

Today's liturgy, like that of last Sunday, invites us to a deeper appreciation of the Paschal Mystery we have just celebrated. Today we renew our faith in the great sacrament in which the Saviour's Paschal Mystery gives life to the Church age after age.

The gospel reading from Luke makes clear the central place given to the Eucharist in the community for which the gospel was written. In Luke's narrative, Jesus, after completing his Galilean ministry, turns his attention to the formation of the apostles. He has them share in his mission by sending them to preach the good news and to heal the sick. Confronted by a crowd that has neglected to provide themselves with nourishment in their eagerness to stay in his company, Jesus has a new lesson for The Twelve. 'Give them something to eat yourselves', he tells them. There can be no doubt, as the narrative continues, that Luke sees these words as pointing to the Eucharist, the nourishing of the people of God that will be the centrepiece of the apostolic ministry. Taking the loaves and fish, Jesus 'raises his eyes to heaven', pronounces 'the blessing' over the loaves, and then 'breaks them'. Though provided by Jesus, the nourishment is given to the people through the ministry of the apostles – who are instructed to organise the people 'in parties', to distribute the loaves and fish, and to collect the scraps.

St Paul's letter to the Corinthians gives us the oldest extant account of the institution of the Eucharist. Paul writes barely twenty years after the crucifixion; but he makes it clear – using the technical language of the rabbinical tradition in which he was formed – that he is handing on an authentic and sacred tradition of the Christian community. This is independently confirmed by the fact that Paul's narrative of what happened at the Last Supper shows clear evidence of having been modified by repetition in liturgical celebrations. The implications of Paul's brief account are momentous. 'This is my body, which is for you' (with manuscript variations, 'given for you', 'broken for you'). In the Church's central act of worship, Jesus makes himself the nourishment of the world, perpetuating the last act of his earthly life – in which he gave himself into the hands of his Father, for the life of the world. The words, 'This is the new covenant in my blood', echo the declaration of Moses as he inaugurated the first covenant (Exodus 24.8); but this is the 'new' covenant in which humanity's final bonding with God replaces the shadows and types of the Old Testament. The celebration is a 'memorial' that 'proclaims the Lord's death until he comes' – the constant faith of the Church since the beginning, that the Lord and his Paschal Mystery are present in the celebration of the Eucharist, finds strong support in the biblical overtones of these words.

The context of Paul's words has great practical significance. Immediately prior to this passage, Paul rebukes the Corinthians for forming selfish and exclusive factions – as they gather to celebrate the sacrament that should awaken in them a love that is selfless, one with that of the Saviour!

Give them something to eat yourselves



John Thornhill sm
www.theemmausseries.com

Jesus has given us His Body to eat and His Blood to drink so as to nourish us on our journey towards the Kingdom. May we be faithful to him on our journey as a married, single, ordained or consecrated person.

Is God calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon? Contact Fr. Chris Lemieux 416-968-0997 vocations@vocations.ca www.vocationstoronto.ca

PARISH

Readings ~ Genesis 14.18-20 ~ 1 Corinthians 11.23-26 ~ Luke 9.11b-17

Mass Intentions This Week – May 30–June 5

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

	Intention(s):	Offered by:
Monday, 9am	✠ Delia Montoya	Delia Urosevic
Tuesday, 9am	✠ Robert Kearney	Linda McCarron
Wednesday, 9am	✠ Colleen Evans	Mary, Margaret & Joan Brennan
Thursday, 9am	✠ Gaetano Gagliano	Jim & Winnie Magee
Friday, 9am	... of Maria Pietruszczak	Catherine
Saturday, 9am	✠ Romeo Colacitti	Angela Colacitti
5:15pm	✠ For the needs of our parish and faithful parishioners ✠	
Sunday, 8am	✠ Helen & Douglas MacDonald	Michael Foran
9:30am	✠ John Piuanno	Margaret Longo
11am	✠ members of the Goseco, Valencia & Feliciano families	Linda Feliciano
12:30pm	✠ Angelina Jannetta	Carol Ciarallo

This Weekend Victoria Scholars Concert – Sunday, 7:30pm @OLS

Close out the Victoria Scholars' 23rd season with the greatest music from the greatest composers! Listen to Beethoven, Mozart, Wagner, and many more in this tribute to the greats. Tickets are available online at www.victoriascholars.ca or at the door. Doors open at 7pm.

Ecuadorian Earthquakes & Fort McMurray Wildfires

The Archdiocese is accepting financial contributions in the wake of these devastating natural disasters. **Those wishing to help may do so as follows:** visit www.archtoronto.org or call 416-934-3411 or through the parish (office or offertory collection), making cheques payable to: OLS—Ecuador Earthquake—Humanitarian Relief and/or OLS—Fort McMurray Fires—Disaster Relief. **Please continue to pray for those affected by these & other natural disasters. Thank you so much for your ongoing efforts to help those in crisis.**

OLS Religious Education Program 2016/17 Registration now open!

Registrations are now being accepted from **registered parishioners** for their children (grades 1–7) who attend non-Catholic schools. Forms are available at the parish office.

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.

Stretch & Flex – Join us! – Tuesdays, 6–7pm @Running Room, 2nd Floor

Only \$10 per session. Bring a bottle of water, a yoga-type mat and wear comfy clothing!

Working wonders for people in our homes and parishes...

In 2012, Nadia was brought to Street Haven's emergency shelter by the police. She was an immigrant from India and had been locked in a garage by her husband and mother-in-law for two years, rarely able to visit the two children. Upon her arrival at Street Haven, Nadia thrived. She slowly built trust with the counselors, participated in household responsibilities, and loved looking after the gardens. Her counselor set Nadia up with a lawyer and after a year of legal consultations, she received custody of her two children. **Street Haven helped them find housing and Nadia and her children now live in a beautiful, safe home where they have started a new chapter in their lives.**

ShareLife's campaign continues! Please give generously. You can work wonders!



"God can fill our hearts with his love and help us continue our journey together towards the land of freedom and life." –Pope Francis (via Twitter @Pontifex)

COMMUNITY

Euthanasia/Assisted Suicide – It's Time To Act!

On April 14, the federal government introduced Bill C-14 – legislation that, if passed, will amend the criminal code to make euthanasia/assisted suicide legal in Canada. Thousands of Canadians have contacted their elected officials, respectfully expressing their concerns. We still need your help. Visit www.CanadiansforConscience.ca to urge elected representatives to protect health care workers & institutions from having to provide or refer for euthanasia/assisted suicide. We are also asking Members of Parliament to expand palliative care & support for the vulnerable. Cardinal Collins has released a video statement on this legislation which can be viewed online at www.bit.ly/1Z8aqud – **Thank you for your ongoing support!**

Quo Vadis Vocation Discernment Retreat May 27, 7pm–May 29, 1pm

The Office of Vocations hosts a weekend retreat designed for single Catholic men who find themselves asking "Lord, what do you want me to do with my life?" This retreat is designed for men 18 years and older, who desire a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ and wish to cultivate a deeper prayer life, helping them to discern God's call for their lives. Our retreat includes daily Mass, Eucharistic Adoration and confession with lots of time to pray, reflect, rest and to meet others considering the same things in life. Location: St. Augustine's Seminary, 2661 Kingston Rd., Scarborough. Call 416-968-0997 or email vocations@archtoronto.org

Laudato Si' – On Care for Our Common Home – June 4+11, 9am–12pm

This introduction will explore Pope Francis' encyclical using the 4 permanent principles of Catholic Social Teaching: Dignity of Life, the Common Good, Solidarity and Subsidiarity. Spirituality and prayer with presentation, reflection, and discussion will inspire hope in participants as they discern practical steps toward what Pope Francis calls an "ecological conversion". Preregistration is encouraged. Email Laurie at Lvandenhurk@archtoronto.org or call Brenda at 416-934-3400, ext. 523. Takes place at St. Ambrose Church, 782 Brown's Line.

Scattered Seeds Catholic Family Services Walk-In Counseling

Catholic Family Services of Toronto is now offering walk-in counseling services at their two locations. Their staff is trained to offer same-day service to clients with urgent counseling needs. The single-session consultation is aimed at helping individuals, couples, or family clients address their concerns. No appointment required. The central office (1155 Yonge St., Suite 100 – Yonge/Summerhill – 416-921-1163) is open every Tuesday, 9am–3pm. The north office (5799 Yonge St. – Yonge/Finch – 416-222-0048) is open every Thursday, 9am–3pm. You may also send an email to info@cfstoronto.com



The Faith Explained Conference – Saturday, June 18, 10am–4:30pm

How do we help our friends and family members who have left the Church to come back? How do we invite non-Catholics to discover Christ's Church? The best way is to conduct a "Search and Rescue" operation! Join speakers Patrick Madrid (Author and EWTN host), Cardinal Thomas Collins and Cale Clarke (Director of The Faith Explained.com) and help throw your loved ones the lifeline of God's truth. St. Joseph's Secondary School, 5555 Creditview Road, Mississauga. Doors open at 9:45am. Early bird tickets: \$35 (or 2 for \$60); after June 1: \$45 (or 2 for \$80); group rates available. For more info or to buy tickets, visit www.thefaithexplained.com

Focolare Mariapolis Unity: Gift, Commitment, Goal – July 1, 8:30am–July 3, lunch

Programme includes daily Mass, theme presentations, experiences on living the spirituality of unity in everyday life, parallel programmes for children and teens, sharing groups, games and outdoor activities. Takes place at Trent University in Peterborough. For information, call 416-223-0804 or email focolaretoronto@gmail.com or visit www.focolare.ca

