

11th Sunday in Ordinary Time – June 13, 2021

ST. MARY PARISH

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tues. Jun 15 - 7:00 p.m. Kaye Black Franco Req'd by Dona & Dave Meyer
Wed. Jun 16 - 9:00 a.m. Braedon Coburn Req'd by Adell Mueller
Thur. Jun 17 - 9:00 a.m. Alec Williams Req'd by Marcella Williams
Fri. Jun 18 - 9:00 a.m. Lucille Horsburgh Req'd by Leo & Mary Heffernan
Sat. Jun 19 - 4:00 p.m. Thanksgiving-55 Wed. Anniv. Mary & Bob McIntee
Sun. Jun 20 - 9:00 a.m. The People of the Parish (Father's Day)

LECTORS

Sat. Jun 19 - 4:00 p.m. Maxine Schmidt
Sun. Jun 20 - 9:00 a.m. Emma Westendorp

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

ST. THOMAS, Harriston

Sat. Jun 19 - 5:30 p.m. Tony Daciuk

ST. PETER'S, Ayton

Sun. Jun 20 - 11:00 a.m. Loretta & Jim Murray Req'd by Dot Bourgeois

**"God leads every soul by a unique path."
-St. John of the Cross**

DIOCESAN CALENDAR

Mon.- Rev. N. Arif, O.P. Tue.- Rev. P. Golinski

Wed.- Sisters of Social Services (S.S.S.)

Thurs.- Rev. P.E. Cook Fri.- Very Rev. L. Kopaniak, S.A.C.

Sat.- Rev. K. D'Souza

"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you." If God is calling you to serve as a priest, contact **Fr. Michael King**, Vocation Director, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988 or email vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

**"If we keep our eyes fixed on the Lord, then our hearts are filled with hope, our minds are washed in the light of truth, and we come to know the fullness of the Gospel with all its promise and life."
- St. John Paul II**

June is a month of The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

**His heart is adored as a
symbol of his threefold
love: human, spiritual
and divine.**



**...I am the bread of
life. Whoever comes
to me will never be
hungry. - John 6.35**

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today's Gospel Reading consists of two parables about seeds. In the first, Jesus tells those gathered that this is "how it is with the kingdom of God." A man scatters seed which over time sprouts and develops. Then when the grain is ripe, the man harvests his crop. The emphasis in the parable is on the seed, which seemingly has the power to grow on its own. In this it is like the Kingdom of God. While on earth, Jesus planted the seeds of the kingdom by his life, miracles, teaching, and suffering. However, the kingdom is not yet fully established. Although already present in Jesus and his group of twelve, it has yet to come to fruition; just as the seed in the parable needs time to grow, so does God's kingdom.

The second parable focuses on the tiny mustard seed. Though not the smallest of all seeds, it is most likely the smallest that a first-century farmer in Jesus' part of the world would have sown. Small as the mustard seed is, it develops into a tree. Though the mustard tree generally averages only nine to twelve feet in height, it has a wide expanse and provides a nesting place for birds. Just as the tree welcomes the birds, so is God's kingdom welcoming and open to many.

These parables help us discern something about the kingdom of God and our own faith. In God we live and move and have our being, but God is a mystery and his kingdom, though present, has not yet come into its fullness. Today, the Kingdom of God is present in the Church. The mission of proclaiming the Good News of the Kingdom given to the Apostles is now given to us. But just as seeds need time to come to fruition, so does the Kingdom of God. That is why in the Lord's Prayer, we pray, "thy kingdom come." We know that it will come in its fullness at the end of time. All we need is faith.

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SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Fr. Joe has completed his 6 years as a pastor in Mount Forest, and the bishop has now assigned him to be a pastor at St. Patrick's parish in Cambridge.

Fr. Joe will be greatly missed!

Fr. Michael Anderson is coming to our parish as a new pastor on June 30, 2021.

Let us keep both Fr. Joe and Fr. Michael in our prayers.

The heart of Jesus is the ultimate symbol of God's mercy; but it is not an imaginary symbol, it is real symbol which represents the centre, the source from which salvation for all humanity gushed forth. –Pope Francis

PARENTING TIP OF THE MONTH

June is a good time to help your children reflect on the successes and challenges of the past school year. God provides every person with gifts to use in the world and it is good to remind your children that we are called to use our God-given gifts. Ask them to reflect on the gifts they see in themselves and share the gifts you see in them. Help them realize that they are indeed special and have good things to offer to others in their lives.

MARRIAGE TIP OF THE MONTH

Marriages that have lasted over many years give gifts to future generations since it allows them to both look back and grow forward. Long-lasting marriages are a living example of what it means to have enduring love; they give hope. Marriage is at the heart of family, so celebrate your marriage milestones – tell stories of the good times, the times you persevered and the joy of older love. These are important legacies to leave your children and grandchildren!

Marriage Support - Is your marriage experiencing more trouble than joy, feeling stagnant or disconnected and/or causing you worries? **The solution is Retrouvaille** - a program for married couples facing difficult challenges in their relationship. Retrouvaille has one purpose: to help couples restore their marriage and rebuild a loving partnership. This is a practical program, where sharing is not required except between the couple themselves, designed to improve communication, build stronger marriages, and help couples reconnect. It also works well for couples who may be considering separation or divorce. Retrouvaille is offering their weekends by zoom offering more possibilities for engagement. For more information call 905-664-5212 or email teamrecine@gmail.com.

Do you need support after an abortion? Either your own, or someone else's? Do you feel alone, emotional, or angry? Project Rachel is available to help. This confidential service allows people to work through their feelings on an individual basis, with a trained counsellor, to find hope and healing. **Please contact us at 905-526-1999 or toll free at 1-888-385-3850.**

The greatest saints, those richest in grace and virtue, will be the most assiduous in praying to the most Blessed Virgin, looking up to her as the perfect model to imitate and as a powerful helper to assist them.
–St. Louis Grignon de Montfort

Sunday's Readings

First Reading

Ezekiel 17:22–24

I, the Lord, bring low the high tree and lift high the lowly tree.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 92:2–3, 13–16

They that are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God.

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 5:6–10

The lives of all are to be revealed before the tribunal of Christ.

Gospel Reading

Mark 4:26–34

The reign of God is like a mustard seed.