

## Jesus Comes to Our Defense

Today's drawing places the viewer outside the Gospel scene looking in. We're behind the darkened figures standing at a door. We see Jesus in full view, standing in the light blocking the accusers' way toward the woman. He's clearly coming to her defense as he listens, unmoved by their story.

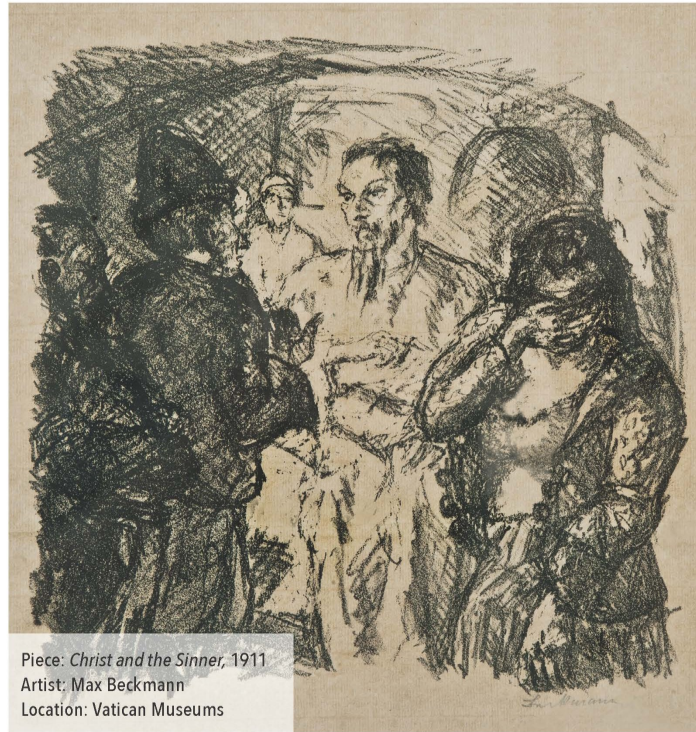
Oftentimes we may feel that Jesus stands more as an accuser than a savior. He's there to point out what we should do in the future, didn't do in the past, or aren't doing in the present. This isn't the Jesus the Gospel presents. He stands to defend the sinner before her accusers. Even to those who so blatantly hurt him, Jesus said "Father, forgive them, they know not what they do" (Luke 23:34).

Sometimes it is hard to let go of an erring view of God. It can be comforting to have someone to blame or fear. Look at St. Paul: He was a zealous persecutor of Christians. Yet, having found Christ, he let go of his erroneous view of God and let Jesus come to his defense. He let go of the guilt of his sinful past and his desire to save himself through his own works.

He considered it all trash to be discarded and forgotten as he held on to faith in Jesus.

We need to leave our evil deeds in his merciful heart and forget them there. The sacrament of reconciliation offers the best opportunity to do so. Let him stand at the door of your heart, defending you from those sinister accusers of your past who would haul you back into the darkness.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC



Piece: *Christ and the Sinner*, 1911  
 Artist: Max Beckmann  
 Location: Vatican Museums

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### For Reflection

*Do negative thoughts about myself or my past limit my experience of God's love?  
 When have I truly known the redemption of Christ?  
 Remember that moment of mercy and take strength from it.*

*"Has no one condemned you?" ...Then Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you. Go, [and] from now on do not sin any more."*

*John 8:10–11*

# Assumption of Our Lady



www.ourladyofassumptionhayriver.com

April 7, 2019

5th Sunday of Lent

Weekend Masses

Weekday Masses

Saturday 5:00 pm

Mon.- Fri. 5:30 pm

Sunday 10:30 am

Reconciliation is on Saturday from 4:15 to 4:45 or by appointment. Please contact Fr. Innocent for any other sacraments or funerals.

Fr. Innocent Ukaegbu: 867-875-2545

father@ourladyofassumptionhayriver.com

## Hay River, NT



& St. Anne, Katloodeche

Sunday Mass 1:30 PM

Date	Readers	Collection	Gift Bearers	Eucharistic Ministers	Coffee & Snacks
Apr. 7	Andrew Cassidy Deedee Lepine	Darm Crook Jason Morissey	Eva & Merv Templeton	Suzanne Bouchard Doug Swallow Bea Lepine	<b>Kelly Lizardo and Julie Bordey</b>
Apr. 14	Doris Caudron Sheila Ryan- Hachey	Pau Delorey Pete Boden	Coombs Family	Marie Kopp-van Egteren Andrew Cassidy Theresa Swallow	<b>Debbie Whittle, Anna Crosman Densie Dejarlais</b>
Apr. 21	Gracious de Vera Daphne Babiuk Amelie Stephen Josee Tousenard	Iga Olesinski Mederic Stephen	Clare, Elijah & Emmanuel Engen	Deedee Lepine Tony Whittle Doug Swallow	<b>Easter Sunday— POTLUCK EVERYONE</b>
Apr. 28	Ashley Coombs Jason Morissey	Darm Crook Gerry Engen	Capulso Family	Shirley Gutierrez Deedee Lepine Davida Delorey	



The Announcement for 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of lent; April 7<sup>th</sup> 2019.

- We are always delighted to welcome each and everyone who has come to worship with us here at Assumption parish. If you're a new member, please take time to introduce yourself to the pastor and fill out a registration form found at the bulletin board at the entrance of the church.
- Dr. Megan Mckenna is here this weekend for a three day retreat. She will be speaking to us during mass as a prelude to the retreat that begins Sunday evening by 7:00pm. Dr. Megan has doctorate degree in scripture and is great using stories to drive home moral lessons in the bible. This retreat is one we should not try to miss.
- As from the first week of lent onwards, our daily masses on Mondays and Tuesdays will be by 12:10pm. We encourage parishioner who are free at that time to please attend.
- We're once again reminded that there will be station of the cross every Friday during this lent. Time is 6:00pm immediately after 5:30 evening mass. All are encouraged to attend.
- There will be Lenten Lunches every Thursday this lent, starting from the 7<sup>th</sup> of March, at St. Andrew's Anglican church; everyone is welcomed to attend. Assumption parish will be providing both the services and the soup and Sandwiches on the 14<sup>th</sup> of March and 11<sup>th</sup> of April.
- Next Sunday, the 14<sup>th</sup> April is Palm Sunday and the beginning of Holy week; a time we reflect more deeply on the mysteries of God's love made manifest in the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ. To prepare ourselves for the Holy Week, there will penitential service and/or confessions immediately after evening mass on Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>. 6:00pm.
- The CWL devotional rosary for the sick and the needy every Tuesday is still ongoing. More members are encouraged to participate and the time is 11:30am.
- Communion to the sick and home bound: Do you know of anyone who is sick and/or home bound and would like to be visited and given communion by the church, please let us know.

*Rachel's Corner*

*"I feel liberated from the secret, the pain and the shame. I have also finally been able to connect with the children I lost to the abortions. They have realness now and I can carry them with me in a special way in my everyday life."* Testimonial

Are you tired of carrying the secret of your past abortion involvement, which seems to continuously judge and condemn you? Come on a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat and see what life can be like once you are set free from that burden.

**Healing after Abortion Ministry 867-872-0026**  
[rachelsvineyard.nwt@gmail.com](mailto:rachelsvineyard.nwt@gmail.com)

**Like us on Facebook: Rachel's Vineyard Kelowna**

<b><u>Weekly Revenue</u></b>	<b>\$1,821.21</b> Collection
	<b>\$1,821.21</b> Revenue Total
	<b>\$1,831.00</b> Expenses Total
	<b>-\$9.79</b>

Expenses are based on 2018 Q1

*Calendar*

- Monday**  
 APRIL 8  
*Lenten Weekday*  
 Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or  
 Jn 13:41c-62  
 Jn 8:12-20
- Tuesday**  
 APRIL 9  
*Lenten Weekday*  
 Nm 21:4-9  
 Jn 8:21-30
- Wednesday**  
 APRIL 10  
*Lenten Weekday*  
 Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95  
 Jn 8:31-42
- Thursday**  
 APRIL 11  
*Lenten Weekday*  
 Gn 17:3-9  
 Jn 8:51-59
- Friday**  
 APRIL 12  
*Lenten Weekday*  
 Jer 20:10-13  
 Jn 10:31-42
- Saturday**  
 APRIL 13  
*Lenten Weekday*  
 Ez 37:21-28  
 Jn 11:45-56
- Sunday**  
 APRIL 14  
*Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion*  
 Lk 19:28-40  
 Is 50:4-7  
 Phil 2:6-11  
 Lk 22: 14-23:56  
 or Lk 23:1-49

*Dear Padre,*

**Incense in church irritates my eyes. Is it really needed?**

Some churches, for example, limit incensation to only the sanctuary to minimize discomfort by those with allergies in the congregation. Although incense is optional at Mass (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal, 276*), and therefore isn't "needed" per se, the question of its occasional use is more than a mere necessity issue.

The US Bishops' Committee on the Liturgy writes, "Since worship engages Christians fully, in every aspect of their being, they worship God with their bodies and feelings as well as their minds and spirits, with their hands and feet as well as their eyes and ears. The non-verbal elements of the Liturgy can express what cannot be articulated in words and, at times, can reinforce the spoken word" (*Introduction to the Order of the Mass, 27*).

Incense is a powerful, solemn expression of prayer, purification, and reverence that reinforces the spoken word in worship and praise. It "suggests both the otherness of the transcendent God and the cloud that symbolized God's glory and presence in the midst of the Israelites" (*Introduction to the*



*Order of Mass, 58*). The fragrance is intended to awaken our senses and the rising swirl of smoke represents our lifted hearts in prayer. "The smoke of the incense along with the prayers of the holy ones went up before God from the hand of the angel" (Revelation 8:4).

Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR  
 Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



*A Word from Pope Francis*

*Jesus...taught that the true battlefield, where violence and peace meet, is the human heart...When he stopped her accusers from stoning the woman caught in adultery, and when, on the night before he died, he told Peter to put away his sword, Jesus marked out the path of nonviolence.*

—World Day of Peace, January 1, 2017



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