St. Stanislaus & St. Pius X & St. Christopher

78 Balsam Street, P.O. Box 910 Copper Cliff, ON P0M 1N0 Tel: 705-682-4683 / Fax: 705-682-2646 Email: ststans@eastlink.ca Website: www.sts-spc.com

6th Sunday of Easter - May 17, 2020

"If you love Me, you will keep My commandments"



Dear Parishioners, You can reach the Office by Phone on **Tuesday and Wednesday Between 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM**

Parish Priest : **Rev. Father Arulkumar**

D. O. S : Ethel Fraser Whitefish Lake First Nation

Parish Secretary : **Faye Wafer**

Office Hours :

Tuesday to Friday 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Sunday Masses :

St. Pius X - Lively Saturday : 4:30 PM St. Christopher - Whitefish Sunday : 9:00 AM St. Stanislaus - Copper Cliff **Sunday : 11:00 AM**

Sacrament of Reconciliation :

St. Stanislaus - Copper Cliff Friday : 9:00 AM to 9:15 AM St. Pius X - Lively Saturday: 4:00 PM to 4:15 PM St. Christopher - Whitefish Sunday : 8:30 AM to 8:45 AM

Baptism :

Usually on the 3rd Sunday of the month. Please make arrangements one month in advance by contacting the Parish Office.

Marriages :

Please make marriage arrangements 9 months in advance by contacting the Parish office. Saturday weddings are scheduled at 1:00 PM.

> Other Sacraments : **Contact Parish Office**

Bulletin Announcements:

Email yours to ststans@eastlink.ca Before 12:00 PM Wednesday

Prayer line :

St. Stanislaus : Faye Wafer 705-682-3207 or Ellen Austin 705-682-4596 St. Pius X : Eleanor Williams 705-692-4061

or Denise Stewart 705-6924883

St. Christopher : Adrienne McIntyre 705-866-2235

Mission Statement :

By our Baptism, we are committed to celebrate the presence of Christ in Word and Sacrament and are continually called to build our lives in the image of Christ. Through liturgy and ministry, we strive to bring ourselves closer to God and to each other, by building a strong community of believers and a joyous family of God.

Note:

The times of celebrations are given so that the parishioners can prayerfully unite themselves in their homes.

Sixth Sunday of Easter 10:00 AM Sunday, May 17 † Bob Murphy by Sheila Makela

> The Ascension of the Lord 10:00 AM Sunday, May 24

† Patricia McAvoy by Colleen, Angela & Bob Weber The Rosary is recited before Saturday and Sunday Mass.

The Cenacle of the Marian Movement of priests is held **each Tuesday** at **9:15** AM at **St. Christopher's Church, Whitefish.**

A Prayer Line is available for parishioners. Anyone wishing to pray for a special Intention, for someone who is ill, having surgery, for the deceased, or any other intention may contact the Prayer Line.

Mass Intentions

Offering Masses is a long standing tradition in the Catholic Church.

An Individual may ask a priest to offer a Mass for several reasons.

For example, in Thanksgiving, for the intentions of another person (such as on a **Birthday** or an **Anniversary**), for someone who is sick or for the repose of the soul of someone who has died.

Call the Parish Office: 705-682-4683

Sixth Sunday of Easter Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 66 Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth.

Weekdays Scripture Readings: May 18 to May 24, 2020

Day	Reading	Gospel
Monday	Acts 16:11-15	John 15:26-16:4
Tuesday	Acts 16:22-34	John 16:5-11
Wednesday	Acts 17:15, 22-18:1	John 16:12-15
Thursday	Acts 18:1-8	John 16:16-20
Friday	Acts 18:9-18	John 16:20-23
Saturday	Acts 18:23-28	John 16:23-28
Sunday	Acts 1:1-11 Ephesians 1:17-23	Matthew 28:16-20

'If you love me, you will keep my commandments' (John14:15-21)

Jesus says to us plainly and succinctly: '*If you love me you will keep my commandments*' (John 14:15). We could say that is a very strong statement by Jesus.

Does this mean that every time we sin we do not love Jesus?

Actually, yes. Although we love Jesus, every time we commit sin demonstrate that we love a person, place or thing (the definition of a noun) more than we love Jesus. But if we love Jesus more than anything else we will keep ourselves free from sin for Jesus, as a way of showing our love for Jesus. If we love Jesus we will strive to give ourselves totally to Him at all times, in all situations, before all people.

When we sin we are giving ourselves to something other than Jesus or to somebody other than Jesus. And when we love Jesus with all our heart, soul, mind and strength we will not want to put anything no matter how small - before Jesus.

Again the words of Jesus in today's Gospel are plain and succinct, '*If you love me you will keep my commandments*' (John 14:15).

Loving Jesus, therefore, is not just something emotional; loving Jesus means changing our lives, reforming our lives, working on our personalities and characters, overcoming sinful habits, stretching ourselves to love as Jesus loved. Loving Jesus means thinking about ourselves and others as Jesus thinks.

And so we need to ask ourselves today: where does my information about myself and others and the world come from? If it comes only from TV, social media and the materialistic western culture which does not understand the difference between 'freedom to sin' and the 'freedom to do what is right' our minds may be contaminated by false images of ourselves, of others, and of the world.

But if we truly want to love Jesus we will fill our minds with His teachings, embrace His divine way and His way of looking at the world, and then live it as '*doers of the word not hearers only*' (James 1:22).

We can nourish our minds with Jesus' thoughts and teachings by reading the Bible, reading spiritual books and praying (especially the Rosary as Our Lady of Fatima reminds us) every day, giving ourselves the spiritual nourishment that we need.

If we feed on the ways of the world then it is 'garbage in, garbage out' which will define who we are; it would be difficult if not impossible to keep his commandments and, thus, our love for Jesus is destroyed by the unfortunate choices that we make. We cannot claim to have both a pure love of Jesus and sin in our lives at the same time.

As Jesus said in **Matthew 6:24**: *we cannot be the slave of two masters*. Truly loving Jesus leads us to give up whatever in our lives draws us away from Jesus. Truly loving Jesus leads us to making changes in the way we live and think and act. Sinning is putting Jesus in second place but when we love Jesus we put Jesus in first place and so we will keep His commandments.

How do we know if we love Jesus?

Look at the way we live our lives. Do we live as Jesus teaches and asks? Do we live as Jesus asks us through the Church's teaching? If we do, then we know that we love Jesus. But if we say we love Jesus and yet continue to think or act in a way that is the opposite of Jesus then we see that we do not put Jesus in first place, we do not truly love Jesus because we have freely chosen not to keep His commandments. And if we truly love Jesus and do not understand the Church's teaching on an issue, our love of Jesus will prompt us to probe and learn until we understand why the Church teaches what she does so that we will not cause pain to Jesus by not keeping His commandments.

Remember that when we choose not to keep His commandments and thus sin it is Jesus who welcomes us back through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Jesus' mercy, love, compassion and forgiveness is greater than any sin we commit. Page 4 St. Stanislaus & St. Pius X & St. Christopher

