

# *People Progress*

## **Sunday Community**

May 15, 2023

Sixth Sunday of Easter

E. R. Whelan

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**Virtual Liturgy at 11 AM** on Zoom.

Be sure to read the updated Announcements!

**Thank you, Fr. Ron MacDonell** for celebrating with us.

### **Reflection: by Rita Shaughnessy**

I find the readings today comforting and reassuring but they also remind me of our grave responsibility as Christians. Jesus's words in the gospel tells us that we are loved people of God. We are loved in communion with the Father and with Jesus through the Holy Spirit. We return that love by making God the centre of our lives and by following in the footsteps of Jesus by carrying out his work in the world today, just as the early disciples had to do. This is the hard part but we are given a helper who is the Holy Spirit who enables us to do this.

Jesus says, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of Truth ...you know him because he abides with you and he will be in you." Which commandments is Jesus referring to? I think it is the two greatest commandments that we are all familiar with, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." And, "Love your neighbour as yourself" (Matthew 22:37-39).

Loving neighbour as ourselves means dedicating our lives to the service of our fellow human beings - being an "advocate" for the homeless, the poor, those without enough food, the refugees (all right here in our rich city today); being a friend to the lonely, the isolated, the sick. We are to forgive others 'not seven times, but seventy-seven times' (Matthew 18:21-22). This is a heavy responsibility but possible if we truly trust that the Holy Spirit is in us and we allow that Spirit to work through us.

Henri Nouwen expresses this trust: "When I trust deeply that today God is truly with me and holds me safe in a divine embrace guiding every one of my steps, I can let go of my anxious need to know how tomorrow will look, or what will happen next month or next year, I can be fully where I am and pay attention the many signs of God's love within and around me."

- [http://www.wazquotes.com/author/10905-Henri\\_Nouwen](http://www.wazquotes.com/author/10905-Henri_Nouwen)

### Readings:

Today: Acts 8.5-8, 14-17 Psalm 66 1 Peter 3.15-18 John 14. 15-21

May 21: Acts 1: 1-11 Psalm 47 Ephesians 1: 17-23 Matthew 28: 16-20

### The Liturgy schedule:

Date	Planner(s)	Priest
May 14	Rita Shaughnessy	Fr Ron MacDonell
May 21	Lindsay & Bill Watson	Fr Paul McAuley
May 28	Brian & Mary Lou Halferty	TBD
June 4	Greg Gillis	Fr Jack Costello
June 11	Sharon McCarthy	Fr Ron MacDonell
June 18	Art Blomme	Fr Jack Costello
June 25	Maryanne S-J & Roberto J	Fr Paul McAuley

This schedule, as always, is flexible. Planners, feel free to switch if you cannot do a liturgy on the scheduled date. Just be sure to tell the People Progress Reporter, so that we all know. Also, please notify PP early in the week (by the Tuesday before) if you cannot do a reflection.

For now, all liturgies will be on Zoom.

### People Progress Schedule

May: Elizabeth Whelan [erwhelan@icloud.com](mailto:erwhelan@icloud.com)

June: John MacMillan

Summer: Maryanne S-J and Roberto J

Sept: Mary Lou Jorgensen-Bacher

Please send your submissions to the People Progress Reporter by Thursday evening. People Progress welcomes new reporters. Thanks, Elizabeth.

## *Announcements:*

### **PENTECOST SUNDAY, May 28<sup>th</sup>:**

Sunday May 28<sup>th</sup> is Pentecost Sunday. It is also a day when we do not have a priest scheduled to celebrate the Eucharist with our Sunday Community. Mary Lou and I have agreed to coordinate the liturgy for that day, and I am also going to be leading the music. Here is an outline of what we are planning for our Pentecost liturgy.

Pentecost is an important feast day in our Church. It celebrates the amazing truth of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, the presence of the Spirit of God in each of us, and in the community that we share, and in the whole of Creation. The liturgy we are planning for that day will be centered around the scripture readings for the Mass of the day. We will also take time to reflect on the readings together, first of all through the words of some members of the community who will be invited to speak, and then with a bit of time for spontaneous reflections. There will be music throughout the liturgy, as we usually do; there will be prayers of intention; there will be a greeting of Peace.

If it should happen between now and May 28<sup>th</sup> that a priest is going to be available to be with us on Pentecost, the liturgy preparations we are doing can easily be turned into the usual Eucharistic celebration. However, let us remember that when we gather as a Christian community, we are the Body of Christ – the living Eucharist.

Brian Halferty

• **For today's Liturgy, Mother's Day**, please share a photo of your mother (or the person who was mother to you) with the community, and introduce her by name. Fr Ron thought showing photos after the Prayers of the Faithful was a good time to show Mothers' pictures and say names.

Rita

- In response to Pat Smiley's request for a larger type face, I increased the Arial font size to 14 pt. in Word. I prepare the People Progress at 125%. My PDF version reverts to a smaller font size, but you can increase it on your device. Did this help?

- **Egg cartons:** Please continue to save your empty egg cartons for Elizabeth Stocking. She welcomes cartons and flats. You can deliver them to Elizabeth Whelan's house, and Elizabeth Stocking will pick them up. She thanks everyone who has contributed them.

### **May Birthdays: Happy Birthday to**

1 Janette McCabe	21 Simon Paul
3 Gregory Wright	21 Mary Sobanski
5 Lee Piepgrass	21 Sara MacMillan
5 Nathan Gillis	24 Art Mayer
5 Al Sobanski	24 Daniel Mayer
8 John MacMillan	26 Mary Lou Jorgensen-Bacher
10 Tanya MacMillan	26 Brian Shaughnessy
20 Angela Blomme	27 Maria Pimentel

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Re-printed weekly for reference:

### **Duties of liturgy planners for virtual masses:**

Early in the week before the liturgy:

- Call or email the priest to confirm Sunday's liturgy (contact info will be provided).
- Prepare or find a Reflection and send it to the People Progress reporter by Thursday. Please notify the People Progress reporter early in the week if you cannot do a Reflection.

- Select readers for the 1st and 2nd readings. Check with Sylvia Skrepichuk re: psalm

On the Sunday of the virtual mass:

- Greet the group (Ask newcomers to introduce themselves)
- Give a brief introduction to the liturgy.
- Read your passage or be prepared to do a reading (if a volunteer is unable to log-in)
- Thank everyone who 'attended' and those who helped (at Announcements)