

Third Sunday of Easter – April 25/26, 2020

Reflection for the 3rd Sunday of Easter

At the head table in the cafeteria, one of the nuns had placed a big bowl of bright red, fresh, juicy apples. Beside the bowl, she placed a note which read, "Take only one. Remember, Jesus is watching." At the other end of the table was a bowl full of freshly baked chocolate chip cookies, still warm from the oven. Beside the bowl was a little note scrawled in a child's handwriting which read, "Take all you want. Jesus is watching the apples!" Yes! My dear friends, the Lord is watching over each one of us, as his precious child. Only those who are open and transparent to him will see him. Let us see in today's gospel how the disciples in their openness experienced his presence at the breaking of the bread.

Luke's Emmaus Gospel is a beautiful, theological dramatization of one of the encounters of the disciples with their risen Lord during those wonder-filled days after the discovery of the empty tomb (Mk 16:12-13). It is the story of how, on Easter Sunday, two disciples of Jesus, discouraged and devastated, set out on the road from Jerusalem to Emmaus - a distance of about seven miles – and were overtaken by a stranger going along the same road. He was none other than the risen Lord who joined them and explained to them why it was necessary for Him to die and to enter into glory. In the Gospel story, Emmaus becomes a place of transformation when the two recognized the Lord at the breaking of the bread. But this recognition of the Lord could happen only because they opened their hearts to the stranger with love and hospitality and with the invitation -"stay with us". Taking the stranger to their home and even sharing their meal with Him became the Eucharist table. When He blessed and broke the bread with them, their eyes were opened.

Through the resurrection event, our Lord has broken the bonds of time and space and now he is omniscient, omnipresent and omnipotent. So he watches over us at every moment of our life, as he watched over his disciples after his resurrection and, in order to encourage them, He visited them at various places. This same Lord also visits you and me time and again, through various people and events of our life. Are we open to him as the disciples at Emmaus or are we still give excuses saying 'tomorrow I will return'. The disciples, once they encountered the Lord in the breaking of the bread, took a u-turn and went back to the flock and there after proclaimed the Good News to the entire world. Today, the risen Lord is knocking at the doors of our hearts waiting and watching to see us opening our hearts and amend our ways to live our lives as His genuine witnesses.

Father Cannio

Your Mass Intentions will be offered & prayed for at the private Masses of Father Steny & Father Cannio

MASS INTENTIONS

MON. 27 at 7:30am:	Spec. Intention Caitlin Teng by Elizabeth Wong
9:00am:	+Repose Edgar Elwes by wife Marcela
TUES. 28 at 7:30am:	+Repose Adrian van Essen by Emma
9:00am:	Spec. Intention Raymond Kidder by Barbara Stuart
WED. 29 at 7:30am:	Spec. Intention Father Cannio by Elizabeth Wong
9:00am:	+Repose Luigi Rota by daughter Maria Morrissette
THURS. 30 at 7:30am:	Spec. Intention Wendy Sefton by Dale family
9:00am:	No Intention
FRI. 1 at 7:30am:	
9:00am:	+Repose All Souls in Purgatory by Rosa Zivarts
7:00pm:	Spec. Intention Christina Gallagher by Janet Ficocelli
SAT. 2 at 9:00am:	Spec. Intention Tyler Harriott by Barbara Stuart
4:30pm:	+Repose Eleanor Callaghan by Barry & Jackie Callaghan
SUN. 3 at 8:00am:	+Repose Alberto Cusano by wife Assunta
at 9:30am:	+Repose Maria Nhan T. Phm by daughter Rosa Zivarts
at 11:00am:	+Repose Geremia De Santis by wife Maria & family

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In my 17 years as a religious priest, I never thought the day would come when, as a Church, we would need to cancel all Masses, public prayers/liturgies, events and gatherings of more than ten people.

As all of us know, that the faith we share is a communal faith. Like a "good" virus, it spreads from people to people. How can we keep our faith strong during times like this? Do not be afraid!! We must remember that throughout history, God never abandoned His people:

When the Jewish people were enslaved in Egypt – God rescued them. When Israel was devastated by Babylon, when Jerusalem and the temple were destroyed and the people were exiled in a foreign country, God never abandoned them. When external signs of God's presence (like the temple) were gone and the people felt alone, God upheld them. At the Cross, when all seemed lost, Jesus died ... but three days later he rose from the dead. When the disciples were ridiculed, tortured and put to death, a new Church was being born on the faith of those early martyrs. Throughout our history, the Catholic Church has survived persecution, disease, famine, and abuse. God is with us! Do not be afraid. We are all in this together.

During these days of uncertainty, St. Edmund's Parish will remain very much alive and we will do our best, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to minister to your needs. We celebrate Mass every day at 9.30am and on Sundays at 11am. At Mass, we offer all your prayers to the Lord.

Please note Fr. Cannio and I are here to assist you. We will do our best to meet your individual needs during this time. Holy Communion to the Sick and dying who request it will be available; as well as the Sacrament of the Anointing of the sick; and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. My and office phone works if you need to call me, do not hesitate.

Please use this time to draw close to Jesus in prayer, silence, reflection and meditation. If you have children, please pray with them and exercise patience. All this isolation and social distancing will pass ... and we can become better, stronger and more faithful if we use this time to grow closer to God. We are never alone – the Saints and Angels accompany us! God will never abandon us. Do not be afraid.

Pope Francis said: Revers do not drink their own water; trees do not eat their own fruit; the sun does not shine on itself and flowers do not spread their fragrance for themselves. Living for others is a rule of nature. We are all born to help each other. No matter how difficult it is.... Life is good when you are happy; but much better when others are happy because of you.

What is St. Edmund's doing to help us stay connected during the COVID-19?

We want to honor your connection to spiritual community as much as possible with the resources we have available. At this point in time we have the benefit of technology to remain socially connected while social distancing. In an effort to support you in your spiritual journey during this time, we will offer a variety of prayerful touchpoints through the days and weeks ahead. Join us as we connect with each other and our community. We will most actively be using our website <http://www.stedmundsparish.ca> along with updating and contacting you on emails and phone calls.

Am I allowed to go to the Church to pray?

St. Edmund's Church will be opened during the day for quiet prayer at the request. Unfortunately, participation in the liturgy in person is unavailable, however we encourage you to watch the Mass on TV and participate in prayer from home. Please exercise social distancing if you choose to pray at church. Limit contact with surfaces and maintain six to ten-foot distance from others (as hard as that is).

How can I stay connected to St. Edmund's during this time of social distancing?

We would love to utilize this time to connect with parishioners. If you would be interested in making phone calls or writing letters to parishioners, please contact the office at st.edmunds@shaw.ca.

Is confession still available?

Confession will still be offered. Call the office at 604 988 3211 for more details.

Contact the office if you need any kind of help. We are here to assist you.

May God Bless you and your family

Father Steny

Dear Brothers and sisters, the Masses celebrated by Fr Steny and Fr Cannio at St. Edmunds are:

Weekday Masses are at 9.30am

If any of you wants to come and pray personally in the Church, please give a call to the office and let us know so that we can open the Church for you.

PLEASE NOTE NO MASSES UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE
PARISH OFFICE SERVICES ONLY AVAILABLE BY EMAIL OR PHONE

Office hours: Mondays & Wednesdays – 9am – 1pm & Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays 9am – 5pm

ALL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETINGS ARE CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!

SPECIAL NOTE

On April 22, 2020, Cristino Maglieri, brother of Pasqualina Cusano, died in Italy. Please pray for the repose of Cristino's soul and for his family in their grief. May he rest in the peace of the Lord.

CONVALIDATION OF MARRIAGE

If you have been civilly married (not in Church) & would like to convalidate your marriage, please contact either Father Steny or the Parish Office by phone or email.

BAPTISM BIB EMBROIDERY

We need extra hands to do a simple hand embroidery on our baptism bibs. Please contact the Parish Office if you can help.

Pre-Authorized Giving Plan

St. Edmund's Parish, 545 Mahon Avenue, North Vancouver, BC – V7M 2R7

Phone: 604-988-3211/Email: st.edmunds@shaw.ca/Website: stedmundsparish.ca/

PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING PLAN
For Monthly Offertory Contributions

If you wish to make your Sunday offertory contribution through automatic monthly bank withdrawals, please complete the form below and note:

- the amount you authorize will be deducted from your bank account **on the 30th of each month**. This regular monthly amount covers Sunday Offertory donation only.
- To make changes at any time, please call the Parish Office at 604-988-3211

Follow the steps below to calculate and authorize your monthly donation:

CALCULATING YOUR MONTHLY PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING

To help determine the amount of one's monthly contribution, multiply your weekly offering by the 52 weeks in a year, then divide this annual contribution by 12. Examples are provided below:

Weekly Offering	Monthly Offering	Weekly Offering	Monthly Offering
\$10/week (\$520/year)	\$43 per month	\$40/week (\$2,080/year)	\$173 per month
\$20/week (\$1,040/year)	\$86 per month	\$50/week (\$2,600/year)	\$216 per month

Note that the amounts above are provided only as examples. Our hope is that Parishioners will contribute an offering that is meaningful, sacrificial, and that honours the abundance with which the Lord has blessed each of us.

AUTHORIZATION FORM

I/we hereby authorize St. Edmund's Parish to debit my/our account **each month on the 30th** as allocated below.

I/we hereby change my/our monthly donation as allocated below:

Offering \$ _____

➔ **Please note** that based on the fees associated with offering pre-authorized giving, a \$25 monthly offering is the minimum that can be processed through this method of giving

ACCOUNT HOLDER/S INFORMATION:

Name/s: _____ (please print)

ADDRESS: _____

Phone/s: _____

Envelope #: _____ Payment Start Date: _____

OFFERTORY DONATION FOR NORMAL OPERATIONS OF THE PARISH:

I wish to donate \$ _____ on a **monthly basis on the 30th** for normal operations of the Parish

AUTHORIZATION:

I/We acknowledge that the Authorization is provided for the benefit of the Parish and the "Processing Institution" and is provided in Consideration of Processing Institution agreeing to process debits ("PADs") against the Account with Processing Institution in accordance with the Rules of the Canadian Payments Association.

By signing this Authorization, the family acknowledges having received and having read a copy of this Agreement, and agrees to be bound by the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

I/We warrant and guarantee that the person/s whose signature/s are required to sign on the Account have signed the Authorization.

Payor SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

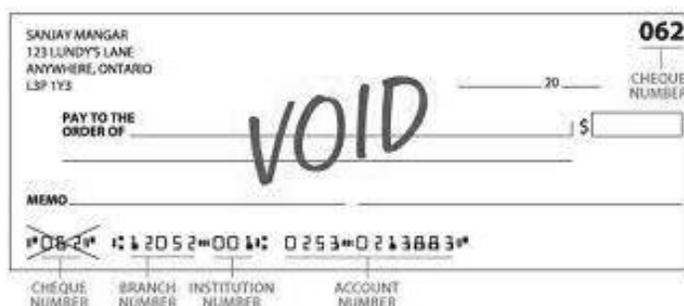
Payor SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

Return this form to the Parish Office or place it in the Sunday collection basket in a sealed envelope address to the "Parish Secretary – Confidential", plus attach a **blank VOID cheque and/or provide the following information:**

TRANSIT # _____

Sample of blank Void cheque ➔
indicating #'s required

INSTITUTION
ACCOUNT



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Fr. Steny & Fr. Cannio*

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Our Parish Community is asked to pray for the Repose of the Souls of

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Parishioners*



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Liz Jackson & Jady Li

Our Parish Community is asked to pray for the Special Intention of

Father Jerry



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