

# Living the Gospel



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## ST. MARY'S CHURCH

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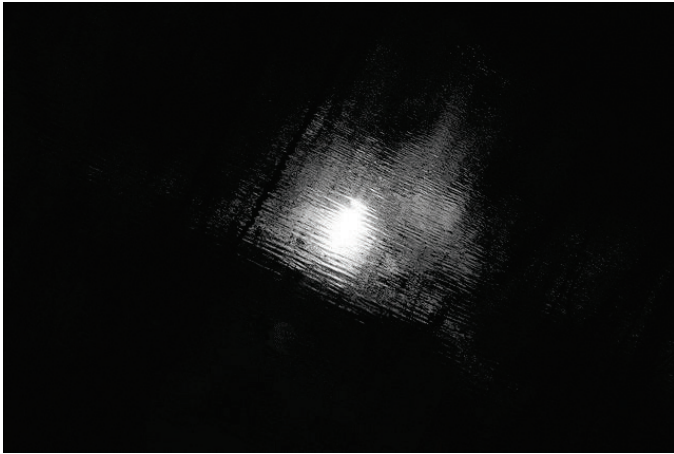
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## THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

### *“I See You Home”*

Once, a parishioner and friend I know, who had previously spoken about having built his own home, invited me over to see it. When I saw it, my mouth hung open as I hadn't imagined that it would look as both unusual and extraordinary as it appeared in my actual sight of it. It was a home that showed careful planning, simplicity and intention as well as craftsmanship and giftedness. I had pictured a typical house with four walls and a pitched roof. My assumptions before seeing the home were not only wrong but grossly underestimated the work and skill of the man who had built it. After the home visit I no longer saw my friend as living 'somewhere out there' in a home assigned for him by the conjuring of my mind, but truly saw him home in the completed picture of his living there in a house I had seen and he had made.



And that's a great image into the mystery of the eternal and what heaven is like. We have perhaps foggy images and ideas of what we might imagine heaven to look and feel like just as we do of the Builder. And all the while we really only know these things by analogy and some descriptions of them from humans who profess to have seen heaven and the Lord. In all these things we, as St. Paul said, see these things *“as through a glass darkly”*. (1 Cor. 13:12)

*For now we see in a mirror darkly,  
but then we will see face to face.  
Now I know in part,  
but then I will know fully,  
just as I have been fully known.*

Over the years I have experienced the deaths of so many people; classmates when I was in school, grandparents, parents, relatives, friends and many parishioners. We can never know with certainty who or how many made it to heaven with Jesus which is why it is not only good but crucial that we remember to pray for them. While they can pray for us, they cannot pray for themselves – they need us. My father died in 2014 and my mother in 2020. I pray for them at every Sunday Mass and doing so brings me to “see them home” with Jesus. Do I know this with certainty? No. But with my fond remembrances of their faithfulness to and love of the Lord, I see them home. I picture

them with Jesus whom they had known in this life and longed to see at the end of their lives. As I knew them, I know the Lord and can therefore hope with some degree of certainty that Christ's great mercy and His ability to have always seen them come together in that place and with those Persons of the Blessed Trinity who are Love itself. I never have considered for a moment that the parents I knew and loved and who loved me, are six feet under the earth in a vault and coffin as they horizontally wait with eyes closed for the Resurrection. They are not there at all. The soul brings life to the body so that when the body dies the soul can not remain in the body. Therefore, the great spiritual work that we do as the Church is commend that soul to Jesus – send them home. They are now outside of time and space and, therefore, for all intents and purposes, are not here. I pray that they are with the Lord as I will continue to do.

What heaven is really like will remain for the living on the earth a mystery as even those who claim to have had a near death experience of things 'on the other side' so often say that the colours and appearance of what their eyes beheld were nothing like we know here on earth and were flummoxed as how to use our earthly language and words to describe it. That is why the Gospels always show us Jesus who describes the Kingdom of God and the Kingdom of Heaven with analogies... *“The Kingdom of Heaven is like...”*. I am reminded of the words to a song I learned when I was a boy, that

*“Man is lonely by birth; man is only a pilgrim on earth.  
Born to be king is but a temporary thing,  
only a loan while on earth.”*

This life is loaned and entrusted to us to be spent in coming to know Jesus and living with Him now in preparation of doing so forever. Ours is a human journey in time with and toward the God of Jesus Christ who exists outside of it, yet was born into time and space in the incarnation and His short earthly life.

This Trinity Sunday encompasses in its title the very fact that it is pure mystery. How can one be three and three be one? And here, even analogies all fall so pathetically short for the more we say about it the greater the mystery remains. Suffice it to say that it is known to us because it has been revealed by God to man. This is why we profess it in the creeds of the Church because it is essential and revealed but still a mystery. And in God, the only thing one can do when confronted with such enormous mystery is to walk into the mystery, because the mystery is God. It is not a mystery to be solved or figured out by humans – and no one has laid claim to being able to do so. The Trinity is a living, loving eternal relationship of being itself revealed as a mystery of Persons; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. And yet, against all human logic and reason, this Trinity of Love desires to draw near to us and us to them in a relationship that God wants never to end. And as great and unfathomable this love of God for us, for you, is, we have the God-given ability of free choice to say 'no' to the most incredible and enduring and trusted love of all. As people of faith who live in this fleeting, temporary world of time, our response must be an every-moment, every day 'yes' to God and the desire to see not only ourselves but everyone *“Home”*. (Fr. Charles)

**MASS**  **SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS**

Tues May 28 7:00pm	In Gratitude Gal & Jagielski Family Requested by Gal & Jagielski Family
Wed May 29 8:30am	+Kevin Coughlin Requested by the Nowak Family  Unannounced Mass
Thurs May 30 8:30am	+Amelia Denoga Requested by Victoria & Jim Huntley
Friday May 31 7:30am	Holy Hour
8:30am	In Thanksgiving Eva & Family  Unannounced Mass
Sat June 1 3:30 to 4:00pm	Confessions
4:30pm	+Marian Sydziak Requested by the O’Hearn Family
Sunday June 2 9:00am	+Gwen Collard Requested by John Mattachioni
11:00am	For the People

*Please Pray for the Sick*

Dorothy Dynes, Margot Brandreth, Jean Ferguson, Fred Coulson, Hilary Joseph, Henry Niepalla, Mary Little, Kaz Watroba, Albert Sant, Tracy Rivers, Rose Flanagan, Teresa & Feliks Kosierb, Patrick McKee, Elizabeth Pavilsa, Joseph Crupi, Vera Petrovic.

*Please Pray for the Recently Deceased*

Reverend Paul Lennon

The Sanctuary Lamp Burns for  
The Intentions of St. Mary’s Parishioners  
From May 26<sup>th</sup> to June 1<sup>st</sup>, 24



Regular Collection May 19 \$4930.00 (Inc PAG)



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PAG – Pre-authorized giving through the bank. If you are interested please call the parish office for more information, alternatively there are PAG forms at either entrance of the church.

**Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity**  
**May 26, 2024**  
**Your ShareLife support goes beyond borders**



ShareLife isn’t just local. Your ShareLife gift extends mercy and justice to people beyond our borders by supporting the humanitarian projects of our agencies, particularly those that prioritize taking care of hungry children in vulnerable communities.

“We are so incredibly grateful to you, ShareLife and your supporters, for your steadfast commitment to our vision that no child should go hungry in this world of plenty. On behalf of all the children you have helped, thank you.” – Keli Marshall, Mary’s Meals Canada

Thus far, we have raised \$21,156.00 toward our goal of \$41,000.00. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at [sharelife.org/donate](http://sharelife.org/donate).

**Free Catholic Estate Planning Webinar**

Saturday, June 8, 2024 at 9:00am

Learn:

- How to avoid problems: in your Will, in the Powers of Attorney, and through proper Estate Trustee selection.
- How to create your own legacy
- About our Catholic traditions around cremation, burials and funerals.



WebJune08

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2. Follow this QR link: [qrco.de/Webjune08](http://qrco.de/Webjune08)
3. Send an email to: [development@ArchToronto.or](mailto:development@ArchToronto.or) and write “webinar June 8” in the title plus your name(s) in the body of the message

**May 31: Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary—Feast**

*During those days Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, “Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled.” ~[Luke 1:39-45](http://Luke 1:39-45)*

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