

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Sept 27, 2020

ST. MARY PARISH

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tues. Sept 29 - 7:00 p.m. Rita Tangney Req'd by David Doyle
Wed. Sept 30 - 9:00 a.m. Evelyn Goetz Req'd by Stella McCabe
Thur. Oct 1 - 9:00 a.m. Len Hergott for Myrtle Gorman & Family
Fri. Oct 2 - 9:00 a.m. The Deceased Members of the Tone & Dinneen Families Req'd by Dan & Doris Tone
Sat. Oct 3 - 4:00 p.m. John, Mary & Arthur McDonald Req'd by The Family
Sun. Oct 4 - 9:00 a.m. The People of the Parish

LECTORS

Sat. Oct 3 - 4:00 p.m. Maxine Schmidt
Sun. Oct 4 - 9:00 a.m. Marian Flanigan

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

ST. THOMAS, Harriston

Sat. Oct 3 - 5:30 p.m. The People of the Parish

ST. PETER'S, Ayton

Sun. Oct 4 - 11:00 a.m. Repose of the soul of Evelyn Goetz Req'd by Agnes & Roy Diemert



St. Michael-
"Who is like God?"

St. Raphael- "God heals."

St. Gabriel- " God is mighty."

Since God often sends us his inspirations by means of his angels, we ought frequently to offer him our inspirations through the same channel.

Call on them and honour them frequently, and ask their help in all your affairs, temporal as well as spiritual.
-St. Francis de Sales

Background on the Gospel Reading

The context for today's Gospel is the mounting tension between Jesus and the Jewish religious leaders. Jesus has entered Jerusalem and overturned the money changers' tables in the Temple. Jesus has caught the attention of the religious authorities; the chief priests and elders question Jesus about the source of his authority. Jesus refuses to name for these religious leaders the source of his authority. Instead, he questions the priests and elders through the parable we hear in today's Gospel. The answer given by the religious leaders is correct, but it convicts them for their failure to heed the call of John the Baptist and for their inability to recognize the Kingdom of God.

The situation Jesus poses is rather straightforward. Given the same task by their father, one son asserts his disobedience in words, but then obeys in his actions; the second son obeys with his words, but disobeys in his actions. The question that Jesus poses is pointed and direct: Which son did what the father wanted? All would agree that "actions speak louder than words" and that even if his words were disobedient, the son who did the work as ordered did the father's will.

Jesus' conclusion is also direct. The chief priests and elders, the ones who speak most often about God, did not act accordingly. They did not respond to the message of repentance announced by John the Baptist with a change of heart. Instead, John's message was heeded by those one would not expect to repent—tax collectors, prostitutes, and other sinners. Because of their actions, these sinners will enter the Kingdom of God ahead of the religious leaders.

Jesus could ask us the same question. Do our words indicate our obedience to God? If not our words, do our actions? God desires a full conversion of heart, that our actions (and our words as well) will give evidence of our love for God.

Family Connection

The example Jesus poses in today's Gospel could have been taken directly from family experience. Each of us can recall instances in which family members spoke one thing but then did another. The point of Jesus' story is to show that our actions speak louder than words, even with God.

Pray together that your family will experience a conversion to God and show evidence of this in both actions and words. Pray together today's second reading, Philippians 2:1-5.

LIFE CHAIN 2020 SPREADS THE MESSAGE OF HOPE THAT LIFE MATTERS! On Sunday, October 4th, you are invited to gather at various locations across the Diocese from 2:30-3:30 p.m. It is a time of silent prayer to end abortion. With COVID-19 protocols in place, all groups will adhere to strict safety measures, including physical distancing, use of hand sanitizers and the wearing of a personal mask. Check with your local pro-life organization for details in your area!

FROM THE BISHOP OF HAMILTON

The Diocese of Hamilton will hold one special collection on October 16th-17th to support the many good works whose special collections were missed during the pandemic shutdown or would have been held this autumn. The funds collected will be distributed to the organizations according to the percentage of the special collections from 2019. Envelopes will be made available to parishioners at all Masses on Thanksgiving weekend. The charities that will be supported are: Development and Peace (Share Lent); Holy Land (Good Friday); Papal Charities; Needs of the Canadian Church; World Mission Collection; Cura Pastorum (care of retired Priests). Please be especially generous.

PRAYERS FOR NATIONAL CATHOLIC HEALTH CARE WEEK 2020, October 4 - 10 – 2020

· Healing God, at this particular time of pandemic and while we are seeking to find ways to reach out and communicate with the most vulnerable, such as seniors living in isolation, we give thanks today for the gift of Catholic health care we have experienced in our own lives and in our communities. We give thanks that Jesus' ministry of healing and reconciliation continues every day as people are healed, accompanied and supported. Bless all those who work to continue the ministry of healing in Catholic health care. Amen.

Sts. Michael, Gabriel, And Raphael- September 29

St. Jerome- September 30

Jerome's mastery of languages enabled him to translate Hebrew and Greek books of the Bible into Latin the language of the common people; this translation is called the Vulgate.

St. Therese of the Child Jesus- October 1

Known as The Little Flower for her faith and simplicity.

Holy Guardian Angels- Messengers- October 2

**Go and teach all people my gospel;
I am with you always, until the end of the world. -
Matthew 28.20**

DIOCESAN CALENDAR

Mon.- Rev. M. Morley Tue.- Rev. G. Nowak, C.R.
Wed. Sisters of Our Lady Immaculate
Thurs.- Rev. I. Koziak, S.A.C.
Fri.- Rev. W. Trusz Sat.- Rev. M. Durbajlo

I know well that the greater and more beautiful the work is, the more terrible will be the storms that rage against it.
-St. Faustina

"The invitation to serve often comes more than once; are you prepared with you answer?" If God calling you, contact **Fr. Michael King**, Vocation Director, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988 or email vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

Sunday's Readings

First Reading

Ezekiel 18:25-28

It is possible to turn from sin and preserve one's life.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 25:4-9

A prayer to God for mercy.

Second Reading

Philippians 2:1-11 (shorter form Philippians 2:1-5)

Be like Christ who humbled himself and was exalted by God.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 21:28-32

Jesus poses a question to the chief priests and elders on the meaning of obedience.