



CONTACT US

OUR LADY OF CZESTOCHOWA

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**Fifth Sunday of Easter
April 28, 2024**

Acts 9.26-31; 1 John 3.18-24; John 15.1-8

Today, the Gospel presents the allegory of the vine and the branches. Christ is the true vine, we are the branches, and the Father is the vine grower.

The Father wants us to bear much fruit. It is quite logical. The vine grower plants his vine so that it bears much fruit. If we start a business, we want it to be productive. Jesus insists: "It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain" (Jn 15:16).

You have been chosen. God has set His sight on you. Through Baptism He has grafted you onto the true vine that is Christ. You have the life of Christ, the Christian life. You own the main element for bearing fruit: your union with Christ, because "a branch cannot bear fruit on its own unless it remains on the vine" (Jn 15:4). Jesus states it emphatically: "Apart from me you can do nothing" (Jn 15:5). "His strength is only gentleness; nothing is so tender as this, and nothing like this so firm" (St Francis). How many things have you wanted to do without Christ? The fruit that the Father expects from us is that of good deeds and the practice of virtues. What is the union with Christ that makes us capable of bearing this fruit? Faith and charity, that is, remaining in God's grace.

When you live in grace, all acts of virtue are fruits pleasing to the Father. They are works that Jesus Christ does through you. They are works of Christ that give glory to the Father and become heaven for you. It is worth living always in God's grace! "Anyone who does not remain in me [because of sin] will be thrown out like a branch and wither; people will gather them and throw them into a fire and they will be burned" (Jn 15:6). This is a clear reference to hell. Are you like a branch full of life?

May the Virgin Mary help us to increase the grace so that we can bear much fruit to the glory of the Father.

**SUNDAY MASSES
SATURDAY**

5:00 pm - OLC (Pl)
5:00 pm - St. Mary (En)
5:00 pm - St. Patrick (En)

SUNDAY

8:00 am - OLC (En)
10:00 am - OLC (Pl)
10:00 am - St. Mary (It)
10:00 am - St. Patrick (En)
12:00 pm - St. Mary (En)
12:00 pm - OLC (Pl)

WEEKDAY MASSES

MONDAY

7:00 pm - St. Mary (En)

TUESDAY

7:00 pm - OLC (Pl)
7:00 pm - St. Patrick (En)

WEDNESDAY

9:00 am - St. Patrick (En)
7:00 pm - St. Mary (It)

THURSDAY

9:00 am - St. Patrick (En)
7:00 pm - OLC (Pl)

FRIDAY

7:00 pm - OLC (Pl)
7:00 pm - St. Mary (It)

SATURDAY

9:00AM - OLC (PL)
1st Saturday of the month

CONFESSIONS

OUR LADY OF CZESTOCHOWA

1 hr before weekly Masses
Saturday at 4:00 pm

ST. MARY

30 min. before Masses
Saturdays at 4:00 pm

ST PATRICK

Tuesday at 6:00 pm
Saturday at 4:00 pm

PARISH STAFF

PASTOR

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**ADORATION
CHAPEL**

Monday to Friday
9:00 am to 4:00 pm
beside St. Mary Church

MASS INTENTIONS, April 29 to May 5, 2024

TUESDAY, APRIL 30 *Mary of Perpetual Help - Novena*

7:00pm Int. of thanksgiving
Int. of Harsa DeAlmeida
† Katie Winter
† Emile Varsava & Frank Pecora

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1 *St. Joseph the Worker*

9:00am † Adomas Kalnenas
† Albina & Jose Cordeiro, † Jennifer Cordeiro
† Teresa & Mariano Couto

THURSDAY, MAY 2

9:00am † Charles LaPorte
† Francie McVeigh & Harriet Nutter

SATURDAY, MAY 4 *(6th Sunday of Easter)*

5:00pm *Intention of Parishioners of St. Patrick*

SUNDAY, MAY 5 *(6th Sunday of Easter)*

10:00am *Intention of Parishioners of St. Patrick*
† Kenneth John Mendoza

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FROM THE DESK OF FR. GABRIEL

We are already in the Fifth Sunday of Easter and we are hearing so much about the Risen Lord, the Resurrection of Jesus which gives us great hope. It tells us that if we rely on the Lord's grace and persevere in our faith, we will one day be reunited with our loved ones who have gone on to be with the Lord. It tells us that despite all our weaknesses and sins Jesus' promises can still prevail in our lives. Let's allow our Risen Lord to assure us "Blessed are you my child, for you have believed even though you have not seen with your eyes"!

May 1st - St. Joseph's the Worker—it is the International Worker's Day celebrated in many countries. This can be a day to recognize the value of human work, defend the dignity of working people and celebrate the role that human work has in God's plan for creation.

The month of May is dedicated to Mary - the Mother of Jesus and our Mother. Let us honor Mary by praying the Rosary, the Angelus, and many Marian devotions like our Novena Mass every Tuesday at 7:00pm. Our Lady of Perpetual Help - pray for us.

FIRST COMMUNION at St. Patrick - April 28

40 children from St. Patrick's Church will be celebrating their first Holy Communion as a group this **Sunday, April 28 at 12:00 Noon Mass**. We congratulate them and their parents. May the Risen Jesus live in your hearts and bring the joy of partaking in the bread of life. May this life-giving Bread always feed your soul and nourish your spirit. May you always live your faith with joy.

ANNUAL PARISH APPEAL - St. Peter's Seminary

The Annual Parish Appeal for St. Peter's Seminary launches this weekend. The Appeal is critical to the Seminary's ability to carry out its mission. Support from the parishioners of our Diocese through Appeal raises about 15% of the Seminary's annual revenue, which helps the Seminary to provide an outstanding formation experience, and to remain financially accessible to candidates from our Diocese and from Diocese across Canada. This year, the Seminary will face some unique circumstances. A large number of Seminarians than is typical will be assigned to parish appointments for the pastoral year. While this is a positive development in so many ways, it poses an additional financial challenge for the Seminary.

Therefore, this year's appeal is urgent!

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK- May 5- 10

As we approach Catholic Education Week, we are reminded that publicly-funded Catholic education is a call to service. Regardless of our position or our responsibilities within the Catholic education, our role is a calling, a vocation to bring the saving message of Jesus Christ into the lives of those students whom it is our privilege to serve. This year's Catholic Education Week theme is "**We are called to love**". In celebrating this year's theme *we are called to love*, the students and staff will focus on showing love as people of hope, faith, mercy, justice and joy!

Let us promote and protect the Catholic Education. Everyone is invited to visit the schools during the Education Week. For your information - there will be Mass celebrated at St. Pius X School on **Monday, May 6 at 10:30am** and at Blessed Sacrament School on **Wednesday, May 8 at 10:00am**.

MASS FOR LIFE - May 8

On Wednesday, May 8 at 7pm at St. Peter's Cathedral, Bishop Ronald Fabbro will be celebrating a Mass for Life, honoring the dignity of life from conception to natural death. Everyone is invited!

ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPICE - milestone 10 years

St. Joseph Hospice is celebrating 10 years of compassionate end of life care in London. Over the past decade, we have been a beacon of light, offering comfort, support and care to individuals and families during their most challenging times. We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks for your dedication in supporting St. Joseph's Hospice. Stay tuned for further details on upcoming events and how you can get involved.

THE POPE'S PASTORAL WORKS - May 5

This collection provides an opportunity for Catholics to make a financial offering to assist the Holy Father. The Holy Father is using these funds for his charitable contributions to those most in need in the world.