

St. Edward the Confessor

June 9, 2019

Pentecost Sunday



Fr. Ernie

. . . Father Ernie is still in the Lakeshore Hospital as he is treated for blood clots in his lungs. There is no schedule for his release from hospital at this time. Ernie is seriously ill. Please continue to keep him in your prayers.

Welcome Fr. Ray

We welcome Father Ray Lafontaine, as celebrant for our Mass this weekend. Fr. Raymond Lafontaine is the Episcopal Vicar for the English-speaking faithful of the Archdiocese of Montreal. Thank you for being with us, Father Ray.

No 5:00 PM Mass on Saturday Afternoon During the Summer

Our regular 5:00 pm Saturday Mass has been suspended for the summer months of June, July and August.

Last Day for Children's Liturgy

Today marks the end of Children's Liturgy for the summer. All the children are welcome to stay in church next week for First Communion. Children's Liturgy will start up again in September.

Father Mike next week

Next Sunday we will welcome Father Mike Shaw to our Mass when we will celebrate First Communion with Trystan Jones and the baptism of his youngest brother Kilian. It is also Trinity Sunday and Father's Day!.

Rummage Sale, June 12

June 12 from 10:00 to noon will be the last rummage sale of women's and children's clothing and books in the church balcony for this season.

Goodbye Rev. Birgit

Today is Reverend Birgit Neuschild last Sunday with St John's after serving the community for almost nine years. Their service at 11:00 will celebrate Pentecost with communion and recognition of their Sunday School and their teachers. Following their service they will hold a luncheon in honor of Rev Birgit. Everyone is invited to attend both events.

Rev Steven Gillam Called to St John's

Last week, at a special congregational meeting, St John's voted unanimously to call Rev Steven Gillam to a half-time ministry starting September 1. Rev Steven will continue at his current church, Dorval-Strathmore United Church, as a half-time minister there also. Welcome Steve, to our Christian community.

Divine Renovation Open House

For those interested in parish renewal; imagine if our parish became fully alive in Christ. St Ignatius of Loyola Parish has spent the last two years with the Divine Renovation Network and are ready to share their experiences in the hopes to inspire other parishes to take steps toward parish renewal. This event features a keynote address from Fr. James Mallon, author of "Divine Renovation: From a Maintenance to a Missional Parish".

Saturday, June 15
8:30 am – 5:00 pm
4455 West Broadway, Mtl.
Cost: \$25 per person

La Folia Concert Series

Every Sunday at 3:30 pm until June 30 enjoy an afternoon of music at St Joseph's Oratory. Donations accepted. For more info, call 514-733-8211.

The Spirit of the Lord

In the Gospel Reading of the Pentecost Vigil Mass, Jesus invites people to come to him to drink. The Gospel explains that Jesus was talking about the Spirit; and the Gospel comments that, as yet, there was no Spirit.

But what could the Gospel mean by this? The Old Testament is full of references about the Spirit's coming on somebody. So, for example, in Judges 15:14-15, the text says that the Spirit of the Lord rushed into Samson, and he became so strong that he killed a thousand of the enemy with nothing more than the jawbone of a donkey.

The Old Testament itself distinguishes the way in which the Spirit was in the world in that Old Testament time and the way in which it was given in the time ushered in by Christ. As Joel 3:1-5 explains it, in the messianic times God pours out his Spirit into the minds and hearts of his people. And this way of putting the point is helpful.

When the Spirit comes upon Samson, it seems to take him over. With the Spirit taking him over, Samson flies into a supernaturally strong fury, which ends only when hundreds of his enemies lie dead. In that battle, Samson looks as if even Tasers would have had a hard time taking him down.

But in the time of Christ, when a person is baptized with the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit does not take her over. The Holy Spirit comes into her, to be with her, even while her own mind and heart continue to be her own and to operate as her own. The result of this kind of giving of the Spirit is not a superhuman, wild strength and violence. The result is the fruits of the Holy Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, and long-suffering. (The last thing anyone would think about Samson is that he was characterized by patience and long-suffering!)

And so this is what the Gospel means. Before Christ, the Holy Spirit might take over a person. But in the outpouring of the Spirit at Pentecost, the Holy Spirit was given to Christ's people, to be in them and with them always, in loving peaceful union with Christ, available to anyone who will come to Christ to drink.

Eleonore Stump