

In the Risen Lord, his disciples were confronted by God's final achievement in a transformed creation. The overwhelming and mysterious nature of this experience – an encounter that involved every level of their being – is reflected in the various passages of the gospels that attempt to communicate it. On the surface, the symbolic imagery and circumstantial detail they use are difficult to reconcile. Beneath the surface, however, they have a remarkable unity: against all expectations they know the Jesus who has been so long in their company, triumphant in his humanity over death; he greets them generously, and initiates a new relationship with them that they find challenging; he entrusts them with a mission to the whole world, announcing the forgiveness of sins and the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Today, our Easter liturgy aims to awaken in us the recognition that we too are called to share in this mission – through the gift of Christ's own Spirit. In our gospel reading from John, 'Advocate' translates the word, 'paraclete', used several times in this gospel. This term indicates far more than one who will speak for us when we are on trial. It signifies someone who will stand by us whatever our need – our 'champion' we could say. The work of the Spirit is clearly expressed in the words of Jesus: 'I will not leave you orphans, he says, 'I will come back to you'. He will be present, however, in a new way, as his own Spirit leads the faith-filled community in a fuller understanding of all that he said and did.



If you love me you will keep my commandments

This union with the Saviour, through his Spirit, is to be far more than a comforting spiritual union. 'If you love me you will keep my commandments', he says. What are these commandments? Immediately before the passage selected for our liturgy, Jesus has spoken of the 'works' that will be a sign of true belief in him. In the tradition that gave us John's gospel, we know, all is summed up in a single commandment, 'Love one another, as I have loved you'. The Spirit will lead us into the fullness of truth and life brought by the Risen Lord, as we give ourselves to practical love and service.

In our reading from Acts we see the first Christian community taking up the mission they have received. Philip, one of its seven 'deacons' - remembering, no doubt, the example of Jesus – takes the Good News of reconciliation to the Samaritans, the hated enemies of old Israel. It was through the leadership of the apostles, this incident shows, that the Spirit built up the Church's communion of love and service.

If our union with the Risen Lord must find a practical expression, it is certainly, Peter tells us in his letter, a most personal bond: 'Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts' he tells us, and then your lives will bring true blessings to those around you.

John Thornhill sm
www.theemmausseries.com

The Lord said, "I will not leave you orphaned."

Pray for an increase in vocations to the ordained and consecrated life.

If God is calling you, contact Fr. Hansoo Park
416-968-0997 vocations@vocations.ca www.vocationstoronto.ca

Readings Acts 8.5-8, 14-17 ~ 1 Peter 3.15-18 ~ John 14.15-21

PARISH

Mass Intentions This Week – May 26 to June 1

Please join us as we pray for the following announced intentions...

	Intention(s):	Offered by:
Monday, 9am	✠ Mary Orazem	The family
Tuesday, 9am	✠ Izilda Gonsalves	The family
Wednesday, 9am	✠ Domenico Valle	The family
Thursday, 9am	✠ Lena Badali	The family
Friday, 9am	✠ Delia Montoya Ortiz	Delia Urosevic
Saturday, 9am	✠ Stanislaw Cybulko	The family
5:15pm	✠ Theresa Dimson	The family
Sunday, 8am	✠ For the needs of our parish and faithful parishioners ✠	
9:30am	✠ Gerald Brukner	The family
11am	✠ Andrew Langlois	Theresa Darmody
12:30pm	✠ Wayne Dusk	Gordon & Inis Mansell

Rosary Group – stay and pray daily, after 9am Mass + Fridays, 2pm

Five decades daily, fifteen decades on Fridays followed by the Chaplet of Divine Mercy.

The Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet are "a spiritual medicine... good for your heart, for your soul, for your whole life."

Franciscus

Scripture Classes – Wednesdays, 10am + Thursdays, 7pm – all are welcome!

Morning class in the parish hall, evening class at OLS School, 32 Montgomery Rd., Room 411.

2013 Financial Report to Parishioners

This important annual report will be available from Ministers of Hospitality next weekend.

'Final Fridays' Fellowship last Friday of each month, after the 9am Mass

Everyone is invited to the parish hall for coffee, tea and breakfast rolls. Take advantage of this special opportunity to get to know your neighbour. **All are welcome... bring a friend!**

Working wonders for the elderly...

Carolyn retired from nursing and social work before she started with Society of Sharing. She initially became involved in friendly visiting and then moved on to coordinate their volunteers. "There are so many isolated seniors on a fixed income who can't afford to move." says Carolyn. "We can make such a positive difference in their lives with friendly visits, shopping, transportation to medical and social outings."



Last year ShareLife-supported agencies met the needs of over 3,400 seniors with outreach service programs.

ShareLife's campaign continues – Give generously... You can work wonders!

Call for Vendors OLS Trunk Sale – Saturday, June 7, 9am–2pm

This event will take place in the parish parking lot to raise funds for the 'Restore, Renew, Re-joyce!' parish renovation project. Parishioners & our neighbours are invited to become vendors. A parking spot with table & two chairs is available for a minimum donation of \$35, a table spot with two chairs for a minimum of \$25. A combined 33 spots are available. We plan to hold this event annually & envision a huge neighbourhood garage sale rather than a fair designed for artisans to sell their products. Please pick up a Vendor Application Form at the back of the church or from the parish office. Questions? Email trunksale@sorrows.ca or call the office.

The Parish Survey is available at the office or at www.sorrows.ca. This is your opportunity to assist efforts to enhance our faith community.

COMMUNITY

OLS Religious Education Program 2014/15 – Register now!

Registrations are now being accepted from **registered parishioners** for their children (grades 1 thru 8) who attend non-Catholic schools. Forms are available from the parish office. Note: the program is run largely by qualified volunteers and parental assistance is vital!



Automated External Defibrillator Know where, when, how!

Please take a few minutes to visit our website – www.sorrows.ca – and familiarize yourself with the proper use of our new AED, located in the Cliveden stairwell. **Time spent now could mean a life saved!**

Congratulations to Our Archdiocese's Newest Permanent Deacons!

With joy and gratitude we pray for the eight deacons who were ordained for the Archdiocese of Toronto on May 24. They are: Delbert John Allen, John Patrick Brown, Joerg-Stephan Brunck, Timothy Joseph Dunlop, Paul Ma, Raphael Reynaldo and Peter Tetsuo Takaoka. May they and their wives be continually renewed in God's presence as they serve His people.

Salt+Light Television Remember this ministry in your prayers

The Sunday Mass – This outreach to our senior citizens, the infirm, and other viewers affords them the opportunity to join in a worship service from their homes, nursing homes or hospital rooms. The Sunday Mass from St. Malachy's Parish in New York City airs every Sunday at 12:30pm and again at 3pm.

Catholicism Series – Journey with Fr. Robert Barron to more than 50 locations throughout 16 countries around the world. Be illuminated by the spiritual and artistic treasures of this global culture that claims more than one billion of the earth's people. Catch the Catholicism Series Sundays at 9pm. For more info, visit www.saltandlighttv.org/catholicism



SALT + LIGHT TELEVISION

Distance Education – St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, N.S.

Courses at StFX for adults seeking faith formation for personal and professional development include: Diploma in Ministry, Certificate in Lay Ministry, Certificate in Spirituality, and Diploma in Intellectual Disability Studies. For information please call 1-877-867-5562 (toll free) or email continuing@stfx.ca or visit www.sites.stfx.ca/continuingeducation

Faith Connections – Coming events for young adults, aged 18–39!

THEOLOGY ON TAP: Radical Gratitude – May 26, 7–9pm, Duke of York Pub, 39 Prince Arthur Ave. Join us for an evening of thought-provoking conversation on theological topics! Special guest speaker is Mary Jo Leddy B.A., B.Ed., M.A., Ph.D, Lecturer in Religion & Society. Munchies provided, RSVP appreciated – **come and bring two friends!**

Faith Connections' Barbecue – Celebrating Summer! – June 12, 6–8:30pm Home of the Presentation Brothers and Franciscan Friars of the Atonement, 15 Laxton Ave, Toronto. Come hang out with other young adults at our summer barbecue and enjoy an evening of socializing, laughter, and food! **RSVP required by June 5.**

LIVING JOY: A Retreat for Young Adults – August 8 to 10, London, Ontario Join other young adults and Sisters of St. Joseph on a pilgrimage to London! Together we will pray, serve, reflect and learn about living the joy of the Gospel! Meals provided, car-pooling will be available. Regular registration (by July 21) is \$125. Early birds (by June 15) save \$25. **If cost is an issue, arrangements can be made... please contact us!** To register and RSVP for the above events, call Vanessa Nicholas-Schmidt at 416-467-2645 or visit www.faithconnections.ca – Fontbonne Ministries, Sisters of St. Joseph, Toronto.