

THE EMPTY TOMB

This past year, the world of music and literature lost an iconic figure: Montreal's very own Leonard Cohen. Though Jewish by birth, he was strongly influenced by Buddhism, and often used explicitly Christian images in his songs. Consider these lyrics from "Show Me The Place":

*Show me the place, help me roll away the stone;
Show me the place, I can't move this thing alone;
Show me the place where the Word became a man;
Show me the place where the suffering began.*

The initial Easter experience was the discovery of the empty tomb. Only later did the disciples encounter the Risen Christ. To properly celebrate the Resurrection, we also must go through the drama of our passion, the grief and emptiness of our tombs. When we dare to do this, we begin to see that pattern of death and resurrection at the base of all reality, implanted there by God. This pattern – etched into creation and into the human condition, revealed supremely to us in the life, death and Resurrection of Jesus – is also the pattern of our own lives. We live and breathe, we work and love, we struggle and suffer, we die and rise again. But we don't do this alone. We can't roll away the stone by ourselves. We need help.

Jesus, raised up by the Father, is triumphant over death! Death no longer has the final word. The particular details of our experience don't change because of the Resurrection: we continue to work, to struggle, to suffer, to doubt, to believe, to hope, to love and be loved. However, the *horizon against which* we understand our life changes profoundly: the Resurrection invites us to grow in trust that God is at work in the world, that love can triumph over hatred, that we can dare to embrace new hope. Easter hope!!

In the fourth century, the great Church Father St. Augustine wrote: "We are an Easter people, and Alleluia is our song!" Sixteen centuries later, the prophet Leonard Cohen proclaimed in his anthem "Hallelujah": "There's a blaze of light in every word, It doesn't matter which you heard, The holy or the broken Hallelujah! (...) And even though it all went wrong, I'll stand before the Lord of song, With nothing on my tongue but Hallelujah!"

As we courageously face our empty tombs, may the Risen Christ grant us a saving encounter with the new life he promises: **Christ is risen, Alleluia! Truly He is risen, Alleluia!**

THANKS BE TO GOD, ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

On behalf of the pastoral team, I would like to extend our gratitude to all those who worked so hard to make our Holy Week and Easter services so beautiful and meaningful this year. To all those who played a visible role in the services – the readers, servers, musicians, and singers; to those who worked behind the scenes – the sacristans, altar guild, liturgy committee, and environment/décor (those beautiful Easter flowers are always a highlight!); and to those whose donations helped defray the costs: thanks, and thanks, and ever thanks! God bless you all with fifty days of Easter joy!



**FAITH FIRST & LITTLE GIFTS PROGRAM
Begins again weekend of April 22 & 23**

**FAIR TRADE ON SALE WEEKEND OF APRIL 22/23, 2017
LOONIES AND SPARE CHANGE COLLECTED FOR ZAMORAN**

BULLETIN of April 15/16 & April 22/23 are combined. Regular printing will begin again for weekend of April 29/30. **Note:** Parish secretary will be away on holidays April 17 to 21. **However, office will remain open from April 18 to 20. (April 17 & 21 closed).**

MASS INTENTIONS APRIL 15 TO 30, 2017

Saturday, April 15: EASTER VIGIL

8:00pm Easter Vigil Service

Sunday, April 16: EASTER – RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

8:30 Morning Easter Mass (Christ is Risen)

11:00 Morning Easter Mass (Christ is Risen)

Monday, April 17: Easter Octave

8:00 Annita Forlini By Ignazio Mattei

Tuesday, April 18: Easter Octave

8:00 Pasquale Parente By Maria Bruno De Ciccio

Wednesday, April 19: Easter Octave

8:00 Adamo Francescangeli By Wife & Family
Ivio Mazzella By his Daughter

Thursday, April 20: Easter Octave

8:00 Ramon Moran By Grace & Gian

Friday, April 21: Easter Octave

8:00 Guerrino & Luigia Ciambella By son Serafino

Saturday, April 22: Easter Octave

4:00 Ermando Giuseppie Nudo By his wife Elvira Nudo
Antonio Bei By wife Gabriella Bei & Family
Nick Vietri By Lucy

Sunday, April 23: Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)

8:30 Vincenzo & Antonietta LaPosta By Concetta La Posta
Giovanni, Marie & Elena Piccolino By Piccolino Family
Carlo & Santa Firori By Giuseppina & Family

11:00 **In Loving Memory:** Clementine & John Larson, Deceased members of the Cullen Family.

Monday, April 24: St. Fidelis of Signaringen

8:00 Pietro Pierantozzi By Egnazio Mattei

Tuesday, April 25: St. Mark

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

Wednesday, April 26: Our Lady of Good Counsel

8:00 Ignazio Ciampini By Ernesta Ciampini

Thursday, April 27: Weekday Mass

8:00 Mariano Santini By Olga Matta Santini
Giovanna, Pietro, Americo By Michele & Vincenzina Ferrara & Argeo Forlini

Friday, April 28: St. Peter Chanel, St. Louis Grignon de Monfort

8:00 Eva Ciampini By Claudia & George

7:30pm Memorial Mass for Ivio Mazzella

Saturday, April 29: St. Catherine of Siena

4:00 **In Loving Memory:** Angelo Caucci, Leonard & Terry Winslade, Alessandro Palladini, Norbert Gertler, Engracia & Juan Nicolas

Sunday, April 30: Third Sunday of Easter

8:30 Agnese & Guglielmo Teodori By Vivian & Joseph
Antonio & Annunziata Castelli By Piccolino Family
Santa Mattei By Giuseppina & Family
11:00 Orlando & Domenica Fiori Bydaughter-in-law
Berardina Fiori
Fioravante Rotiroti By Rotiroti Family
Antonio Ricci By Antonia Ricci & Family

Your Generosity...

Thank you for your on-going support of our parish... Collection for the weekend of April 8-9, 2017 totalled \$4,458.90 and Special Collection for Share Lent D & P Totalled \$3,954.10.

ADULT FAITH ENRICHMENT UPCOMING EVENTS

Coffee and Conversation

Join us n **Sunday, April 23 from 9:45 to 10:45 a.m.** in the rectory dining room to view the last THE WILD GOOSE video for the year, **The Spirit Remembers.** Free babysitting is available if you make arrangements with Anna no later than Wednesday, April 19. All are welcome!

Spirit and Truth in Daily Life

Jesus told the Samaritan woman that the day was coming when God would be worshipped “in spirit and in truth.” What is the connection between “life in the Spirit” and “living in the truth”? How does authentic, Spirit-guided transformation in our life flow from embracing the truths of our faith? What might this look like in our daily life and in the life of our community? Join **Robert Assaly** on **Wed., April 26 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.** in the parish hall to explore the answers to these questions and their meaning for our life. Please register by **April 24.**

Note: This presentation is the culmination of our 2016-17 Adult Faith Education program dedicated to the transformative power of the Holy Spirit. We hope you are able to join us!

Video Divina

This year, Fr. Raymond's film series looks at movies - and life - through the lens of the Holy Spirit. Join him on **Friday, April 28 at 7 p.m.** in the parish rectory to view the movie **Unfinished Song.** Free admission and popcorn, and stimulating discussion to follow!

Please refer to our website and the posters at the Church entrances for additional info. If registration is required, kindly use the appropriate sign-up sheets at the main church entrance or call Anna at the office.