting on the state of our society, it is time for each of us to ask ourselves, “Have I loved well enough?” If I have failed to love as Christ bids me perhaps it is only because I have failed to draw from the transforming and merciful love that flows freely from His heart. During this year’s **Week for Life and the Family** let us turn to the Lord with confidence and ask him to make our homes and families schools of His merciful love. Let us not forget that with the Lord’s help, all things are possible!

Message from COLF: CATHOLIC ORGANIZATION FOR LIFE AND THE FAMILY

MOTHER’S DAY FLOWERS

We would like to thank Mr. Martin Allaire and the Collins Clarke Macgillivray White Funeral Home for donating the beautiful flowers that were offered to all the wonderful women of our parish in celebration of Mother’s Day. This generous gift brings such joy to this special occasion!

FIRST COMMUNION CELEBRATION

We are happy to celebrate this weekend the First Communion of 25 young people from our parish. Congratulations to: Crisean Allana, Noah de la Barre, Sophia Berintan, Tamara Browne, Thomas Shorthouse, Erika Del Raso, Adriana Ersoni, Mélodie Evoy, Rachel Griffin, Yerusalem Hamdo, Thomas Hopper, Stefano Iacampo, Lily Kavcic-Babinski, Dario Lanni, Charlotte Lano, Julian Longo, Kierah Manjarres, Angel Morrison, Caitlin McCarthy, Harrison Pilon, Miriam Roberts, Julio Ruiz de la Orden, Lily Salabi, Cynthia Thorpe-Hung and Vincenzo Vietri.

May this be the beginning of a long life of celebrating the Eucharist. May you always appreciate Jesus in His Word, in the Eucharist, and in people. **Thank you to all the catechists and catechist helpers** who have so lovingly and faithfully prepared our young people for this special privilege.

FAITH FIRST REGISTRATION: Registration forms for 2016-17 Season are available at the entrances of the church, church hall, and rectory. **PLEASE NOTE: All new, as well as, returning students must fill out a form before August 15 (so that we know how many books to order) and return it the rectory to guarantee a spot.** The cost of program is \$80 for one child, \$105 for 2 children, and \$125 for 3 or more **if you register by Sunday, June 26 (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.

MASS INTENTIONS MAY 7 TO 15, 2016

Saturday, May 7: Our Lady's Saturday

4:00 In Loving Memory: Italo & Anna Mariani, Italo Falcone, Angelo Caucci, Alessandro Palladini, Leonard & Terry Winslade.

Sunday, May 8: Ascension of the Lord

8:30 Vincenzo & Antonietta La Posta	By Concetta La Posta
Deceased members of the	By Dacuycuy Family
Dacuycuy & Vea Family	By Baratta Family
Filomena & Giacomo Baratta	
11:00 Loreto & Paolina Ciambella	By their daughter Gabriela
Flavio Ricci	By Mother & Family
Anna Maria Fiori	By Livio & Family

Monday, May 9: Weekday Mass

8:00 Hugo Ragazzon By his Niece

Tuesday, May 10: Weekday Mass

8:00 Eugene Mathieu By son Jay & daughter Louise

Wednesday, May 11: Weekday Mass

8:00 Diana Divincenzo By Olga Santini Matta

Thursday, May 12: St. Nereus & St. Achilleus & St. Pancras

8:00 Deceased members of the Lee & Bruce Families and Doreen Bethelmy By the Hyland Family

Friday, May 13: Our Lady of Fatima

8:00 Maiolo, Mazzella & Ienco Family Assunta & Nazzareno Santoche By the Family
By Maria Palucci

Saturday, May 14: St. Matthias

4:00 Giovanni Ciampini By Claudia & George
Iole Falciani By Falciani Family
Deceased member of the Charles J. McDonald Family By Mary McDonald

Sunday, May 15: Pentecost Sunday

8:30 In Loving Memory: Leona Clarke, Alba & Luigi Paliotti, Emma & Colombo Salvati	
11:00 Loreto & Paolina Ciambella	By their daughter Gabriela
Vincenza Forte	By Nursing Division of Montreal Neuro Hospital
Nicola & Stella Rotiroti	By Rotiroti Family
Deceased members of the Supino Family	By Smith-Supino Family

Your Generosity...

Thank you for your on-going support of our parish... Collection for the weekend of April 30/May 1, 2016 totalled \$4,045.00. Maintenance totalled \$1,275.00

NATIONAL MARCH FOR LIFE – OTTAWA.

All are welcomed to join us for the National March for Life, **Thursday, May 12**. This is a yearly gathering on Parliament Hill, Ottawa. 25,000 attended last year to demand protection for children before and after birth. Two chartered buses leave Montreal at 7a.m. – **Downtown** (895 de la Gauchetière) and **Laval** (Holy Name of Jesus church, 899 Chomedey Blvd.) Mass, picnic, & march through the streets of Ottawa. Pick-ups at **Fairview Shopping Center** (Sears). Round-trip fare \$40. Reserve before May 5, 2016, at (438) 930-8643 or (514) 344-2686.

YES WE CAN! The Confirmation Children's Drive for empty soda cans and plastic bottles continues until May 15th.



Special collection bags for these items are at the entrances of the church. This project is to help out our Food Pantry.

Adult Faith Enrichment Upcoming events

Video Divina

Fr. Raymond will present the movie, **Live and Become**, this coming **Friday, May 13 at 7 p.m.**, in the parish rectory. As this is the last movie of the "Movies with a Mission" series, you are invited to bring refreshments of your choice to share with the group. Popcorn will be provided. All are welcome!

Please refer to our website and posters at Church entrances for additional info.

CANADA HEALTH DAY

On May 12th, Canada Health Day is celebrated in health care facilities and community services across the country. This day reminds us that health and healing are essential aspects of our baptismal vocation. We care called to take responsibility for our personal health: to prevent illness and to seek a healthy lifestyle. Health means concern for the physical, emotional, social and spiritual health of our communities, respect for God's creatures and the nurturing of the whole earth.

SPECIAL COLLECTION
Annual Collection of the Catholic Church of Montreal
Next Weekend May 14/15
At All Sunday Masses