# FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



May 2, 2021



#### May 3 - 9, 2021

# Monday, May 3

8:30 am: Protection and Safety for Bren-

dan D'Souza

# Tuesday, May 4

8:30 am: - Community of Prince of Peace

#### Wednesday, May 5

8:30 am: Thanksgiving & Birthday blessings for Zurielle & Deborah Junta Goseng;

+ May DeSouza; Melanie DeZilwa

### Thursday, May 6

8:30 am: Community of Prince of Peace

## Friday, May 7

8:30 am: Community of Prince of Peace

#### Saturday, May 8

8:30 am: + Peter & Mark Wilson: 5th year death Suzanne Singh

# Sunday, May 9

8:30 am: + Joy George

# Light a Prayer Candle

# Sanctuary Lamps

## Offerings

 In loving memory of Cosmo, Vincenzo & Giovannina, Luigi & Lucia, Francesco,

Matteo & A.J. Andrews. Offered with love from Assunta, Giovanna & Daniela.

2) For those sick with the coronavirus and those taking care of them.



# Let us pray!

For those who are sick members of our parish and those who love and

# Something to ponder.....

# Jesus teaches that he is the vine and that his disciples are the branches. (John 15:1-8)



Today's reading from the Gospel of John is part of Jesus' discourse at the Last Supper. Recall that John tells the story of Jesus' Last Supper differently from the other Evangelists. In John's Gospel, the Last Supper begins with Jesus washing his disciples' feet. Jesus then provides them with a series of instructions. We call this section the Last Supper discourse or Jesus' farewell discourse. In these chapters of John's Gospel, Jesus instructs his disciples about the importance of following his example of love and service, about the gift they will receive when Jesus sends them the Holy Spirit, and about their relationship with

Jesus and with the world. The Last Supper discourse concludes with Jesus' prayer for his disciples.

Today's Gospel reading is taken from middle of the Last Supper discourse. Jesus speaks about his relationship to his disciples. In his metaphor of the vine and the branches, Jesus is referencing the Hebrew Scriptures. In the Hebrew Scriptures, Israel is the vineyard, and Yahweh himself tends the vineyard. One of the primary themes of John's Gospel is to show Jesus to be the fulfillment of God's promises to Israel.

In this passage, Jesus teaches his disciples that his relationship with them will not end after his death; he will remain with them always. This unity between Jesus and his disciples is the basis for their ability to continue to do the work that he began. Similarly, Jesus' presence with us through the Gift of the Holy Spirit enables us to continue the work of love and reconciliation that he began.

Jesus also teaches his disciples about the importance of the words he has taught to them. Just as Jesus will remain in the disciples, so too will his words. We come to know Jesus through the Scriptures, the living Word of God. Our commitment to be Christ's disciples is sustained through God's Word. This commitment is also strengthened by our life of prayer and nourished by the Eucharist. Through the Eucharist, Jesus dwells in us, remains with us, and transforms us so that we might bear fruit in his name.

We observe many people who act in ways that show their commitment to serve their neighbor. Christians and non-Christians feed the hungry, care for the sick, shelter the homeless, and give alms to the poor. These actions become acts of Christian discipleship when they are motivated by our relationship with Jesus. Whatever the immediate results, Jesus promises us that these actions will bear fruit when we undertake them in his name.

# PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING PROGRAM

The Archdiocese of Toronto has established a Pre-Authorized Giving Plan (PAG) to assist you in your support of the work of Prince of Peace Parish, through your regular parish offerings (this does not include special collections). The Plan is administered through the Office of Development of the Archdiocese of Toronto and tax receipts will be issued for all offertory gifts. Enrollment forms available at the parish office.

# **SL** ShareLife



# you can work wonders!

Next ShareLife Collection will take place: June 19, 2021

# MINISTERS OF CARE: GROWING IN MINISTRY FREE WEBINAR

A free webinar on "Redemptive Suffering" is being offered on Saturday, May 29 from 10:30 am to 12 pm led by Fr. Dominic Borg, OCD, Chaplain to the Discalced Carmelite Sisters.

This is a great opportunity for Ministers of Care Coordinators, those involved in Ministry to the Sick & Homebound, Bereavement Ministry and other caring ministries from various parishes to connect online for prayer, sharing and networking.

To register, please visit: http://bit.ly/MCW-RegisterMay2021.

If you have any questions, please contact Ella Okonkwo at: 416-934-3400 ext. 523 or formation@archtoronto.org.

# MINISTRY WITH MATURING ADULTS FREE WEBINAR

Is being offered on Saturday, June 5th from 10:30 am to 12 pm with Sr. Janet Schaeffler, OP, on "Prescription for COVID: A Daily Dose of Faith, Hope and Love".

During these unprecedented times we need our daily dose of faith, hope and love to fight off the fear, gloom and dread. As we reflect on what helped us through this past year, we discover that it was and continues to be the strength of the Gospel, which provides us with answers to the trauma and fears of the pandemic.

This webinar is open to all men and women in the second half of life (50+), including volunteers, parish leaders, parish staff and priests are welcome to join.

To register, please visit: http://bit.ly/MAW-RegistetrJune2021

If you have any questions, please contact Ella Okonkwo at: 416-934-3400 ext. 523 or formation@archtoronto.org.

DONATION ONLINE: Consider switching your support of the parish to Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG forms are available in the parish office and through parish website) or credit card, or single monthly donation through the "DONATE now" button at: www.archtoronto.org. Please call the parish office for information at 416-291-9422

Dear parishioners:

As I begin my appointment as pastor of Prince of Peace parish and Shrine of the Holy Infant of Prague, I extend warm greetings to each and everyone of you hoping that this message finds you all strong in faith and in good health. I take my first few steps into your lives painfully aware of how challenging our lives have been and continue to be; in-



flicted by a pandemic that has taken, not only lives, but livelihoods that weigh heavy upon us. Nonetheless, it is precisely in these uncertain times of unrest that God has placed us together to do what we do best in times of suffering: we seek to gather in any way possible, mostly from a distance, to still trust that our world and our lives are in the palm of God's hand and continue to be resilient in our call to bring hope to the hopeless, food to the hungry, and our presence to the lonely. We carry on.

I know that the distance we must keep will make it difficult for us to get to know and trust one another as quickly as an exchange of a "hello", a handshake or a smile, but I trust that, after all these months, we are much better now at finding ways to compensate for the much needed closeness we have been denied in this pandemic.

As your new pastor, I am here to be with you both as a man and as a priest. With you, I am a man of faith and I too struggle with living this faith with as much sincerity, simplicity, and

humility I can gather. For you, I am priest who will minister to all of you in the celebration of the Sacraments and provide the leadership you need to become both the people, as well as the community, God intends us to be. I place us all in the loving care of the Holy Infant of Prague who, though a tiny child, is mighty enough to bless us and *hold us all in the palm of His hand*.



May the Prince of Peace be our protector and guide during these troubled times. Please remember to pray for all in the community as we enter this time of change and transition and, if I may, pray for me because I know, I will need your prayers too.

Fr. Efren Alvarez Pelayo

