# St. Thomas More Parish with St. Bernadette Mission



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PASTOR: FR. ADTODIO BAROL

#### PLEASE PRAY FOR...

Those who are sick, especially: Erica Perk, Hermie Jandristis

And those who have died, especially: Dolores Flood

### THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE

ST. THOMAS MORE RECTORY CHAPEL

WEDNESDAY: 5:30 PM THURSDAY: 10:00 AM FRIDAY: 10:00 AM

## ST. THOMAS MORE CHURCH, MILLBROOK

SATURDAY: 4:00 PM

For the eternal rest of Noble June Bebee
SUNDAY: 9:00 AM (Rosary at 8:45AM)
For the People of the Parish

#### ST. BERNADETTE, NESTLETON

**SUNDAY:** 11:00 AM — For the departed members of our family and friends.

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https://www.peterboroughdiocese.org/en/how-do-i-find/livestreaming-and-broadcasting.aspx

### FR. ANTONIO BAROL'S MESSAGE FOR SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 21st 2021

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

"Turn your eyes, O God, our shield, and look on the face of your anointed one, one day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere." (Psalm 83). We use this Psalm for our greeting in this time of the pandemic with hope in our hearts that God will be our shield and our protection in this difficult time; and may the grace and peace of God the Father and the love of our Lord Jesus Christ in the communion of the Holy Spirit be upon you to protect and guide you at all times.

Last weekend we were given a glimpse of what would happen to us and the world at the end times. If we believe in the love and mercy of God, it is not something to be scared of but a time of joyful expectation that we have a beautiful place to go after this valley of tears. We only need to be watchful and ready at all times for we do not know the time and the hour that the Master is coming. We should always be ready to let go of everything we have and of every relationship that we hold dear to us. The final destination of our journey is eternal life and we cannot bring any of our material wealth which we work hard for in this life, therefore the Lord is asking us to work for the treasures of heaven. At the end of our earthly journey we will be giving an accounting not of what we have but of what we have given away to help those who are in need.

This weekend we are celebrating the Solemnity of our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. This feast was instituted by Pope Pius XI in 1925. According to the short write up from the Living with Christ booklet, "He believed that acknowledging the kingship of Jesus Christ was the best remedy to counter destructive forces. The genius of celebrating Christ's kingship comes from above, rising above all cultural, political, social, academic, familial forces – or the "news of the day." Jesus is, was and will be king of the Universe until the end of time.

Prophet Daniel in the first reading said, "His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed." In the second reading the Book of Revelation also mentioned, "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty. Cont'd.../

The two readings supplement each other pointing to Christ as the eternal king who is Lord of Lords and King of Kings. We know that his kingdom is not of this world but a kingdom beyond this world.

In the gospel of St. John that we read this weekend Jesus answered Pilate who investigated him about the accusations brought to him by the religious leaders, "My kingdom is not from this world. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." Jesus had been teaching about his kingdom, that it is not like the kingdom that we know in the world. It is not about power and domination but about love, justice and peace. The leaders of his kingdom are not those who rule over others but those who serve. It is not about ranks on who will be on top of the ladder but about becoming the least among others. Jesus' kingdom is very much different and even opposite to the earthly kingdom mark with power, wealth and domination over other people.

During this special feast of the church we are given the opportunity to reflect on our being part of the kingdom of Jesus because at our baptism we made a covenant to become part of this kingdom and to imitate this King. We were anointed with the oil of Chrism as a priest, prophet and as a king. This part of the baptismal ceremony we are given the task as a priest in offering sacrifice to God in our worship with our brothers and sisters of the faith. As a prophet we are given the task to proclaim the Good News of salvation, so it is our mission to bring our King Jesus Christ to the lives of others especially those who have not heard about our loving and merciful God. As a king we are given the task of serving others especially those who are in most need, because at the end of our life's journey the King himself who will come as a judge will ask each one of us what we have done to the least of our sisters and brothers. The King who was not wearing a golden crown but thorns, who was not sitting on a throne but hanging on the cross, died for us on the cross as a ransom for our sins and fulfilling as a good shepherd who laid his life for the sheep. He was buried but rose from the dead, ascended into heaven and promised to come again in glory to judge each one of us. While we wait for our own final encounter with our king, we are given the time of our journey to listen to the voice for that was the reason why he came to the world, so he said, "For this I was born and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice." As it is said listening could become real when we listen not only with our ears but with our hearts. While we are on our journey here on earth let us put to mind that we are both citizens of this world and also citizens of heaven, our final destination our final home. Let us not be misled to prepare only for this world where we will be spending only for some years, but let us go beyond and prepare for that final destination which will be eternal life. Let us give thanks and praise God for giving us every day as another opportunity to make some changes to redirect our steps to the Kingdom of God. The King will welcome us with open arms, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father! Come and possess the kingdom which has been prepared for you ever since the creation of the world." (Mt.25;34b) We will hear these words if we have done our mission of serving the least of our sisters and brothers.

Quote of the week; "How can I bear a crown of gold when the Lord bears a crown of thorns and bears it for me." (St. Elizabeth of Hungary)

Pope's prayer intention for November: People who suffer from depression; "We pray that people who suffer from depression or burn-out will find support and light that opens them up to life."

Mass Intentions: Saturday November 20, @ 4PM in Millbrook; For the eternal rest of Noble June Bebee.

Sunday: November 21 @ 9AM, in Millbrook: For the people of the Parish, 11AM in Nestleton –For our departed members of our family and friends. We are running out of mass intentions, please remember your loved ones and help the Priests Pension Fund.

Please let us continue praying the Holy Rosary before mass we continue to ask our Heavenly Mother Mary to intercede for us in this difficult time.

Please, I am calling all the parents/guardians of all those who are enrolled in our sacramental preparation for First Reconciliation and First Communion to a personal meeting on Saturday December 18. Please attend the 4:00 PM mass and then we will have the meeting in the parish hall. Please, try to watch on line some of the videos on sacramental preparation in the Peterborough Diocese You-Tube. Thank you and stay safe always.

God bless. Fr. tony

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