

JUNE 27TH 2021 - 13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

St. Thomas More Parish with St. Bernadette Mission



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PASTOR: FR. ANTONIO BAROL

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

Those who are sick, especially:

Erica Perk, Hermie Jandristis, Dolores Flood
and Oswaldo Bacareza.

And those who have died, especially
Shirley Kloefer

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

ST. THOMAS MORE RECTORY CHAPEL

WEDNESDAY : 5 PM, FRIDAY: 5:30 PM

ST. THOMAS MORE CHURCH, MILLBROOK

THURSDAY, 9:00 AM

SATURDAY: 4:00 PM

SUNDAY : 9:00 AM

(MAXIMUM CAPACITY 35)

ST. BERNADETTE, NESTLETON

SUNDAY: 11:00 AM

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FR. ANTONIO BAROL'S MESSAGE FOR THE 13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME- JUNE 27TH

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

The grace and peace of God the Father, the love of the Son Jesus and the communion of the Holy Spirit be always with you!

Last year we were unable even to celebrate the mass to honor our patron, St. Thomas More whose memorial was last Tuesday, June 22nd. This year at least even with the Covid restriction we are now allowed to hold a public gathering and thank you for those who came to celebrate the feast of our patron, St. Thomas More. After the mass someone mentioned that this would have been a perfect occasion to get together as a parish family and have some coffee or tea or share a meal or any food with everybody as a family. It was indeed an appropriate time but since we cannot use the hall yet, let us always look forward to the coming days and years to give a little importance to St. Thomas More feast day. Yes there is no better time than during feast days, since sharing of food is a sign of love. Let us not forget that Jesus fed the many thousand to show them his love and compassion and he did not want them to go hungry. Anyway at mass Jesus gave us the best food for life, his own body and blood as our spiritual food in our journey to eternal life. Jesus said, "Anyone who eats this bread will live forever and the bread that I shall give is my flesh for the life of the world." To celebrate the holy sacrifice of the mass is the highest honor that we can give to our beloved patron and it is my hope and prayer that we will develop our sense of devotion to the Holy Eucharist that each parish offers to its parishioners, besides the weekend masses; that is one of the reasons a pastor has to stay in the parish, to offer the daily mass for the people who have a devotion to the Eucharist. This is the sacrifice that prophet Malachi prophesied - the sacrifice that is celebrated at all times from the rising of the sun to its setting. In our days on earth there is no better way of preparing for the final encounter with God that to encounter and to receive Him by attending and receiving Him daily at mass. Last week's reading we learn that Jesus is just around the corner of our life, we just have to ask "Lord do you not care that we are perishing?" Let us not wait for any storm in life before talking to him. In this time of the pandemic it is good to address our needs and to petition God by calling on Him, "Lord help us."

Cont'd/

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This weekend, St. Mark presented to us a single event with two miracles. It is about the daughter of a synagogue leader, Jairus, who begged Jesus to cure his daughter for she was very sick. As a synagogue leader he is up in the ladder of importance being in charge of what is going on in the synagogue service. His action of coming to Jesus is telling us that his prejudice of Jesus as an outsider a dangerous heretic is forgotten in times of need. His pride was put aside when he fell at the feet of Jesus and begged him repeatedly. As a leader he could have easily sent someone to ask Jesus but he forgot his status and he did it himself in humility. We should learn from him that, here is a man who forgot everything except that he wanted the help of Jesus and because of that forgetfulness, he would remember forever that Jesus is a Saviour.

The other miracle recorded while on the way to the house of Jairus was about a woman who was suffering from a hemorrhage for 12 years. Secretly she approached Jesus and touches his cloak for she believed that even just a touch will cure her. She did it this way because with all the crowd it would be very embarrassing for her to openly tell Jesus about her condition and that she had done everything according to the doctor's advice, but there was no cure and for her Jesus would be her last chance. The point of the two miracles is faith. Both Jairus and the woman believed in the power of Jesus. We see here the power of prayer that it could be to petition for someone like Jairus or for one's self like the woman. Let us make it a habit that when we start praying, we put in our mind and our heart the intention that we have, either for someone or for oneself. The effectiveness of prayer depends on our faith, like Jairus, who came and humbled himself before Jesus, and like the woman who believed in her heart that if she can just touch the cloak of Jesus garment she would be healed. Both were rewarded because they believed in their heart that Jesus has the power to heal as they have heard from the many testimonies of those who have been following Jesus' journey. Even when people coming from the house reported that his daughter had just died and there is no need to bother the teacher, but when Jesus assured him, "Do not fear, only believe", Jairus believed in the words of Jesus. Sure enough people were making commotion and started weeping. Jesus put them all outside because they have no faith in him but took with him the believing members of the household. We see the contrast between the despair of the mourners and the hope of the household in Jesus and also the distress of the mourners and the calmness the family found in Jesus when they heard him say, "Do not fear, only believe."

In this difficult and uncertain time of the pandemic we are also called to humble ourselves at Jesus' feet and beg His mercy for the healing of the world. It is our hope that during this period of slowly returning to our normal way of living we are continuing our part of praying and doing some sacrifice to protect others and ourselves. Let us also pray that those who are still having some fears in their hearts will imitate Jairus in approaching Jesus and would hear Jesus words, "Do not fear, only believe." We are all praying and hoping that we will soon be able to use our church hall, so that we can gather together to celebrate our victory over this pandemic and tell our stories over a cup of coffee, tea or a goodie. Let us continue to ask our heavenly Mother Mary through our faithful recitation of the Holy Rosary, that hopefully we can start again before mass. Just please come a little earlier 20 minutes before mass.

On Thursday July 1st, Canada day, each parish is asked to entrust our country to St. Joseph the patron saint of Canada. We will have mass of Thanksgiving at 9:00 AM in the church and the prayer of entrustment at the end of the mass. It is a holiday and so please, let us come out and humble ourselves saying "God keep our land, glorious and free," and that we will be granted the wisdom and the strength to stand and guard for thee.

Take good care and stay safe always. Protect others and yourself... get vaccinated....fr. tony

Quote of the week: "The one thing we owe ourselves to God is never to be afraid of anything." (St. Charles de Foucauld.)

Contact Fr. Tony for details about arranging baptisms, marriages, birthday or anniversary announcements or blessings or mass devotions.

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