

Pentecost Sunday



Many Thanks for your church offering envelopes, the combined total this week was: \$1,585.00 thank you very much!

Please remember to pray for all the sick, and also for those on the front lines who take care of them.

Your prayers are asked for the following people: for healing, peace and contentment; our Lady Health of the Sick pray for them: Brian Edwards, Ian Bruce, Sandy Hoy, Mary Anne Butler, Marg Vanmueenen, Elizabeth Kooman, Frances Mensen, Linda Colling For the recently departed: Nora Flannigan May she rest in peace and Rise in Glory.

Mass for Pentecost Sunday:

(https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_CdOrFPwUxMtMRhS_UtCvg/videos) Link will be live Sunday.

Pentecost Sunday May 21st

This is the day when true to his promise Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to the Apostles. The coming of that holy spirit changed the apostles and saw the launching of a new community which we know today as the church. This day renews that gift of the Holy Spirit in each of us and in the church as a whole, let us always pause to reflect on our need of that spirit and dispose ourselves to receive him.

In these days, we need to remember the apostles became changed people, but it is a mistake, to think that change came about in an instant. It had to be gradual a process, a growth process, set in motion by the action of the Holy spirit. And growth happens gradually. Though we are dealing with a mystery it doesn't mean we can't understand anything about it.

In this next week let us look at how spring grows and its work of change and renewal in the world. What people need is someone to awaken what is inside of them to bid them to live and help them to grow. But growth is both slow and painful. We do not easily let go of an old coat woven out of old attitude and old ways and old habits. Let us be awake and experience this new spring.

Try and have a good week! Stay safe, with best wishes and prayers.

Pastoral Changes

I wanted to let you know that Fr. Andrew Broda is retiring effective June 1, 2020. Fr. Andrew is announcing this to his parishioners. Father has consulted with his doctor, followed medical guidance, and hopefully, leaving the responsibilities and

ministry of serving as pastor will give him the time and rest he needs. Please join me in thanking Fr. Andrew for his faithful service and his pastoral ministry in our Diocese. We are grateful that Fr. Andrew found his way here to Peterborough and we wish him God's blessings and graces in his retirement years.

Fr. Israel Oruebi msp will be leaving St. Joseph Parish in Bowmanville and Fr. Israel is appointed as Administrator of St. Luke Parish in Downeyville. Let us keep Fr. Israel in our prayers as he takes up this new assignment.

Notes:

1. On Thursday Bishop Miehme convened the COVID-19 committee by Zoom, we spent almost three hours discussing what would happen and how it would happen, when the government gives us permission to reopen our churches.
 - a. What will we be like after almost three months shut down?
 - b. Numbers will be limited to the government's guidelines.
 - c. There will be no holy water, there will be no offertory procession
 - d. Seating physical distancing reception of Holy Communion
 - e. The way of receiving holy communion
 - f. Families will be able to sit together so long as they share a house together
 - g. There will be no hymn books or mass response cards, and no bulletin, although there will be a bulletin each week on the website.

h. The committee will meet weekly by zoom for the next 5 weeks that'll be fun!

2. Thank you for your continual support of the parish, if you are able, you can mail cheques to the church. (St Mary's Church, PO Box 239, Grafton, ON K0K 2G0.
3. Please continue to pray for all the sick, and shut-ins, and for all our front-line workers.
4. Please pray for the repose of the soul of Pam Kelly, who was buried in St. Mary's cemetery in Grafton last Saturday.

Reflection: Returning to God

We are born in exile and die there too.

As soon as we set sail on the great voyage of life, we begin to return.

We spend our lives dreaming of a homeland we have never seen.

Like homing birds that are released in a strange country, and know no rest until they return home, so it is with us.

When we die, we do not so much go to God as return to him.

You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts will never rest until they rest in you.