

## **Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**1st Reading:** Acts 8.5-8, 14-17

**2nd Reading:** 1 Peter 3.15-18

**Gospel:** John 14.15-21

**The Promise of the Holy Spirit**

### **Strengthening our Stewardship with the Holy Spirit**

As we approach the end of the Easter season our readings begin to focus on the Holy Spirit that awaits us on Pentecost. In today's first reading we hear the account of some believers receiving the Holy Spirit after Peter and John laid their hands on them. The Catechism says that "the imposition of hands is rightly recognized by the Catholic tradition as the origin of the sacrament of Confirmation, which in a certain way perpetuates the grace of Pentecost in the Church" (CCC 1288).

So, as we have read the biblical roots of the sacrament of Confirmation, let us reflect on its significance in our own lives 2000 years later. The Second Vatican Council says that through "the sacrament of Confirmation, [the baptized] are more perfectly bound to the Church and are enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit. Hence they are, as true witnesses of Christ, more strictly obliged to spread and defend the faith by word and deed" (Lumen Gentium, 11).

Confirmation makes us obliged to spread the Gospel through "word and deed" because we receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit. We all have a special share of these gifts, which consist of fortitude, wisdom, knowledge, understanding, fear of the Lord, piety and counsel. If for example, we have a greater outpouring of the gift of knowledge, we can use this to help with catechesis ministries in the parish that seek to teach the faith to others. Essentially, Confirmation strengthens our call to be stewards of Christ. Let us use our gifts to spread the Gospel in our parish communities as a way of living out our call of Confirmation and let us do so by turning to the Holy Spirit to guide us.



## **Mass Schedule**

### **Weekdays — OUR PARISH**

Mass will be celebrated **Tuesday through Saturday Morning at 8.30 AM** via ZOOM Meeting Room. **NO Mass on Mondays.**

**Meeting Room opens at 8.AM.**

**Rosary Starts at 8.10 AM**

**Mass Begins at 8.30 AM**

**Parishioners interested in volunteering to lead**

**Rosary decades or do Daily Readings for weekday Masses please contact [smartins.office@rogers.com](mailto:smartins.office@rogers.com) in advance. We need more volunteers.**

Links for entry to the meeting room will be sent to all parishioners.

### **Weekend — OUR PARISH**

Mass will be celebrated **every Sunday Morning at 10 AM** via the ZOOM Meeting Room.

Links for entry to the meeting room will be sent to all parishioners.

To join our virtual Mass celebration, please download the Zoom application and sign-up first (it's free):

<https://zoom.us/download>

### **"Thank You" from Fr. Anthony**

I would like to thank all Parishioners for their well-wishes on the occasion of my 25th Anniversary of Priesthood. Thank you for taking the time out of your busy schedules to celebrate my Thanksgiving Mass on the 13th May. May God continue to grace you with good health and peace.



### **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 2020 CHARITIES LOTTERY**

Because of COVID 19 restrictions, the Draw Date scheduled for May 29th has been **postponed until October 31, 2020**. Parishioners who purchased tickets are asked to **keep their receipt stubs until winners are notified after the Oct. 31st draw.**

## Mass Intentions

You can offer Mass intentions by dropping off a Cheque for **\$20.00 (for each intention)** in an envelope in the **Parish Mail box**.

The Cheque should be accompanied with a note about your **Mass Intention, Contact Name & Phone number, and preferred Date for the Mass and send the same information via email to [smartins.office@rogers.com](mailto:smartins.office@rogers.com)**.

**Please Note: Masses that were offered for days in end March and the first week of April will be celebrated at a later date when we are fully functioning.**

**Sorry for that inconvenience.**

***Please note the Cheques will be picked up on every Wednesday by Father***



The image of Our Lady of Perpetual Help

The image of Our Lady of Perpetual Help is an icon, painted on wood, and seems to have originated around the thirteenth century. Traditionally, the image is also known as “Our Lady of Perpetual Succour.” The icon depicts our Blessed Mother Mary, under the title “Mother of God,” holding the Child Jesus. The Archangels Michael and Gabriel, hovering in the upper corners, hold the instruments of the Passion— St. Michael (in the left corner) holds the spear, the wine-soaked sponge, and the crown of thorns, and St. Gabriel (in the right corner) holds the cross and the nails. The intent of the artist was to portray the Child Jesus contemplating the vision of His future Passion. The anguish He feels is shown by the loss of one of His sandals. Nevertheless, the icon also conveys the triumph of Christ over sin and death, symbolized by the golden background (a sign of the glory of the resurrection) and the manner in which the angels hold the instruments, i.e. like trophies gathered up from Calvary on Easter morning.

In a very beautiful way, the Child Jesus grasps the hand of the Blessed Mother. He seeks comfort from His mother, as He sees the instruments of His passion. The position of Mary’s hands— both holding the Child Jesus (who seems like a small adult) and presenting Him to us— convey the reality of our Lord’s incarnation, that He is true God who became also true man. In iconography, Mary here is represented as the *Hodigitria*, the one who guides us to the Redeemer. She also is our Help, who intercedes on our behalf with her Son. The star painted on Mary’s veil, centered on her forehead, highlights her role in the plan of salvation as both the Mother of God and our Mother.

## Support Your Parish

Message for parishioners for support of parish offertories

I hope and pray that you are staying healthy – both physically and spiritually. Please let me know if the parish can help you during these difficult times.

No doubt you are aware that our parish relies on the support of our parishioners to operate – parish salaries, programs and ongoing operating costs (heating, water, electricity, etc.) – are funded through the generosity of our parish community. It will be a challenge for our parish to maintain operations without the weekly offertory collection.

In response to many requests that I have received from parishioners, here are the ways that you can continue to support our parish at this time:

- **Mail or Drop off** your regular weekly offertory contribution cheques could be mailed to the Parish Address or place your envelopes across the slit in our **PARISH MAIL BOX**.

For more ways to give go the **Archdiocesan website** at <https://www.archtoronto.org/covid19/Pages/support.aspx>

- **Contribute to our parish offertory by credit card.**

Please [click here](#). You will then be able to select our parish in the drop-down menu. You can make a one time or recurring contribution to our parish offertory or other special funds.

- **Contribute through pre-authorized giving.** [click here](#) for more information on pre-authorized giving. You can obtain a form from the parish office or you can [click here to download an enrollment form](#) which can be printed and completed. Return the completed form and a voided cheque to your parish office. Or e-mail the form and a scanned copy or photo of a voided cheque to [development@archtoronto.org](mailto:development@archtoronto.org) for processing. Contributions are withdrawn from your bank account on the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.

- **You can contribute to the offertory via online banking.**

To do this, the archdiocese will need to send you a unique account number. Please send an e-mail to [campaign@archtoronto.org](mailto:campaign@archtoronto.org).

In the body of the email provide:

- o Your name
- o Address
- o Parish name
- o Municipality

You will be emailed account information which you can use to set up the Archdiocese of Toronto as a payee in your on-line banking. Your gift will be forwarded to our parish. You can make a one time or recurring gift to our offertory. If you have any questions please contact Parish office or the Development Office at the Archdiocese of Toronto, 416-934-3400, ext. 540 or [development@archtoronto.org](mailto:development@archtoronto.org).

Thank you for your many contributions to our parish community. I miss seeing all of you at the Mass and I pray daily that we will be able to gather together again soon.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor,  
**Fr. Anthony Gonsalves.**

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