

SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD The Ascension

Fr. Ranjan D'Sa OCD

"Jesus was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God" (Mk 16:19).

This Sunday, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Ascension of our Lord. There has been a great debate among the scholars, whether the episode of ascension was a historical event. But for the disciples it was most assuredly a spiritual event. They realized that their Master, who was with them, even after his resurrection, is now present only in Spirit. Christ had completed his task and now the work of the disciples was begun; "You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8).

Jesus had descended to this world to bring God to all. This descent meant sacrificing His divine status with the Father and accepting a humble status with humanity. Ultimately, this decent lead him to death on the cross. Now, after the resurrection, since His mission in this world is completed, He was ascended to be restored, from the Father, all that he had sacrificed at His descent.

The Early Church was brave enough to give Christ the title, "the Lord", which was reserved for emperors. This meant that emperors had the right of life or death over all their subjects; they could use them according to their wishes. The early church knew that their Master, who ascended to heaven, is the true Lord of life. He had descended to restore us from the bonds of sin and death — therefore, He alone is the true Lord, the restorer of all life.

Many churches celebrate this feast on the Thursday of the sixth week of Easter, popularly known as 'Ascension Thursday'. As we have seen many times, biblical numbers are figurative and signify something deeper. Luke wrote that Jesus was ascended on the 40th day after the resurrection. Here, it is the time Jesus spent after his resurrection, through different apparitions, to prepare the disciples for the coming of the Holy Spirit and for the future mission of the Church.

Luke begins the Act of the Apostles, addressing his writing to a person called Theophilus. The Greek meaning of this name is 'one who loves God'. So, Luke is writing to every believer 'who loves God', who wants to know more about Christ's works and how He now works in His Church. Luke is telling us that Jesus is ascended to heaven so that He can send the Holy Spirit as our helper. It is through the Holy Spirit that Jesus is guiding His Church. —

PARISH LITURGIES

- SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD -

Monday May 13 - Our Lady of Fatima

Tuesday, May 14 - St. Matthias, Apostle

8:30 am + Andrew Zuchkan

Wednesday, May 15 - St. Dymphna, St. Isidore

the Farmer

8:30 am Int. Anna Petrella

Thursday, May 16 - St. Simon Stock

8:30 am Int. Peter Hughes

Friday, May 17 - St. Paschal Baylon

8:30 am Int. Beata Samul

9:00 am Adoration

-SOLEMNITY OF PENTCOST-

Saturday, May 18 - St. John I, Pope & Martyr

4:00 - 4:30 Reconciliation

5:00 pm For:

+ Gerry Casey, + Sybil O'Leary, + Mozart Edvaldo de Oliveira, + Guiseppe Novelli, + John Thornton, + Elizabeth Boulton, + Armando Lorayos, Int. Aurelia Family, Int. Elisabeta Family

Sunday, May 19

9:00 am For our

11:00 am Parishioners



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FIRST COMMUNICANTS!

Congratulations to all the children who received the Sacrament of First Holy Communion between April 13th – May 12th.

We pray that the hearts of our communicants will remain open to receive Jesus with joy and that they will continue to receive Jesus regularly.

ALTAR SERVER AWARD RECIPIENTS!



Congratulations to two of our dedicated altar servers, Mia Ziman and Susana Junco! They both received the Altar Servers Award at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King on Thursday, May 2nd, 2024.

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

Thank you to all those who have volunteered to join the Altar Serving Ministry. A special training session for new altar servers will be held at 10:00 am on Saturday, May 18th in the church. Please plan to attend this meeting (about 1 hour). This ministry is open to individuals – youth and/or adults – as well as families.

"Go make disciples of all nations.

I am with you always, to the end of the age."



SANCTUARY LAMP

Our Sanctuary lamp will be lit this week for the Intentions of the Camacho Family

FORWARD TOGETHER IN CHRIST



On Saturday, May 4th, parishioners gathered together in the Parish Centre for *Forward Together in Christ*, a workshop to take inventory of our parish's activities and direction, post-covid. It was well-attended – approximately 50 people registered and turned up. Within the next few weeks, we will provide information regarding the topics that were discussed and the conclusions of this gathering.

SAINT DOMINIC PARISH INTERNATIONAL NIGHT

Our parish community is filled with fine folks from a variety of international backgrounds. Our Social Committee is planning to host an evening event to celebrate all of the cultural backgrounds that make our parish a very special community.

The actual event will take place early in 2025 (date to be confirmed). We are calling on members of our parish community to join in the planning for this special event. We are hosting a planning session on Wednesday May 15th at 7:00 pm in the Parish Hall. Please join us.

Share your culture and be a part of our organizing team for International Night 2025!

SAINT DOMINIC PARISH SUMMER GARDEN PARTY

Mark your calendars, the evening of Saturday June 22, 2024, our Social Committee will be hosting the first ever parish Summer Garden Party! We are finalizing the details and will share more information on this event early in June. Don't miss it! Block the dates on your calendar now!

MARCH FOR LIFE



On Thursday, May 9th, a number of parishioners travelled by bus to Parliament Hill in Ottawa for the 27th National March for Life. Thousands of students and families from all walks of life gathered on Parliament Hill and participated in the march through downtown streets. It was a great witness to the sanctity of human life.

MOTHER MARY, QUEEN OF CANADA OUR LADY OF THE CAPE

"One day, through the Rosary and the Scapular, I will save the world." (these words were spoken by Our Lady to Saint Dominic)



Did you know that before Fatima there was Our Lady of the Cape – in Canada? You are invited to attend a special event here at Saint Dominic Church on Saturday, June 1st beginning at 2:00 pm. There will be a viewing of the *Bridge of Roses* movie, a rosary & procession of Our Lady's Statue, followed by the 5:00 pm Holy Mass with the intention of honouring Mother Mary, Queen of Canada – Our

Lady of the Cape. The travelling miraculous statue from our very own Canadian shrine in Trois-Rivières, Quebec, will be visiting our parish along with the shrine and pilgrim director Father Berard. Tickets will be sold in the Narthex for a \$5.00 donation after Masses or by contacting cwl@saintdominic.ca. Refreshments will be served and there will also be an opportunity to purchase items from the Shrine. All are welcome to attend!

VOCATIONS RECOGNITION DINNER 2024

The Serra Club of Hamilton invites you to gather on Wednesday, May 15, 2024 at Liuna Station to celebrate the service of our Priests, Religious Brothers and Sisters, Consecrated Virgins living in the world and permanent deacons. Tickets: \$96 per/person. Contact: serrahamilton1965@gmail.com for more details.

RELICS OF ST. BROTHER ANDRE BESSETTE VISIT HAMILTON DIOCESE

The major reliquary of St. André Bessette (Brother André of the Montreal Oratory) will visit the Diocese of Hamilton, May 17-24, 2024. The relic of Brother André starts its tour at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King and finishes at Holy Family, Hanover. See the diocesan website news, *Saint Brother Andre in the Diocese of Hamilton* (hamiltondiocese.com) for dates, places and times. This is a wonderful opportunity to invoke the intercession of one of our own Canadian Saints. We are truly blessed to have the relic of St. Andre Bessette visit our Diocese.

Happy Mother's Day and blessings to all of the beautiful mothers in our parish community!

HAMILTON DIOCESE PRAYER CALENDAR	
Monday, May 13	Rev. Marko Stefanec
Tuesday, May 14	Rev. Joseph Akanbi
Wednesday, May 15	Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate (S.S.M.I.)
Thursday, May 16	Rev. Charles Jordan
Friday, May 17	Rev. Lourdy Dorismond, O.M.I.
Saturday, May 18	Rev. Jarek Pachocki, O.M.I.

SAINT DOMINIC PARISH

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Parish Accountant: Brian Thornton
Secretary: Mary Evans
Sacristan: Judi Kingry
Custodian: Peter Coffey

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday – 9:00 am to 4:00 pm (Closed from noon to 1:00 pm)

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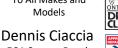
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