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Thank you to Louise Trinder's group who prepared the delicious lunch for us last Sunday! Coffee Sunday is part of the Ministry of Hospitality, a time to gather together, greet one another and visit after Mass while enjoying coffee and snacks! It was nice to gather for fellowship!

***Stay tuned we are planning a cleaning bee to clean the church!!

The Pope's Pastoral Works – May 5th

This collection provides an opportunity for Catholics to make a financial offering to assist the Holy Father. One-third of the funds collected is for what is traditionally known as Peter's Pence: donations used by the Pope for his charitable contributions to those most in need throughout the world, as well as for the support of the Holy See and its activities. Two-thirds of the Collection for the Pope's Pastoral Works is to support the Holy Father in administering the Holy See and serving the Universal Church (see Canon 1271). Information about how Peter's Pence is used, as well as donations in response to Canon 1271, is available in the Holy See's yearly financial report.

"Each individual Christian and every community is called to be an instrument of God for the liberation and promotion of the poor, and for enabling them to be fully a part of society. This demands that we be docile and attentive to the cry of the poor and to come to their aid. ...The old question always returns: 'How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods, and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?' (1 Jn 3.17)."

Today's Scripture passages declare the profound truth that those who believe in Christ are to obey his commandment of love – "Love one another as I have loved you." When we celebrate Mother's Day, let us remember with gratitude that it is generally our mothers who practice the *agápe* love of Jesus.

In the first reading, Peter teaches us that God shows no partiality in His love and that there are no boundaries to abiding in love. God loves everyone, both the Jews and the Gentiles, and He wants everyone to be saved through His son, Jesus. That is why God welcomed the Roman centurion Cornelius as the first non-Jew to become a Christian. The reading tells us how God also allowed the Gentiles who heard Peter's speech to receive the same Holy Spirit and His gifts that Peter's Jewish audience had received on the day of Pentecost. Today's **Responsorial Psalm (Ps 98)** also directs our attention toward God's marvelous love and kindness in offering salvation to the whole world. **In the second reading**, John defines God as love and explains that He expressed His love for mankind by sending His son to die for us humans "as *expiation for our sins*." This Divine love gives us the command, and so the duty, to love one another as we have been loved by God. Since God has loved us first, we can and should love God in return, love ourselves properly, and love one another. After telling the parable of the vine and branches, Jesus, **in today's Gospel**, teaches the disciples that are to obey his commandment of love just as Jesus has obeyed his Heavenly Father's will by fulfilling His commandments and remaining inseparably bonded with his Father. Jesus' unconditional, forgiving, selfless, sacrificial love for us must be the criterion of our love for others. The highest expression of this love is our willingness to lay down our lives as Jesus did, for people who don't deserve it. The goal and result of our abiding in love, in God, will be perfect joy. Jesus no longer calls us slaves but now calls us "friends." He tells us that he has chosen us, and that, if we use Jesus' name, we can ask the Father for anything.

* **The Usher:** An elderly woman walked into the local country church. The friendly usher Jimmy greeted her at the door and helped her up the flight of steps. "Where would you like to sit?" Jimmy asked politely. "The front row please," she answered. "You really don't want to do that," Jimmy said. "The pastor is really boring." "Do you happen to know who I am? I'm the pastor's mother," she declared indignantly. "Do you know who I am?" the usher asked. "No." she said. "Good," he answered.

St. Joseph The Worker Parish, Russell, MB St. Theresa's Parish Rossburn, MB

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 98): The Lord has revealed his victory in the sight of the nations.

St. Joseph The Worker News:

Please remember in your prayers those who are sick in hospitals, care homes, or in their homes & those who care for them. If you wish to receive the Sacraments of Anointing, Confession, or Holy Communion – please call the parish office & leave a message: 204-773-2924.

Praying with Pope Francis May: *For the formation of religious and seminarians: We pray that religious women and men, and seminarians, grow in their own vocations through their human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, leading them to be credible witnesses to the gospel.*

Mass Intentions For This Week:

6th Sunday of Easter

Saturday May 4 11:00 a.m. Rossburn – **Immaculate Heart of Mary**
 In thanksgiving for God's Blessings The Sabourin family
 7:30 p.m. Russell For all parishioners by Father Paul

Sunday May 5 9:00 a.m. Russell **Zoom on-line Mass 9:00 a.m. & YouTube after 10:15 am**
 For all parishioners by Father Paul
 11:00 a.m. Rossburn +John Ryshytylo req by Nellie Nychuk & family

Monday May 6 Health of family & friends req. by Jean Goba

Tuesday May 7 For Fr Paul req by Irene Deschamps

Wed May 8 For Fr Paul req by Jim & Bev Roszell

Thurs May 9 No Mass Rossburn

Friday May 10 8:30 a.m. Russell Adoration
 9:00 a.m. Mass Health of Fr Paul req by Florence & Walter Shwaluk
 10:30 a.m. Rossburn Personal Care Home Mass

5th Sunday of Easter

Saturday May 11 7:30 p.m. Russell Fr Paul req by Irene Deschamps

Sunday May 12 9:00 a.m. Russell **Zoom on-line Mass 9:00 a.m. & YouTube after 10:15 am**
 Emilienne Mangin req by George Mangin & family
 11:00 a.m. Rossburn + Nellie Kaskiw req by the Kaskiw family

Marian Month: For the Marian Month the CWL will lead the Rosary on Mother's Day May 12th. **Please come early to join them as they will start it at 8:40 a.m.**

\$126 was deposited on Apr 29/2024 for the Children's collection. The year-to-date total is now \$514. Thank you to all the children who so joyfully give each Sunday!!



Dear Padre,

Please clarify for me what the Church considers as “gossip.” Is it that bad?

Human beings have the great gift of speech. We continually talk to one another and we talk about one another. Gossip, at its most basic level, is just idle talk. It is neither good nor bad. But it is a tool we can use to build up another human being or tear a person down.

Gossip is sinful when we use our words to unjustly hurt the reputation of another or to judge another person rashly. The two words that the Church uses to describe this evil side of gossip are “detraction” and “calumny.” The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* tells us that detraction is “without objectively valid reason, disclosing another’s faults and failings to persons who did not know them.” Calumny occurs when a person, “by remarks contrary to the truth, harms the reputation of others and gives occasion for false judgments concerning them” (CCC 2477).

To judge whether your own gossip is good or evil, simply ask yourself: Do the words I am saying help others or hurt others? Am I building them up or tearing them down? Hopefully, as a Christian, you are committed to the commandment of Jesus we hear in today’s Gospel: “This is my commandment: love one another as I love you” (John 15:12). ●

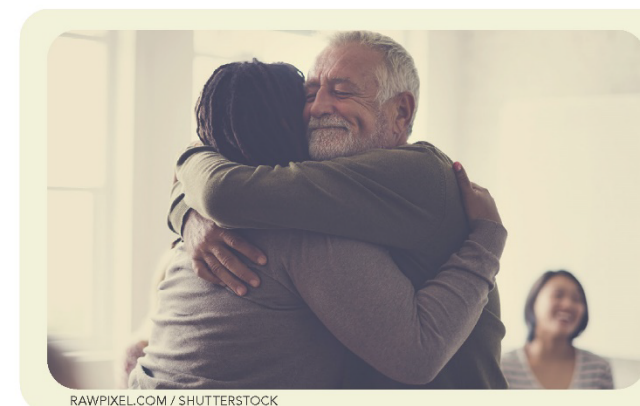


The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
May 6	May 7	May 8	May 9	May 10	May 11	May 12
Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Ascension of the Lord
Acts 16:11–15	Acts 16:22–34	Acts 17:15, 22–18:1	Acts 18:1–8	Acts 18:9–18	Acts 18:23–28	Acts 1:1–11
Jn 15:26–16:4a	Jn 16:5–11	Jn 16:12–15	Jn 16:16–20	Jn 16:20–23	Jn 16:23b–28	Eph 1:17–23 or Eph 4:1–13 or 4:1–7, 11–13 Mk 16:15–20



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

To love as the Lord loves us means to appreciate the people beside us, to respect their freedom, to love them as they are, not as we want them to be; as they are, gratuitously....Not controlling, serving them. Opening our heart to others, this is love, to be trusting, giving ourselves to others.

REGINA CAELI, ROME, MAY 9, 2021

Our Parish COMMUNITY

May 5, 2024

Sixth Sunday of Easter (B)

Acts 10:25–26, 34–35, 44–48 / 1 John 4:7–10 / John 15:9–17



[Jesus said,] “This is my commandment: love one another as I love you.”

JOHN 15:12



We’re Like Trees

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

A while back I decided to plant two saplings that were about ten feet tall along the property line of the parish home where I lived. Some time after I planted them, I noticed that one was leaning in one direction and the other a bit in the opposite direction. *Strange*, I thought, *for it seemed that when I planted them they were staked with rope and stood straight*. So I bought some six-foot fence posts and tied the trees to them, thinking that as they grew they would straighten themselves. Not so. After three years the trees seemed to insist on growing their own way, one leaning into the wind and the other a bit twisted. It seemed the only solution was to love them the way they were.

It is so with the people in our lives as well. Sooner or later we find ourselves needing to love them with their idiosyncrasies and foibles and perhaps even their sinfulness. We may try to reshape them, but ultimately it is usually to little avail. They have been created by God, after all, and if God has chosen us—as the Gospel suggests—then God also has chosen us to love them as they are, and perhaps to love them into all that they can be. Ultimately though, God does the pruning, the reshaping, not us. We participate in that process by caring for them and bringing good to them, always in the image of Jesus. ●

Reflect

Think of everyone with whom you have some difficulty and name a good quality of each one.