

Living the Gospel



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Mass Intentions for Week



Tuesday, April 23rd, 8:15 a.m.

Bernardo Escallon

Requested by Ines Escallon and Family

Wednesday, April 24th, 8:15 a.m.

For the Deceased Members of the Aust Family

Thursday, April 25th, 8:15 a.m.

Jean Greenwood

Requested by Ken and Lorraine Ware

Friday, April 26th, 8:15 a.m.

For Peace and Care of Creation

Requested by EcoAnselm



COFFEE SUNDAY THIS WEEKEND

Join your fellow parishioners after the 11:00am Mass **this Sunday, April 21st** for Coffee Sunday in honour of our parish patron St. Anselm's feast day. We will gather on the Millwood landing (or in the Millwood lobby in case of inclement weather). Thank you to Pablo for organizing this once again.

SHARELIFE

Invest in our Church's future by giving to ShareLife

Your kindness and devotion enable St. Augustine's Seminary, along with the Office of Vocations and Redemptoris Mater Missionary Seminary, to provide an excellent formation for our seminarians as they pursue a life of service. This past year, you invested in our Church's future by supporting 58 seminarians at St. Augustine's Seminary and Redemptoris Mater Missionary Seminary.

This Sunday, April 21, we celebrate the 61st World Day of Prayer for Vocations. There has never been a better time to support and pray for our seminarians, wherever they may be on their journey.

Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, on our parish website or atsharelife.org/donate.

EARTH WEEK 2024, APRIL 21-28
"Together for the Love of Creation" (FLC) "invites all faith communities to **MAKE HOPE VISIBLE ACROSS THE COUNTRY.**" During Earth Week 2024, dedicate time to engage in **ANY** climate justice activity: praying, learning, advocating, acting. Meaningful change requires **EACH** one of us. Each action, big or small, cultivates **HOPE**. Help make **HOPE VISIBLE** across the country by visibly joining a community eco-event. Reach out in solidarity with other faith communities and participate in **ANY CLIMATE JUSTICE INITIATIVE**. Campaign page: [Earth Week – 2024 – For the Love of Creation](#)

EcoAnselm recognizes that facing the climate crisis can feel overwhelming, even hopeless. It is important to remember that **HOPE** is essential in facing any crisis. **HOPE** inspires the **ACTION** that can lead to **CHANGE**. **SATURDAY, MAY 4th 1:00 - 4:30 p.m.** EcoAnselm invites you to a half-day retreat: "**HOPE AND RESILIENCE**". Join us to reflect, talk, pray, and to feel inspired. Registration will follow all masses on April 27-28th. A suggested offering of \$20.00, or any amount, would be greatly appreciated. Retreat to be held in the Saint Anselm Parish Hall.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

APRIL 21, 2024

This is World Day of Prayer for Vocations. The world needs leaders with courage and integrity. The Church needs good leaders as well, leaders who will unselfishly care for the needs of God's people and minister to them. If you feel God is calling you to priesthood, religious life or diaconate, call **Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.**

vocations@archtoronto.org
www.vocationstoronto.ca

Acts 4:7-12
1 John 3:1-2

Psalms 118
John 10: 11-18

SHARING THE MISSION



It happens to everybody at some point. You do someone a good turn and you get into big trouble for it. Today we hear Peter defending himself before the guardians of orthodoxy. Poor Peter is accused of healing a crippled beggar in the name of Jesus -- you can see the whole account in Acts 3-4:30. As the story

goes, Peter's responses culminate with the question of choosing whether to obey God or men, even — or especially — when the men claim the sanction of religious authority. As in the case of Jesus himself, we have here people who represent a belief system and its bureaucracy in conflict with others who have acted on behalf of the suffering without conforming to standard doctrinal correctness. But that's actually not the centerpiece of today's readings. As we listen to Peter defending his good deed, he says that he carried it out in the power of the name of Jesus Christ the Nazorean. That's really quite an assertion. When we push it to the logical conclusion, we realize that Peter is claiming that Christ is living and acting in him. That's trouble for him because the authorities believe Jesus deserved to die. Peter is a problem to them because of the obvious good he's accomplishing in that name. Underlying all the conflict here is the question of who is in communion with God, who is truly acting in God's name. When Peter told the beggar, "In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazorean, rise and walk", he was saying something more profound than we might first notice. To use the name of God or Jesus in that way was almost a sacramental action. By speaking in Jesus' name, Peter put himself totally at Christ's disposal, allowing Christ to accomplish his mission through him. At that moment, Peter was not only healing a needy person but also entering into communion with the risen Lord. That helps us to make sense of his statement that salvation comes through the name of Christ: For him, communion with God is what salvation is all about.

Our other two readings reflect on additional dimensions of salvation-communion. The First Letter of John invites us to walk down memory lane with God and "see what love the Father has given us." John wants us to take time to cherish the signs we have seen of God's love in our lives. Doing that will lead us to the marvelous realization that we are God's own beloved ones. Believing that is one of the greatest and most important acts of faith we can make. In the Gospel today, Jesus uses the treasured metaphor of the shepherd to describe his relationship with us. When we explore his use of the image, we realize this goes much further than the consoling idea we know from Psalm 23. In the psalm, we speak of ourselves as the ones God leads and feeds, the ones to whom God gives rest and longed-for refreshment. All of that is good, but it doesn't hold a candle to what Jesus says about us as his own sheep. When Jesus talks about himself and the sheep, he describes an intimacy that goes beyond even what John talked about in the second reading. We are not just "God's own children;" we are invited into the same relationship of identity that Christ shares with the Father. He promises that we can know him as he knows us, as he and the Father know one another. That means that as we choose the relationship Christ offers, we are choosing the grace of union of heart, mind and will with Christ himself. We are choosing identification with him — a unity more profound than that of any human relationship. Today's readings invite us to communion as the deepest and most pervasive experience of our life. Happily, they begin with Peter, our patron saint of "keep trying." The message we hear today reflects on both the active and the contemplative dimensions of our Christian life, helping us to remember that the two always go together. The more we "see what love the Father has given us" the more we will be able to believe in Jesus as the Shepherd who ushers us into sharing the life of God. The more we share mind and heart with Christ, the more we will want to act in his name, allowing our communion to make Christ and the reign of God more present in our world. We celebrate Easter by praying to be part of the community of the risen Christ. But it is less a comfort zone than a staging area for God's mission of love and mercy to the world. Are we ready and willing to be good shepherds ourselves?

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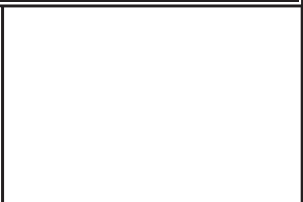


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