



# MARTYRS' SHRINE

## LE SANCTUAIRE DES MARTYRS

Weekly Church Bulletin | 4th Sunday of Easter | Sunday, May 3 2020

### SERVED BY JESUITS

Rev. Michael Knox, SJ - Director  
Rev. Patrick Coldricks, SJ  
Rev. Stephen LeBlanc, SJ  
Rev. Adam Hinks, SJ

### HOLY MASS

Online Weekly  
Every Sunday at  
[www.martyrs-shrine.com/mass](http://www.martyrs-shrine.com/mass)

### MASS INTENTIONS

This week's Mass is celebrated for:

- The soul of Joseph Tri Ngo
- The soul of Daniel Charles Maloney
- The soul of Murray Cayley
- For the thanksgiving of Navaratnam Suraj and family
- For Ian D'Souza: requesting a renewal in the faith of all Christians.

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### WEEKLY REFLECTION

#### FOR – GIVE – NESS

I forgive all who have injured me and ask pardon of all whom I have injured.



Source: Pixabay

In doing so, am I some sort of SUPER hero? God our Lord, Jesus Christ, did not suggest that we forgive; rather the written Word of God, in the Holy Bible says, 'As the Lord has forgiven you, so too you MUST forgive' (Col.3:13). During His dying moments, on the cross at Calvary, Christ sought forgiveness from our Father for those who caused the killing. Not that this kind of love was to die: in the Acts of the Apostles (7: 60) we learn that one of the earliest of the followers of Christ, the deacon-become-martyr, St. Stephen, during his own execution prayed, aloud, "Lord, do not lay this sin against them" (Acts 7:60).

Nor was that spirit - the Spirit of Christ - to be limited, so to speak, to biblical places and times. Remembering the scriptural account of St. Stephen's word, the British Catholic martyr of the 16th century, St. Thomas More, prayed in that Spirit that he and those sending him to his death would 'merrily meet in heaven'. He seemed to have been at peace - even joyful - as he asked that the executioner 'do no damage to my beard, for my beard hath not offended His Majesty, the King'. And here, in 17th century Huronia as well, the spirit of forgiveness was heard - and recorded as such by eye-witness accounts - as being expressed by a Jesuit missionary, the martyr-saint, Fr. Jean de Brébeuf in the midst of prolonged tortures to death.

Praying that God give us a share in His Spirit - the Spirit of His holy ones - we can re-commit ourselves to live and to die in that vein, saying again and again, I forgive all who have injured me, and ask pardon of all whom I have injured. Noting well what Christ said, to His followers - that if we were not to forgive, neither would God forgive us (Mark 11:26) - we ask His holy martyrs, and His holy mother, the Queen of Martyrs, to intercede for us in this most vital expression of the Spirit of Christ.

Fr. Stephen LeBlanc, SJ