



St. John's Parish
Roman Catholic Church

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HE IS A FAITHFUL FRIEND

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - MAY 10, 2026

The Gospel for today, the Sixth Sunday of Easter, speaks to us about the Holy Spirit, whom Jesus calls the Paraclete (cf. Jn 14:15-17). Paraclete is a word that comes from Greek, which means both comforter and advocate at the same time. This means that the Holy Spirit never leaves us alone, he is near to us, like a lawyer who assists the accused person, standing by his or her side. And he suggests to us how to defend ourselves from those who accuse us. Let us recall that the great accuser is always the devil, who puts sin inside of you, the desire to sin, wickedness. Let us reflect on these two aspects: his closeness to us, and his assistance against those who accuse us.

His closeness : The Holy Spirit, Jesus says, "dwells with you and will be in you". He never abandons us. The Holy Spirit wants to stay with us; he is not a passing guest who comes to pay us a courtesy visit. He is a companion for life, a stable presence. He is Spirit and desires to dwell in our spirits. He is patient and stays with us even when we fall. He remains because he truly loves us; he does not pretend to love us, and then leaves us alone when things get difficult. No. He is loyal, he is transparent, he is authentic.

Indeed, if we find ourselves in a moment of trial, the Holy Spirit comforts us, bringing us God's pardon and strength. And when he places our errors before us and corrects us, he does so gently — there is always the timbre of tenderness and the warmth of love in his voice that speaks to the heart. Certainly, the Paraclete Spirit is demanding, because he is a true, faithful friend, who does not hide anything, who suggests what we should change and how to grow. But when he corrects us, he never humiliates us, and never instils distrust. On the contrary, he conveys the certainty that with God, we can always make it. This is his closeness. It is a beautiful certainty.

The Paraclete Spirit is the second aspect. He is our advocate and he defends us. He defends us from those who accuse us: from ourselves when we do not love and forgive ourselves, when we go so far as perhaps telling ourselves that we are failures and good for nothing; from the world who discards those who do not fit into its patterns and models; from the devil who is the "accuser" par excellence and the divider (cf. Rev 12:10), and does everything to make us feel incapable and unhappy.

In the face of all these accusing thoughts, the Holy Spirit suggests to us how to respond. How? The Paraclete, Jesus says, is the One who "reminds us of everything Jesus told us" (cf. Jn 14:26). He reminds us, therefore, of the words of the Gospel, and thus enables us to respond to the accusing devil, not with our own words, but with the Lord's own words. He reminds us, above all, that Jesus always spoke of the Father who is in heaven, he made the Father known to us, and revealed the Father's love for us, who are his children. If we call on the Spirit, we will learn to embrace and recall the most important reality of life that protects us from the accusations of evil. And what is the most important reality in life? That we are beloved children of God. We are God's beloved children: this is the most important reality, and the Spirit reminds us of this.

Brothers and sisters, let us ask ourselves today: Do we call on the Holy Spirit? Do we pray to him often? Let us not forget about the one who is close to us, or rather, is within us! Then: Do we listen to his voice, both when he encourages us and when he corrects us? Do we respond with Jesus' words to the accusations from the evil one, to the "tribunals" of life? Do we remember that we are beloved children of God? May Mary make us docile to the voice of the Holy Spirit and sensitive to his presence.

Prayer to the Mother of God

Sweet Mother, do not part from me.
Do not lose me from your sight.
Accompany me everywhere and
never leave me alone.
You who always protect me
as a true Mother,
obtain for me the blessing of the Father,
the Son and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Oración a la Madre de Dios

Dulce Madre, no te alejes,
tu vista de mí no apartes.
Ven conmigo a todas partes
y solo nunca me dejes.
Ya que me proteges tanto
como verdadera Madre,
haz que me bendiga el Padre,
el Hijo y el Espíritu Santo.
Amen.

May is the month of the Rosary:

we all are encouraged to pray the Rosary everyday in union with the Blessed Virgin Mary, by ourselves, in family, or with friends.

Mayo, mes del Rosario: Durante este mes dedicado a la Virgen, recemos el Rosario todos los días, individualmente, en familia o con amigos.

Upcoming Meeting Reminder: The Catholic Women's League will be having our next general meeting in the church hall on May 12th at 7pm. Newcomers are always welcome.

ENGLISH SCHEDULE

Sixth Sunday of Easter

<u>Saturday, May 9</u> +Gerald Dombroskie	5:00 PM
<u>Sunday, May 10</u> For All Parishioners Living & Deceased	9:00 AM
<u>Tuesday, May 12</u>	11:00 AM
<u>Wednesday, May 13</u>	11:00 AM
<u>Thursday, May 14</u> St. Matthias	11:00 AM
<u>Friday, May 15</u>	11:00 AM

The Ascension of the Lord

<u>Saturday, May 16</u> +Karl Friedrich +Mary & Michael Williams	5:00 PM
<u>Sunday, May 17</u> For All Parishioners Living & Deceased	9:00 AM

HORARIOS EN ESPAÑOL

VI Domingo de Pascua

<u>Sábado 9 de mayo</u> +Pedro Antonio Molina +Rosa Amelia Hernández	7:00 PM
<u>Domingo 10 de mayo</u> Por la Comunidad Parroquial	11:00 AM & 1:00 PM
<u>Martes 12 de mayo</u> +Aquiles Verdugo Hernández	12:00 PM
<u>Miércoles 13 de mayo</u>	12:00 PM
<u>Jueves 14 de mayo</u> St. Matthias	12:00 PM
<u>Viernes 15 de mayo</u>	12:00 PM

La Ascensión del Señor

<u>Sabado 16 de mayo</u> +Luz Mariela Gallego	7:00 PM
<u>Domingo 17 de mayo</u> Por la Comunidad Parroquial	11:00 AM & 1:00 PM

Vigilia de Pentecostés: El sábado 23 de mayo después de la Misa de 7PM, el grupo de la Renovación Carismática animará una vigilia de oración para esperar, unidos a María y los apóstoles, el don del Espíritu Santo. Más información próximamente.

Preparación para el sacramento de Confirmación: Comenzará el sábado 23 de mayo a las 5:00pm. Escribir a oficina@parroquiaguadalupe.ca para registrarse.