

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time – July 26, 2020

ST. MARY PARISH WEEKDAY MASSES

Tues. July 28 - 7:00 p.m. Kay Lehman Req'd by Doris and Dan Tone
Wed. July 29 - 9:00 a.m. Loretta Caughlin Req'd by Mary & Bill Hammond
Thur. July 30 - 9:00 a.m. Margaret & Leo Coulson Req'd by Wilf Coulson
Fri. July 31 - 9:00 a.m. Brett Bengochea Req'd by Dalla Costa Family
Sat. Aug 1 - 4:00 p.m. Thomas Douglas Smith Req'd by The Smith family
Sun. Aug 2 - 9:00 a.m. The People of the Parish

LECTORS

Sat. Aug 1 - 4:00 p.m. Maxine Schmidt
Sun. Aug 2 - 9:00 a.m. Marian Flanigan

CONFESSION only by appointment, call Fr. Joe at: 519-323-1054 ext. 7

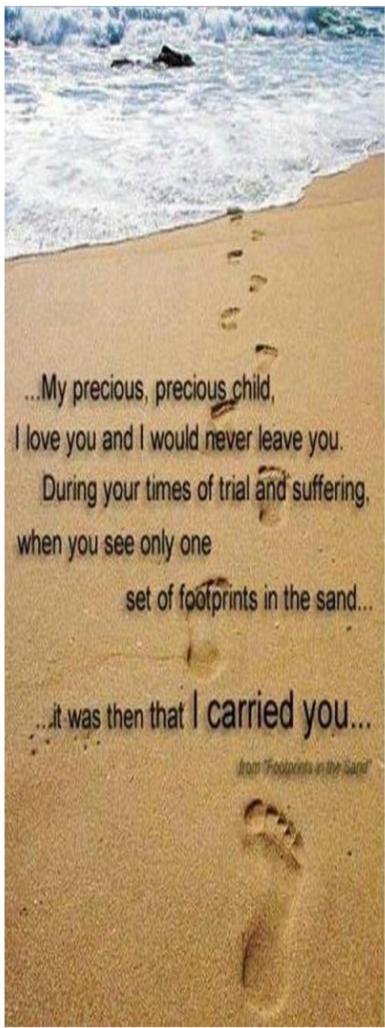
Attention! Tuesday Mass starts at 7 p.m.

ST. THOMAS, Harriston

Sat. Aug 1 - 5:30 p.m. The People of the Parish

ST. PETER'S, Ayton

Sun. Aug 2 - 11:00 a.m. Garvey & Burns families Req'd by Estate of Bernadette Burns



...My precious, precious child,
I love you and I would never leave you.
During your times of trial and suffering,
when you see only one
set of footprints in the sand...
it was then that I carried you...

Your God is ever beside you- indeed,
He is even within you.
- St. Alphonsus Liguori- Aug 1

Pray for grocery store workers and delivery drivers.

Lord, we are so grateful for all the people who continue to work each day so that people are able to eat. We ask that You bless and protect them as they serve. Give them grace to handle disgruntled customers during supplies shortages. Keep their bodies healthy as they unload and stock boxes of supplies. Keep their cars and trucks running smoothly as they deliver needed supplies and food people have ordered online. And please protect them all from contracting the new coronavirus.

**Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.
—Lamentations 3:22-23 (NIV)**

Sunday's Readings

First Reading

1 Kings 3:5,7-12

Solomon pleases God when he asks for a wise and understanding heart to better govern the people.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 119:57,72,76-77,127-130

The law of the Lord is more precious than silver and gold.

Second Gospel Reading

Romans 8:28-30

God chose us to be conformed to the image of his Son.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 13:44-52 (shorter form: Matthew 13:44-46)

Jesus teaches about the Kingdom of Heaven.

Background on the Gospel Reading

In Matthew's Gospel we have heard Jesus teaching crowds about the kingdom of heaven, and we have heard Jesus interpret some of his teachings for the disciples. In this Gospel, Jesus offers three more short parables.

The first two parables describe the great value of the kingdom of heaven. In the first parable, Jesus says that the kingdom of heaven is like a buried treasure that is worth possessing even if it means giving up everything else. In the second parable, Jesus proposes that the kingdom of heaven is like a pearl of great worth for which one will sell everything else to possess. These parables teach us that we are to place everything we value in the service of the pursuit of the Kingdom of God.

The third parable that Jesus proposes in today's Gospel is different from the first two, but it is reminiscent of the parable of the sower heard in last week's Gospel. The kingdom of heaven is compared to fishing with a wide net. After the fish have been collected, the good fish are kept and the bad fish are thrown away; so too, in the final judgment, will the wicked and the righteous be separated.

Family Connection

Like the person who found the buried treasure and the merchant who acquired the pearl of great price, we seek to find the signs of the kingdom of heaven in our lives. In fact, we even work to bring about God's kingdom in our actions and in our words. We pray that our family values reflect our pursuit of the kingdom of heaven. As Jesus' disciples, we place everything we value in the service of the pursuit of the Kingdom of God.

Saint Martha- July 29

Martha was the sister of Mary and Lazarus, and all three were friends of Jesus. She is a model of hospitality as well as of fidelity in discipleship.

Martha is a patron of domestic workers and cooks.



St. Ignatius of Loyola- July 31

Ignatius was born in northern Spain and raised as a gentleman destined for military service. After accident and he read a life of Christ and found himself inflamed with the desire to serve Jesus.

He formed the Society of Jesus- **Jesuits**. Ignatius spent the rest of his life directing the rapidly growing order, writing its constitutions and refining the Spiritual Exercises. He was canonized in 1622 and is **universal patron of retreats and soldiers.**

DIOCESAN CALENDAR

Mon.-Rev. M. Grubisic, O.F.M. Tue.-Rev. D. Perrin
Wed.-Our Parish Community Thurs.-Rev. R. Ma, C.R.
Fri.- Re. T. Uniac, C.R. Sat.-Most Rev. A. Tonnos

" Give your servant therefore an understanding mind..."
Perhaps the priesthood life awaits you. If God is calling you, contact Fr. Michael King, Vocation Director, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988 or email vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

Prayer: Lord, thank You that **"before a word is on my tongue , you, LORD, know it completely"** (Psalm 139:4, NIV).

Thank You that there are no surprises with You. Help me find deep comfort in the fact that You are unshockable and nothing is too great, too terrible, too large, or too heavy for You. Help me see the problems that I face today in light of how big You are. Amen.