

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

THOUGHTS FOR SOWING

SURRENDER TO THE BIRTHING

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you... Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. John 14:27

WHAT GIVES US PEACE? What keeps our hearts from being troubled or afraid?

One answer that touches me on this Mother's Day I heard from a lovely older woman named Betty. It was in a summer program class I was teaching at Notre Dame, and we were talking about dealing with troubles in life: difficulties, challenges, losses. Betty shared with us a process that really helped her. She said, "Someone once taught me this secret: When we are sad, in pain, very worried about something, ask: 'Could this be labour?' And then, instead of fighting the pain or sadness of fear, give in to it, letting it take you to the birthing. Surrendering to the birthing brings with it hope, a trust that some new life is coming to your soul, is coming to the world."

Mothering God, source of life for all of us, help us trust that when we are troubled and afraid, you are with us helping us give birth to life.

Patricia Livingston
From: Living Faith

REFLECTION LINKS

- ❖ [The Creation Song](#) written by Kate Simmonds & Mark Edwards
- ❖ [Decision Point Prayer Process](#) by Matthew Kelly

LOOKING AHEAD

Sun. May 9 **6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

- **ANNUAL "SOCK IT 2 ME DRIVE"** Drop donations in hall 8:00am – 3:00pm
- **HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!**

Wed. May 12 **3rd Anniversary** of our Associate Pastor, Fr. Alexander MacDonald's Ordination to the Priesthood

Sun. May 16 **FEAST OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD**

- Congratulations today, Fr. Michael Lehman, CSB on your **34th Anniversary** of your Ordination to the Priesthood

Sun. May 23 **FEAST OF PENTECOST**

Mon. May 24 **VICTORIA DAY HOLIDAY**

- Parish Office Closed for holiday

Thur. May 27 7:00pm Finance Council meets via Zoom

Sun. May 30 **FEAST OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY**

- **Bundle Up Sunday** for SVDP at St. Margaret's

Sun. June 6 **FEAST OF THE MOST HOLY BODY OF CHRIST (CORPUS CHRISTI)**

BEST WISHES TO ALL OUR MOTHERS

My Mother Kept a Garden

My mother kept a garden, a garden of the heart; she planted all the good things that gave my life its start. She turned me to the sunshine and encouraged me to dream, fostering and nurturing the seeds of self-esteem... And when the winds and rain came, she protected me enough – But not too much because she knew I'd need to stand strong and tough. Her constant good example always taught me right from wrong – Markers for my pathway that will last a lifetime long. I am my Mother's garden. I am her legacy – And I hope today she feels the love reflected back to me.



THE IMAGES OF MOTHER

- 4 years of age – My Mommy can do anything!
- 8 years of age – My Mom knows a lot! A whole lot!
- 12 year of age – My Mother doesn't know everything!
- 14 years of age – My Mother? She wouldn't have a clue.
- 16 years of age – Mother? She's so five minutes ago.
- 18 years of age – That old woman? She's way out of date!
- 25 years of age – Well, she might know a little bit about it!
- 35 years of age – Before we decide, let's get Mom's opinion.
- 45 years of age – Wonder what Mom would have thought about it?
- 65 years of age – Wish I could talk it over with Mom...

The beauty of a woman is not in the clothes she wears, the figure she carries, or the way she combs her hair.

The beauty of a woman must be seen from within her eyes, because that is the doorway to her heart, the place where love resides.

The beauty of a woman is not in a facial mole, but true beauty in a woman is reflected in her soul.

It is the caring that she lovingly gives the passion that she shows and the beauty of a woman with passing years only grows!

MOTHERS

Real mothers don't eat quiche; they don't have time to make it.

Real mothers know that their kitchen utensils are probably in the sandbox.

Real mothers often have sticky floors, filthy ovens and happy kids.

Real mothers know that dried play dough doesn't come out of carpets.

Real mothers don't want to know what the vacuum just sucked up!

Real mothers sometimes ask "Why me?" and get their answer when a little voice says, "Because I love you best..."

Real mothers know that a child's growth is not measured by height or years or grade, it is marked by the progression of Mommy to Mom to Mother!

stand under a shower." The angel circled the model of the mother very slowly. "It is rather soft," the angel said. "But though," said the Lord excitedly. "You can not imagine what this mother can do or ensure." "Can it think?" "Not only think but it can reason and compromise," said the Creator.

Finally the angel bent over and ran a finger across the cheek. "Here's a leak! I told you you were trying to put too much into this model!" "It's not a leak," said the Lord, "It's a tear." "What is it for?" "It's for joy and sadness, disappointment, pain, loneliness and pride," "You're a genius," said the angel. The Lord looked sober, Maybe, but you see, I didn't put it there. It just seems to be part of being a mother.

happy
MOTHER'S
day

JUST A PART OF!

When the good Lord was creating mothers He was into His sixth day of overtime when an angel appeared and said, "Lord you're doing a lot of fiddling around on this order, "and the Lord said, "Have you read the specs on this order? She has to be completely washable but not plastic, have 180 moveable parts (all replaceable), run on black coffee and leftovers, have a lap that disappears when she stands up, and a kiss that can cure anything from a broken leg to a disappointed love affair and also have six pair of hands.

The angel shook her head slowly and said, "Six pair of hands? No way!" "It's not the hands that are causing me problems," said the Lord, "It's the three pairs of eyes that mothers have to have." "Is that on the standards model?" asked the angel. The Lord nodded. "One pair of eyes that sees through closed doors when she asks what are you kids doing in there (when she already knows), another pair in the back of her head that sees what she shouldn't but what she has to know, and of course a pair in the front that can look at a child when he goofs up and says 'I understand and I love you' without so much as uttering a word."

"Lord," said the angel touching his sleeve gently, "maybe you had better come to bed. Tomorrow you can..." "I can't," said the Lord. "I am so near to creating something so close to myself. Already I have one who heals herself when she's sick, can feed a family of six on one pound of hamburger and can get a nine year old to

DO YOU KNOW?



DO YOU KNOW?

A human body can bear only up to 45 del (unit) of pain. But at the time of giving birth, a woman feels up to 57 del (unit) of pain. This is similar to twenty bones getting fracture at a time.

Love our mother, the most beautiful person on this earth, our best critic, yet our strongest supporter.

SHARELIFE CAMPAIGN 2021

During our ShareLife campaign, we are asked to live the Gospel. In today's Gospel according to John, Jesus says to his disciples: "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friend."

In the course of our own mortal lives, we may not be asked to lay down our life for a friend. However, we are asked, whenever we can, to help our brothers and sisters.

That's what ShareLife is all about. Its more than 40 agencies put your generous donations to work, in service of the Lord, to help those who are in need and less fortunate.

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

We know that you care about those in need and that every day you bear witness to the pain and suffering of those within your community. We thank you in advance for all that you currently do and all that you will do to promote the work of ShareLife-funded agencies this year.

2021 YTD \$14,474 Goal \$150,000

Previous Results	Amount	Donors
2020	138,138	395
2019	148,555	821
2018	140,836	814
2017	146,628	802

CANADA HEALTH DAY – 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 are called to take responsibility for our personal health: to prevent illness and to seek a healthy lifestyle. Good health concerns the physical, emotional, social and spiritual health of our communities, respect for God's creatures and the nurturing of the whole earth.

ANNUAL SOCK IT ME DRIVE

St. Margaret's is once again holding a drive in support of the Good Shepherd's ministry to Toronto's homeless men. This year most desperately needed items are **socks (white jogging socks) and underwear (size M-L)**. We are asking parishioners to bring donations of **NEW** socks and underwear on **Sat. May 8th & Sun. May 9th between 8:00am – 3:00pm** and just leave them in the parish hall.

The poor will be with us always but there's no reason they can't be with us with warm feet and clean undies!

THANK YOU FOR MAKING A GIFT TO YOUR PARISH

Our Parish is where we are married and bring our children to be baptized. It is where we come to be fed in the Holy Eucharist, be reconciled with God and the world, and hope to leave this world on our final journey to meet the God that we love.

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT FOR MAY 2, 2021

Offertory	\$1,144	PAG	\$925
Budget	\$8,300		(\$6,231)

EMERGENCY UPDATE ON PANDEMIC RESTRICTION

Due to the **Enhanced "Stay At Home Order"**

restrictions, announced by the Ontario Government, we offer the following information:

- As of **Monday, April 19th**, there will be **NO PUBLIC MASSES** celebrated, at St. Margaret's or St. Eugene's, and **both churches, will not be open to the public, until further notice.**
- Please know that the elderly, those with compromised immune systems or other health conditions should be strongly encouraged to remain home. Livestreaming of services should continue where this practice is underway and the dispensation from the Sunday Eucharist remains. A full list of livestream services can be accessed at: www.archtoronto.org

CHURCH BULLETIN ADVERTISING

Liturgical Publications will be setting up the advertisements for our church bulletin. The advertising will begin in May 2021 & supports the bulletin service. Call Liturgical Publications at 905-64-4422

TORONTO CELEBRATION OF THE 500TH ANNIVERSARY OF CHRISTIANITY IN THE PHILIPPINES

One of our goals is to get our young people – Filipinos and non-Filipinos alike – involved in their community by realizing their God-given gifts and how they can use them to serve others. Thus, we invite you to share with your parishioners our series of forthcoming virtual talks by Fr. Matthew McCarthy, Director of Vocations of the Archdiocese of Toronto, as part of our continuing diocesan celebration of 500 years of Christianity in the Philippines.

Feel free to use the following materials:

- Social media graphic:**
<http://bit.ly/URGiftedtoGive-graphic>
- Poster:** <http://bit.ly/URGiftedtoGive-poster>

Kindly consider including the following announcement in your parish bulletin:

"U R Gifted to Give!" Virtual Short Talks by Fr. Matthew "Matt" McCarthy

For the youth, young adults and young at hearts! Every Saturday in May at 12 p.m., join Fr. Matt as he shares how YOU can discover your gifts and use them for God's greater glory!

May 1: Discovering Your Gifts

May 8: The Purpose of Giving

MAY 9, 2021

May 15: Woundedness Is No Obstacle to Giving
May 22: Listening to the Spirit

View online at our website (www.ph500toronto.com),
Facebook (www.facebook.com/500yocTO) or YouTube
(<http://bit.ly/GiftedToGive>).

Kindly share. Please email questions to:
ph500@archtoronto.org. Thank you for your support!

ONGOING DIRECTIVES

1. The **parish office is closed to the public**. Please contact us by phone only on: Monday, Tuesday, Friday 9:00am – 12noon, 1:00pm – 4:00pm or any day by e-mail at st.marg@sympatico.ca
2. **UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION**
Obviously due to the present restrictions, it becomes even more important to have the e-mail addresses of as many parishioners as possible. If you or you know anyone who may not have already informed the parish office of your e-mail address, we strongly encourage you to contact the parish office during the above scheduled times!
3. **Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) by appointment only**
4. **The Church dispensation** from attending Sunday Eucharist, for all the faithful, who are unable to attend Sunday Mass, continues throughout the covid-19 pandemic.

LET'S KEEP IN TOUCH!

We will continue to update you as the situation evolves, via our website and parish blast. We pray that you and your loved ones remain safe and healthy. May God continue to bless you now and always!

CATHOLIC FAMILY SERVICES OF TORONTO'S ONLINE SESSIONS

Catholic Family Services of Toronto is now offering online quick access single sessions. The single-session consultation is a quick and effective way for individuals, couples or families to address a mental health or relationship concern.

Clients who are interested in pursuing other or additional services in the agency have the option to access our ongoing counselling, wellness or group programs. Counselling fees are charged according

to a client's income level. No one is denied service because of his/her inability to pay fees.



Online Quick Access Single Session Counselling For Individuals, Couples & Families

Catholic Family Services of Toronto is now offering Online Quick Access Single Sessions.

To arrange for a session, please email info@cfstoronto.com or call 416 921-1163 or 416 222-0048. Leave us a message with your name, email and phone number, and a staff person will contact you.

Catholic Family Services of Toronto is a Catholic Charities member agency supported by ShareLife.



IT'S HERE – OUR NEW WEBSITE

Take a peek! We encourage you to visit and explore our new website.

Our new website, aside from being aesthetically pleasing, is more interactive, AODA compliant and is easier to navigate. We are excited of the new experience, but we know there's still work to do. In the coming months, we hope to continue improving the site that it best serves how we communicate with you.

PRIESTLY ORDINATIONS

FROM: FR. MATT MCCARTHY, Director

On Saturday, May 8 at 10 a.m., His Eminence, Thomas Cardinal Collins, Archbishop of Toronto, will ordain our two transitional deacons, Rev. Mr. Arthur Lee and Rev. Mr. Andrew Taylor, with the Sacrament of Holy Orders as they become priests to the Archdiocese of Toronto. This wonderful event will take place at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica and the faithful are all encouraged to join us via the cathedral's livestream.

Rev. Mr. Arthur Lee was born in Quebec, moved to Oakville where he grew up. He attended Queen's University to study Mathematics and Engineering. Upon returning home from university, he became more involved in his church, St. Andrew Kim Parish, through the Choice Weekend, choir, Legion of Mary and bible study groups. He was asked by the associate priest if he ever thought about becoming a priest. Arthur entered St. Augustine's Seminary in 2014.

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Rev. Mr. Andrew Taylor, the fourth of eight children, was born in Barrie and grew up in Aurora in a home where the importance of faith, prayer and the sacraments were strongly emphasized. He attended Brebeuf College School. While in grade 10, Andrew encountered Christ through the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist and began to hear a call to the priesthood. He began his formation at Serra House in 2011 and then joined St. Augustine's Seminary in 2015.

As a community of faith, let us offer our prayers for Arthur and Andrew as they are ordained to the priesthood. Let us also continue to pray for all those who are currently in formation to the priesthood at St. Augustine's Seminary and at the Redemptoris Mater Missionary Seminary.

LIVESTREAM: www.stmichaelscathedral.com/live

PRAYER VOCATIONS

O God, Who will not the death of a sinner but rather that he be converted and live, grant we beseech you, through the intercession of the Blessed Mary ever Virgin, Saint Joseph, her spouse, St. Junipero Serra, and all the saints, an increase of laborers for your Church, fellow laborers with Christ to spend and consume themselves for souls through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen.

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER FROM STEWARDSHIP

1st Reading: Acts 10.25-26, 34-35, 44-48

2nd Reading: 1 John 4.7-10

Gospel: John 15.9-17 – No Greater Love

Laying Down our Lives (John 15:9-17)

“No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends” are the beautiful words we hear from Jesus in the Gospel today. Jesus goes on to say that He no longer calls us servants but His friends. This is the radical truth of our faith. That God became man in order to befriend us and show His love for us through His death on the cross. As stewards we too are called to befriend Christ and lay down our lives for Him.

While the most literal way to lay down our life is to become a martyr for the faith, few are actually called to this type of death. It is more likely that we are called to lay down our lives by sacrificing our own wills and own comforts for the sake of the Kingdom. Pope Emeritus

Benedict XVI says, “The world promises you comfort, but you were not made for comfort. You were made for greatness.” This is how we can display love's greatest act in our lives, to live not for ourselves but to live for the Gospel.

As stewards, we can live for the Gospel by giving our time and talents to our parish community. Our lives are made out of time, so to freely offer our time to help serve those in our community is a beautiful way to lovingly give to others. Likewise, to give of ourselves through the sharing of our talents is another way to lay down our lives for Christ and the Church. Let us strive to commit more faithfully to our call of stewardship.

Summary

As stewards, we are called to befriend Christ and lay down our lives for Him for there is “no greater love than this.” Since it's unlikely that we'll be called to martyrdom, we are instead called to lay down our lives by sacrificing our own wills and own comforts for the sake of the Kingdom. Let us strive to accomplish this through a renewed commitment to stewardship.

CROSSING THE THRESHOLD OF FAITH BY PAT MARRIN

“Do not let your hearts be troubled” (John 14:1).

John 14:1-6

Today's Gospel reading is a favorite for funerals because of the comforting words Jesus offers his disciples: “Do not let your hearts be troubled.” The final discourses in John are placed at the Last Supper, where no doubt hearts were deeply troubled at the prospects of Jesus' death. This was his last Passover in this world, and he predicted his betrayal and abandonment as they left the upper room for Gethsemane. Darkness shrouded all human hope as the coming chaos approached and overwhelmed everyone.

The discourses are artful summaries of the theology of Jesus' identity and the transfer of his mission to his disciples, but they convey the sorrow and anxiety the



Twelve must have felt. The many prophecies Paul recounts in the synagogue in Antioch about how Israel's leaders failed to recognize Jesus and handed him over to Pilate culminated in Jesus' death. Only in hindsight did the disciples themselves realize who Jesus really was. His resurrection from the dead confirmed the prophecies and became the basis for the missionary preaching of the church.

We mark the Easter season with the same questions the disciples had about how the death and resurrection of Jesus opens the way for us to eternal life with God. Jesus died on the cross. We will die, and the fact of death remains for everyone. How is Jesus the way, the truth and life? Only when we exhaust all human hopes and sentiments about the power of love to overcome death, the comforting projections in art and poetry that affirm survival beyond the grave, do we enter the threshold of faith in the Person of Jesus as the only human being in history who has reversed the universal law of mortality to return from the dead. Do we believe him, in him, in the experience of early church, in the generations of believers who have gone before us, in the cloud of witnesses who await us on the other side of death?

"Do not let your hearts be troubled" is Jesus' invitation to faith. Live your faith by trusting that a full and generous journey through this world, giving yourself away, offering your time and energy and gifts in the community, responding to the needs of others, that this is not only the secret of a happy life here but also the beginning of eternal life. This is our path because Jesus is the Way. This is the Truth because Jesus said so. This is our life because Jesus is Life.

THIS IS A KEEPER

I grew up with practical parents. A mother, God love her, who washed aluminum foil after she cooked in it, then reused it. She was the original recycle queen before they had a name for it. A father who was happier getting old shoes fixed than buying new ones. Their marriage was good, their dreams focused. Their best friends lived barely a wave away.

I can see them now, Dad in trousers, t-shirt and a hat and Mom in a house dress, lawn mower in one hand, and dishtowel in the other. It was the time for fixing things a curtain rod, the kitchen radio, screen door, the oven door, the hem in a dress. Things we keep.

It was a way of life, and sometimes it made me crazy. All that re-fixing, eating, renewing, I wanted just once to be wasteful. Waste meant affluence. Throwing things away

meant you knew there'd always be more. But then my mother died, and on that clear summer's night, in the warmth of the hospital room, I was struck with the pain of learning that sometimes there isn't any more. Sometimes, what we care about most gets all used up and goes away... never to return. So... while we have it... it's best we love it... and care of it... and fix it when it's broken... and heal it when it's sick.

This is true. For marriage... and old cars... and children with bad report cards... and dogs with bad hips... and aging parents... and grandparents. We keep them because they are worth it, because we are worth it. Some things we keep. Like a best friend that moved away or a classmate we grew up with. There are just some things that make life important, like people we know who are special... And so, we keep them close! Good friends are like stars... You don't always see them, but you know they are always there. Keep them close!

CHUCKLES FROM THE PEWS

Signs Worth A Second Look

Outside Muffler Shop:

"No appointment necessary. We hear you coming."

In a Veterinarian's waiting room: "Be back in 5 minutes. Sit! Stay!"

At the Electric Company:

"We would be delighted if you send in your payment on time. However, if you don't YOU will be de-lighted."

In a Restaurant window:

"Don't stand there and be hungry; come on in and get fed up."

If people from 2020 were on the Titanic.



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