

## 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time– Oct 31, 2021

### ST. MARY PARISH

### WEEKDAY MASSES

Tues. Nov 2 - 7:00 p.m. Braedon Coburn Req'd by Adell Mueller  
Wed. Nov 3 - 9:00 a.m. Stephen McNeill Req'd by Arthur McDonald Families  
Thur. Nov 4 - 9:00 a.m. Martin Pronk Req'd by Corrie Pronk  
Fri. Nov 5- 9:00 a.m. Maria Arruda Req'd by Luis Arruda  
Sat. Nov 6- 4:00 p.m. The People of the Parish  
Sun. Nov 7 - 9:00 a.m. The People of the Parish

### LECTORS

Sat. Nov 6- 4:00 p.m. Luis Arruda  
Sun. Nov 7 - 9:00 a.m. Debra Ross

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

### ST. THOMAS, Harriston

Sat. Nov 6- 5:30 p.m. Souls in Purgatory Req'd by Mary & Tony Andrade

### ST. PETER'S, Ayton

Sun. Nov 7 - 11:00 a.m. Loretta & Jim Murray Req'd by Dot Bourgeois

**POPE FRANCIS HAS ACCEPTED THE INVITATION** of the Bishops of Canada to visit the Church in Canada in the context of a pilgrimage of healing and reconciliation with our Indigenous sisters and brothers. The statement of the Holy Father was published on the Vatican News website. While no date has been established for the visit, it will build on three years of constructive dialogue between the Canadian Bishops, the Holy See, and Indigenous Peoples who have generously shared their experiences and stories about the sufferings and challenges that continue to this day. The delegation of Indigenous Peoples and Bishops to the Vatican in December will allow the Pope to hear directly from Indigenous people on the historic and ongoing legacy of Residential Schools, and discuss with them their hopes for the visit in service of ongoing reconciliation.

### CEMETARY FLOWERS

This is a reminder that flowers/ wreathes on and around the tombstones at the cemetery need to be removed by Nov 1. Thank you for your understanding. The Cemetery Board.

### Sunday's Readings

**First Reading:** *Deuteronomy 6:2-6*

Moses teaches the people to love and worship God alone.

**Responsorial Psalm:** *Psalms 18:2-3,3-4,47,51*

A prayer of praise to God our strength

**Second Reading:** *Hebrews 7:23-28*

Jesus intercedes for us as our eternal high priest.

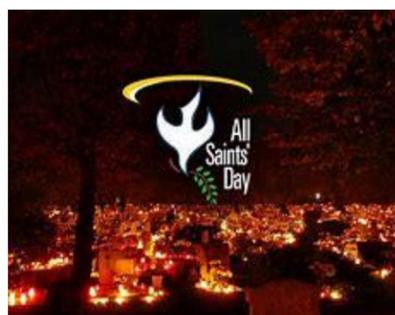
**Gospel Reading:** *Mark 12:28b-34*

Jesus is questioned by a scribe about the greatest commandment.

### Background on the Gospel Reading

As Christians, our moral behavior is guided by the two-part commandment taught by Jesus in today's Gospel: love God and love your neighbor as yourself. Many of us learned to use this framework as an examination of conscience. By examining our lives through the lens of these commandments, we have learned that the challenge of these commandments is not in our desire to follow them but in our capacity to consistently honor these commandments in our daily lives.

### ALL SAINTS- November 1



Pray together as a family a **Litany of the Saints.**

### ALL SOULS' DAY- November 2



" Eternal rest grant unto them O' Lord let perpetual light shine upon them. May they Rest in Peace. Amen."

The scribe who questions Jesus in today's Gospel engages in a positive dialogue with Jesus. He agrees with Jesus' teaching that the commandments to love God and love neighbor stand above the commandment to offer worship and sacrifice in the Temple. With this dialogue, Jesus appears to close the debate with the Jewish authorities. Mark reports that no one dared to question Jesus further. <https://www.loyolapress.com>

**THE DIOCESAN COMMITTEE FOR SYNOD 2023** has prepared the information package for distribution throughout the Diocese. It will be sent out to our Parishes, Catholic School Boards, Catholic social agencies, and other organizations, next Tuesday. It will also be available on our Diocesan website for those who prefer to respond to the questions individually. After a six-week consultation, the responses will be processed and a Diocesan report will be submitted to the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario. "I'm going to share my voice. Will you share yours?"

**THE DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE 2021-2022** Campaign Theme is *People and Planet First*. The campaign focuses on those in the global south who risk their lives to defend our Common Home from environmental and human rights abuses carried out in the name of greed and corporate profit. Animators are leading workshops to educate people and encourage action.

**THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COATS FOR KIDS PROGRAM** is underway again this year. The Knights give thousands of winter coats to children through Catholic schools across Ontario. It is an enormously popular program and children are delighted to be warm and safe throughout the cold winter months! Thanks to the Knights of Columbus, two boxes of new winter coats arrived this week at our Office for Refugees. Erin Pease and Rita Balla are happy to ensure that young newcomers to Canada will be ready for the coming winter!

**FATHER TOBY COLLINS, CR,** arranged for a visit to the *Anishnabeg Outreach Centre* in Kitchener earlier this week. We were welcomed by Mr. Stephen Jackson, founder of the Centre which is focused on reconciliation through healing and education. Impressive new programs and other initiatives promoting understanding of and appreciation for cultural skills and endeavours are taught to Indigenous children, youth and adults. The Centre is an important and valuable undertaking in the Kitchener-Waterloo region and fosters reconciliation in workable ways.

### Food Bank – Harriston

The food bank in Harriston is looking for donations of food, in particular, canned foods and toiletries. If you are able to contribute it would be appreciated.

### First Holy Communion Notice for 2020 - 2021

#### Participants

If your child was prepared to make their First Holy Communion in the school year 2020 - 2021 there will be an opportunity to make this sacrament on **Saturday, November 13, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.** If your child was prepared but cannot make this date please contact Father Mike, Pastor, of St. Mary of the Purification Parish.

### CWL Membership Dues

CWL dues for 2022 are \$25.00 and must be paid before the end of the year 2021. Please use the blue envelopes in your boxes or any envelopes and address to Colleen Dalla Costa 519- 323-9112

### ALL SAINTS- November 1

They left their mark on the earth for you, for us, for our children to come. Thank you, God, for the tremendous sacrifices made by those who have gone before us. Bless the memories of your saints, God. May we learn how to walk wisely from their examples of faith, dedication, worship, and love.

One of the great gifts of our Catholic tradition is remembrance of and prayer with the saints. The Church offers us an official canon, or list, of saints. On All Saints Day, we recall and pray with these saints. It is important to continue to tell these stories of saints and saintly people to our children so that they have ample models of people of faith for their own lives. Pray together as a family a Litany of the Saints.

### ALL SOULS' DAY- November 2

We will remember all those who have gone before us. " Eternal rest grant unto them O' Lord let perpetual light shine upon them. May they Rest in Peace. Amen."

The feast of All Souls is the day on which the Church remembers and specially prays for all the souls in purgatory, who are being purified in expiation for their sins and in expectation of their eternal reward with God and the Saints in heaven. Christian charity demands that we love our neighbors as Christ loves us, and so we must help those who are suffering and in need. The souls in purgatory, who are unable to help themselves, depend upon the charity of others to pray for them. We are, moreover, bound to pray for our parents, benefactors, those we may have misled on earth, etc. Therefore, it is "a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead, that they may be loosed from sins." To offer up Mass for the Holy Souls is to pour the Precious Blood of Christ upon their souls for their relief or release. These souls will pray for us when they reach heaven, for "ingratitude is unknown in heaven."