

NOVEMBER 28-29, 2020

St. Thomas More Parish with St. Bernadette Mission



28 King St. W., P.O. Box 238
Millbrook, ON L0A 1G0



705-400-7888



office@stthomasmillbrook.ca



stthomasmillbrook.ca



PASTOR: FR. ANTONIO BAROL

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

Those who are sick, especially:

Erica Perk/Bernie Durand/Shirley Kloefer/Dolores
Flood/Josef and Hermie Jandristis,

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Wednesday: 5:30pm- Mass at Rectory

Thursday & Friday: 9:00am—Mass at Rectory

Saturday: 4:00pm – Mass at St. Thomas More

2:45 – 3:45 pm - Confession and Rosary

Sunday: 9:00am –Mass at St. Thomas More

8:15-8:45am – Confessions and Rosary

11:00am – Mass at St. Bernadette, Nestleton

PLEASE ORDER YOUR 2021 SUNDAY MISSAL (\$5.00)

Instructions for obtaining your new missal:

To avoid contact to printed materials and many hands
handling it, I would suggest you either send me an email
(office@stthomasmillbrook.ca) or call the rectory (1-705-
400-7888). Please specify your choice of picking up your
missal, either at the Church or at the Rectory.

FR. ANTONIO BAROL - MESSAGE FOR THE 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Dear sisters/brothers, parishioners of St. Thomas More and St. Bernadette,

Greetings and blessings of good health and good things in life from God our loving Father, his Son Jesus who is to come again and by the Holy Spirit who journey with us towards eternal life.

Welcome to the new Church liturgical year of Advent in cycle B of our readings. The cycle A,B,C of the liturgical year gives us the opportunity to cover the three synoptic gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke. In this cycle B, we start reading the gospel of St. Mark, which is the shortest of the three synoptic gospels.

Advent has a twofold nature: It prepares us for Christmas, when we recall Christ's first coming among us, and it is also a time when we look forward to his second coming at the end of ages. Advent is a season of joyful expectation, let us not get distracted with the commercial aspect of the season which, instead of a joyful spirit people are stressed out because of the material preparation such as buying gifts, decorations and planning for some get together. Let us keep in mind the government's call to a limited gathering due to the rise of the Covid transmissions. God is calling us to a spiritual preparation that we may welcome Him to be born into our warm hearts rather than be born again in a cold manger. As Catholic Christians we are aware of the commercialism of Christmas, so let us make a difference in the world by slowly moving away from a commercialized Christmas. Let us keep Christ in Christmas and greet people Merry Christmas. The number one symbol of Christmas is not the tree or the other big guy but the nativity set where the Holy Family is depicted together in the stable.

During Advent, each Sunday's Gospel reading has a specific focus. The Old Testament readings, especially those taken from prophet Isaiah, are prophecies about the Messiah and messianic times. The selections from the writings of the Apostles present exhortations and instructions on different themes of this season. Although it is a festive season, the vestment use is purple to create a sober atmosphere to the point that the song of praise, "Glory to God" is omitted so that on Christmas Eve mass our hearts will be filled with joy when singing the Gloria.

Cont'd

St. Thomas More Parish offers eGive. Enroll: <https://www.peterboroughdiocese.org/en/get-involved/donate.aspx>

Prophet Isaiah in the first reading gave us a bleak picture of what happens over time when the people of God live by their own devices. His plea of reconciliation reminds us that the God of Israel is the only God, no matter where or when the people have sought other gods. They find themselves in the emptiness of their disobedience, far from God's saving mercy. If at times we have become like the people of Israel, forgetting all the good and wonderful works that the Lord has done for us, then in this season of Advent we too can cry out to God using the response to the psalm, "Restore us, O God, let your face shine that we may be saved." In this time of the pandemic, let us continue to cry to the Lord in prayer that he will send His Angels and Saints to drive this Coronavirus away from us and heal the world. It is time to adjust our lifestyles to conform to the will of God in everything we do. Let us go another mile in our spiritual life and in our spiritual preparation for Christmas.

St. Paul in the second reading wrote to the Christians of Corinth, encouraging them to continue the good works they had shown to one another in their testimony. They are not lacking in any spiritual gift as they wait for the revealing of the Lord. St. Paul wrote to them, "He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord." Let us take the words of St. Paul, that we too may be found blameless when the Lord comes and that God will strengthen us, especially as we continue to experience the effects of this pandemic and many of our sisters and brothers have become stressed and worn out to the point of despair that they disregard the call of the government and health experts and they want to do according to their own wish and plans. For us who believe that God has a better plan let us continue to pray, be patient and to cooperate until the situation improves and the sick are healed. Advent is waiting and so let us wait patiently for God to heal the world from this pandemic.

Jesus in the gospel of Mark reminds us to keep alert for we do not know when he is coming again. When the Messiah came on the first Christmas, people were not aware and even if Jesus had spoken and did some deeds of power through his miracles, especially his healing, still they did not accept him as the Messiah, because He was not even close to their criteria of the Messiah, from Nazareth they despised the place, "is there anything good that will come out of Nazareth?" He was from the lowly family of Joseph, a carpenter and Mary an ordinary housewife. From the point of view of the religious leaders, there was nothing glamorous about Jesus they respect and believed in Him but the ordinary people who were longing for redemption and healing they were amazed with his words and his deeds. Until now our Jewish sisters and brothers are still waiting for the Messiah while we are waiting for the second coming. We are part of the Gentiles who believed in Jesus as the Messiah, and we pray for our Jewish sisters and brothers that they open their eyes and hearts to the Scripture, as proclaimed by the prophets especially Isaiah and all of the Old Testament pointing to Jesus as the fulfillment of the Old Testament writings. We are the people Jesus mentioned in the later part of the gospel of St. John, "Blessed are those who have not seen me, yet they believed."

In this time of Christmas preparation, we hear on the radio or see on the TV commercials about the Christmas/holiday season. In this time of the pandemic people still have the urge to buy presents. It is good to give something to special people in our life, but more than buying presents is to be present to those special people. It is hard indeed especially with some areas that are in lock down, but we can use the modern communication to be present to them. People wrap gifts for someone but try to wrap that someone with your love. People shop for food but don't forget to donate some food also, for there are many sisters and brothers who lost their job due to the pandemic who now rely on the food bank to compensate what they lack, so give generously to the food bank. As Michael Jackson said in his song, "there's no greater gift than there is love, so why don't you give love on Christmas day." Therefore as Jesus said in the last part of the gospel, "And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

Quote of the week: "Learn to love without condition, talk without bad intention, give without any expectation and most of all care for people without any reason." (unknown author).

MISSALS: When I was writing this pastor's message the bookstore advised they are on the way.

Dr. Charlene Rostkowski D.V.M.
Veterinary Services
 297 Scriven Rd., Bailieboro
 Tel: 705-939-1285
 By appointment
 Special Interest:
 Integrative Veterinary Medicine



FOODLAND
 6 Centre St., Millbrook Tel: 705-932-2139
 Open weekdays 7 am - 8 pm
 Sat: 7 am - 7 pm Sun: 8 am - 7 pm
 Visit us at www.foodland.ca

 **SENTINEL**
 RISK INSURANCE GROUP

J & L SERVICES
 Sales & Service 705-742-2333
 881 Webber Avenue
 Peterborough ON K9J 5X9
JIM & DAVE DURAND
 Outdoor Power Equipment
 Mowers • Tillers • Snowthrowers • Riders



BULGER & GRAY
INSURANCE BROKERS LTD.
 FOR ALL YOUR INSURANCE NEEDS
 HOME • FARM • BUSINESS • AUTO
 Bring us your policies for your farm and auto. We will provide you with on-the-spot quotations and comparisons
 14 King St. East Millbrook
 Tel: 705-932-2734 • 905-797-2578

Insurance Broker
 Home - Auto - Boat - Business
 Bethany - Brooklin - Bobcaygeon - Fenelon Falls
 Proudly Representing
 **COMMONWELL**
 MUTUAL INSURANCE GROUP
www.kawarthaquotes.ca
1-888-231-2011


Jordie Westbrook
 Sales Representative
 705-928-0996
Kathie Lycett
 Broker
 705-277-2033
 RE/MAX Eastern Realty
 Independently Owned and Operated



William (Bill) Shields
 Owner/Managing Funeral Director

*Proudly Independent and Family Owned
 Serving Millbrook and the Surrounding Areas*
35 King St. West, Millbrook ON
705-932-5300 ~ 877-982-5300 24hrs a day
 All Service Types, Pre Planning, Monument Sales

Tori Coke
 Funeral Director

Gwen Hogg (nee Fallis)
 Owner

Topshelf CLOSETS
We have a Solution!
 Larry Melnychuk
 Storage Specialist
 p. 905.434.0623
topshelfclosets@bell.net
www.topshelfclosetsanddesign.ca

 **The Art of Home Inspection**
Dianne Guzik
 Cell: 705-741-8692
taohi2007@gmail.com

 **INTERNET
 TELEPHONE
 DIGITAL TV
 SECURITY SYSTEMS**
More than you expect

www.nexicom.net • 705-775-NEXI (6394)

Reach your Goal with ~ TOPS
 (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)
 Thursdays at 6:00 pm (weigh-in)
 St. Thomas More Catholic Church
 email: bluemoons@nexicom.net
 Tel: 705-944-5422 (Lou) www.tops.org



 **Home hardware**
 13 King St East, Millbrook, ON
 705-932-2761

 **Kawartha Quilting & Sewing Ltd.**
 40 King Street East, Millbrook
 Phone (705) 201-5262
www.kawarthaquiltingandsewing.com

FQR Freelance Quality Renovations
 Bathrooms / Decks / Painting / Trim / Windows & Doors
Mike Lachapelle 705-932-1066
fqrmike@hotmail.com

 **HDA ServiceOntario**
MILLBROOK PHARMACY
 8 King Street, Millbrook
www.millbrookpharmacy.com
 (705) 932-3131

 **Clarke's Service Centre Inc.**
 Mechanical and Alignment Centre
 11 Tupper Street
 Millbrook, ON
 Mike Clarke
 705-932-2450 ext 2
clarkesservice@nexicom.net

 **BLANK CANVAS HAIR & ART STUDIO**
Stacey Knight
 12 King St E Millbrook On
www.blankcanvashairandart.com
 705-991-2887

U-HAUL
 TRUCK SHARE 24/7

1315 County Rd. 28, Fraserville
 705-939-2929

 **SQUARE BOY PIZZA**
Home of the Bigfoot®

1315 County Rd. 28, Fraserville
 705-939-2929

Think Bewdley Think Pizza
Bewdley 905-797-2770
 5070 Rice Lake Dr. Bewdley, ON
 Millbrook 705-932-3220
 13 Tupper St. Millbrook, ON



 **COUNTRY**
 — Style —

1315 County Rd. 28, Fraserville
 705-939-2929

 **Esso**
 Variety Convenience Items for Sale

1315 County Rd. 28, Fraserville
 705-939-2929

ALL FLAGS AUTO SERVICE
 3741 HWY 7A
 NESTLETON, ONT
 L0B 1L0
 **ALL FLAGS AUTO SERVICE**
Mike Linington
 905-986-1939
allflagsauto@hbtmail.com