

Go Forth to Change the World – Rebecca Cruz, rooted in Ignatian Spirituality, Loyola Press

My favorite moment of graduation is that moment when the graduate, after receiving the diploma, looks out into the crowd to loved ones with pride and gratitude. In that moment, after years of focus on personal growth and accomplishments, the focus shifts outward to the world. With fresh outlooks and youthful energy, the graduates go forth, each with unique gifts, to change the world.

Fr. William A. Barry, veteran Jesuit spiritual director, speaks of a moment in the spiritual life that occurs after one experiences God's love and forgiveness and becomes confident in his love. This moment strikes me as being akin to that moment at commencement when the focus shifts outward:

When people actually meet God, when God's operative in their lives, that's when transformation occurs in their lives too...they begin opening out to God's world...and that is a real moment of shift that, all of a sudden, instead of the image being God holding onto me and hugging me...it's Jesus and me looking at the world together and seeing what he sees.

"Jesus and me looking at the world together." I love this imagery. I imagine Jesus saying, "Are you in?" This is the vantage point from which faith becomes action, the real moment when "the rubber hits the road."

Fr. Barry elaborates on the process of going forward from this "moment of shift" in his book, *An Invitation to Love*:

God invites us to join in the great adventure begun with creation, to cooperate with God in bringing about the kingdom of God in which human beings live in harmony with God, with one another, and with the whole created world. The kingdom of God is not about some heavenly realm outside this world; it's about this world in which we live. How we live here and now has enormous consequences for all of creation and for God. (7)

The key to bringing about the kingdom of God, Barry says, is love for God and neighbor. When we look out into the world through Jesus' eyes, we see how God sees each person and all of creation. And, since God is love, what we see is God's great love for all of humanity and creation. When we come to see through eyes of Love, we interact differently. We understand the great responsibility with which we have been endowed: to bring love to each problem we see in the world today. Like graduates with a fresh outlook, we are each called, with our unique gifts, to go forth and change the world.



ST. MONICA PARISH

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May 26, 2019

6th Sunday of Easter

The Holy Spirit will teach us and remind us of what Jesus taught.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, the gentiles received a letter from the Church in Jerusalem, assuring them that they are under no burdens of the Mosaic law. Revelation gives us a vision of splendor: the holy city of Jerusalem. Jesus, in the Gospel, tells his disciples that he and the Father will dwell within those who love him and keep his word. He also promises to send the Holy Spirit as an Advocate.

Today's Readings:

1st:

Acts 15.1-2, 22-29

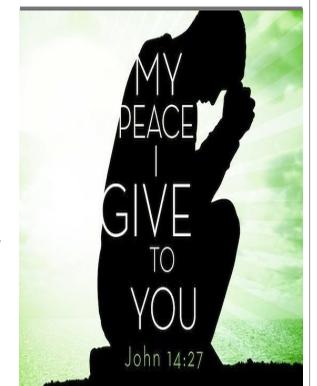
Psalm: 67

2nd:

**Revelation 21.10-14,
22-23**

Gospel:

John 14.23-39



PASTOR: **Rev. Robert Wong, SJ**

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday

9:30 am – 1 pm / 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm

MASS SCHEDULES

WEEKDAYS: **9:00 am**

SATURDAYS: **9:30 am & 5:00 pm**

SUNDAYS: **9:00 am & 11:00 am**

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

SATURDAYS: **4:30 pm – 4:55 pm**

CONFESSIONS: 10 MINUTES BEFORE DAILY
MASS OR BY REQUEST AT OTHER TIMES

NOVENA TO

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

WEDNESDAYS: **7:00 pm**

MASS FOLLOWED BY NOVENA
& BENEDICTION

BAPTISM COURSE

EVERY 2ND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH AT **6 pm**

BAPTISMS

4th SATURDAY AFTER 9:30 am MASS

HOUSE BLESSINGS

PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE

PARISH UPDATES

Confirmation and First Holy Communion – Congratulations to all the candidates and their families. Also, we take this opportunity to thank our PREP teachers, assistants and parents for your commitment and dedication through this school year. The last day of PREP class is Tuesday, the 28th. Have a safe summer.

Two new icons – St. Oscar Romero of El Salvador, and St. Josephine Bahkita of Sudan, are the latest icons installed. St. Augustine of Hippo will be the final icon of the eight commissioned to Andre Prevost, the iconographer.

Project Advance 2019 – Building our Future upon a Foundation of Faith is theme. Our archdiocesan commitment is \$26,000. Our total parish goal maintains at \$75,000. Your participation in this annual appeal gives witness to our faith in action. We have met our commitment. Thank you!

We need our registered parishioners to pledge your gift for this year's appeal. May God bless you always!

New Hot Water Boilers (Our PA's response to 'Laudato Si') – The work is now done. You can see the *before and after* pictures in the foyer. Our 2019 rebates from Project Advance have been earmarked for this important and necessary upgrade. Thank you for your on-going support.

May as a Marian Month – You are encouraged to pray the Rosary for the Pope's prayer intention: That the Church in Africa, through the commitment of its members, may be the seed of unity among her people and a sign of hope for this continent.

Project Advance Stewardship Prayer

*O God, the Father of every gift,
all that we are and have comes from your hand.
In Jesus Christ, your Son,
you have given us the greatest of all gifts.
Fill our hearts with his love,
so that we may be parish communities
of faithful, caring people.
Grant us the grace to be good stewards
who, in the name and spirit of Jesus,
Share our gifts of time, talent and treasure
for the building up of your Kingdom
in our Archdiocese and throughout the world.
May we see Project Advance as our way
to live gratefully and give generously
for your honour and glory.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Pro-Life Sunday is June 16

"Now I know I'm not alone and that there's a light towards my future," said one mother who received support because of the Pro-Life Sunday collection. Your support for local pro-life efforts has healed families and changed minds. With \$191,238 from the Pro-Life Sunday collection last year, thousands of lives were impacted thanks to your gifts. Can we raise more this year on Father's Day, June 16? Donate online at rcav.org/prolife or at our parish on June 16.

ARCHDIOCESAN EVENTS

The Role of the Laity in the Reform of the Church: A modest but urgent proposal

Join Dr. Michael Higgins and panelists Sr. Sue Mosteller, Dr. Angus Reid, and Fr. Ronald Rolheiser for an evening of dialogue on how the laity can shape Church leadership. Dr. Michael Higgins will explore one vital direction of the laity's spiritual leadership for our time. Monday, May 27, at 7 p.m., UBC – Westbrook Room 100, Vancouver. Free admission.

Mass Wedding for Civilly Married Couples - Information Session

If you got married civilly and would now like to have your marriage recognized by the Church, it will be on Saturday, Sept. 21, at 1:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Good Counsel, Surrey. Archbishop J. Michael Miller, CSB will be celebrating a wedding Mass for a large number of civilly married couples. Attend an information session with your spouse on Monday, June 3, at 6 p.m. at Our Lady of Good Counsel School auditorium, Surrey. For more info., contact the OLCG parish office at 604-581-4141 or Deacon Greg Barcelon at 604-771-2975 or email filipinoministry@rcav.org

Stewardship Reflection

Today's reading from Revelation offers a vision of the City of God, the new Jerusalem. "But, the US Bishops' pastoral letter on stewardship reminds us, that 'life to come' is in continuity with this present life through the human goods, the worthy human purposes, which people foster now."

Mass Intentions May 26 - June 1, 2019

Mon, May 27	-	CWL (TG)
Tue, May 28	-	Anthony Kakkadan (RIP)
Wed, May 29	-	9am, Robert Wong, SJ (TG) 7pm, Jose Coronel (INT)
Thu, May 30	-	Joselita Laureta (TG)
Fri, May 31	-	Rick & Mely de Guzman (TG) Bob de Guzman (RIP)
Sat, Jun 01	-	9:30am, Pacita Santos (RIP) 5pm, Vicente & Clarissa Festejo (TG)