



# The Good Shepherd Parish

*The Good Shepherd Parish is a Catholic community rooted in the Gospel where all are invited to encounter Christ, grow in holiness, and proclaim His Good News to the world.*

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## Ascension of the Lord

### **Mass Intentions**

#### **Sunday 24 May 2020 – The Ascension of the Lord**

For all living and deceased Members and Spiritual Advisors of the Catholic Women's League

- † Deceased members of the Jary & Vinette families requested by Joe Byrnes
- † Francis Peter Kelleher requested by Sean & Anna May O'Carroll
- † Corneliu Popescue requested by Rose Dugandzic

#### **Tuesday 26 May 2020**

- † Anne McCloskey requested by the family

#### **Wednesday 27 May 2020**

For our Parishioners

#### **Thursday 28 May 2020**

- † Leonard Smith requested by the family

#### **Friday 29 May 2020**

No intention

#### **Sunday 31 May 2020 – Pentecost Sunday**

- † Deceased members of the Byrnes & Lemieux families requested by Joe Byrnes
- † Mary & Lloyd Sullivan requested by Sean & Anna May O'Carroll
- † Maryan & Andy Dugandzic requested by Rose Dugandzic  
For our Parishioners

#### **Tuesday 02 June 2020**

No intention

#### **Wednesday 03 June 2020**

No intention

#### **Thursday 04 June 2020**

No intention

#### **Friday 05 June 2020**

Intentions for the Children of Helen & Anthony

#### **Sunday 07 June 2020 – The Most Holy Trinity**

- † Deceased Members of the Knights of Columbus

### *Message from your Pastoral Council:*

*Warm greetings to all parishioners of The Good Shepherd Parish ... the members of your Parish Pastoral Council send heartfelt wishes to everyone and we pray that you are able to remain positive in spite of the COVID-19 lockdown.*

*As Fr. Virgil noted in last week's bulletin, due to the COVID-19 lockdown and all the restrictions that come with it, the current elected Pastoral Council Members will remain in place until May 2021. As you can imagine, we have all been caught off guard by this pandemic and we are all doing our best to serve you, the faithful parishioners of The Good Shepherd Parish; these extraordinary circumstances require us all to step up in faith. And, as Fr. Virgil also noted, if there is a way to hold proper elections earlier, with the full participation of the entire parish, then abundant notice would be published for your attention.*

*In the beginning of the COVID-19 lockdown, communication with all parishioners was vital to getting news and updates delivered to you. To explain: the first letter from Fr. Virgil (27 March 2020) had to be mailed out (via Canada Post) to over two-thirds of registered parishioners, whereas, the other third of the list received this letter via email. On looking at our parish records, it was revealed that we did not have all necessary contact information so that we could easily relay info to you without incurring any added expense. To rectify this, a member of your pastoral council will be reaching out to you by telephone in the days and weeks ahead to confirm your contact info and to obtain an email address where you can be reached. All contact info will be kept in strict confidence with the parish records and would only be used by Fr. Virgil, or, with his approval, by a member of your parish leadership. With your help we will get the parish list up to date with all correct contact information.*

*Your pastoral council eagerly awaits the day when we can again gather in our church for Mass and fellowship... whenever that may be. Let us all pray for the success of the opening up of our province, as this will lead to the eventual opening of our church.*

*blessings,*

*Marilyn Olsen, Chair  
Nick Jaz, Secretary  
Doug O'Reilly*

*Mark McAvoy, Vice-Chair  
Sarah MacDonald-McLean  
Barb Paquette*

## A Blessing for Difficult Times

Response to each: **I rest in the Peace-Giver's presence.**

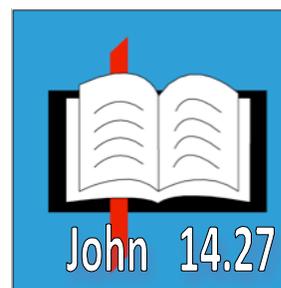
When inner turmoil and conflict threaten my peace of mind and heart...  
 When my life is overly full and I wonder how I will complete what is required...  
 When I enter into the pain and the suffering of the world's lack of peace...  
 When I hurt for friends, relatives, and others who are distressed...  
 When fear of the future rises up and the way ahead is uncertain and unsettled...  
 When my life appears empty and loneliness taunts me...  
 When I live with concern and apprehension over unresolved issues...  
 When I feel a great distance from the One who is the fullness of peace...

**Gracious Peace-Maker**, thank you for the life you have given me. I desire to be filled with your serenity.

**Clothe me** in your calm presence. Be the stronghold of my heart.

**Help me to accept** the irreversible and to change what is possible. May your peace grow ever stronger in me.

Taken from Prayer Seeds: A Gathering of Blessings, Reflections, and Poems for Spiritual Growth® by Joyce Rupp. Used by permission of Ave Maria Press®, Inc. All rights reserved.



### Message of Pope Francis for the 54th World Communications Day – 2020 (\*excerpt)

*“That you may tell your children and grandchildren” (Ex 10:2)  
 Life becomes history*

*I would like to devote this year's Message to the theme of storytelling, because I believe that, so as not to lose our bearings, we need to make our own the truth contained in good stories. Stories that build up, not tear down; stories that help us rediscover our roots and the strength needed to move forward together. Amid the cacophony of voices and messages that surround us, we need a human story that can speak of ourselves and of the beauty all around us. A narrative that can regard our world and its happenings with a tender gaze. A narrative that can tell us that we are part of a living and interconnected tapestry. A narrative that can reveal the interweaving of the threads which connect us to one another...*

**1. Weaving stories ... 2. Not all stories are good stories ... 3. The Story of stories ... 4. An ever renewed story ... 5. A story that renews us ...**

*So it is not a matter of simply telling stories as such, or of advertising ourselves, but rather of remembering who and what we are in God's eyes, bearing witness to what the Spirit writes in our hearts and revealing to everyone that his or her story contains marvellous things. In order to do this, let us entrust ourselves to a woman who knit together in her womb the humanity of God and, the Gospel tells us, wove together the events of her life. For the Virgin Mary “treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart” (Lk 2: 19). Let us ask for help from her, who knew how to untie the knots of life with the gentle strength of love:*

*O Mary, woman and mother, you wove the divine Word in your womb, you recounted by your life the magnificent works of God. Listen to our stories, hold them in your heart and make your own the stories that no one wants to hear. Teach us to recognize the good thread that runs through history. Look at the tangled knots in our life that paralyze our memory. By your gentle hands, every knot can be untied. Woman of the Spirit, mother of trust, inspire us too. Help us build stories of peace, stories that point to the future. And show us the way to live them together.*

**\*Full message is at link:**

[http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/communications/documents/papa-francesco\\_20200124\\_messaggio-comunicazioni-sociali.html](http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/communications/documents/papa-francesco_20200124_messaggio-comunicazioni-sociali.html)

### Prayer to Our Lady of Sheshan on the Occasion of the World Day of Prayer for the Church in China

*Virgin Most Holy, Mother of the Incarnate Word and our Mother, venerated in the Shrine of Sheshan under the title “Help of Christians” the entire Church in China looks to you with devout affection. We come before you today to implore your protection. Look upon the People of God and, with a mother's care, guide them along the paths of truth and love, so that they may always be a leaven of harmonious coexistence among all citizens.*

*When you obediently said “yes” in the house of Nazareth, you allowed God's eternal Son to take flesh in your virginal womb and thus to begin in history the work of our redemption. You willingly and generously cooperated in that work, allowing the sword of pain to pierce your soul, until the supreme hour of the Cross, when you kept watch on Calvary, standing beside your Son, who died that we might live.*

*Mother of China and all Asia, pray for us, now and for ever. Amen!*

*From that moment, you became, in a new way.*

*the Mother of all those who receive your Son Jesus in faith and choose to follow in his footsteps by taking up his Cross.*

*Mother of hope, in the darkness of Holy Saturday you journeyed with unfailing trust towards the dawn of Easter.*

*Grant that your children may discern at all times*

*even those that are darkest, the signs of God's loving presence.*

*Our Lady of Sheshan, sustain all those in China*

*who, amid their daily trials, continue to believe, to hope, to love. May they never be afraid to speak of Jesus to the world, and of the world to Jesus.*

*In the statue overlooking the Shrine you lift your Son on high, offering him to the world with open arms in a gesture of love.*

*Help Catholics always to be credible witnesses to this love, ever clinging to the rock of Peter on which the Church is built.*

*(Prayer written by Pope Benedict XVI (now Emeritus) in 2008)*

### World Day of Prayer for the Church in China

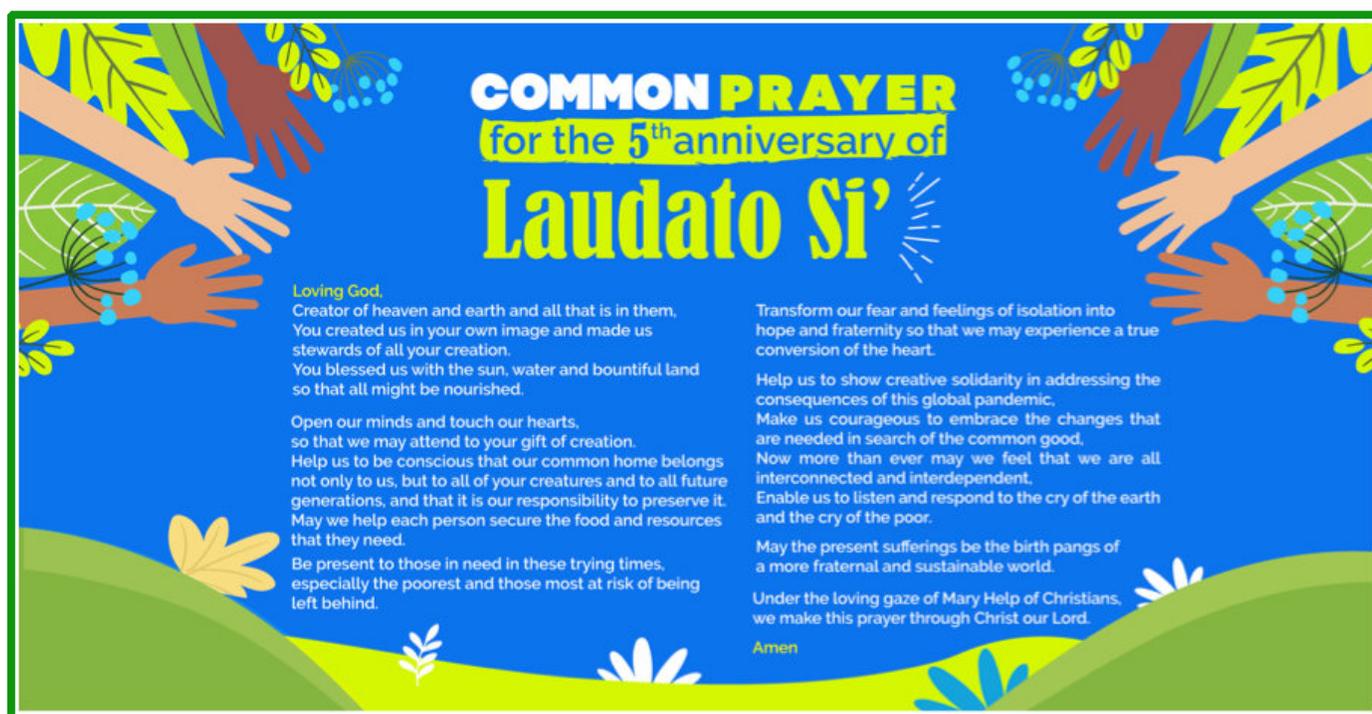
**24 May 2020**

In May 2007, Pope Benedict XVI asked that May 24 be observed as a Day of Prayer for the Church in China. He chose this day since it is the traditional Feast of Our Lady of Help of Christians, venerated at the Shrine of Sheshan in Shanghai.

## CARE FOR CREATION

**Laudato Si' Week from May 16-24**, the global Catholic community celebrates the fifth anniversary of Pope Francis' landmark encyclical letter, *Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home*, through prayer, education, and online activities. The nine-day celebration, with the theme "Everything is Connected" is sponsored by the Vatican's Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development. The Global Catholic Climate Movement (<https://laudatosiweek.org>) and the Catholic Climate Covenant (<https://catholicclimatecovenant.org>) have created webpages where you can find events, activities, and resources in support of Laudato Si' Week. For information, contact John Dorner at [jdorner@archottawa.ca](mailto:jdorner@archottawa.ca).

**At noon your local time on Sunday 24 May 2020 say this prayer:**



## Shared Moment of Prayer – Noon on Sunday 24 May 2020

Bring solidarity to our world in caring for God's creation in a shared moment of **prayer at noon local time on 24 May 2020**. Catholics from around the globe will be united in spirit to recite the Common Prayer for the 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Laudato Si' (<https://laudatosiweek.org/prayer>). Share your own prayers on social media using the hashtag #LaudatoSi5. For information, contact John Dorner at [jdorner@archottawa.ca](mailto:jdorner@archottawa.ca).