

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Sept 13, 2020

ST. MARY PARISH

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tues. Sept 15 - 7:00 p.m. The intentions of the Koechl Family
Wed. Sept 16 - 9:00 a.m. Michael Raftis Req'd by Anna Marie Raftis
Thur. Sept 17 - 9:00 a.m. Thanksgiving Mass Helen & Bert Moore
Fri. Sept 18 - 9:00 a.m. Patrick & Stella Mulhal & Dec'd members of their Family Req'd by Estate
Sat. Sept 19 - 4:00 p.m. The People of the Parish
Sun. Sept 20 - 9:00 a.m. The People of the Parish

LECTORS

Sat. Sept 19 - 4:00 p.m. Pauline Mills
Sun. Sept 20 - 9:00 a.m. Emma Westendorp

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

ST. THOMAS, Harriston

Sat. Sept 19- 5:30 p.m. Emilia Bairos Req'd by Mary & John Bairos

ST. PETER'S, Ayton

Sun. Sept 20 - 11:00 a.m. Lorraine Pickett Req'd by Grace & Kim Lennox



THOUGHT OF THE DAY

Whether, therefore, we receive what we ask for, or do not receive it, let us still continue steadfast in prayer. For to fail in obtaining the desires of our heart, when God so wills it, is not worse than to receive it; for we know not as he does, what is profitable to us.

-St. John Chrysostom

The king in the parable decides to settle accounts with his servants. The king is moved by the humility of the pleading servant and mercifully forgives the debt. Rather than displaying gratitude for this forgiveness, the servant confronts a fellow servant who owes him a small debt—a pittance when compared with the amount that was owed to the king. The unmerciful servant refuses the pleas of his fellow servant and sends the servant to prison.

A few other servants tell the merciful king about the actions of the unforgiving servant. The king punishes the servant because he refused to show the kind of mercy he had himself received from the king. Jesus concludes by indicating that this is how it will be with God and those who refuse to forgive one another.

There is a temptation to quantify forgiveness as Peter tried to do, but Jesus' point is that forgiveness is not about quantity—the number of times we extend forgiveness to another. In the parable the king's forgiveness is like God's forgiveness, and it transforms us, helping us to be as forgiving as God. The lesson is clear: **If we hoard God's mercy while showing no mercy to others, we risk forfeiting the effects of God's mercy in our lives.**

Family Connection

Children learn to trust God's mercy and forgiveness when they experience forgiveness from those closest to them. We hope that we model God's love and forgiveness within our family life. Today's Gospel reminds us that forgiveness is measured by its quality more than its quantity.

Pray together today's psalm, Psalm 103, or the Lord's Prayer.

Psalm 103

Of David.

- ¹ Praise the LORD, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.
- ² Praise the LORD, my soul, and forget not all his benefits—
- ³ who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases,
- ⁴ who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion,
- ⁵ who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
- ⁶ The LORD works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed.
- ⁷ He made known his ways to Moses, his deeds to the people of Israel:
- ⁸ The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.
- ⁹ He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever;
- ¹⁰ he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.
- ¹¹ For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him;
- ¹² as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.
- ¹³ As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him;

- ¹⁴ for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust.
- ¹⁵ The life of mortals is like grass, they flourish like a flower of the field;
- ¹⁶ the wind blows over it and it is gone, and its place remembers it no more.
- ¹⁷ But from everlasting to everlasting the LORD's love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children's children—
- ¹⁸ with those who keep his covenant and remember to obey his precepts.
- ¹⁹ The LORD has established his throne in heaven, and his kingdom rules over all.
- ²⁰ Praise the LORD, you his angels, you mighty ones who do his bidding, who obey his word.
- ²¹ Praise the LORD, all his heavenly hosts, you his servants who do his will.
- ²² Praise the LORD, all his works everywhere in his dominion. Praise the LORD, my soul.

MOST HOLY NAME of MARY - September 12

Her name is one of honour, a holy name and a name responsive to the needs of the Church.

EXALTATION of the HOLY CROSS - September 14

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.



Our Lady of Sorrows- September 15

Formerly known as the "Seven Sorrows Of Mary", the feast was instituted in 1668 by the Servite Friars.

The seven sorrows are:

- Simeon's prophesy at the presentation of Jesus in the temple
- the flight into Egypt
- the disappearance of the boy Jesus in Jerusalem
- the road to Calvary
- the crucifixion
- the removal from the cross
- the entombment.

He is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.
-Psalm 92.15

DIOCESAN CALENDAR

Mon.- Rev. P.Caouette, L.C. Tue.- Rev. J. Scherber, L.C.

Wed.- Ursuline Sisters (O.S.U.)

Thurs.- Rev. M. Vanderbeek, L.C.

Fri.- Rev. T.Arsenault, L.C. Sat.- Rev. F. Ferreira Pinto, C.S.Sp.

Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.
Luke 1.38

"If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's." Consider service as a priest. 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

Sirach 27:30—28:9

Those who seek God's mercy must be merciful toward others.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 103:1-4,9-12

A song of praise to God who is kind and merciful.

Second Reading

Romans 14:7-9

We belong to the Lord.

Gospel

Matthew 18:21-35

Jesus teaches that we must forgive one another as God has forgiven us.

Background on the Gospel Reading

In today's reading Peter asks Jesus how many times one ought to extend forgiveness to another. The parable of the unforgiving servant is Jesus' elaboration of his initial reply to Peter. Through the parable we come to understand the depths of God's mercy toward us and the results of our acceptance of God's forgiveness.