



Photo above: The *alabaster window of the Holy Spirit* is in the Apse wall above the *Cathedra Petri* in St. Peter Basilica, Vatican City.

Parish Week † 31 May 2020

Saturday, 30 May

- 8.00 am Mass: † Lloyd Burke (family)
5.00 pm Mass: † Raphael & Mariam Thattil (Mary Fernando)

SUNDAY, 31 MAY / PENTECOST

DESCENT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT ON THE APOSTLES

■ Homilist: Deacon Ramon Villardo

■ 2nd Collection: Maintenance

- 9.00 am Mass: † Peter Gordon Fleming (McLaughlin family)
10.30 am Mass: † Ernesto & Lydia Rodas (family)
12.00 pm Mass: † Angela De Caires (Patrick)
7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

Monday, 1 June / Feast of Mary, Mother of the Church

- 8.00 am Mass: Int. Alagaratnam family (family)
7.00 pm Mass: † Abasta family members (Clarito Rodriguez)
7.40 pm Infant Baptism Parenté/Godparent meeting

Tuesday, 2 June / Ss. Marcellinus & Peter, martyrs

- 8.00 am Mass: † Elizabeth Wilson (Daphne)

Wed., 3 June / St. Charles Lwanga & Companions, martyrs

- 8.00 am Mass: † Deceased members of Alagaratnam family (Caroline)

Thursday, 4 June

- 8.00 am Mass: † Shirley Sora (Joyce Durban)

Friday, 5 June / St. Boniface, bishop & martyr

- 8.00 am Mass: † Theresammal (Rosemary Senegaludur & family)

- 6.00 pm Holy Hour*

(* In our closed Church, the Priests will offer the intentions of our Parishioners in their time of Eucharistic Adoration.)

- 7.00 pm Mass: † The Unborn (Audrey Caza)

Saturday, 6 June

- 8.00 am Mass: † Joseph & Ruby LeRoy (Daphne)
5.00 pm Mass: † Theresa Ndep (family)

SUNDAY, 7 JUNE / SOLEMN FEAST OF THE HOLY TRINITY

■ Homilist: Fr. Elias Chachati

■ ShareLife 2nd Collection

- 9.00 am Mass: † Adele Vignali (family)
10.30 am Mass: † Andres Diaz Jr. (family)
12.00 pm Mass: † Antonia Abis Bermudez (Eden, Lito & family)
1.30 pm Infant Baptism
7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

Focus on the Word

Pentecost Sunday, Year A

Acts 2.1-11; 1 Corinthians 12.3-13; John 20.19-23

O God, who by the mystery of today's great feast sanctify your whole Church in every people and nation, pour out, we pray, the gifts of the Holy Spirit across the face of the earth and, with the divine grace that was at work when the Gospel was first proclaimed, fill now once more the hearts of believers. Amen

Pray for the Deceased

Winefreda Caminting
Mary Mendonca
Gerald Reardon

Fr. Robert Reddy
Rita Shafton
Shirley Sora



The 41 victims of the avalanche in Van province, Turkey

1st Communion and Confirmation

At the time of publication and posting, the Ontario Government has clarified that schools will not resume until after this Summer. Sacramental Preparation meetings and instructions, which were mostly completed prior to the *Covid 19 shutdown* in March, will be finished as soon as it is practical. The celebrations of 1st HOLY COMMUNION and CONFIRMATION, which were to take place after Holy Week, will be rescheduled later in the Fall. Updates will be provided regularly, and dates publicized as soon as possible, to give families a chance to prepare properly to celebrate these vital, affirming and life-giving events

2nd COLLECTIONS: 31 May, Maintenance

The 2nd collection on Sunday, 31 May, will be for the support of our major parish projects through the *Maintenance Collection*.

7 June, ShareLife – 3rd Offering

On 7 June, the 2nd collection will be the Third Offering for our annual *ShareLife Appeal*, to support 33 Catholic agencies and 8 grant recipients, respecting the sanctity of all human life.

If you use one of the recycled envelopes marked “ShareLife,” remember to write your own Sunday envelope number on top.

COMING UP

61p20

14 June

Corpus Christi Sunday

18 June

Fr. Edwin Galea: Anniversary of birth (1954)

19 June

Deacon Ramon: Ordination Anniversary (2004)

21 June

Father's Day

24 June

Ramon & Mely Villardo: Wedding Anniversary (1988)

1 July

Canada Day

6 July

Feast of St. Maria Goretti

6 Aug.

Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord

15 Aug.

Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

20 Sept.

Stewardship Sunday

Website stmariagoretti.archtoronto.org

For the *Prayer to St. Michael*, and details of other events in our Parish, see pages 3 and following in the website bulletin.

RCIA, RCIC



Rites of Christian Initiation of Adults & Children

Pray for all in our parish R.C.I.A. process, who preparing for the Sacraments of Initiation; as well as the youth in our parish R.C.I.C. process. Due to ongoing precautions to deal with the Covid 19 pandemic, groups meetings cannot be held at the Church. However, instruction is being provided on line, and information is being disseminated through email messages. Spiritual support is also provided through the resources printed in this bulletin, and through the various links provided by the Archdiocese on the parish website.



Mary, Mother of the Church

Feastday: 1 June 2020

The members of the *Catholic Women's League* invite all parishioners to come and celebrate the Blessed Virgin Mary in her role as "MOTHER OF THE CHURCH."

On 3 March 2018 the Vatican announced that **Pope Francis** had decided to celebrate this Feast every year on the Monday after Pentecost, to foster Marian piety.

In the words of **Cardinal Robert Sarah**, this celebration will help us remember that the Christian life must be anchored to the Cross, to Christ in the Eucharistic Banquet, and to Our Lady, Mother of the Redeemer and Mother of the Redeemed. Honoring Mary as Mother of the Church on the day after Pentecost also highlights that Mary was with the disciples on Pentecost, praying with them as the Holy Spirit descended. From the awaiting of the Spirit at Pentecost, Mary has never ceased to take motherly care of the Pilgrim Church on earth.

Please join us virtually to pray the Rosary with your family at 7:00 pm on Monday, 1 June; or any time that evening that is good for you. May our dear Mother guide us to the fullness of life that her Son Jesus won for us by his Passion, Death and Resurrection.

Memorare

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help, or sought your intercession was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, I fly to you, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother; to you do I come; before you I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in your mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

Stewardship Message

Dear Parishioners,

We hope and pray that you are staying healthy – both physically and spiritually. Please let us know if the parish can help you during these difficult times.

Our parish relies on the support of our parishioners to function. Without the weekly offertory collection during this COVID 19 crisis, the Archdiocese has identified ways that we can continue our support.

Here are the ways that you can continue to support our parish at this time:

→ **P.A.G.** You can contribute through *Pre-Authorized Giving*.

See the link for this in the letter on our website for more information on pre-authorized giving. You can click in the letter our website to download an enrollment form which can be printed and completed.

Return the completed form and a voided cheque to the parish office. Or e-mail the form and a scanned copy or photo of a voided cheque to:

development@archtoronto.org

Contributions are withdrawn from your bank account on the 20th of each month.

→ Hold on to your regular weekly offertory contribution until the parish office can re-open.

→ You can contribute via online banking. To do this, the archdiocese will need to send you a unique account number. Send an e-mail to campaign@archtoronto.org. In your email message, provide:

- ☐ Your & Address
- ☐ Parish name (*St. Maria Goretti*)
- ☐ Municipality (*Scarborough*)

You will be emailed account information which you can use to set up the Archdiocese of Toronto as a payee in your on-line banking. Your gift will be forwarded to our parish. You can make a *one time* or *recurring* gift to our parish Offertory.

If you have any questions, contact the Development Office. Phone: 416-934-3400, ext. 540, or email: development@archtoronto.org.

Thank you for your many contributions to our parish. We miss seeing all of you at Mass, and we pray daily that we will be able to gather together again soon.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Edwin Galea, pastor



Photos above: EVERY AGENCY supported by *ShareLife* supports people in need and their family members.

Remember our SHARELIFE Agencies at this critical time

Community / Family Services

Catholic Community Services of York Region, Catholic Cross-cultural Services, Catholic Family Services of Durham, Catholic Family Services Peel-Dufferin, Catholic Family Services of Simcoe Country, Catholic Family Services of Toronto, *FertilityCare* Toronto, Natural Family Planning Association

People with Special Needs

Mary Centre, *Our Place* Community of Hope, Saint Elizabeth Health Care, St. Bernadette's Family Resources Centre, St. Michael's Homes / Matt Talbot Houses, *Silent Voice* Canada (*ministry to the deaf*)

Children and Youth

Catholic Children's Aid Society of Toronto, Catholic Settlement House Day Nursery, *Covenant House*, Sancta Maria House / **Young Parents:**

Rosalie Hall, Rose of Durham, Rose of Sharon, Vita Centre / **Seniors:**

Les Centres d'Accueil Heritage, Loyola Arrupe Centre, Providence Healthcare, Society of Sharing

Affiliated Organizations

Camp Ozanam (*Society of St. Vincent de Paul*), Good Shepherd Ministries, Birthright International



ShareLife 2020

Living the Gospel!

Pentecost Sunday, 31 May

Every gift to ShareLife is a sacred trust

At *ShareLife*, we pride ourselves on being responsible and accountable to all of you, our generous donors. By keeping administrative and fundraising costs at 11% – one of the lowest in the nonprofit sector – we ensure the maximum amount possible goes to the vital work of our agencies. We are serious about serving responsibly.

7 June is the next *ShareLife* Sunday.

Please give generously; thanks for helping *ShareLife*!



* An important update:

After much consideration, @ocytoronto and @vocationsTO have decided to cancel this Summer's **TOTUS TUUS camps** due to continued uncertainty surrounding #Covid19. Our top priority is to keep our missionaries and campers safe. Our prayers remain with all of you! #TotusTuusTO #CatholicTO



Spiritual Communion

WHAT IS IT?

Spiritual Communion is a way to be united with Christ when we cannot physically receive the Body and Blood of Christ in the Eucharist. It can be made at home or in Church, in front of the Blessed Sacrament or not.

The best way to receive Christ is in Holy Communion at Mass. Yet for those times we can't attend Mass, or can't take Communion because of an unconfessed mortal sin (for which you must ask for God's pardon in the Sacrament of Penance), you can still reach out to Him by making a Spiritual Communion in prayer!

St. Thomas Aquinas defined Spiritual Communion as "an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament and in lovingly embracing Him as if we had actually received Him."

You can "turn toward the holy tabernacle" and receive Jesus in your heart from anywhere you might happen to be, at any time, day or night!

HOW DO I DO IT?

Following these guidelines:

Start with the Sign of the Cross.

Read and reflect on the readings from Mass that day.

Have a real desire to be united with Christ.

Acknowledge your sins and ask for forgiveness.

Receive Christ in your soul and pray (see below)

St. Alphonsus Liguori's Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Catholic Education Week

CEW 2020 began on Sunday, 3 May. The Catholic schools in our

parish engaged in a series of events to celebrate the ongoing gift of publicly-funded Catholic education. You are invited to learn about the various celebrations that are happening in your children's school, and are welcome to participate, if possible. Publicly funded Catholic education has existed in Ontario since 1841 and its graduates have served Ontario and Canada very well. The current generation of students in our publicly funded Catholic schools will serve with the same spirit and generosity as their previous generations.

This year's Catholic Education Week theme is, "Igniting Hope." The theme for CEW 2020 was inspired by three sources:

- ❑ The recent Exhortation, *Christus Vivit*, by **Pope Francis** following the 2018 Synod of Bishops on Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment
- ❑ The recent Ontario Bishops' pastoral letter, *Renewing the Promise* (2018)
- ❑ The Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations by the Institute for Catholic Education (2011)

The CEW biblical quote is, "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the Holy Spirit." Romans 15:13



Prayer to St. Michael

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God

rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly hosts, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.



Cardinal Robert Sarah

His Eminence, **Robert Cardinal Sarah**, the Prefect of the *Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments*, will be 75 years old on 15 June 2020. There is speculation that he may retire.

Robert Sarah grew up in Guinea, West Africa. Inspired by the missionary priests who made great sacrifices to bring the Faith to their remote village, his parents became Catholics. He discerned a call to the Priesthood and entered the seminary, but due to the oppression of the Church by the government of Guinea, he left to continue his education in France and Senegal. Later he obtained a Licentiate in Theology at the *Pontifical Gregorian University* in Rome, followed by a licentiate in Sacred Scripture at the *Biblicum* in Jerusalem.

At the age of 34 he became the youngest Bishop in the Catholic Church when **Pope John Paul II** appointed him the Archbishop of Conakry, Guinea. The previous bishop had been jailed by the Communist government for years, and when Archbishop Sarah was targeted for assassination, the Pope called him to Rome to be Secretary of the *Congregation for Evangelization*. In 2010 **Pope Benedict XVI** named him Cardinal and appointed him Prefect of *Cor Unum*. **Pope Francis** made him Prefect of the *Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments* in 2014.

In the book, “*God or Nothing*,” an autobiographical interview published 19 August 2015, Cardinal Sarah wrote, “The idea of putting Magisterial teaching in a beautiful display case while separating it from pastoral practice, which then could evolve with fashions and passions, is a sort of heresy, a dangerous pathology. I therefore solemnly state that the Church in Africa is staunchly opposed to any rebellion against the teaching of Jesus and of the Magisterium. The Church of Africa is committed in the name of Jesus to keeping unchanged the teaching of God and of the Church.”

Salutation to the Blessed Virgin Mary

Hail Mary, Daughter of God the Father.
Hail Mary, Mother of God the Son.
Hail Mary, Spouse, of God the Holy Ghost.
Hail Mary, Temple of the Most Blessed Trinity.
Hail Mary, Pure Lily of the Trinity, One God.
Hail Mary, Celestial Rose of the love of God.

Hail Mary, Virgin pure and humble,
of whom the King of Heaven willed to be born.
Hail Mary, Virgin of virgins.
Hail Mary, Queen of Martyrs,
whose soul a sword transfixed.

Hail Mary, my Queen and my Mother,
my life, my sweetness and my hope.
Hail Mary, Mother most amiable.
Hail Mary, Mother most admirable.
Hail Mary, Mother of Divine Love.
Hail Mary, Immaculate, conceived without sin.
Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.
Blessed are you among women
and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

Blessed be your spouse, Saint Joseph,
Blessed be your father, Saint Joachim.
Blessed be your mother, Saint Anne.
Blessed be your guardian, Saint John.
Blessed be your holy Angel, Saint Gabriel.
Glory be to God the Father, who chose you.
Glory be to God the Son, who loved you.
Glory be to God the Holy Spirit,
who espoused you.

O Glorious Virgin Mary.
May all people love and praise you.
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us
and bless us, now and at death,
in the name of Jesus, your Divine Son.
Amen.

Written by **St. John Eudes** (1601-80, France), and zealously propagated by the holy Benedictine, **Père Paul De Moll** (Belgium, 1824-96). At each recitation of this prayer, so pleasing to Mary, offer to her through the hands of Père Paul our country, begging her blessing upon it and her intercession for its conversion. It is requested that all undertake to widely spread and make known this Salutation to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Pope Francis

Two Prayers to Our Blessed Mother



Pope Francis has written two prayers for the end of the Covid-19 pandemic. He asks the faithful to recite the Rosary and pray these prayers afterward.

First Prayer

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith. You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us: *He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.*

We seek refuge under your protection,
O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise
our pleas, for we are put to the test;
and deliver us from every danger,
O glorious and blessed Virgin.
Amen.

Second Prayer

"We fly to your protection,
O Holy Mother of God."

In the present tragic situation,
when the whole world is prey to suffering and
anxiety, we fly to you, Mother of God and our
mother, and seek refuge under your protection.

Virgin Mary, turn your merciful eyes toward us
amid this coronavirus pandemic. Comfort those
who are distraught and mourn their loved ones who
have died, and at times are buried in a way that
grieves them deeply. Be close to those who are
concerned for their loved ones who are sick and
who, in order to prevent the spread of the disease,
cannot be close to them. Fill with hope those who
are troubled by the uncertainty of the future and the
consequences for the economy and employment.



Mother of God and our Mother, pray for us to
God, the Father of mercy, that this great suffering
may end and that hope and peace may dawn anew.
Plead with your divine Son, as you did at Cana,
so that the families of the sick and the victims
may be comforted, and their hearts be opened
to confidence and trust.

Protect those doctors, nurses, health workers
and volunteers who are on the frontline of this
emergency, and are risking their lives to save
others. Support their heroic effort and grant them
strength, generosity and continued health.

Be close to those who assist the sick night and day,
and to priests who, in their pastoral concern and
fidelity to the Gospel, are trying to help and
support everyone.

Blessed Virgin, illumine the minds of men and
women engaged in scientific research, that they
may find effective solutions to overcome this virus.

Support national leaders, that with wisdom,
solicitude and generosity they may come to the
aid of those lacking the basic necessities of life
and may devise social and economic solutions
inspired by farsightedness and solidarity.

Mary Most Holy, stir our consciences, so that
the enormous funds invested in developing and
stockpiling arms will instead be spent on
promoting effective research on how to prevent
similar tragedies from occurring in the future.

Beloved Mother, help us realize that we are all
members of one great family and to recognize the
bond that unites us, so that, in a spirit of fraternity
and solidarity, we can help to alleviate countless
situations of poverty and need. Make us strong in
faith, persevering in service, constant in prayer.

Mary, Consolation of the afflicted, embrace all
your children in distress and pray that God will
stretch out his all-powerful hand and free us from
this terrible pandemic, so that life can serenely
resume its normal course.

To you, who shine on our journey as a sign of
salvation and hope, do we entrust ourselves,
O Clement, O Loving, O Sweet Virgin Mary.
Amen.

Franciscus

Cardinal Collins' Book List for Catholics who want to Defend the Faith

During his Sunday, May 17 Mass, Cardinal Thomas Collins, Archbishop of Toronto, listed a few books that he recommends all Catholics read. After a number of enquiries, we thought we'd share Cardinal Collins' reading list:

- The Bible**
- The Catechism of the Catholic Church**
- Orthodoxy**, by G.K. Chesterton
- Everlasting Man**, by G.K. Chesterton
- What to Say and How to Say It**, by Brandon Vogt
- Just Whatever**, by Matt Nelson

Cardinal Collins also recommends reading Saint Cardinal John Henry Newman's *Apologia Pro Vita Sua* and anything by theologians **Peter Kreeft** and **Scott Hahn** (especially Hahn's *Answering the New Atheism*). The Cardinal also enjoys the work of Bishop Fulton Sheen, former Archbishop of Rochester, N.Y., and Bishop Robert Barron, current Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles.

Do you have an apologetics themed novel or series of books on the Catholic faith that you'd recommend to Cardinal Collins? If so, write to us at:

communications@archtoronto.org
and we'll share your suggestions with him.

Stewardship Prayer

Loving God, I come to you in thanksgiving, knowing that all I am and all that I have is a gift from you.
In faith and love, help me to do your will.
I am listening, Lord God.
Speak your words into the depth of my soul, that I may hear you clearly.
I offer to you this day all the facets of my life, whether it be at home, at work, or at school; to be patient, to be merciful, to be generous, to be holy.
Give me the wisdom to understand your will for me, and the fervour to fulfill my good intentions.
I offer my gifts of time, talent and possessions to you as a true act of faith, to reflect my love for you and my neighbour.
Help me to reach out to others as you, my God, have reached out to me. Amen.

Corpus Christi Parish 100th Anniversary † 1920 -2020

Corpus Christi Parish, on Queen Street East in the Beach neighbourhood, is celebrating the 100th Anniversary of its founding this year. Regretably, the major feast planned for Corpus Christi Sunday on 14 June has had to be cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic. The Cardinal's office will reschedule at an appropriate time, probably in the Fall. Historically, a number of St. Maria Goretti parish families had roots in the Beach, including Joyce Durban, who married her dear husband Carl in Corpus Christi Church on the morning of 24 November 1951 (after which they spent their honeymoon in exotic North Bay, Ontario).

In the meantime, the Corpus Christi Jubilee Committee reminded its parishioners that the parish experienced a similar series of difficulties with pandemics at the time of its founding. From its parish archives:

Corpus Christi: History Repeats Itself

In October 1919, a temporary church [for the new parish] was ordered. It was planned to seat 300 people ... It was hoped to have the first Mass by Christmas.

In 1919 priests in the diocese were not numerous. Many had died in 1918 from the scourge known as the 'Spanish Flu.' Consequently, Fr. McGrath was obliged to help out elsewhere in the diocese almost every Sunday. In December while doing work for a sick priest he contracted smallpox. He was quarantined and was unable to celebrate Christmas Mass.

The temporary church was blessed and two Masses were said on Sunday, March 21, 1920. It was not long before it was necessary to have three Masses each Sunday, and in less than six months four Masses each Sunday became necessary.



Catholics United for Climate Action ✕ Catholiques unis pour l'action climatique

Canadian Catholics Regarding the Climate Emergency prepared an Open Letter to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau. We invite Catholics in Canada - individuals, parishes and congregations - to read and pray for the success of this vital initiative.

This letter, with all signatories, was delivered to the Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on Monday, 25 May, to mark the 5th anniversary of the landmark encyclical of **Pope Francis**, *LAUDATO SI* (18 June 2015).

This letter was prepared by:

The Joint Ecological Ministry (JEM), Centre Oblat Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada
Ministry for Social Justice, Peace, and Creation Care
of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Toronto
The Jesuit Forum.

For details, visit: jemcanada@outlook.com

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau,
Prime Minister of Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Dear Prime Minister Justin Trudeau,

This time of crisis presents us with opportunities to create systems of governance that are just and inclusive of all Creation. A post-Covid world is only possible through a global just transition to a low-carbon economy where the burden of responsibility lies with economically rich countries who pollute the most. According to the International Labour Organization (ILO), a just transition can drive a nation's "job creation, job upgrading, social justice and poverty eradication." As a G7 country, Canada has the capacity and moral fibre to lead by example in this collaborative effort to avert climate collapse.

2020 marks the 5th anniversary of Pope Francis' encyclical, *Laudato Si*: "On Care for Our Common Home." In light of this anniversary, as a community of faithful Catholics, we are taking a pledge to shape our individual and community choices with care for all Creation. We are urging the Canadian government to join this commitment and take immediate concrete actions to flatten the curve of global warming and move towards a just and sustainable future.



We are echoing the demands already put forward to the government by other organizations. These include, among others:

- ☐ Do not commit public resources to the oil and gas industry which is already heavily subsidized;
- ☐ Take steps to implement the commitment to table and then pass in Parliament the Just Transition Act. This should include strengthening measures to provide oil and gas workers with direct immediate relief and opportunities for training, education and employment in existing low-carbon sectors.
- ☐ Expand government support onto low-carbon sectors and programs critical in addressing the climate emergency: building retrofits, energy efficiency, renewable energy, clean public transportation.
- ☐ Invest in a circular economy that achieves significant reduction of plastic waste.
- ☐ Implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and develop climate emergency policies in line with Indigenous knowledge and teachings.
- ☐ Foster global collaboration by demanding that the IMF take immediate steps to cancel the debt of the poorest nations so they can meet the challenges of the current pandemic as well as climate change.

The window for action to mitigate and minimize the damage to the life on Earth is closing rapidly. We are placing our hopes and prayers on the government to show leadership and collective wisdom to protect Creation from destruction.

The time to act is now. The Covid-19 recession combined with the climate emergency demands us to be creative in imagining new ways of running our economy. Let's make the most of this opportunity.



7 Sanctuaries linked by a straight line: The legendary “Sword of St. Michael”

Skellig Michael, *Ireland*

St. Michael’s Mount, *Cornwall, England*

Mont St. Michel, *Normandy, France*

Sacra di San Michele, *Monte Pirchiriano, Italy*

Santuario di San Michele Arcangelo, *Puglia, Italy*

The Monastery of Taxiarchis, *Simi Island, Greece*

Mt. Carmel Monastery, *Haifa*

The Sacred Line of Saint Michael the Archangel represents, according to legend, the blow the Saint inflicted the Devil, sending him to hell.

A mysterious imaginary line links seven monasteries, from Ireland to Israel. These seven sanctuaries are very far from each other, and yet they are perfectly aligned.

It is surprising how well these sanctuaries are aligned. But the details of such alignment are also astonishing: three of the sites, *Mont Saint Michel* in France; the *Sacra of San Miguel* in Val de Susa; and the Sanctuary of *Monte Sant’Angelo* in the Gargano are all the same distance one from the other. Some say this is a reminder from the Holy Archangel: the faithful are expected to be righteous, walking the straight path.

If all this was not surprising enough, the Sacred Line also is perfectly aligned with the sunset on the day of the Northern Hemisphere’s Summer Solstice.

In our own effort to reclaim the soul of our own country, we should turn to St. Michael and recite his prayer often, to guard, protect and help us in the battle for souls.



Skellig Michael



[Above:] St. Michael's Mount, Mont St. Michel (x2), Sacra di San Michele, Santuario di San Michele Arcangelo, Monastery of Taxiarchis, Mount Carmel