

Divine Mercy Sunday (2nd Sunday of Easter), 27 April, 2025

Intentions:
April 27 - In loving memory of **Roger St. Martin**, requested by Avelina Bercades.
Mass Intentions: \$15.00

Offertory Collection
April 20 - \$740.00 Holy Land \$160.00 Thank You

Social Sunday
Today is “Coffee Sunday” so please join us in the back of the church after mass today for light refreshments and fellowship.

April 28

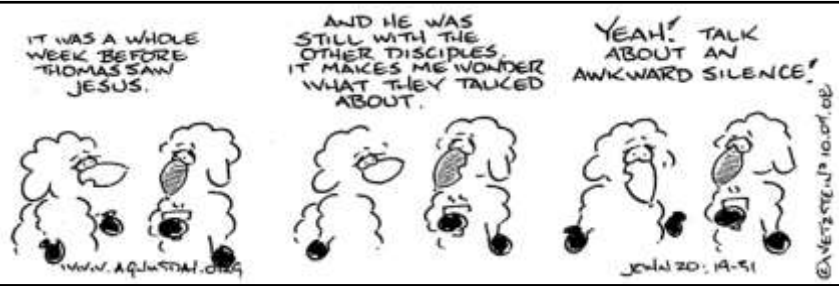
Saint Peter Chanel: Born in 1803, the young shepherd Peter made such an impression on the parish priest that the cleric gained parental permission for Peter to attend school, which eventually led to the seminary and ordination. In 1831, Peter joined the Marists hoping to fulfill his desire for missionary work, but he was asked to teach in the seminary. Finally, in 1836, Peter and several others set sail for the Pacific Islands. They landed on an island a few miles north of Fiji and were well received. But as their influence grew, the local chief became suspicious and in 1841, on hearing that his son desired baptism, the chief sent warriors to assassinate the priest. Peter was canonized as a martyr in 1954.


April 29

Saint Catherine of Siena: One of four women honoured with the title of Doctor of the Church. Catherine was born in Siena, Italy, in 1347, her parents’ twenty-fifth and youngest child. At the age of seven, following a vision of Christ in glory, she is reported to have vowed her virginity to God. She joined the Dominicans Third Order in 1365, spending years in seclusion from the world, fasting and praying. In 1368, after a vision where Christ accepted her as his “bride, she felt called to carry this love to others. She cared for the poor and tended the sick: she corresponded with people from all walks of life, even counseling princes and popes; she was renowned as a peacemaker. She is especially remembered for her spiritual reflections. She died in Rome in 1380. This great Christian mystic was canonized in 1461, became a patron of Italy in 1939, and was declared a Doctor of the Church in 1970. With St. Bridget of Sweden and St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, she is co-patron of Europe.

Gospel Reflection: While we are steeped in this natural life, it is difficult for us to come to terms with resurrected life. This was part of Thomas’ problem: he was seeking tangible proofs—seeing and touching—to come to belief, but the resurrected life of Jesus is a *new life* is beyond tangible proofs. We receive this new life through Jesus’ gift of the Holy Spirit. We know the fruit of this new life is peace and forgiveness. But how do we come to belief without seeing? Jesus’ ministry is continued in the disciples. Seeing these works is seeing Jesus. Seeing these works brings us to belief. More importantly, *our doing* what Jesus *did*, brings us to belief. Believing isn’t seeing; it’s *doing* the good works of Jesus. *(Living Liturgy, p.112)*

Vincentian Meditation:
Vincentians see the crucified everyday in the streets of large cities and in poor country villages. One of the great gifts of St. Vincent was the ability to recognize the crucified Christ in the face of the suffering and to mobilize the energies of others in their service. He was an extraordinary organizer. To aid the most abandoned of his time, Vincent gathered together rich and poor, women and men, clergy and lay. Our meditation on the crucified Lord, who loves us even to death, and on the crucified peoples in whom the Lord continues to live, will always be brightened by resurrection faith. The gospel proclaims loud and clear that suffering love triumphs, that the power of God works through human weakness, that the light overcomes the darkness, that there is hope even in the face of hopelessness. *(Maloney, Seasons in Spirituality, p.59)*



 **Prayers for the Sick.** Please pray for the sick among our families and friends, especially Roy Campbell, Patricia Cassidy, Suzanne Lafontaine, Priscilla Rowley, and Lorraine Stafford. *The names will remain on the list until we are otherwise advised.*

“Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire.”
~ Saint Catherine of Siena



Divine Mercy Sunday

Divine Mercy Sunday derives largely from the writings of Saint Faustina Kowalska, a poor, uneducated Polish nun who was blessed with spiritual wisdom and insight. The gifts of divine mercy and love are provided to us through Christ’s life, death and resurrection. Saint Faustina, the apostle of Divine Mercy, believed that our life’s purpose is to unite our soul with the Divine, and that God’s mercy is always available when we are truly penitent. Indeed, what a loving God we have! As we see in the Parable of the Prodigal Son, the father, despite the pain caused by his adult child, does not exact retribution but rather runs, embraces and welcomes his wayward son to an impromptu banquet. The son is rewarded and forgiven merely for his gesture of remorse. Likewise, God seeks us more than we search for him. We may feel that God does not wish to be a part of our lives. We may be harshly self-critical due to our perceived smallness. But God accepts us, his children - as we are. Imagine being loved unconditionally, despite our imperfections! This is divine mercy in itself. It is easy, in our world, for us to be manipulated and fooled into believing we aren’t good enough, aren’t worthy. We may continue the cycle of self-criticism and feeling unloved. As Christians, we must learn to focus both on original sin and original goodness. After all, we are created in the image and likeness of God. If we maintain through prayer an open dialogue with God, we will come to know our true selves. If we listen only to worldly voices, we risk becoming cynical, judgmental and hard-hearted. Life can be difficult, and life’s hardships can shake our confidence in ourselves and others. It is crucial to open ourselves to God’s mercy, so that we can forgive ourselves and bring God’s love and healing to others. God shows mercy to us when we are suffering, even if it seems the Lord has not responded to our prayers in the ways we hoped. We maybe healed or comforted in some way, or our suffering may be all eviated only for a while. Our caring for those distressed by life is a sign that a merciful Creator is working through us - provided we permit it. Inspired by the resurrection of Christ, let us go forth to feed the hungry, visit the imprisoned, cloth the needy, and tend the sick. Let us be merciful just as God is merciful. *Michael Finoro*


Pope’s Intentions for the Month of April
For the use of the new technologies. Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.

Pastoral Directory

Baptisms:	Father Anthony Nwaohiri	623-3419
Financial Council Chair:	Janne Campbell	832-4290
Pastoral Council Chair:	Martine Messier	808-4573
Mass Intentions & Bulletin:	Marilyn Deslauriers	222-3762
Pastoral Care:	Suzanne Lee	832-8063
Advertising Ministry:	Lorraine Brisson	832-3351
Deacon James Kubina		
Cover Photo:	Mark Brisson	

EMERGENCY: anwaohiri@gmail.com For emergencies, email this address with EMERGENCY in the subject or call the church office at 613-623-3419.

West Carleton Food Access Centre: (WCFAC) Please remember our local Food Bank each week by donating items to St. Gabriel's grocery cart. Cash donations of \$20.00 and over will receive a tax receipt. Please include your name and address on the envelope. See Suzanne Lee if you have any questions. **Thank you for your support.**




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All Welcome



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Deacon James Kubina jgkubina@gmail.com

Weekly Eucharist

St. Gabriel's (Constance Bay) **St. Michael's** (Fitzroy Harbour)

Sunday 11:00 am Mass	Saturday 4:00 pm Mass
	Sunday 9:00 am Mass

live streaming link on YouTube St. Michael's Mass at 9 am Sunday

StMStG-Live

Confessions and Sacrament Of the Sick are also available by request.
Please contact Fr. Anthony directly to book an appointment.

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