



## Second Sunday of Easter, Divine Mercy Sunday April 8, 2018

*The risen Christ goes before us into God's glory. With joyful alleluias we celebrate, giving praise and thanks*

### BELOVED - MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT

So you've shared an anniversary or two... or twenty... and you've learned a lot about yourselves and each other so far. But what if marriage is more than you think it is? What if God has woven into the very fabric of your humanity a purposeful need and desire that can only be fulfilled in your marriage?

Over the coming months, join us for the 8 sessions of BELOVED as it uncovers the mystery and the meaning of the sacrament of marriage, inviting all couples to experience firsthand the wonder, mystery, and joy behind that first "I do"... whether you said it last year or many years ago. The BELOVED series is enriching and transforming marriages in homes across the globe.

**When:** 7-9pm, Saturdays ; April 28, May 12, May 26, June 9, September 22, October 13, October 27 and November 10.

**Where:** The Social Space at Good Shepherd Parish

**Cost:** \$60.00 per married couple (covers the cost of materials and refreshments) to be paid in advance of the first session. Payment may be left at parish office.

**Facilitated by:** Eric & Geraldine Sharf and Sean & Gillian Keenan, parishioners of Good Shepherd Parish.

**To register or for more info contact:** Gillian Keenan at 613-841-6505 or [gillian.keenan@gmail.com](mailto:gillian.keenan@gmail.com)

You are invited to join **The Discovery Faith Study** beginning on April 23<sup>rd</sup> at our parish. 7:30-9:00pm; no charge; snacks included

The Discovery study is a one and a half hour a week, six-week faith study built on small group discussions. It takes an in-depth look at the person of Jesus Christ. Jesus is the indispensable, core message of the Christian faith. *Discovery* leads you through a simple but personally challenging look at the Gospel message.

If you have ever felt confused, unfulfilled or unsure of your faith, or asked your self "Who is Jesus, really?" "Why am I here?" "Is there a higher power?" "How do the Church, God, Jesus, the Mass, and the Cross all fit together?" or "Does God care about me?" - then this is the study for you.

*"If we let Christ into our lives, we lose nothing, nothing, absolutely nothing of what makes life free beautiful and great. No! Only in this friendship are the doors of life opened wide ..... When we give ourselves to him, we receive a hundredfold in return. Yes, open, open wide the doors to Christ - and you will find true life."* – Pope Benedict XVI to register, contact Joel and Elizabeth Regnier at [lizz.doucette@gmail.com](mailto:lizz.doucette@gmail.com), [joel.regnier@cco](mailto:joel.regnier@cco).

**Ladies On Lunch (LOL)** is a new group for women of the parish and their female friends who will gather for lunch, every third Wednesday of the month at 11:30 am. To reserve a seat or for more information contact Hilary Als at [stacch@rogers.com](mailto:stacch@rogers.com) or by telephone at (613) 845-0073. The next gathering is April 18th at the Mandarin Restaurant located at 2055 Tenth Line Road. Please RSVP by 6:00 pm on Monday, April 16th in order to make a reservation.

**Offering for April 1, 2018**

Sunday Envelopes:	\$ 5331.00
PAC/Visa/MC	\$ 2660.00
Loose:	\$ 2238.00
Total Collection:	\$ 10229.00
Holy Land Collection	\$ 2816.00

Our financial requirements are approx. **\$8,000** per week to support our approx. **\$2,000** a week mortgage payment.

**Fr Fr. Shroff's Corner**

The 2nd Sunday of Easter is also known as the Octave of Easter and as Divine Mercy Sunday. The Gospel of this Sunday's Mass recounts the apparition of the Risen Lord to St. Thomas the Apostle. Saint Thomas was not present when the Risen Jesus first appeared to the Apostles. The Apostles told him that they had seen the Lord, risen from the dead. But Thomas doubted. One week later, on this Second Sunday of Easter, the Risen Christ appeared to the Apostles once again, and this time Thomas was present. The Lord invited Thomas to place his hand into His side, and to "doubt no more, but believe." This is when Thomas made his famous profession of faith, "My Lord and my God!"

The narrative of Thomas doubting and then believing is meant to lead us to make an Act of Faith in Christ. If the modern world could be characterized by one word, the word we would have to use is "faithless." Our modern Western society does not believe in God, because it cannot see God. Ever since the age known as the "Enlightenment" and the subsequent Industrial Revolution, man no longer believes in anything unless he can measure it with the modern Scientific Method. But the Scientific Method is based on the measurement of realities that can be experienced through the senses. And not all of reality falls into the realm of sense perception. Spiritual realities, in particular, cannot be measured by the Scientific Method because they cannot be seen, heard, smelt, tasted, and touched. Spiritual realities are not contrary to sensory perception: they merely transcend it. They are of another order. One cannot "measure" love, because one cannot see, hear, smell, touch, or taste love itself. And yet, one would have to be insane to deny that love exists.

God cannot be seen, heard, touched, or otherwise perceived through the senses (at least, not normally). Apart from Christ, who is the concrete Incarnation of God, God remains of the realm of the spirit. And yet He does exist. God is, in fact, the Greatest Reality that exists: He is Ultimate Reality! But the Scriptures tell us that God is Spirit, and that whoever wishes to encounter Him must do so "in spirit and in truth."

Thomas doubted the Resurrection of Christ because He did not see or touch the Risen Lord. "Unless I see with my own eyes, unless I touch with my hands the marks of His nails...I will not believe." The Risen Christ invites Thomas to make an Act of Faith, to believe without seeing. "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." Faith helps us to do just that: to believe what we cannot see with our eyes.

In the Holy Eucharist every Sunday (and even every day, if we so wish), we are invited to make an Act of Faith in the Real Presence of Christ, to believe that what looks and tastes like a mere piece of unleavened bread is really and truly the Flesh of Jesus Christ. Whenever we see the Host raised high above the Altar after the Consecration, let us too fall on our knees and make that same Act of Faith that St. Thomas did: "My Lord and my God!" Let us not say "I will not believe" but rather *Credo* : I believe!

Baby bottles in support of the Miriam Centre should be returned to the church as soon as possible so that much needed financial support can be delivered to the centre. Thanks to all who have already given generously to the centre. Miriam centre staff work tirelessly to help struggling families who are often in dire need of emotional and tangible support.

## MASS INTENTIONS

### **Saturday, April 7 – Solemnity, Easter Octave**

9:00 am †Cyril Winter req by his Pro-life friends

### **Saturday, April 7 – Second Sunday of Easter, Divine Mercy Sunday**

5:00 pm For Our Parishioners

### **Sunday, April 8 – Second Sunday of Easter, Divine Mercy Sunday**

9:00 am †Audrey Keating req by Vince Keating  
†Maurice (Moe) Stafford req by Sean & Anna May O'Carroll

Deceased members of the Absi & Baillet families  
11:15 am †Alfred Reede req by Philippe & Marian Tremblay  
†Guenter Andrews req by Myrna Andrews  
†Loretta Hall req by Jean Hall  
†Maureen Comerton req by Bob & Joan Dunn  
†Rosemary Pantin req by Laynes & Clara Alphonse  
Deceased members of the Lemieux family req by Joe Byrnes

### **Monday, April 9 – Solemnity, The Annunciation of the Lord**

9:00 am †Moe Stafford req by Arthur & Mary Niero

### **Tuesday, April 10 – Solemnity, Easter Octave**

9:00 am †Jacques & Marion Robichon req by the family

### **Thursday, April 12 – Solemnity, Easter Octave**

9:00 am Intention of Mark Benjamin req by Marian & Ernie Sy

### **Friday, April 13 – Memorial, St. Martin I, Pope and Martyr.**

9:00 am †Rosemary Pantin req by Sean & Anna May O'Carroll

### **Saturday, April 14 – Third Sunday of Easter**

5:00 pm †Ebbie Ferguson req by Jack & Dyann MacDonald  
†Rosemary Pantin req by Mike & Magda Baillet  
†Moe Stafford req by Bernie Roach  
†Bill Hudson req by Jack & Dyann MacDonald  
†Alfred Reede req by Jack & Dyann MacDonald  
†Antoinette Tissaarratchy req by George & Noeline Edwards  
†Gene & Vivian Lusignan req by Dr. G.M. Lusignan  
†Peter Janega req by the family

### **Sunday, April 15 – Third Sunday of Easter**

9:00 am †Maureen Comerton req by Sean & Anna May O'Carroll  
†Moe Stafford req by Jack & Dyann MacDonald  
†John Patrick MacPhee req by the family  
11:15 am For Our Parishioners

*Please pray for our sick;*, Joe MacDonell, Rose Dugandzic, Romina Andrews, Lorretta Dillon-Robinette, Jean-Ella Lemire, Michael Nortey and John MacDonald.

*Please pray for our deceased*, that they may be received into God's love.

### **PRO LIFE CORNER**

Let us pray that Jesus, who conquered the power of death, may give our society the strength to eliminate the evils of abortion and assisted suicide. The parish has acquired a 2016 film that is available for loan. HUSH - is a liberating conversation about abortion and women's health. Please contact Jennifer at 613-835-4201 if you wish to view this movie.

We must never be fooled into thinking that "Medically-assisted dying" or "end of life health care" is anything but euthanasia. "Whatever its motives and means, direct euthanasia consists in putting an end to the lives of handicapped, sick or dying people. It is morally unacceptable." (Catechism of the Catholic Church, No. 2277). "I confirm that euthanasia is a grave violation of God's law, as it is a deliberate and morally unacceptable killing of a human person." (St John Paul II, The Gospel of Life, No. 65).