St. John of the Cross Parish Served by the Carmelites

PARISH OFFICE: 6890 Glen Erin Drive, Mississauga, ON L5N 2E1 Phone: 905-821-1331 • Fax: 905-858-8486 Email: office@sjocross.org Website: www.sjocross.org **OFFICE HOURS:** Z elo zelotus sum pro domino deo exercitumm Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. STJOHN OF THE CROSS 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Monday to Thursday -Qouth ministry-9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon 8:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. sjocym.com Alexandru Andrus

> We, God's people, members of St. John of the Cross Carmelite Parish, and disciples called through baptism to be prophetic, priestly, and holy, have been chosen to serve, help, and guide each other on our Christian pilgrimage through life, to the Kingdom of God.

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday Sunday

> Saturday: 5:00 p.m. 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m., 4:00 p.m. Sunday:

WEEKDAY MASSES AT THE CHURCH

Monday through Saturday: 9:00 a.m. Everv Wednesdav: additional mass 7:00 p.m. followed by Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help First Friday: additional mass 7:00 p.m. followed by Adoration

RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 4:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. Other times by appointment.

BAPTISM

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Parents are required to attend the Baptism Preparation Class. They are also encouraged to attend the class prior to the birth of the baby. Godparents are also expected to attend this class. A registration package is available at the Parish Office or at our website.

PASTORAL TEAM Tel/Voice Mail Fr. Joyson George, O Carm., Pastor pastor@sjocross.org Ext 228 Fr. Felix Antony, O.Carm., Assoc. Pastor frfelix@sjocross.org 224 Rev. Mr. John Cannon, Deacon deaconjohn@sjocross.org 222 PARISH SECRETARY - Violanta Nicholson 223 YOUTH MINISTER – Ante Skoko ym@sjocross.org 226 **RECEPTIONIST** – Liane Harris SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION First Communion & First Reconciliation 225 Confirmation 230

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY 305

SCHOOLS

St. Albert of Jerusalem	905-785-9298
St. Elizabeth Seton	905-821-2277
St. John of the Cross	905-824-3058
St. Richard	905-826-5572
St. Teresa of Avila	905-858-3462
St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus	905-785-0066
Our Lady of Mount Carmel	905-824-1025

MARRIAGE

It is required that one of those to be married resides within the Parish boundary. Couples planning to be married must contact the Parish Office at least one year in advance of their proposed date. They are required to complete a Marriage Preparation Course.

SICK AND HOMEBOUND

Please contact the parish office if confined to home or hospitalization so sacramental care may be provided.

JOHN OF THE CROSS was born in 1542 at Fontiveros in Spain. He entered the Carmelite Community and was ordained a priest in 1567. Renowned for his wisdom and sanctity, he died at Ubeda in 1591. His writings are not only classics of spirituality, but also of Spanish literature. His best known books are The Ascent of Mount Carmel, The Dark Night of the Soul, and The Living Flame of Love.

The Feast of the Ascension of the Lord

1st Reading: Acts 1.1-112nd Reading: Ephesians 1.17-23Gospel: Matthew 28.16-20*The Commissioning of the Disciples*

Being the Hands and Feet of Christ

This Sunday we celebrate the great feast of the Ascension of the Lord which is ripe with spiritual importance and depth. Let us examine how the Lord's ascension affects us as stewards. Firstly, when the apostles watched the Lord ascend into heaven, two angels appeared and asked them "why do you stand looking up toward heaven?" The apostles were not meant to stay there constantly gazing heavenward. Instead, they, like us, are called to live firmly on this earth with our whole purpose set on reaching heaven and leading as many people with us as possible.

We see this at the end of St. Matthew's Gospel when Jesus gives the great commission to "make disciples of all nations." Jesus' ascension is a firm call to action. A call to be stewards and use our gifts to spread the Gospel within our parishes and the Church. We do this through the strength of Christ within us who says "remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

It is now up to us to cooperate with the Spirit and make disciples of the whole world. Let us end by pondering the beautiful saying of St. Teresa of Avila. "Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes through which He looks compassion on this world. Yours are the feet with which He walks to do good. Yours are the hands through which He blesses all the world. Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, yours are the eyes, you are His Body. Christ has no body now on earth but yours."

ASCENSION SUNDAY May 24, 2020

Living the Gospel by supporting The Deaf Community

Imagine that you're a Deaf child and your parents don't know sign language. Your parents could gesture in a rudimentary way, but how do your share your joys, fears and needs? Silent Voice, a ShareLife agency, teaches American Sign Language and Deaf culture to families so they can share a common language. "I'm so passionate about Silent Voice," says one grateful parent, "because their Family Communication Program rescues children from social isolation." Last year, more than 700 Deaf people and their family members received help through Silent Voice.



June 7 is the next ShareLife Sunday. Please give generously.

READINGS OF THE WEEK		
Mon	May 25	Acts 19:1-8; John 16:29-33
Tue	May 26	Acts 20:17-27; John 17:1-11a
Wed	May 27	Acts 20:28-38; John 17:11b-19
Thurs	May 28	Acts 22:30, 23:6-11; John 17:20-26
Fri	May 29	Acts 24:27, 25:13b-21++; John 21:15-19
Sat	May 30	Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; John 21:20-25
Sun	May 31	Genesis 11:1-9; Romans 8:22-27; John 3:37-39

Thank you for your parish contributions through the offertory envelopes, Pre-Authorized Giving, and donations through Credit Card payments. Your donation is greatly appreciated. Thank you for your generosity!

The Ascension of Jesus into heaven acquaints us with this deeply consoling reality on our journey: In Christ, true God and true man, our humanity was taken to God.

Christ opened the path to us. He is like a roped guide climbing a mountain who, on reaching the summit, pulls us up to him and leads us to God.

If we entrust our life to him, if we let ourselves be guided by him, we are certain to be in safe hands, in the hands of our Saviour, of our Advocate.

LIFE MESSAGES FOR THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

1) <u>We need to be proclaimers and evangelizers:</u> "Go out to the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to every crea-

ture."

This mission is not given to a select few but to all believers. To be a Christian is to be a proclaimer and an evangelizer. There is a difference between preaching and pro-



claiming. "We preach with words but we proclaim with our lives."

2) We need to live a life of Christian joy in the presence of the ascended Lord. According to Luke, the disciples "returned to Jerusalem with great joy." Apparently Jesus' exaltation and final blessing gave them, as it gives us, the assurance that, though absent, Jesus is still present, present even in the pain and sorrow we undergo. That is why St. Augustine assures us, "Christ is now exalted above the Heavens, but he still suffers on earth all the pain that we, the members of his Body, have to bear. He showed this when he cried out from above: 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute Me?'

3) <u>We have a teaching mission:</u> Jesus taught us lessons of Faith, Hope, forgiveness, mercy, redemption and Love. We cannot put these lessons on a shelf and ignore them. They stand before us in the person of Jesus. Although no longer visibly present in the world, Jesus is present in his words., and we must make these words real in our lives as well as in the lives of others.

4) The ascended Jesus is our source of strength and encouragement: Perhaps some of the nagging doubts which inevitably accompany the journey of Faith could be lessened by our meditating on the Ascension and its implications. When we are too far from Faith to pray on our own, let us remember that we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, the Righteous, praying for us. When the trials of life feel too heavy to bear, we must remember that Christ will come again in glory, the same glory in which Jesus arose from the tomb, the same glory to which Jesus ascended, and the same glory in which Jesus currently abides.

Excerpt from Vatican News

PRAYER FOR THE SEVEN GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



O Lord Jesus Christ, Who, before ascending into heaven, did promise to send the Holy Spirit to finish Your work in the souls of Your Apostles and Disciples, deign to grant the same Holy Spirit to me that He may perfect in my soul, the work of Your grace and Your

love. Grant me the Spirit of Wisdom that I may despise the perishable things of this world and aspire only after the things that are eternal, the Spirit of Understanding to enlighten my mind with the light of Your divine truth, the Spirit of Counsel that I may ever choose the surest way of pleasing God and gaining heaven, the Spirit of Fortitude that I may bear my cross with You and that I may overcome with courage all the obstacles that oppose my salvation, the Spirit of Knowledge that I may know God and know myself and grow perfect in the science of the Saints, the Spirit of Piety that I may find the service of God sweet and amiable, and the Spirit of Fear that I may be filled with a loving reverence towards God and may dread in any way to displease Him. Mark me, dear Lord, with the sign of Your true disciples and animate me in all things with Your Spirit. Amen.



