

NOVEMBER 7TH, 2021 - 32ND 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

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

Thanksgiving Mass

SUNDAY : 9:00 AM (Rosary at 8:45AM)

For the People of the Parish

ST. BERNADETTE, NESTLETON

SUNDAY: 11:00 AM – For the Suffering Souls in Purgatory

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FR. ANTONIO BAROL'S MESSAGE FOR SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 7TH, 2021

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

(Psalm 47): Your merciful love, O God, we have received in the midst of your temple. Your praise, O God, like your name reaches the ends of the earth; your right hand is filled with saving justice.

The Lord be with you.

Last week we heard Jesus mentioned about what every Jew should know and put them in their hearts, taken from the Book of Deuteronomy chapter 6, the Schema "Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart." Jesus knew that the scribe who asked him knew about it but Jesus added the other side of the coin and that is the love of neighbor. Jesus did not only mention the greatest of the law but added another aspect of the law which made the love of God concrete. The love of God can be completed by loving our neighbor. The neighbor is the one who is in need of our help and we can only be a neighbor if we help. Let us remember the story of the Good Samaritan that Jesus told to the lawyer who asked him who is his neighbor. At the end Jesus told the lawyer to go and do the same, to go and help those who are in need.

This weekend our readings focused on personality especially on being true to ourselves and our generosity, to share what God has given us. As I always mention that we have to count our blessings and we know that God will provide of what is missing. Let me repeat this phrase, "Grace is when God gives us good things that we don't deserve. Mercy is when he spares us from bad things we deserve. Blessings are when he is generous with grace and mercy. Truly we can never run out of reason to thank God." Generosity comes from the abundance of the heart and not according to what we have in our pockets. We know that God is generous to those who are generous and cheerful giver and who trust in God's providence.

From the Book of Kings we learned about the widow of Zarephath during a long drought in the land yet out of her supposed to be their last meal with her son, shared it to Prophet Elijah who assured her, "Do not be afraid; the jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the Lord sends rain on the earth." Cont'd .../2

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She believed the word of the prophet as the word of God and the miracle happened that her food supply did not fail them until the rain came. In the Scripture widows are one of those vulnerable sectors of society for they have no one to take care of them. That was then what happened when Jesus was about to die, he entrusted his Mother Mary to the young disciple John who was the only disciple at the foot of the cross. Jesus also raised to life a widow's only son to show that widows are vulnerable and need someone to care for them.

The second reading from the letter to the Hebrews, from the past Sundays it had been dealing on the priesthood of Jesus according to the line of Melchizedek, and his priesthood was offered once and for all when he sacrificed himself on the cross. There was no need of him to perform an animal sacrifice but his own self for the salvation of all. An ordinary high priest enters the Holy Place year after year to offer sacrifice but he entered into heaven itself to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. He offered himself as a ransom for many and will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him. As the memorial acclamation A, says, "We proclaim your death O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again." When will it be, no one knows but he warns us to be ready at all times and to start storing up treasures in heaven.

The gospel this weekend has two parts, first Jesus warning about the hypocrisy of the religious leaders who tried to put on a show in public for people to acknowledge them by what they wear and where they seat in the synagogue and would perform long prayers for people to see their piety. They thought their position in society was a privilege and a source of honor but not as a service for others. We learn that Jesus often had a confrontation with them for they were not doing the right thing and they were making many more rules and regulations hard to follow that they themselves will not do them. Jesus conflict with them brought him to the cross for he was accused of the grave sin of blasphemy that the sentence was crucifixion. But he was prepared because that was the reason why he became one of us in all things except sin; and his going to Jerusalem was to fulfill his passion of suffering, dying and rising again for the salvation of all.

The second part of the gospel tells the story of the poor widow who gave all that she had to the treasury. Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on." Therefore it is not how much we give but how much love and sacrifice in our giving. We know God has been very generous to us, we have all we need, we have a good salary or pension or a good paying job and we have a very good government health care program. We have heard or read something about how other countries and places in the world are struggling in this pandemic time. We consider ourselves as one of the blessed people in the planet. In this difficult time, it would be good to think of the neighbor that Jesus told us to love.

This coming weekend, we are asked to share our abundance to the Priest's Pension Fund. Just think of the retired priests and those who will be retiring soon who will benefit from our generosity and even the diocese is encouraging us to remember in our will to support this diocesan project. In the many dioceses of Canada, we are one of those who are still trying to build up a good amount that someday it will become a self-supporting one. Priests do retire from active service so they will be at the mercy of their parishioners whom they had served before. Think of them and pray for them. God bless....fr. tony

Quote of the week; "We cannot have full knowledge at once. We must start by believing; afterwards, we may be led on to master the evidence for ourselves." (St. Thomas Aquinas)

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 Intention: Saturday November 6, @ 4PM in Millbrook; Thanksgiving mass

Sunday: November 7 @ 9AM, in Millbrook for the people of the Parish, 11AM in Nestleton –For the suffering souls in purgatory. (We are running out of mass intentions, please help)

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.

Sorry for the unclear announcement last weekend. It was about our task as parishioners to get involved in the Process of the Synod of consultation on the three main topics of Communion, Participation and Mission.. We have to go to the diocesan website to be able to answer the questionnaires that the diocese is asking us to answer. I need help to gather them all and to report it to the diocese in January of 2022.I am also asking all members of the CWMC to get involved and during the next meeting we can share some of the ideas. Thank you for your help especially as I am not a high tech priest. God bless.

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

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