

LITURGY: MUSIC AT MASS



The Ancient Roots of the Gloria We Sing at Mass

By Chloe Langr

The Gloria is one of the oldest hymns sung by the Church. It was first sung by the angels the night that Christ was born in Bethlehem. Although no one quite knows who composed the rest of the lyrics for the Gloria, we can trace the hymn back to the third century of the Church. Tradition holds that it was first composed as a prayer in the East and translated to Latin by Saint Hilary of Poitiers around the year 360. In today's liturgy, before the opening collect in the Mass, the congregation joins the priest in singing the Gloria. What's amazing about this beautiful hymn is that it has ancient roots and it wasn't always part of the Catholic Mass.

Historically, the Gloria is known as the "Angelic Hymn" because it contains the words sung from the Heavens by the angels on the night of Christ's birth. Luke 2:13 reads: "And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests." Although we're used to singing the Gloria at church, the ancient hymn wasn't always part of the liturgy. "This hymn was not originally part of the Mass but was probably sung as the Te Deum is today, as a thanksgiving hymn for feasts and celebration," Monsignor Charles Pope wrote in his book, *The Mass in Slow Motion*.

Text of the Gloria was first found in Greek and Syrian sources, where it was sung as an Easter hymn at dawn, and at the conclusion of morning prayer. It more than likely entered the west through Gaul. By the sixth century it had been incorporated into the Papal Christmas Mass. The Gloria was introduced into Sunday Masses and feast days of martyrs – but only when a bishop presided. Priests were only allowed to say the Gloria on the Easter Vigil. But by the eleventh century, the Gloria was being sung at all the Sunday Masses and feast days.

In his book *The Mystery of Faith: A Study of the Structural Elements of the Order of the Mass*, Lawrence Johnson writes about how the Gloria has come down to Catholics today as part of the treasury of early hymns written about the Psalms and other Biblical passages. "The Gloria is a hymn-anthem containing a series of acclamations. The text today mentions all three persons of the Trinity; this Trinitarian characteristic is even more pronounced in some of the hymns' early text."

In 2011, Catholics in the United States who attended the Ordinary Form of the Mass experienced a major change to many parts of the Mass translation. It was the first major change in the translation since the Ordinary Form was introduced in 1969. The translation was conducted by the International Commission on English in the Liturgy and approved by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Many minor textual translations were clarified in the new translation of the Gloria. For instance, at the beginning of the Gloria, the faithful now say or sing, "Glory to God in the Highest and on earth peace to people of good will!" This is a place in the Gloria where the Biblical roots of the prayer are emphasized. In another section, the congregations says or sings, "We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory!" this is a five-fold invocation of praise, which emphasizes the majesty and amazing glory of God.

The Gloria is a prayer that is meant to point our hearts towards a spirit of awe. It reminds us, gathered in the pews of the church, that we are called to praise and glorify the maker of our hearts and souls. "We are singing now for the same reason the angels sang; namely, that God has sent his Son among us born in our same flesh. Humble and lowly he comes among us, and so, struck with awe at this unexpected shape of the divine plan, as the angels themselves were, we cry out in a hymn to God's glory," writes Father Jeremy Driscoll O.S.B. in his book *What Happens at Mass*.

We sing the Gloria because it is a song of absolute joy and praise to God – what better way to start the Mass than to glorify God!

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MASSES & SERVICES

Saturday: 5pm
(Anticipated Mass)
Sunday: 9am, 11am & 5pm
Monday – Wednesday 8am
Thursday Mass/Novena:
8am & 7pm
Friday, Saturday, Holidays: 9am
(Fridays in July & August: 8am)
Children's Mass: 9am 1st
Sunday of the month Oct-June
Children's Liturgy: 11am
All Sundays except the 1st
Sunday from Sept- June
Reconciliation
Saturday: 4-4:45pm
Adoration
Saturday 9:30-10am
Library Hours
Sunday: 10-10:45am, 4:30-5pm

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday: 9am-4pm

STAFF

Pastor

Babu Mathew, C.Ss.R.

Associate Pastor

Joseph Horo, C.Ss.R.

In Residence

William Comerford, C.Ss.R.

Office Manager

Virginia Fong

Pastoral Coordinator

Bertilla Watanabe

Bookkeeper

Corinna Siy

Youth Ministry Coordinator

Theresa Barao

OLPH School Principal

Lora Clarke

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May 20, 2018

Pentecost Sunday

Creating Intentional Disciples Within The Parish

Dear Friends and Parishioners,

Thank you for your prayers and condolences on the passing of my father. My father was indeed a gift to our family. It was a blessing that I was able to be present for the funeral. It is customary here to mark the days and weeks after a funeral with gatherings of friends and relatives to pray for the deceased. I am glad to be able to share this time with all of them.

Before I left, I had made plans with staff and volunteers for the annual Ministry Appreciation Gathering on Wednesday. It is a gathering at which we celebrate the presence of so many good stewards and disciples who share their time and talent so generously for the growth of the parish. These are amazing people who recognize their God-given gifts and share them in the best way they know how.

The four people who received Discipleship Awards this year are Renee Stafford, Chair of the Parish Education Committee, Rosanna Falbo who ran the Children's Liturgy program for many years, Jim Cameron who has been a stalwart member of the parish community for a long time and Diane Poirier who has served the parish through the Catholic Women's League. My sincere thanks to all of you for your patience and perseverance in dealing with the challenges of these responsibilities.

The subject of good stewardship and discipleship is something you will be hearing more about in the coming months as we form a new parish committee. More details about this will be available in the near future. The idea behind the committee is to form intentional disciples so that there is a higher level of engagement among parishioners. I urge all of you to pray on this and continue your good work of supporting our efforts to build a strong, spiritually-grounded faith community.

May our blessed Mother guide us on this path.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Babu Mathew, C.Ss.R.

Lay Partners in Proclaiming the Message

The Redemptorist Associates were blessed to have Anne Walsh as a speaker at their May gathering. Anne is on the Secretariat of the North American Conference of Partners in Mission which she co-chairs with Fr David Louch, CSSR.

Redemptorists have a long history of working with lay people in carrying out Jesus' mission of bringing the Gospel to the most abandoned. Redemptorist Associates gather together for prayer, Gospel reflection, faith-sharing and community.

As Anne Said: "You might never have to give a homily or lead a mission but you may be a Food Bank volunteer or a teacher or a nurse, whatever it is you do, you can still be a partner in proclaiming the message of plentiful redemption which Alphonsus shared with us."



Lord send forth your spirit and renew the face of the earth. – Psalm 104

NEWS & NOTICES

Weekly Collection: Sunday Mass Offering May 12 & 13: \$7,162.20. Offering for the Needy: \$1,718.00. Pope's Pastoral Works: \$60.00. CSSR Pension Collection: \$5.00. Thank you for your generosity.

Project Advance Report: Dear Parishioners, we are off to a good start. As at May 11, we received pledges totaling \$15,334 with participation from 22 parishioners. Our archdiocesan goal is \$52,000 and the parish goal is \$104,000 so that funds beyond Archdiocesan target will be rebated to us for the parish seismic upgrade. Please make a prayerful and sacrificial contribution to Project Advance. Thank you for your support!

OLPH Parish Survey: If you haven't completed the Parish Survey yet, please note, you have only one week left to hand it in. We would very much appreciate your thoughts on how to make OLPH a wonderful dynamic faith community. All completed surveys have to be handed in by next Sunday.

Door Is Open Volunteers Needed: Next month's Door Is Open on June 5 is the last one for the 2017-2018 year. Volunteers are needed. Sign-up sheets are at the church entrance. Thank you for reaching out!

Food Bank: The next Food Bank Collection is for cash donations to the Ronald McDonald House next weekend. When a child is seriously ill, the specialization and equipment required for their major medical treatment isn't always available locally. RMHBC is a charity that provides accommodation for these children and their families next door to BC Children's Hospital. It's a place of comfort, healing, and a home away from home for kids who must travel to Vancouver for the treatment they desperately need.

VANSPEC Welcomes New Students for Fall 2018: Do you know anyone who would like to register their child for our one-on-one catechism? We can now accept online registrations. However, due to limited spaces we are unable to assist all applicants at once. We will place your registration in our application queue and once space becomes available, the next student on the queue will be contacted. To register visit: <http://vanspec.ca/contact/new-students/> For further information contact: Lucy Rodjito – Vanspec Coordinator by email vanspec@rcav.org

Victoria Day Holiday: Monday May 21 is a holiday. Mass is at 9am that day.

Parish Hall Events: On Tuesday May 22 the Parish Hall will be occupied by the After-School Care Program from 9am-6pm. As well, on Friday June 15 from 11am-6pm.

Registrations for St Pat's: St. Patrick's Regional Secondary is still accepting applications for Grade 8 for the upcoming 2018-2019 school year. Please visit our school office for more information and applications.

The Art of Daily Conversations: how can we tell when someone is just curious to learn more about Jesus and why we love him, even before getting invited to get to know him better? Join us for wine and cheese and learn practical tips from Amber Zolc and the CCO Impact Team on how to share your personal journey with Christ, one conversation at a time. Register at www.discoverdiscipleship.ca. Tickets are \$10 per person. Friday, May 25, 2018 at 7 p.m. John Paul II Pastoral Centre 4885 Saint John Paul II Way, Vancouver, B.C.

Focus on Life Gala Dinner: Come discover how together we can challenge and inspire our nation to be a place where all life is valued. Our keynote speakers are constitutional law expert Albertos Polizogopoulos and Fay Sonier, Executive Director of Physicians for Life. They are going to give us a lay of the land and speak to how we can move forward in the midst of our society that is de-valuing life and restricting our freedom of conscience and then lead into the practical initiatives that the Focus on Life committee is doing today. Monday May 28, Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Cost: \$85 per ticket, \$800 per table. focusonlife.ca/gala

Carr Lecture 2018: "Preaching and Communicating in a Franciscan Era: What is the Church learning from an Argentine Jesuit Pope?" Featured Speaker: Father Thomas Rosica, CSB, Scripture Scholar, Executive Producer and Church Spokesperson. Many of the questions or statements of Pope Francis these past five years have often made us feel uneasy. That is the role of prophets. The Pope's blunt assessment of the epidemic of fake news reveals an elderly pastor and world leader who is sophisticated, astute, wise and bold in naming evil for what it is. The Pope's analysis also indicated how far the Church has come in her understanding of media and communications. He has argued that the most "radical antidote" to the scourge of fake news lies in "purification by the truth." Thursday, May 24, 2018 at 7:00 pm, St. Mark's College, 5935 Iona Drive, Vancouver (UBC) Admission is free but registration is recommended.

Stewardship Reflection

"There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone." – 1 CORINTHIANS 12:4-6

All of us are blessed, regardless of our own individual circumstances; God has given each of us many gifts. How we use those gifts is our gift back to God. For God's plan to work, each must do what we are called to do and guess what – we are not all called to do the same thing!

Stewardship Office, Archdiocese of St. Louis

CALENDAR

MAY

Youth Rosary Gathering

May is the month our Blessed Mother Mary and the OLPH youth group would like to invite all young parishioners of this parish to pray the rosary on Sunday, May 27th. Join us at the grotto @ 3pm. We will have snacks and pop after!

Youth Mug Collection

The youth are collecting mugs for the Men's Hostel. Please deposit mugs you are donating into the box marked "OLPH Youth Mug Collection" in the foyer.

Pentecost Celebration



May 20 is Pentecost Sunday. The parish is hosting a barbeque after the 11am Mass served by the Knights of Columbus. If you are attending another Mass, you are welcome to join us at noon. We will gather at the front of the rectory.

JUNE

OLPH Novena/Triduum & Feast

Fr. Eugene O'Reilly CSsR is our guest speaker at this year's Triduum Novena & Talks. This will climax with a special Mass to celebrate our feast day at 4pm on Sunday June 24 to be followed by a reception and potluck dessert from parishioners. All are invited.

Friday June 15 – Wed June 20: Novena after morning Mass
-Thurs Novena & Talk June 21: 7pm
-Fri Novena & Talk June 22: 7pm
-Sat Novena & Talk June 23: 6pm
-Sun June 24: Mass at 4pm
There will no be 5pm Mass on Sunday. Reception to follow.



What is Pentecost Sunday?

Pentecost Sunday is a commemoration and celebration of the receiving of the Holy Spirit by the early church. John the Baptist prophesied of the first Pentecost when Jesus would baptize with the Holy Spirit and with fire (Matthew 3:11).

Jesus confirmed this prophecy with the promise of the Holy Spirit to the disciples in John 14:26. He showed Himself to these men after His death on the cross and His resurrection, giving convincing proofs that He was alive. Jesus told the disciples to wait in Jerusalem for the Father's gift of the Holy Spirit, from whom they would receive power to be His witnesses to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:3-8).

After Jesus' ascension to heaven, the men returned to Jerusalem and joined together in prayer in an upper room. On the Day of Pentecost, just as promised, the sound of a violent wind filled the house and tongues of fire came to rest on each of them and all were filled with the Holy Spirit. They were given the power of communication, which Peter used to begin the ministry for which Jesus had prepared him. After the coming of the Holy Spirit, the disciples did not stay in the room basking in God's glory but burst out to tell the world. This was the beginning of the church as we know it.

Today, in many Christian churches, Pentecost Sunday is celebrated to recognize the gift of the Holy Spirit, realizing that God's very life, breath and energy live in believers. At this Mass, the Gospel reading from John 20:19-23 is the core of the message about our risen Savior supernaturally appearing to the fear-laden disciples. Their fear gave way to joy when the Lord showed them His hands and side. He assured them peace and repeated the command given in Matthew 28:19-20, saying, "As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." Then He breathed on them, and they received the Holy Spirit (John 20:21-23).

The celebration of Pentecost Sunday reminds us of the reality that we all have the unifying Spirit that was poured out upon the first-century church in Acts 2:1-4. It is a reminder that we are co-heirs with Christ, to suffer with Him that we may also be glorified with Him; that the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good (1 Corinthians 12:7); that we are all baptized by one Spirit into one body (1 Corinthians 12:13); and that the Spirit which raised Jesus from the dead lives inside believers (Romans 8:9-11).

This gift of the Holy Spirit that was promised and given to all believers on the first Pentecost is promised for you and your children and for all who are far off whom the Lord our God will call (Acts 2:39).

www.gotquestions.org

PENTECOST: INSPIRED DISCIPLES

Ministry Appreciation Gathering

By Bertilla Watanabe

Active members of OLPH Parish ministries gathered to honor and show appreciation to outstanding volunteers at Wednesday's Ministry Appreciation Gathering. Awards were presented to four exemplary stewards of our parish who have served in so many ways over many years.

The award recipients were Jim Cameron who has served in a variety of committees and ministries for a few decades, Renee Stafford who has been a long-serving member and chair of the PEC and has shared her professional expertise in other aspects of school and parish administration, Rosanna Falbo who has been an inspiration in her role as Coordinator for Children's Liturgy for over 10 years and Diane Poirier who served on the Executive Committee of the Catholic Women's League and has, in recent years, been in charge of funeral receptions. Fr. Bill Comerford was at hand to invoke blessings on all gathered and present the award certificates and gifts.

A compelling video presentation of Bishop Robert Barron on how to share the Gospel message and be fired up by the Holy Spirit was a fitting talk in anticipation of Pentecost Sunday. Adding to the sense of anticipation for the flames of the Holy Spirit was Josephine Wong's teaser about a new committee which is looking at ways to promote a stronger sense of discipleship and engagement within the parish. A discernment process is in the works so stay tuned for more details in the coming months.

Thank you to Jesse Gemmell our MC and all the award presenters – Peter Dodge, Meg Knowing, Ed Barnes and Martha Arias who prepared gracious tributes for the award recipients. Also, Lara Garcia and friends for preparation, serving and cleaning up for this event. God bless our volunteers!

