

PRO-CATHEDRAL OF THE ASSUMPTION

480 McIntyre Street West - North Bay, Ontario - P1B 2Z4

24 May 2020 ~ The Ascension of the Lord

In the first reading, after Jesus' Ascension, the disciples went to the upper room and devoted themselves to prayer. In Peter's Epistle, he encourages the *beloved* community to rejoice in persecution; privileged to suffer with Christ, they will also glorify God. In John's Gospel, Jesus, nearing the end of his earthly life, prays for his followers who remain in the world. Knowing God in a way that brings eternal life is no casual acquaintance, but an intimate friendship. When we know someone as a friend, we know likes and dislikes, character and personality. God knows us intimately and, amazingly, desires to be known, and makes himself known to those created in his image.

Our Parish Mission Statement

We, the members of the Pro-Cathedral of the Assumption community, believe that we have been called through Baptism to live the Good News of Jesus Christ under the patronage of Mary, our Mother. We accomplish this by proclaiming the Word, celebrating the Sacraments, & reaching out to others.

PASTOR Most Rev. Marcel Damphousse , D. D.
Bishop of Sault Ste. Marie

RECTOR
Msgr. Dave Tramontini

ASSISTANT
Rev. Rex Lumine

PERMANENT MINISTERS

Deacons

Rev. Mr. Albert Falconi
Rev. Mr. Donald Shago
Rev. Mr. Rick Hamelin
Rev. Mr. Gary Westenenk

Diocesan Order of Women

Mrs. Shirley Falconi
Mrs. Norma Milligan
Miss Ruth Godon

Our faith community dates back to 1886 when we were **originally located on Main Street West and called St. Mary's of** the Lake and the cornerstone of the existing Cathedral was laid in 1904. The history of our parish is recorded in the memories of thousands of people who built our community.



(705) 472-3970

(705) 494-8222

office@procathedral.ca

www.procathedral.ca

facebook.com/procathedral

READINGS: 25 - 31 MAY	
Monday	Acts 19. 1-8; John 16. 29-33
Tuesday	Acts 20. 17-27; John 17. 1-11a
Wednesday	Acts 20. 28-38; John 17. 11b-19
Thursday	Acts 22. 30; 23. 6-11; John 17. 20-26
Friday	Acts 24. 27; 25. 13b-21; John 21. 15-19
Saturday	Acts 28. 16-20, 30-31; John 21. 20-25
Sunday	Acts 2. 1-11; 1 Corinthians 12. 3b-7, 12-13; John 20. 19-23



CHECK IT OUT!!

Don't forget to watch the weekly video of the Gospel & Reflection posted on our website each Saturday evening at procathedral.ca

Thank you so much to David Dunkley, Jeff Borden and Kevin Yarosh for their technical talent.

Let other's know about this way of keeping in touch!

World Communications Day—May 24

Today Catholics are invited to reflect upon the media of social communication (films, radio, television, newspapers, audiovisuals) and how these influence our lives.
The media can promote values that lead to a more fully human society. The Church's ministry is twofold. At the same time, as receivers of the materials presented by the media, the faithful have a duty to support and promote worthwhile presentations on media and reject those which promote values contrary to spiritual growth.



PRAYER LINE

The prayer line is a group of parishioners who pray for the needs of others. Concerns great and small are presented to the Lord on your behalf. If you have a prayer request or would like to join the group call Sister Shirley McNamara at 474-3800, Ext. 295 or Lorraine Atchison at 474-0613 and they will gladly pass them on to others who are waiting to receive your requests.

Bells & Prayer



When our bells ring at 12:00 noon and 6:00 PM it is customary to pray the Angelus. Perhaps during this time we can say an extra prayer for our healthcare workers, those who continue to work in essential services, and those who have been infected by the coronavirus.

Note: They are now also being rung at 7:30 PM as we join the North Bay community in "making some noise" for those who work in essential services.

Don't forget there are quick links to TV Masses on our Homepage at procathedral.ca



Salt and Light TV, Holy Name of Jesus Parish, St. Vincent de Paul (French Mass), Ste. Bernadette, EWTN, DailyTVMass, Catholic TV & More!

Easy as going to our homepage and clicking on one of the links.



Catholic Women's League

The **CWL Executive** will meet through virtual technology on Monday, May 25 at 7:00 PM.

Ladies, unfortunately, we will not be meeting at all in June. **We have rescheduled our 100th Anniversary Celebrations to June 17, 2021.**



The Executive made a decision this year to hold over this year's **Student Bursary**. Please understand and know this was a very difficult decision to make. With the area secondary schools and our church doors closed we felt it would be impossible to clearly inform everyone about making application. Instead, we will offer four, $400 bursaries in the year 2021.

Pray Along!

Each Wednesday afternoon you can view Fr. Rex praying the Devotion in Honour of Our Mother of Perpetual Help.

You can view the video and download the prayer sheet from our Homepage at procathedral.ca or on our Facebook Page

Keeping you Informed
From the World Medical Journal
The "Normalization" of Euthanasia in Canada:
The Cautionary Tale Continues.
For the full article, visit our website at
procathedral.ca under CURRENT NEWS

Pope Francis May 5 General Audience:

"Life, the simple fact that we exist, opens the heart of the human person to prayer. Starting from the great story of Creation, someone began to find reasons to give thanks, to praise God for their existence. Prayer is the first force of hope. You pray and hope grows. I would say that prayer opens the door to hope. Because men and women of prayer safeguard the basic truths; they are those who repeat, first of all to themselves and then to all others, that this life, despite all its fatigue and trials, despite its difficult days, is filled with a grace at which we marvel. And as such it must always be defended and protected.

Men and women who pray know that hope is stronger than discouragement. They believe that love is more powerful than death, and that it will surely triumph one day, be it in times and ways we do not know. Men and women of prayer bear the reflection of light on their faces: because even on the darkest days the sun does not cease to illuminate them. Prayer illuminates you: it illuminates your soul, it illuminates your heart, and it illuminates your face. Even in the darkest times, even in the times of greatest pain.

We are all bearers of joy. Have you thought of this? That you are a bearer of joy? This life is the gift that God has given us: and it is too short to be consumed in sadness, in bitterness. May the Lord make us understand this ever more deeply, and lead us to say "thank you"; and that "thank you" is a beautiful prayer.

COLLECTION: 10 & 17 MAY 2020	
Sunday Offering	Building Fund
$4,479.00	$1,160.00

The Church is closed. How can I make a donation?



During these COVID days, we invite you to use pre-authorized donations, *even if only temporarily*. You can do this through your bank account or by using a credit card.

If technology is your friend, please download the Banking Pre-Authorized Form or Credit Card form from our website at procathedral.ca under About Us, Stewardship/ Contributions. Complete the form and mail or drop it off back to us at in the mailbox to the left of the rectory office door (480 McIntyre Street West).

If technology befuddles you, simply email the parish office at office@procathedral.ca or call us at 472-3970 and we will figure out how best to get the documentation necessary to get you started to you.

Other ways you can contribute:

- We continue to accept **envelopes** at the parish door through the mail slot—you can drop off current and postdated cheques.
- Use our "**Donate Today" button** on our website. Just click and fill in the blanks and you can make a donation to the Cathedral.
- **E-transfer from your bank account through interac e-transfer** to music.finance@procathedral.ca Put in the message of the e-transfer how you would like your funds disbursed (i.e. Sunday, Building, Easter, etc.)

Again, as long as it does not cause hardship to you, we are grateful for your continued support.

Glory Gardens Planning for gardens 2020 is underway. In commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of VE (Victory in Europe) day, Perennial Poppies will be planted in our gardens during the last week of May.



Should you wish to participate, your **donation** of a perennial poppy would be appreciated as would assistance in preparing the gardens and planting the poppies. (Social distancing observed)

If you can help and for more information contact Annette at 495-3584 or by email at annette.d@live.ca

Thank you to Lorraine Atchison, and Ann Sullivan my gardening partners for many years and to Louise Cappadocia who joined us last year. A really big "Thank You" to Robert, our custodian who has so willingly assisted us over the years.



Ascension Sunday & Evangelization



The Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord occurs 40 days after Christ's resurrection and is the important, final piece of the paschal mystery, which began with Christ's passion and death. Because Christ ascended, we, as members of the Body of Christ, also look forward to ascending into heaven after our bodily resurrection. On this solemnity, we are also reminded of our evangelizing mission.

In the Feast of the Ascension, the Church celebrates the return of Jesus to the place from which he had come, the side of the Father. Jesus returns to the place he had left to come to be with us on earth, to save us from our sins, to open for us the promise of heaven, and to show us how to live. Jesus' return to the Father, however, marks an end of his earthly ministry but it does not mark an end of his mission, which is carried on by the Church he established.

The solemnity also celebrates the evangelizing mission of Catholics. Before Christ ascends, he commands his disciples to await the arrival of the Holy Spirit and then to "go into the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15).

The Feast of the Ascension reminds us that we must always make sure the good work we do is grounded in an appreciation of why we do it and with whose power and grace we do it. That is what we learn from the disciples.

Next Sunday, on Pentecost Sunday, Catholics will celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles and the fullness of grace for the Church. During the days between the Solemnity of the Ascension and the Solemnity of Pentecost, Catholics are called to intense prayer for the coming of the Holy Spirit. This time of prayer comprises a novena.

You can pray the following prayer daily leading up to Pentecost:

Novena Prayer

Come, Holy Spirit, fill our hearts with your love.
Set our lives aflame with your gifts.
Grant us wisdom to choose what is good and true;
understanding to embrace your plan of salvation;
right judgment to act according to your will;
courage to share our faith with others;
knowledge to live as disciples of Jesus Christ;
reverence to respond faithfully to your grace each day;
and wonder and awe in your presence.
Inspire us with enthusiasm for our Catholic faith.
Grant us boldness to proclaim the good news of salvation in Jesus Christ,
and help us to bring the transforming power of the gospel to our world.
We make this prayer through Christ, our Lord. Amen



We are here to help!

We have people ready and willing to assist you. Need a grocery pickup? A wellness call made to a family member? Other assistance? Give us a call or email and let us know how we can help!



The fifth anniversary of the encyclical comes in the midst of another watershed moment - a global pandemic - and *Laudato Si's* message is just as prophetic today as it was in 2015. The encyclical can indeed provide the moral and spiritual compass for the journey to create a more caring, fraternal, peaceful and sustainable world. We have, in fact, a unique opportunity to transform the present groaning and travail into the birth pangs of a new way of living together, bonded together in love, compassion and solidarity, and a more harmonious relationship with the natural world, our common home. Truly, COVID-19 has made clear how deeply we are all interconnected and interdependent. As we begin to envision a post-COVID world, we need above all an integral approach as "everything is closely interrelated and today's problems call for a vision capable of taking into account every aspect of the global crisis" (*LS*, 137). Here are themes that Pope Francis highlighted in Laudato Si' which require our urgent response today:

- **A Moral and Spiritual Challenge.** The ecological crisis, Pope Francis writes, is a summons to profound interior conversion—to renew our relationships with God, one another, and the created world.
- **Care for God's Creation.** God created the world and entrusted it to us as a gift. Now we have the responsibility to care for and protect it and all people, who are part of creation. Protecting human dignity is strongly linked to care for creation.
- **We are All Connected.** We are connected to the rest of the human family, to the created world, and to those who will come after us in future generations.
- **Impact on the Poor.** People in poverty have contributed least to climate change, yet they are disproportionately impacted by it. As a result of excessive use of natural resource by wealthy nations, those who are poor experience pollution, lack of access to clean water, hunger, and more.
- **Called to Solidarity.** We are one human family and have a shared responsibility for others and for creation. Wealthy countries have a responsibility to reduce consumption of non-renewal resources and should help poorer nations develop in sustainable ways.
- **Technological and economic development** must serve human beings and enhance human dignity, instead of creating an economy of exclusion, so that all people have access to what is needed for authentic human development.
- **Supporting Life, Protecting Creation.** Concern for nature is incompatible with failure to protect vulnerable human beings, such as unborn children, people with disabilities, or victims of human trafficking.
- **A Time to Act.** Pope Francis calls for a change in lifestyle and consumption. We can make important changes as individuals, families, and communities, and as civil and political leaders.
- **Hope and Joy.** "Injustice is not invincible" (no. 74) and we act knowing that we seek to live out God's vision of renewed relationships with God, ourselves, one another, and creation.



Our Faith Stories—Treasures to Share!

We would like you to share <u>YOUR</u> personal stories! ***We will publish at a later date due to the fact that we have not been able to physically be together and to allow more people to be able to participate!***

- **A booklet with all the stories will be created.**
- **We will get to know, inspire and encourage one another as a family of faith through these stories.**
- **We are looking for stories that are written from your personal point of view - even just a short memory, family story, or even a few sentences.**
- **Don't underestimate how even a small story can make a difference to someone!**
- **Suggested Topics: How has your faith sustained you? Did you have a personal epiphany when your faith woke something in your heart? A funny story about going to Church? What has your Catholic faith meant to you over the years? Was it influenced by a member of your family? A teacher? A prison guard? A fellow parishioner? A neighbour? A priest? A nun? A support group? Maybe you transferred into a new city and were welcomed by a new parish or perhaps you are a new person to our country and have an inspiring story?**

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSIONS

1. There is no age requirement for those who wish to submit.
2. Submissions must be a personal account and not the work of others.
3. Submissions may be edited for length. Submissions are not limited to a person's involvement and membership at the Pro-Cathedral of the Assumption.
4. If you do not use a computer and wish to submit in handwriting/printing — we would love to have your input!
5. Submissions can be emailed to office@procathedral.ca or dropped off to the rectory office at 480 McIntyre Street West (there is a mail slot to the left of the door).
6. Submissions must include your first and last name, telephone number and email address (if you have one) so that if we have any questions we can contact you.
7. Where a submission may not be deemed as content that fits the spirit and intent of this publication, the parish reserves the right not to include it in the final publication.
8. **Deadline is Extended - We will publish at a later date than anticipated.**

Sometimes a picture paints a thousand words!

Feel free to submit a picture that your child has drawn that reflects their faith.

If you have any questions regarding your submission, please do not hesitate to contact the parish office at 472-3970 or by email at office@procathedral.ca

Please be a part of this wonderful opportunity to share your faith.

Your words can be an inspiration to others!

We need your stories of faith now more than ever.

Thank you!

