



# Guardian Angels Parish

**May 21, 2017**

## Sixth Sunday of Easter

Rev. Rudolf V. D'Souza, OCD  
Pastor

Riz Geronimo  
Parish Secretary/Admin Assistant

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Office hours:  
9:00 am – 4:30 pm  
Mon., Tues., Thu., & Friday;  
CLOSED on Wed. & weekends



*"and the one who loves me will be loved by my Father,  
and I will love them and reveal myself to them."*



### PARISH LITURGICAL AND PRAYER SCHEDULE

#### Liturgical Celebrations

**Saturday** 4:00 pm (Anticipated Mass)  
**Sunday** 9:00 am; 11:00am; 12:30pm

#### **Weekday Mass Times:**

**Monday** 7:00 pm  
**Tuesday – Friday** 8:00 am  
**Saturday** 9:00 am

#### **Sacraments:**

**Confessions**– Saturdays between 3:00—3:45 pm or by appointment.

**Baptism / Marriage / Anointing of the Sick or Home  
Communion / Funeral** - Please contact the Parish office.

#### Devotions / Prayers

##### **Morning Prayers / Breviary:**

Tuesday-Friday 7:40 am  
Saturday & Sunday 8:30 am

##### **Mother of Perpetual Help:**

Wednesdays 7:00 pm

##### **Infant Jesus of Prague:**

Mondays 6:30 pm

##### **Divine Mercy Chaplet:**

Sundays 1:30 pm

**First Fridays** - Holy Hour at 6:00 pm (except during Lent)

**Stations of the Cross (during Lent)** - every Friday at 6:30 pm followed by Mass at 7:00 pm.

## Pastor's Corner - Sixth Sunday of Easter



### The Commandment of Love

Today's Gospel is an invitation to love and perfection of love of God. In this brief but powerful passage, Jesus reiterates his favorite theme: love. He also promises the Holy Spirit. Finally, Jesus emphasizes the intimate unity of Jesus, God, the Spirit, and the believer.

### Love

Fifty-seven times Jesus uses love verbs (*agapao*, *phileo*). Add to that all of the occurrences of "friend" (which is the translation of *philos*) as well as the fact that the primary disciple in the Fourth Gospel is an unnamed character called "the beloved disciple," and we might accuse the author of touting a single issue. And why not, for is it not the case that "God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten son that whosoever believeth in him shall not perish but have everlasting life"? (3.16).

The passage begins and ends with love. In v. 15 Jesus declares that if his disciples love him, they will keep his commandments. The reader may ask, "What commandments?" Unlike, say, Matthew, nowhere in John does Jesus command us to go the second mile, turn the other cheek, render unto Caesar that which is Caesar's. Famously, Jesus gives only a single commandment in John and it occurs in the chapter just before ours: "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." (13.34-35). He reiterates this in the chapter just after ours: "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. (John 15.12-13). We see, then, the overwhelming, repetitive, circular emphasis on love. So, if the preacher is to preach this text, she will have to take up love. Perhaps John would have exulted to hear Bill Coffin's claim to his fellow Christians: "If we fail in love, we fail in all things else."

It's worth noting that love is tied to John's realized eschatology. Jesus gives one commandment: to love. Therefore, judgment and eternal life begin now. At the end of each day, and during each moment of each day, for John, there's only one question to ask yourself: "In what ways did I or did I not love today?" As you reflect upon that, judgment happens. Where you did not love, there lies judgment. But understand that for John judgment is merely diagnostic, not retributive. Jesus constantly asks the characters questions that help them understand their lives and motives more clearly. To the sick man in ch. 5:6: "Do you wish to be made well?"; to Martha in 11:26: "Do you believe this?". He asks questions not because he doesn't know the answers (since John 2:24-25 assures us that Jesus already knew everything); rather, he asks so that we might know, and therefore move forward with clear vision into the truth, light, glory, love, abundant for which God has created us. It's all of a piece.

### The Holy Spirit

Admittedly, John's pneumatology is unusual compared to other NT texts. In contrast to Luke, who depicts the Holy Spirit as heavily active in the lives of characters from the beginning of his Gospel until the end of Acts, John insists that the Holy Spirit will come only after Jesus himself departs. Why is this? A clue lies in Jesus' referring to the Holy Spirit not as The Paraclete, but rather as Another Paraclete. Jesus was the first; for the Spirit to be active among them while Jesus was there would have been redundant since they each serve the same revelatory function. What appeared to be bad news to the disciples, namely Jesus' departure from them, turned out to be the best of news for both them and us. While Jesus walked the earth, his ministry was limited to one locale and one person, himself. Upon his departure, his disciples are given the Spirit and moved from apprentices to full, mature revealers of God's love. And this happens not just to the first disciples, but all those who would come later, those who never saw the historical Jesus. You see, the evangelist insists that present believers have no disadvantage in comparison to the first believers. Everything they were taught and they experienced is available to the same degree and with equally rich texture to us.

The word *parakletos* presents notorious translational difficulty because it has a range of meanings in the Greek, all of which are meant by the author. English translations variously translate it Comforter, Advocate, Counselor, and Helper; perhaps it would be best to keep it in its transliterated form, Paraclete, so as to catch the attention of the hearer with the strangeness; after all, it's strange among biblical authors, too. It appears only five times: four times in John 14-16 and once in 1 John 2:1. It's also best not to shut down possible meaning for the listener by narrowing the word to one meaning. The Holy Spirit is specifically said to do the following: teach, remind (14:26), abide (14:16), and testify about Jesus (15:26). Like Jesus, the Holy Spirit deals in truth.

### The Quat-trinity

Christians are familiar with the Trinity, but perhaps the most stunning feature of the Fourth Gospel is what we can term the experiences as Quat-trinity. In John's Gospel, Jesus insists that the intimate relationship that exists between him, God, and the Spirit also includes believers. The believer does not stand close by admiring the majesty of the Trinity; rather, he/she is an equal part of it. John tries to push at this by grabbing hold of a number of terms and repeating them: abide, love, the language of being "in" (14:17 and 20), and later in the Discourse, an emphasis on "one-ness" (cf. 17:21-23). Johannine believers don't "imitate" Jesus; they participate in him wholly. If the passage is read aloud and preached, the reading should go through v. 23, the pinnacle of the passage: "Jesus answered him, "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them." If God and Christ have made their home with us (John 1:14), how can we imagine there to be any distance between us and God? This, in turn, affects our eschatology. Everything that matters, that is, ultimate intimacy with God and Christ, is available now. What might one hope for beyond that? God is not currently holding out on us in any way—life, abundant life, is available for living from this moment into eternity.

God bless you,  
Fr. Rudy, O.C.D.

**Daily Readings**
**May 22—27**

**Monday: May 22**

 Acts 16.11-15; Psalm 149;  
 John 15.26-16.4a

**Tuesday: May 23**

 Acts 16.22-34; Psalm 138;  
 John 16.5-11

**Wednesday: May 24**

 Acts 17.15, 22-31.1; Psalm 148;  
 John 16.12-15

**Thursday: May 25**

 Acts 18.1-8; Psalm 98;  
 John 16.16-20

**Friday: May 26**

 Acts 18.9-18; Psalm 47;  
 John 16.20-23a

**Saturday: May 27**

 Acts 18.23-28; Psalm 47;  
 John 16.23b-28

**Mass Offerings**

**May 22—28**

Monday 7:00 pm-

**+ Christopher John Brown +**  
 By: Vanessa Peña

Tuesday 8:00 am-

 Special Intentions of  
 Guardian Angels Parishioners

Wednesday 8:00 am-

 Special Intentions of  
 Guardian Angels Parishioners

Thursday 8:00 am-

 Special Intentions of  
 Guardian Angels Parishioners

Friday 8:00 am-

 Special Intentions of  
 Guardian Angels Parishioners

Saturday —

 9:00 am:  
 Special Intentions of  
 Guardian Angels Parishioners

4:00 pm:

**+Francis & Mary Devasagayam +**  
 By: Peter Fredrick

Sunday —

 9:00 am:  
**+ Patricia Calas +**  
 By: Victoria Calas

 11:00 am:  
**+ Edward Essa +**  
 By: David DuPerron

 12:30 pm:  
**+ Gregoria Obejas +**  
 By: Ave Obejas

## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

### DEVOTIONS IN THE PARISH

Starting **Tuesday, May 23** there will be the recitation of the Holy Rosary followed by the Chaplet of Divine Mercy after the weekday morning Mass in the parish. Everyone is invited to pray with us.



### RELIGIOUS ARTICLES

We would like to invite you to have a look at handmade religious articles and souvenirs made by the Sisters of Saint Elisabeth Convent (Belarus) who will visit Guardian Angels Parish on **Tuesday, June 13** after the 8:00 morning Mass.

### AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

#### \*Ordinations to the Permanent Diaconate

Join us as we welcome three more permanent deacons on **Friday, May 26** at 7:00pm. Richard Chau, Patrick Dwan, and Tony Gray have gone through the archdiocese's four-year permanent diaconate program of preparation for service to the local Church and will be ordained permanent deacons at Holy Rosary Cathedral. All are welcome to attend.

#### \*Birthright: Mass, Prayers and Crowning of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Please join us **Saturday, May 27** for Mass at 12:10 p.m. preceded by the Rosary followed by the "Crowning of the Blessed Virgin Mary" at Holy Rosary Cathedral, Vancouver. Reception to follow in Rosary Hall, Richards Street. Donations of refreshments appreciated.

#### \*Pro-life Mass & Vigil

Join us for a peaceful, prayerful vigil for unborn children and their parents on **Saturday, June 3**. Mass is at 9 a.m. at Our Lady of Fatima Church, Vancouver followed by the rosary at Women's Hospital. Visit [rcav.org/pro-life-mass-and-prayer-vigil](http://rcav.org/pro-life-mass-and-prayer-vigil)

#### \*Ordination to the Priesthood

Juan Lucca, Giovanni Schiesari, and Francesco Voltaggio will be ordained priests by Archbishop J. Michael Miller, CSB at Holy Rosary Cathedral, Vancouver. All are welcome to celebrate this most joyous event on **Saturday, June 3**, from 12-2 p.m. [vocationsvancouver.ca](http://vocationsvancouver.ca)

#### \*The Catholic Forum

Invites you to explore the topic: "The Lord is Truly Risen!", with Father Rufo Zarate, SDB. Bring your questions and a friend! **Saturday June 10** at 10:00 am in St. Mary's Church, 5251 Joyce St, Vancouver. By donation. For more information, see <http://dominicanlaity.ca/forum>, or contact Dr. Paul Ungar (604-588-5696) or Cathy Neugebauer (email [ve7dd@shaw.ca](mailto:ve7dd@shaw.ca)).

#### \*Our Lady of Fatima Rosary Rally

**Saturday, June 10** at the South Plaza of the Vancouver Art Gallery, 800 Robson St., Vancouver at 10:00 a.m. till around 11:00 am.

\*Retrouaille is an affordable program that provides couples with the tools to repair ALL kinds of marriage problems. Retrouaille has helped thousands of couples avoid separation and regain a joyful marriage. For confidential information or to register for the 7 week Lower Mainland program commencing the weekend of **October 20 - 22**, plus sessions on the 6 consecutive Sundays following the weekend, call us at 604-530-6710, email us at [vancouverbc@retrouaille.org](mailto:vancouverbc@retrouaille.org) or visit our website <http://www.retrouaillevancouver.com>



### **Project Advance Annual Appeal**

**Parish Goal: \$50,000**

**THANK YOU** to those who have already submitted their pledges and donations. To date, the total amount of donations received is **\$ 13,540.**

Our parish rebate this year will help defray the cost of maintaining the Church building and the Rectory of Guardian Angels. If you have not yet made your pledge, please take home a brochure with enclosed pledge form found in the Church foyer and drop in the Sunday collection with your donation. No amount is too big or too small. Any amount you donate will make a difference.

### **STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION**

"For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that be God's will, than for doing evil." 1 PETER 3:17

The old line says "if you want to make God laugh, tell him your plans." Many of us are diligent in our planning, making sure things are progressing smoothly, then disaster strikes, we don't get the result that was intended. An unforeseen problem arises. Many times we may respond negatively. Why me? I did everything right! Here's the thing – God has a different and better plan in store for you.

Office of Stewardship & the ACA,  
Archdiocese of Saint Louis, MO

The Church is like a great ship being pounded by the waves of life's different stresses. Our duty is not to abandon ship, but to abandon ship, but to abandon her on her course.

— Saint Boniface

## **LIVING FLAME**

Spirituality and Daily Gospel Reflections  
 Rev. Rudolf V. D'Souza, OCD  
 Log into:  
[www.livingflame.ca](http://www.livingflame.ca)



## PARISH GROUPS MINISTRIES

**Knights of Columbus (Council # 14723)**  
Terry Brennan - GK 778-229-7228

**Legion of Mary (Immaculate Heart of Mary)**  
Elsa Dimayuga- 604 537 7281

**Legion of Mary (Mother of our Savior)**  
Rufina Amandiz - 604 325-9921

**Family Rosary Crusade**  
Leonarda Lariosa - 604 684-9806

**Divine Mercy**  
Marivic Escribel - 604 434-8280

**Infant Jesus of Prague**  
Susan Hauck—604 278-6346

**Neo-Catechumenal Way**  
Contact 604-924-9179

**CFC— Foundation for Family & Life**  
Benny Luarca –778-317-0069

**Rite of Christian Initiation For Adults (R.C.I.A.)**  
Tom Weaver at 604 408-2125

**P. R. E. P. (Parish Religious Education Program)**  
Jenny Po – jennypo@outlook.com

**Project Advance**  
Cecile Bozyk - 604 683-0143

**Altar Servers**  
Terry O'Neil - 604 689-3685

**Choirs**  
Carmelita Domaoan - 604 773-9373

**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**  
Kimberly Charbonneau - 604-683-1124

**Hospitality**  
Cecile Bozyk - 604 683-0143

**Lectors**  
Maria Kaiser - 604 628-4896

**Sacristy**  
Terry O'Neil - 604 689-3685

**Flowers**  
Ave Obejas - 604 770-1249

**Safe Environment Screening Committee**  
Jenny Po - jennypo@outlook.com

*Volunteers do not necessarily have the time;  
they have the heart.*



## *Let us pray for those in our long-term prayer list*

Maggie, Geoffrey & Doreen DeSousa,  
Joyce Kisoondath, Pat Williamson,  
Masooma Noorzai,  
Hassiran Hakim, Elizabeth Walton,  
Barry McDermott, Eddie Bilek, Lucille  
Johnston, Ralph Milburn, Milta Rapalo, Ida Brown, Sonja  
Lawrence, Colleen Mason,  
Jara Asterova, Zenaida Nicolas, Doreen Millburn, Helena  
Glavot, Zeenith Garay, Florence Nichols, Joanne Borrys,  
Soledad dela Cruz, Rosa Maria Santos,  
and all the sick / shut-ins of our Parish whom we may not  
know by name.



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Metrotower II

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