SIXTH SUNDAY of EASTER - May 21, 2017

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| Monday, May 22nd | 9:00 a.m. | Jeanne Brennan |
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| Tuesday, May 23rd | 7:00 p.m. | Bertha Ferguson |
| Wednesday, May 24th | 7:00 p.m. | Special Intention |
| Thursday, May 25th | 7:00 p.m. | Ted Reinders |
| Friday, May 26th | 12:00 p.m. | Cathy Hickey |
| Saturday May 27th | 4:00 p.m. | DMF Basque |
| Sunday, May 28th | 9:00 a.m. | Alma Surette |
| Sunday, May 28th | 11:00 a.m. | Rita Olive |

Weekly Thoughts

My Friends,

In the Gospel this Sunday we have Jesus saying "If you love me, you will keep my commandments." This is probably one of His most simple teachings but one that incorporates all his other teachings. At the Last Supper, Jesus told His disciples "I give you one commandment, love one another as I have loved you." Simply put, the commandments are revealed in the life of Jesus. We live the commandments by imitating Jesus. This is why Jesus says He is the way, the truth, and the life. We reach Heaven by thinking, acting, and loving like Jesus. The heart of the law is love and mercy. As we ponder how to handle individual life situations, we pray the Lord inspires us to know how he would respond when we seek to do likewise.

May is a month when so many things seem to change. The Season of Spring is in full bloom. There is new life all around us. People are out and about. They are digging in the dirt and planting new seed to grow new things.

On that image we must admit that change is inevitable. It happens in small and big ways throughout our lives. Each day we are different from the day before. The depth of change is experienced in our bodies, in our minds, and in our spirits. We can choose to embrace it. We can choose to ignore it. We can choose to resist it. We just can't stop it from happening.

The dynamic of change can be a catalyst for a deeper appreciation of how transitory everything is, including ourselves. It can, if we allow it, provide wisdom for how fragile everything is in creation, including us. The reality is not to scare us, although sometimes it does. The fragility of our presence in the world is an opportunity to be drawn more fully into our lives with God.

There is a lovely phrase in one of the Prefaces prayed at a Funeral Mass. It says "life has changed, not ended." Ultimately there will be a moment in time when the most profound change we make in our life here on earth is to move from this earthly life to our eternal life with God. We are all pilgrims on the way. It is our faith that consoles us with the fact that no matter where we will be led next, it is Divine Providence and the Holy Spirit guiding us every step of the way.

Happy journeying! Father Gerry

Something to Think About

- 1) Never explain yourself to anyone. Because the person who likes you doesn't need it. And the person who dislikes you won't believe it.
- 2) Always pray to have eyes to see the best in people, a heart that forgives the worst, a mind that forgets the bad, and a soul that never loses faith in God.
- 3) You don't need a lot of money to lead a rich life. Good friends and a loving family are worth their weight in gold.
- 4) I don't regret the things I've done; I regret the things I didn't do when I had the chance.
- 5) You can't fix yourself by breaking someone else.
- 6) Strength does not come from what you can do. It comes from overcoming the things you once thought you couldn't.
- 7) A Mother's wish and prayer is that her children will love each other long after she is gone..

IN THE CHARITY OF YOUR PRAYERS, PLEASE REMEMBER: David Garland, Beatrice McIntyre, Kathleen Stevens, Jeanette Boudreau, Lena Sheehan, Donalda Quinlan, Joan Wall, Gloria Kelly, Raymond Keleher, Maria Melles, Peter Tobias

Stewardship for the week ending May 14 2017

| Envelopes | 3256.00 |
|----------------------|---------|
| Loose | 321.90 |
| Pre-Authorized Debit | 454.90 |
| Total | 4032.80 |
| | |

Mass at St. Brendan's Saturday, June 4th 6:00 PM for Allan Abbott

Upcoming Events

The next **coffee hour** will be held on **May 28**th, after the 9:00 AM Mass. If you're planning on attending the 11:00 Mass, you could come early and enjoy some coffee and treats beforehand. This will be a great opportunity to **discuss the revitalization model**, for those who are interested. All welcome – we had over 45 at our last gathering.

MASS FOR LIFE will be held Wednesday June 7th at 7:00 PM at Divine Mercy Chapel, followed by refreshments and fellowship. All welcome!

refreshments and fellowship. All welcome! **Pro-Life Rosary** Monday May 22nd at 3:00 PM.

*NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT: Please join the entire diocese in praying the Novena to the Holy Spirit from May 27-June 4 inclusive. During these nine days of prayer, in preparation for Pentecost, please ask the Holy Spirit to inspire and guide the process to Revitalize and Realign our diocese for Evangelization and Discipleship. United in prayer, we ask the Holy Spirit to bless us as we participate in the process. Please pray for me. I count on your prayers and support.

♣ Robert HarrisBishop of Saint John

*Novena is printed in the New Freeman

Attention Sunday Lectors: If you know that you are not able to read at any time during the months of June through to the end of September, please contact Marilyn Upton at 672-4185 or email

marilynupton961@hotmail.com by May 24th.

Lectors are needed to read at weekend masses. If you are willing to become a lector, please contact Maureen Hughes at 672-5149 or Marilyn Upton at 672-4185 or marilynupton961@hotmail.com. As well if any of the present lectors are willing to read at any of the weekend masses, please contact Maureen or Marilyn.

Documents describing the three proposed models for **Diocesan Revitalization** are at the back of the Church. You can also pick up a survey sheet if you would like to respond in writing. Both the models and the survey are available online on the Diocese of Saint John website.

Deadline for completion of surveys is June 4. Please take this opportunity to have your voice heard!

L'Arche Saint John presents their third annual concert "Hope Springs" on Saturday June 3 at KVHS auditorium, from 7:00-9:00 PM. Tickets are \$25

We are in the process of making up the **Eucharistic Ministers' and Counters' schedules** for the summer months. If you know when you will be away, please contact the Office at 653-6850.

K of C Rosary and Adoration on May 25, following Mass.

Sanctuary Lamp In Memory of Kay Hurley

We are now taking reservations for the Sanctuary Lamp for 2017. If you would like to have the Lamp lit in honour of your loved ones, please check at the office for an available date.