

S P R I N G 2 0 1 1

A Word In Season

ARCHDIOCESE OF WINNIPEG CATECHETICAL NEWSLETTER



Spring is Here

Let us Rejoice and Be Glad

EASTER

The highlight of our year is upon us, the season of Easter.

Fifty days to celebrate the joy of our risen Lord, fifty days to grow into the new and improved children of God.

After all if we fasted, prayed and gave of ourselves during Lent, we must be the new and improved versions of our former selves.

As we watch all of nature wake up from its winter sleep may we too awaken to the presence of the living Christ within us.

I wish each of you and your families a very Happy and Blessed Easter season. May it be filled with true Easter joy not just for a day but for the entire fifty days of this glorious season.

Blessings,

Judy



Sunday Gospel Readings for Easter Season

April 24 The Resurrection of the Lord Easter Sunday- John 20: 1-18

May 1 Second Sunday of Easter (of Divine Mercy) - John 20:19-31

May 8 Third Sunday of Easter- Luke 24:13-35

May 15 Fourth Sunday of Easter- John 10:1-10

May 22 Fifth Sunday of Easter- John 14: 1-12

May 29 Six Sunday of Easter- John 14: 15-21

June 5 Ascension of the Lord (World Communications Day) Matthew 28:16-20

June 12 Pentecost Sunday- John 20:19-23

How Is the Date of Easter Calculated?

Easter is a moveable feast, which means that it does not occur on the same date every year.

The council of Nicaea (A.D. 325) set the date of Easter as the Sunday following the paschal full moon, which is the full moon that falls on or after the vernal (spring) equinox.

We know that Easter must always occur on a Sunday, because Sunday was the day of Christ's Resurrection. But why the paschal full moon? Because that was the date of Passover in the Jewish calendar, and the Last Supper (Holy Thursday) occurred on the Passover. Therefore Easter was the Sunday after Passover.

The Church does not use the exact date of the paschal full moon but an approximation, because the paschal full moon can fall on different days in different time zones, which would mean that the date of Easter would be different depending on which time zone you live in. For calculation purposes, the full moon is always set at the 14th day of the lunar month (the lunar month begins with the new moon).

Likewise, the Church sets the date of the vernal equinox at March 21, even though it can occur on March 20. Both approximations allow the church to set a universal date for Easter.

Still, Easter isn't celebrated universally on that date. While Western Christians use the Gregorian calendar (the calendar used throughout the West today, both the secular and religious worlds) to calculate the date of Easter, the Eastern Orthodox continues to use the older, astronomically inaccurate Julian calendar. Currently, March 21 on the Julian calendar falls on April 3 in the Gregorian calendar. Therefore, for the Orthodox, the Sunday following the 14th day of the paschal full moon has to fall after April 3, hence the discrepancy in the date of Easter.



Why and How May is Celebrated as the Month of Mary in the Catholic faith.

This month of devotions in the church calendar is characterized by special hymns and the use of flowers, which bring nature into the church. There are several Marian feast days in May, including Our Lady of Fatima, Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament and Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The celebration of May as a holy month for Mary has been ratified by several popes through the ages. Pope Benedict XV ordered a prayer for peace in 1915 during World War I and Pope Pius XII called for May devotions May is the month when Catholics traditionally focus on Mary, the Mother of Jesus. The practice dates back at least 700 years and is still observed around the world today. May is seen as the beginning of new life and the start of summer, which makes this a logical time for the celebrations of Mary, who brought life into the world.

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Click on this link for a Mary story book.

http://www.loyolapress.com/assets/fg_comp/pdf_176509.pdf



Saint Gianna Beretta Molla

Born: October 4th, 1922 Died: April 28th, 1962

Feast Day: April 28th

What she said "The secret of happiness is to live moment by moment and to thank God for all that. He, in His goodness, sends to us day after day."

Who she was Gianna was born in Milan, Italy. She grew up surrounded by a close-knit and loving family. Her father worked in a cotton mill to provide for his wife and eight children. Gianna's family was very religious, and Gianna would accompany her mother to daily Mass. Gianna was a happy child, although she struggled with her school work and battled poor health.

When Gianna was a teenager, her oldest sister died at the age of 26. From this point on, Gianna began to take her faith more seriously. She realized that her faith could not just be a habit, but that she had to live her faith with joy. She began to make more time for personal prayer and meditation every day. Gianna took on a leadership role in the Catholic women's group she belonged to. She encouraged the other women to pray and find opportunities to help others.

Gianna also became more diligent about her school work. She thought about becoming a missionary to Brazil, but eventually decided that the best way to fulfill her desire to serve others was by becoming a doctor. She was drawn to care for children and senior citizens in particular, and she eventually specialized as a pediatrician. Many of her patients felt that she was not only their doctor, but also their friend and confidante.

Gianna married Pietro Molla when she was 32 years old. Both of them were passionate about their jobs, but Gianna insisted that they also make time for other pursuits. They enjoyed entertaining guests, attending plays and concerts, and skiing and hiking. Most of all, they loved their children. Gianna considered her children her "treasures." Although it was unusual at this time, Gianna continued to practice medicine after she had children. She loved her children so much that this love overflowed into her work as a doctor.

When Gianna was pregnant with her fourth child, doctors found she had a tumour that threatened her life and the life of her baby. As a doctor, Gianna was aware of the risks involved in her treatment options. She decided to have a surgery that carried a higher risk for her, but was safer for her baby. The surgery was successful in removing the tumour, and a few months later Gianna gave birth to a healthy daughter, Gianna Emanuela. However, Gianna herself contracted an infection. While modern antibiotics could have saved her, doctors at that time were unable to defeat the infection. Gianna died at the age of 39, one week after the birth of her daughter. Gianna Beretta Molla's husband and daughter were present at her canonization. Gianna followed in her mother's footsteps by becoming a doctor.

What this saint means to us Saint Gianna followed Christ as a doctor, a mother, and a wife. She was a cheerful and energetic person who loved life and was involved in many activities. She recognized that life is a gift from God and she wanted to share it with others. Saint Gianna reminds us that we are called to follow Christ through prayerful service in every situation in life. We should pray to her for help in finding ways to offer our own talents and gifts in the service of others.

REVISED ENGLISH VERSION
OF THE ROMAN MISSAL
FOR CANADA

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCCB) has received *recognitio* for all sections of the English translation of the revised *Roman Missal* for use in Canada. The Permanent Council has agreed that the first Sunday of Advent, November 27, 2011, will be the date for the implementation of the English translation of the Missal.

[Read More](#)

BEATIFICATION OF POPE
JOHN PAUL II



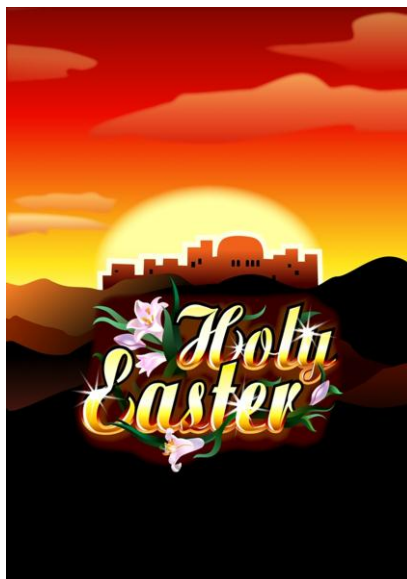
May 1, 2011

For more information go to or click on link.

http://www.vatican.va/special/anniversario_gpII/documents/index_en.htm

BEING CREATIVE AND GREEN AT THE SAME TIME

If you are looking for supplies for crafts or even office materials you may want to visit [ArtsJunktion](#). It is dedicated to keeping things out of the landfill sites by encouraging us to add a new R in the green trio: Reduce, Reuse, Redesign and Recycle. You never know what you may find there. They also accept donations of things you may not have a use for but may be just what someone else is on the hunt for. We can all do our part to take care of God's creation by not creating waste. Instead let us be inspired to create something new out of something used and not turn God's creation into a giant landfill site. *For more information click on the link above or go to <http://www.artsjunktion.mb.ca/default.cfm>*



Remember

Coordinators meeting April 26, 1-3 pm or 7-9 pm
May 31, 1-3 pm or 7-9 pm. All meetings are at the Catholic Centre in Winnipeg, 1495 Pembina Hwy. RSVP catechetics@archwinnipeg.ca