

The voyage of a lifetime!



In the Gospel today, Jesus invites us to travel with him. He starts out courageously toward Jerusalem. As translated from the original Greek text: *When the days drew near for him to be taken up, Jesus set his face to go to Jerusalem.* This passage below refers to words from the Book of Isaiah that were spoken by a servant:

*my face from insult and spitting. The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore **I have set my face like flint**, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near (Is 50: 6-8).*

Jesus knew that this journey would culminate in a devastating confrontation with his enemies. Yet he did not fear this ordeal, for his Father was with him, and would be with him until the end. *The Lord who sustains me is close by.*

The Apostles were also invited on this journey. When they were ready to leave, they imagined their path would be straightforward, free of obstacles, and their journey culminating in success. They were astounded when they faced their first failure in a Samaritan village. With this negative reception, they thought about destroying the population by calling down fire to consume them, as the prophet Elijah had done (2 Kings 1:10-12). However, Jesus reproached them for this suggestion as he never resorted to violence. When Christ faced resistance, he accepted it and let any negative reactions be absorbed by forgiveness: *“Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing”* (Lk 23:34).

St. Luke writes about Jesus’ encounter with three *candidates*, three possible disciples who either offered or who felt called to travel with him. Jesus’ responses to these three had the same message. Following Christ would have to be their priority and they would have to make serious choices. Comfort, material security, family connections had to take second place. Jesus had to be their first and only choice. It would be a life choice that would structure their future.

A word to the wise: Jesus did not ask us to sever all family ties. In fact, to one potential disciple who asked about obtaining eternal life, Jesus repeated God’s commandment: *Honor your father and mother* (Lk 18:18). Christ himself did not find a better image to reveal God’s face than as a generous and attentive father to his children (Lk 15: 20-24 and Lk 12: 22-34). In today’s Gospel, we read about the message that Jesus said to potential followers: *Don’t let anyone or anything come between you and me. Don’t hesitate to renounce everything that could turn you away from me.*

These details reinforce the image of life as a journey. Imagine someone setting out for Montreal or Toronto and en route is distracted and chooses other destinations. This person makes a thousand and one detours until... maybe even forgetting the original destination.

Jesus invites us to follow him on a great journey. We don’t need a GPS other than Jesus’ life to reach our destination and achieve our life’s goal.

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MASS INTENTIONS FOR JUNE 26, 2016

Please pray for:

Lea Guilbeault & Ferruccio Berardo
Linda Iorio
Carmela Galardo
Thelma MacDonald
Olga & Michael Martin
George Yambouranis
Hraban Weibel

Requested by:

Family
Terry, Grace, Joe & JP
Family
Hélène Marcogliese
Martin Family
Mary Gendron
Friend

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Calling all parish photographers! As Holy Family is revamping its web site and Facebook page, we are looking for any great photos you may have of the parish and special events. Please feel free to e-mail Joe Piazza at jpiazza@live.ca with your favorite photos so that we can make our web and social media presence as exciting as possible.

The flowers in front of the Church have been planted and we need volunteers to water them! If you live close by or frequently pass near the church, can you keep an eye on the flowers and water them as you see fit? The hose is at the side of the building. Please contact Helena Basso at 514-620-3042. A schedule will be drawn up.

Our "Special" 7 Day Pilgrimage to Fatima Portugal will be offered from 3 Airline Gateways of Newark NJ, New York JFK, and Boston, Mass. The Price of \$1599.00 is the all-inclusive price includes airfare, 4 star hotel, 2 meals per day, tour guide and deluxe bus and more. Price is the same from all three airports and we can assist you in securing air from your home city to one of the 3 gateways listed above. We will also be flying from Miami International but the pilgrimage will be one day longer and the all-inclusive price will be 1699.00 The travel dates from Newark, JFK, and Boston will be Nov. 14-20, 2016 and the travel dates from Miami will be Nov. Nov. 14-21, 2016. Brochures and reservation forms are available at the Catholic Tour call 1 -877-627-4268 toll free. Or simply e-mail jimadair@thecatholictour.com

If you wish to add you email address to Holy Family's address list, please send it to jpiazza@live.ca

Last Sunday's collection was \$1845. Thank you!

A doctor and a lawyer are talking at a party. Their conversation is constantly interrupted by people describing their ailments and asking the doctor for free medical advice. After an hour of this, the exasperated doctor asks the lawyer, "What do you do to stop people from asking you for legal advice when you're out of the office?" "I give it to them," replies the lawyer, "and then I send them a bill." The doctor is shocked, but agrees to give it a try. The next day, still feeling slightly guilty, the doctor prepares the bills. When he goes to place them in his mailbox, he finds a bill from the lawyer.

LAST BULLETIN UNTIL THE FALL – HAVE A SAFE AND BLESSED SUMMER!