

May 11th & 18th, 2025

Stewardship Bulletin Reflection

Fourth Sunday of Easter

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ACTS 13:14, 43-52; PS 100: 1-3,5; REV 7:9, 14B-17; JN 10:27-30:

Throughout the Easter season, our readings have given us glimpses into the life of the newborn Church and the bold witness of the early disciples in spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ to all who would listen.

These disciples were the first to live a stewardship way of life. Their example is as relevant today as it was 2,000 years ago to inspire and guide us modern-day disciples.

In the First Reading, from the Acts of the Apostles, we catch up with Paul and Barnabas in Antioch. While they certainly have some success in reaching many people there with the message of salvation, others are downright infuriated by their words and send them packing. Yet, we read the following verse to describe their reaction to this turn of events: "The disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit." Overall, it seems as if Paul and Barnabas had failed in Antioch. But this witnessing of failure has not robbed them of their joy. What's more, they are filled to the brim with the abundant gifts of the Holy Spirit. How is this possible?

It is only possible because Paul and Barnabas saw themselves as nothing more and nothing less than stewards of Christ and His Good News. This realization brought them freedom — to offer themselves and their lives to others for the sake of the Gospel. The "results" of their efforts were up to God. They knew the Holy Spirit would never abandon them when their lives were focused on serving God and others and as a result, they experienced a profound sense of joy that does not depend on external circumstances, a joy the world cannot give.

This Spirit-filled, joy-filled life is available to all of us, all these years later. It can be achieved when we recognize, as did Paul and Barnabas, that all we have and all we are is a gift from God, meant to be shared with others for His glory. Of course, living as God's stewards does not mean a life of ease or a life free of sacrifice. Sometimes the steward's life involves great challenges, requiring all the strength and love one has to give. But in the end, there is simply no more satisfying way to live.

How can we grow in our identity as Christian stewards so that we, too, can be filled with joy and the Holy Spirit? The Gospel reading today tells us: we must live in trust and dependence on Jesus, our Shepherd. When we cling tightly to Him by freeing ourselves from holding on too tightly to our "stuff," our time, and our achievements, we can hear His voice. He says so Himself: "My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me." He knows us! He laid down His life for us to give us eternal life with Him. He will never ask anything of us that will harm us. A stewardship way of life is meant only to enrich us.

So, this week let us resolve to take a step towards less concern about ourselves and greater trust in Him. We will become joy-filled, Spirit-filled stewards of His good news everywhere we go.

OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH BRUNCH-POTLUCK

In celebrating May, the month of Mary, the parish will be holding a Brunch-Potluck on Sunday, May 18th, after the 11:00 a.m. mass in the Church hall. Everyone is welcome.

For more information, please call the Secretary at 514-747-4226. Or you may contact Cecilia at 514-886-3820 or Emma at 438-728-3325

OUR LADY OF FATIMA ONLINE MINISTRIES

The Rosary

Emil & Irah Tirona are hosting an online interactive rosary, Mondays at 7:30pm. For those interested, kindly send an email to Emil and Irah (irahtirona@gmail.com), so you may be added to the online invitation. Please call 514-617-4021 if you need any online technical assistance or have questions.

HOMILIES AND REFLECTIONS

During the current COVID restrictions, while the parish is either closed to the public or limited in the number of those who can gather for mass, from time to time Fr. Jason will post on the parish website a homily or reflection on various faith related subjects. You can find the homilies at the following link: <http://www.olof.ca/homilies/>

ADORATION

Come spend some time with Our Lord.

Tuesdays 6pm to 7pm (*mass at 7pm*)

Thursdays 8am to 9am (*mass at 9am*)

Fridays 9:30am to 10:30am (*mass at 9am*)

First Saturday of the Month 10:30am to 11:30am (*mass at 10am*)

SAINTLY WISDOM

Since happiness is nothing else than the enjoyment of the supreme good, and the supreme good is above us, no one can enjoy happiness unless he rises above himself.

-St. Bonaventure

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed
through the mercy of God rest in peace.

ANNOUNCED MASSES
May 10th – May 25th, 2025

Saturday 4:30 p.m.	May 10th	Sunday Vigil Anthonipillai Saverimutthu – RIP – by Julia
Sunday 9:00 a.m.	May 11th	Fourth Sunday of Easter (Year C) Ricardo, Justina and Efren Timbol Sr. – RIP – by the Timbol family
11:00 a.m.		<i>Pro Populo</i>
Monday	May 12th	NO MASS
Tuesday 7:00 p.m.	May 13th	OUR LADY OF FATIMA Mathew and Aleyamma – RIP – by Jason
Wednesday 9:00 a.m.	May 14th	Saint Matthias Deceased Members of the Tait & Piper families -RIP – by Kevin and Linda Piper
Thursday 9:00 a.m.	May 15th	Weekday Fernando Batayola – RIP – by Grace Batayola
Friday 9:00 a.m.	May 16th	Weekday Marie Simmons - Thanksgiving
Saturday 4:30 p.m.	May 17th	Sunday Vigil Madeleine Lynes and Leticia Salas – RIP – by the Lynes family
Sunday 9:00 a.m.	May 18th	Fifth Sunday of Easter (Year C) Gabrielle Viel – RIP – by Alain and Liezl Vernier
11:00 a.m.		<i>Pro Populo</i>
Monday	May 19th	NO MASS
Tuesday 7:00 p.m.	May 20th	Saint Bernardine of Siena Chatko and Marykutty – RIP – by Jason
Wednesday 9:00 a.m.	May 21st	Weekday Stella Romea – Thanksgiving – by the family
Thursday 9:00 a.m..	May 22nd	Saint Rita of Cascia Justino and Julia Dalisay – RIP – by the Dalisay family
Friday 9:00 a.m.	May 23rd	Weekday Desiderio Manzo-Manzanal – RIP – by Ofelia Roy
Saturday 4:30 p.m.	May 24th	Sunday Vigil Alban de Souza – RIP – by the family
Sunday 9:00 a.m.	May 25th	Sixth Sunday of Easter (Year C) Kathleen Kuhr & Norman Thorne – RIP – by Connie and Jim
11:00 a.m.		<i>Pro Populo</i>

THE FIVE PRAYERS OF FATIMA

The Fatima Prayer/Decade Prayer

(Mary told the children that people should add this prayer to the end of each decade of the Rosary.)

“O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to Heaven, especially those most in need of Thy mercy. Amen.”

The Sacrifice Prayer

(Mary gave the children this prayer, as well as the Fatima Prayer/Decade Prayer, on June 13th, 1917. The prayer is meant to be recited when you are offering up suffering to God.)

“O Jesus, it is for the love of Thee, in reparation for the offenses committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and for the conversion of poor sinners [that I do this].”

The Pardon Prayer

(This prayer was given to the children by the angel that visited them in 1916, the year before Mary appeared to them.)

“My God, I believe, I adore, I hope and I love Thee! I beg pardon for all those that do not believe, do not adore, do not hope and do not love Thee.”

The Angel's Prayer

(This is another prayer given to the children by the angel. There was a Eucharistic host and chalice suspended in the air, and the angel led them in kneeling before it and praying this prayer.)

“O Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I adore Thee profoundly. I offer Thee the most precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ present in all the tabernacles of the world, in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges and indifferences by which He is offended. By the infinite merits of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary I beg the conversion of poor sinners.”

The Eucharistic Prayer

(When Mary appeared to the children for the first time on May 13, 1917, she said, “You will have much to suffer, but the grace of God will be your comfort.” According to Lucia, a bright light shone all around them, and without thinking about it, they all started reciting this prayer.)

“Most Holy Trinity, I adore Thee! My God, my God, I love Thee in the Most Blessed Sacrament.”