

**LETTING GO ... AND LETTING GOD**

**Transitions** are difficult moments in our lives. When 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. At the same time, beginning again is hard, even when the new reality is something to which we've been looking forward for a long time. Yet 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"*, and live life *"one day at a time!"*

A few years ago, we went through an important transition in the history of our parish: in anticipation of our major hall renovation, we had to go through a painful process of "de-cluttering". Believe me, there was a lot of "letting go" involved! It's amazing how much "stuff" we accumulate over the years, the kinds of emotional attachments we form to it, and the difficulty we have giving away or disposing of things, even when not used in years. And yet, we have to let go of the old in order to make space for the new.

Today's feast of the **Ascension** is both about letting go and the promise of new beginnings. One story comes to a close: the Gospel, the time in which Jesus is present and visible to his followers in the flesh. Immediately, another story begins: the Acts of the Apostles, the initiation of the realm of the 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." The difference lies in the **form** of his presence: henceforth, the followers of Jesus must discern his presence in the world through his empowering **Spirit**.

As our young people receive this weekend the sacrament of Confirmation, as our entire community awaits a new outpouring of the gifts of the Holy Spirit in our Pentecost celebrations next Sunday, let us pray for the grace to be truly open to a fresh experience of the Spirit's power to transform our lives. As Spirit-filled witnesses, let us rise to the challenge of embracing Christ's call to go forth and transform the world.

**CONFIRMATION CELEBRATION**

**We are happy to have Monsignor Frank Leo here this weekend to celebrate the Confirmation of 38 of our young people.** Congratulations to: Lorelei-Arianna Albarracin, Ryan Altieri, Marina Arcangeli, Clara Aubin, Brenda Banea, Ericka Baena, Alessandro Bassi, Antonio Brunetti, Julien Bolen-MacDonald, Andrew Boyer, Martin Calero, Julian Candido, Jeanelle Caraos, Shakia Carter, Antoine Davy, Luca De Sarno, Damiano Ersoni, Gabriel Fontana, Nolan Ganz, Massimo Gentile, Declan Goulem, Nathaniel Griffin, Joshua Guiang,



David Hammett, Emma Jabbari, Briana Masella, Gabriella Faith Mayuga, Arianna Moncado, Vanessa Patrizi, Ryan Rooney, Nicholas Saldanha, Shontai Smith, Angela Sposato, Lorie Sully, Kayla Tedeschi, Lee Vecchiarelli, Dolores Villanueva and Katerina Vrentas. We also congratulate Owen Perreault who will be making his Confirmation next weekend at St. Ignatius.

**May you always live fully the faith** you are confirming today; and may each of you, including Lorelei-Arianna Albarracin, Ryan Altieri, Clara Aubin, Antonio Brunetti, Julien Bolen-MacDonald, Martin Calero, Jeanelle Caraos and Angela Sposato, who also celebrated their First Communion this weekend, always treasure the gift of

Eucharist and celebrate it often. **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 2015-16 season are now 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 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. 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](mailto:jennie.armstrong@bell.net).

## MASS INTENTIONS MAY 16 TO 24, 2015

### Saturday, May 16: Our Lady's Saturday

**4:00 In Loving Memory:** Pietro Di Meglio, Mike Kilbertus, Leonard & Terry Winslade, Alessandro Palladini, James Webb.

### Sunday, May 17: The Ascension of the Lord

**8:30** Ermando Giuseppe Nudo By wife Elvira  
Lorenzo Galvan By Luigi & Rosa Salvati  
**11:00** Amilcare & Pino Mattei By Giuseppina & Family  
Sterina Monti By Sylvia & Antonio Supio  
Gaetan Mondoux By Fr. Raymond & Wardens of St. Monica's Parish

### Monday, May 18: Weekday Mass

**8:00** Loretta & Donato Pedicelli By Ernesta Ciampini

### Tuesday, May 19: St. Dunstan

**8:00** Eva Ciampini By Claudia & George  
Thanksgiving Mass By Maria & Alfredo Diodati

### Wednesday, May 20: St. Bernardine of Siena

**8:00** Giuseppe & Felicia Ones By Settimia Ones  
Nazzareno Angelini By Luisa Falconi

### Thursday, May 21: St. Eugene de Mazenod, St. Christopher Magallanes

**8:00** Pino & Amilcare Ignazio By Ignazio Family

### Friday, May 22: St. Rita of Cascia

**8:00** Roberto Lagman By wife Gema Flora  
Carlo Scarsella By Serafino Ciambella

### Saturday, May 23: Dedication of St. Teresa of Avila Cathedral

**4:00** Antonio & Domenica Poliziani By Niece  
Leonardo Ricciardi By wife Maria Carmela Ricciardi

### Sunday, May 24: Pentecost Sunday

**8:30 In Loving Memory:** Alba & Luigi Paliotti, Emma & Colombo Salvati, Deceased members of the Petosa Family and the Cullen Family  
**11:00** Ann & Jim Young By their Family  
Fioravante Rotiroti By the Rotiroti Family

### Your Generosity...

Thank you for your on-going support of our parish...Collection for the weekend of May 9/10, 2015 totalled \$3,935.20. Special Collection for Disaster Relief in Nepal totalled \$2,008.45.

## SPRING CLEANING DAY

Saturday, May 30  
At St. Monica's Parish



**9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. (Coffee & Muffins to start)**  
**Sign-up sheets are at the back of the church to register.**

## CORPUS CHRISTI DIOCESAN CELEBRATION

Thursday, June 4, at 7:00 pm Special Mass at Mary Queen of the World Cathedral followed by a Eucharistic procession to St. Patrick's Basilica.  
More information posted on church bulletin boards.

## MATRIMONY MASS

Are you celebrating a special wedding anniversary this year? Please consider participating in the Matrimony Mass on Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup>. We also ask participating couples to please bring a photo of themselves. This will be put on **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY** display at the back of the church and returned to the couple after the mass.



## Adult Faith Enrichment Upcoming events

### St. Monica's Spring Retreat

The tremendous advances in science and technology over the last century have allowed us to understand the universe in a whole new way. Please join us for our Spring Retreat, **The Wonder of God in the Unfolding Universe: The Sacrament of Creation**, with Sr. Mary-Ellen Francoeur, this Saturday, May 23 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., for a sacred time away to explore how this new understanding of the universe invites you to experience God in new ways! Please register by **May 20**.

**Note:** Samia Boghdady of Theologia Book Ministry will be at the retreat with a selection of books for you to purchase that will complement the material presented.

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