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

**Responsorial Psalm 47:** God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

### **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.

**Ordination of Deacon Oliver Omega to the Ministerial Priesthood will be on Friday June 9<sup>th</sup> at Saint Mary's Cathedral at 7:30 p.m.**

**Ordination of Christopher Pugh to Transitional Diaconate will be June 30<sup>th</sup> at Saint Augustine's Brandon at 7:30 p.m.**

**Marian Month:** For the month of May the CWL will lead the Rosary. Please come early to join them as they will start **at 8:40 a.m.**

**The Helping Hands Soup Kitchen**, is a non-profit offering a sit down hot- lunch meal, daily in Brandon.

They serve sometimes up to 170 people, and are open at noon. They welcome volunteers to assist serving, or sometimes preparing in the kitchen. This organization has been offering this much needed service for 30 years. There are 2 paid staff, everyone else are volunteers. They do not buy any food, all cooked food items are donated.

**Our date for working at this soup kitchen is Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>.**

**If wanting to volunteer contact Carlene, 204-532-2157 by noon this Monday to gather together in a car-pool.**

**Praying with Pope Francis**, May: *For Church movements and groups:* We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.

### **Concrete Ways to Renew Practices of Family Holiness – June 3, 2023**

We are pleased to invite you to a free (and open to all) webinar hosted by the CCCB Office for Family and Life, as part of our ongoing national networking workshops. This webinar, entitled "**Concrete Ways to Renew Practices of Family Holiness**," will take place on **Saturday, June 3, 2023 from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. EDT**. It is intended for anyone involved in dioceses, eparchies, parishes, or family groups that accompany couples and families in faith. To register with zoom:

[https://cccbca.zoom.us/webinar/register/5516817367284/WN\\_HOFGVS7RT3mO\\_5cJMPiVlg#/registration](https://cccbca.zoom.us/webinar/register/5516817367284/WN_HOFGVS7RT3mO_5cJMPiVlg#/registration) . The webinar will be presented by **Msgr. Philippe Bordeyne, President of the John Paul II Pontifical Theological Institute for the Science of Marriage and the Family, Rome, Italy**. It will be recorded for later broadcast and **presented in French with simultaneous English translation**. For more information, contact Michelle Dabrowski, Director of the Office for Families and Life ([m.dabrowski@cccb.ca](mailto:m.dabrowski@cccb.ca)).

😊 **The Ascension mission to preach the Gospel:** After attending a convention led by Billy Graham a woman wrote to him. “Dear Sir, I feel that God is calling me to preach the Gospel. But the trouble is that I have twelve children. What shall I do?” The televangelist replied: “Dear Madam, I am delighted to hear that God has called you

to preach the Gospel. I am even more delighted to hear that He has already provided you with a congregation in your own home.” 😊

### **Mass Intentions For This Week:**

#### **Ascension of the Lord**

Saturday May 20 7:30 p.m. Russell + Duncan Spurway from Funeral Mass offering

Sunday May 21 9:00 a.m. Russell **Zoom on-line Mass 9:00 a.m. & YouTube after 10:15 am**  
+ Bernard Trinder req. by Louise Trinder

11:00 a.m. Rossburn +Suffering Souls in Purgatory req. by Rose & family

Monday May 22 Health of family & friends req. by Jean Goba

Tuesday May 23 + Suffering Souls in Purgatory req. by Rose & family

Wed. May 24 Special Intentions req. by Carol & Wade Schott

Thurs. May 25 10:30 a.m. Rossburn Adoration

11:00 a.m. Mass + Suffering Souls in Purgatory req. by Rose & family

Friday May 26 8:30 a.m. Russell Adoration

9:00 a.m. In thanksgiving for God's Blessings req. by Holly & family

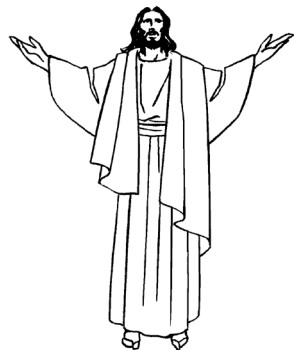
#### **Pentecost Sunday**

Saturday May 27 7:30 p.m. Russell + Rita & Joseph Deschambault req. by Anne & Ubald Deschambault

Sunday May 28 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 Michael & Myrna & families, Kevin & Lisa Marie,

Richard & Beverly & family, Michael & Stephanie & family, John & Rachel & family, Scott & Lisa & Family



## **A Gratitude Deficit**

By Jim Manney

Ignatius thought that a particular type of ignorance was at the root of sin. The deadliest sin, he said, is ingratitude. It is “the cause, beginning, and origin of all evils and sins.” If you asked a hundred people to name the sin that’s the origin of all evils, I’ll bet none of them would say ingratitude. They would say pride or disobedience or greed or anger. The idea that we sin because we’re not sufficiently aware of God’s goodness probably wouldn’t occur to too many people.

By emphasizing **gratitude**, Ignatius was saying something about the nature of God. God is the generous giver, showering us with blessings like the sun shining on the earth. If we truly understood this, we would return God’s love with love. We wouldn’t sin. Gratitude is a good word for this fundamental quality of our relationship with God. Ingratitude, our blindness to who God truly is, is thus the root of all sin.

Ignatius had a particular experience of sin that may have contributed to the high value he placed on gratitude. For a time, he was tormented by morbid scrupulosity. He didn’t think his sins had been forgiven, so he tried to drive out his guilt and shame with heroic ascetic practices. He fasted, he prayed for hours, he let his hair grow—but these things only made matters worse. It got so bad that he entertained thoughts of suicide. Eventually, Ignatius threw himself on God’s mercy and found peace. He saw himself as a sinner but as a loved sinner.

In his short story “The Repentant Sinner,” Leo Tolstoy tells of a man, a great sinner, who calls out to God for mercy just before he dies. He arrives at the gates of heaven, but they are locked. The apostle Peter explains that a sinner such as he can’t enter heaven, but the man reminds Peter of his sins—he denied Christ three times after swearing to be loyal. Peter goes away and is replaced by King David, who also says that sinners can’t enter heaven. The man reminds David that God had mercy on him despite his many sins, including adultery and murder. Finally the apostle John arrives. You are the beloved disciple, the man says. You wrote that “God is love” and “Brethren, love one another.” Surely, you must let me in. And sure enough, John embraces the man and escorts him into heaven.

**That’s the purpose of the first week of the Exercises—to bring us to see that we are loved sinners. Seasoned preachers and speakers know that they’ve done a good job if people can take one idea away from their talk. If you take one idea away from the Spiritual Exercises, this is the one: *you are a sinner who is loved by God.* Adapted from **God Finds Us: An Experience of the the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola.****

**A Gratitude Deficit - Ignatian Spirituality**



# Dear Padre,

## Why should I be confirmed?

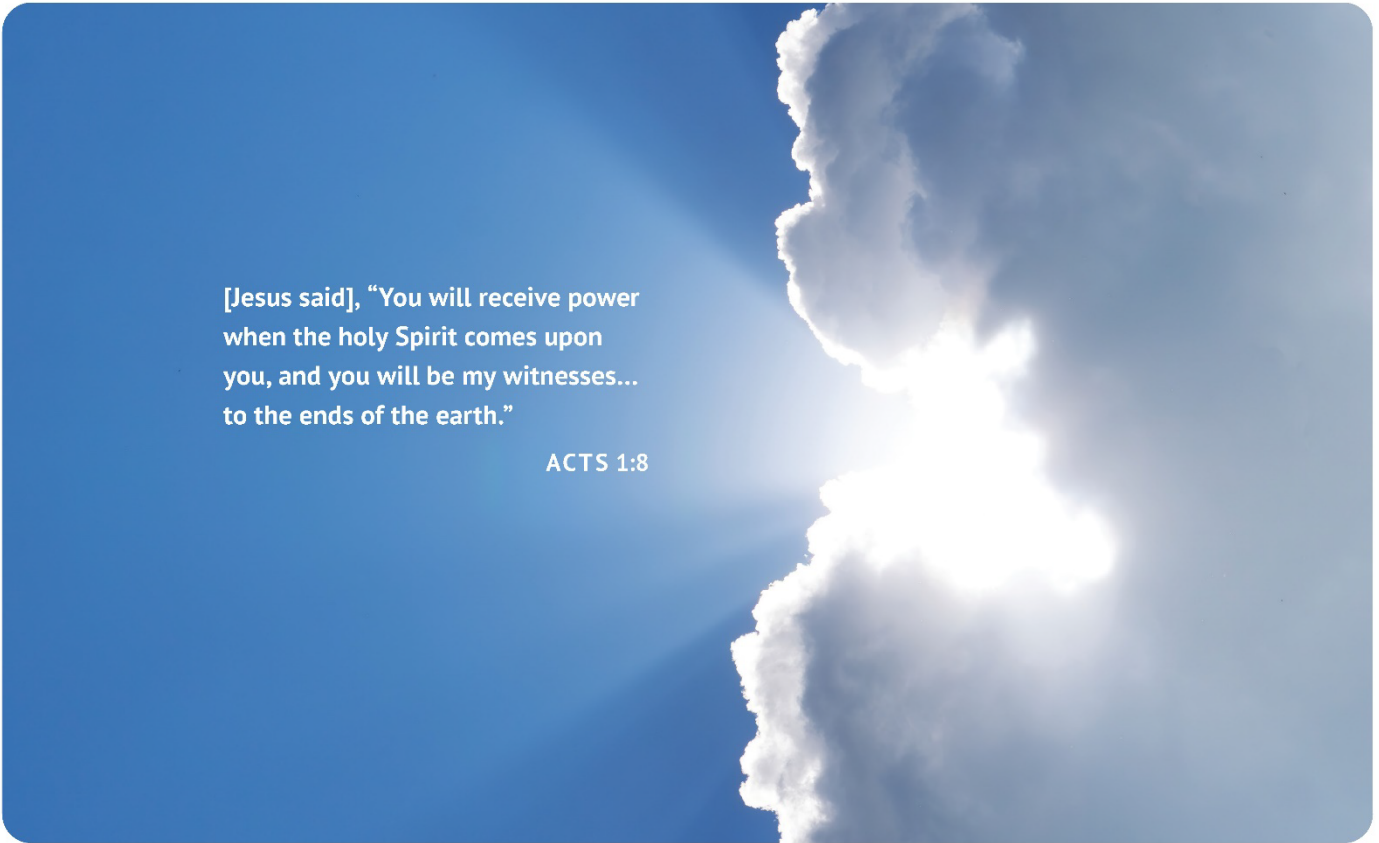
In baptism, God calls you to be a priest, prophet and king. In confirmation, you receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit to live out those vocations. A priest offers prayer and sacrifice. In confirmation, you are moved to make your everyday life a sacrifice that you join to the sacrifice of Christ on the cross (Romans 12:1). *Prophet* is from *prophētēs*, a Greek word meaning “spokesperson.” In confirmation, you are compelled to preach the gospel (1 Corinthians 9:16), just as the apostles were when they received the Holy Spirit on the original day of Pentecost (Acts 2:2–4). When you were baptized, you were made a member of the royal family of God (1 Peter 2:9). Just as Jesus showed what it means to be a Servant King, so are we called to serve others in love. In confirmation, we are inspired by the love that God pours into us in his Holy Spirit (Romans 5:5).

In his first public preaching, Jesus quoted from Isaiah the prophet: “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent me” (Luke 4:18). That was the beginning of his public ministry. When the bishop anoints you with chrism, you can say the same. Your confirmation is the beginning of your own public ministry. ●



# Our Parish COMMUNITY

May 21, 2023  
The Ascension of the Lord (A)  
Acts 1:1–11, 14–17 / Ephesians 1:17–23 / Matthew 28:16–20



[Jesus said], “You will receive power when the holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses... to the ends of the earth.”

ACTS 1:8

## Power Unmasked

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

When the Lone Ranger and Tonto rode across our TV screens in days of old, someone would often ask, “Who was that masked man?” Folks never learned his identity, and it didn’t matter. For that man had saved them from evil, restoring their lives. In a sense, the Ranger, with Tonto, had passed on to them the power to live safely and productively.

As he was about to return to his Father, the risen Lord said to the apostles, “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses” (Acts 1:8). Yet being blessed with the power that raised the Lord Jesus does not always feel much like a blessing. At times it can feel more like a burden that falls upon our shoulders, one to heal and mend as we try to bring peace and a better world. We wonder why we always must be the one who says, “I’m sorry.” Why must we always be the one who plans the evening out or writes the Christmas cards or calls Mom or spends time with the children or listens to someone’s tale of woe? Yet such is the power of Jesus for bringing about healing to both spirits and bodies, for creating joy, for designing bridges into the hearts of others, all because the Messiah rode off on a cloud of silver to be welcomed to the right hand of God. Thus, he empowers us. ●

### Reflect

Have you ever been surprised by the good God has brought about through you?

### A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

A disciple follows the Master daily and shares the joy of discipleship with others. Not by conquering, mandating, proselytizing, but by witnessing, humbling oneself alongside other disciples and offering with love the love that we ourselves received. This is our mission...to show by our lives...that God loves everyone and never tires of anyone.

HOMILY, ROME, OCTOBER 20, 2019

CNS PHOTO/GUGLIELMO MANGIAPANE, REUTERS



Bishop Bruce Lewandowski, CSsR / DearPadre.org

#### MONDAY

May 22  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 19:1–8  
Jn 16:29–33

#### TUESDAY

May 23  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 20:17–27  
Jn 17:1–11a

#### WEDNESDAY

May 24  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 20:28–38  
Jn 17:11b–19

#### THURSDAY

May 25  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 22:30; 23:6–11  
Jn 17:20–26

#### FRIDAY

May 26  
St. Philip Neri, Priest  
Acts 25:13b–21  
Jn 21:15–19

#### SATURDAY

May 27  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 28:16–20, 30–31  
Jn 21:20–25

#### SUNDAY

May 28  
Pentecost  
Acts 2:1–11  
1 Cor 12:3b–7, 12–13  
Jn 20:19–23



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