

OCTOBER 31ST, 2021 - 31ST 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

FRIDAY: 10:00 AM

ST. THOMAS MORE CHURCH, MILLBROOK

WEDNESDAY: 10:00 AM THURSDAY: 10:00 AM

SATURDAY: 4:00 PM

For the Eternal rest of Marie Joncas

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

For eternal rest of Dolores Flood

ST. BERNADETTE , NESTLETON

SUNDAY: 11:00 AM – For the People of the Parish

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FR. ANTONIO BAROL'S MESSAGE FOR SUNDAY – OCTOBER 31ST, 2021

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

Let me use Psalm 105 as part of my greetings especially in this difficult time. "Save us, O Lord our God! And gather us from the nations, to give thanks to your holy name, and make it our glory to praise you." May the grace and mercy of God the Father, the love of our Lord Jesus and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you at all times.

Last week in my homily, I mentioned about the plan of the Church to call a synod; that is a meeting of bishops with the Pope and the main three topics to be discussed and shared would be, "Communion, Participation and Mission." The process is a consultation from the parish level, to the diocese and then shared among the bishops during their sessions that they might come up with the picture of the Church in the world today and would venture on a mission to fulfill the mandate of Jesus to preach the Good News to all the earth and to build a kingdom of Justice, Love and Peace. It is not an easy task especially when we as a Church, the people of God is not on the same understanding of what the Church is and what direction we are going. Please, let us include this specially in our daily prayers and mass intentions that our Church leaders would be enlightened and be guided by the Holy Spirit. A diocesan webpage is created for this forum. Please, try logging in to the diocesan website.

Good news to the Canadian Church. Pope Francis has accepted the invitation of the Canadian Bishops to visit Canada in the near future, especially in connection with the problem concerning the unmarked graves of indigenous children discovered in the Residential Schools. Let us keep in our prayers the process of the "Truth and Reconciliation" journey of the Church and our Indigenous people. We are also made aware that our Indigenous brothers and sisters are having a delegation to the Holy See this coming December. Let us pray for the spirit of healing that truth will come to light and reconciliation would be achieved.

Cont'd .../

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Good news to the Canadian Church. Pope Francis has accepted the invitation of the Canadian Bishops to visit Canada in the near future, especially in connection with the problem concerning the unmarked graves of indigenous children discovered in the Residential Schools. Let us keep in our prayers the process of the "Truth and Reconciliation" journey of the Church and our Indigenous people. We are also made aware that our Indigenous brothers and sisters are having a delegation to the Holy See this coming December. Let us pray for the spirit of healing that truth will come to light and reconciliation would be achieved.

Last week's focus was on the miracle of Bartimaeus, the blind beggar by the roadside of Jericho. Because of his faith, he got cured from his blindness and joyfully followed Jesus. It was noted that at first the people tried to stop him from shouting and prevented him in coming near Jesus, but the more he tried to get the attention of Jesus by shouting louder to the point that Jesus stood still and because of his compassion he asked that the blind man should be brought to him. This showed us the process of the unfolding of a miracle, the need of the person, the consistency of the plea and then the need expressed in the presence of Jesus. This story is pointing us that there are many sisters and brothers along the road of our journey that are calling for mercy and we should take up the mission to bring them to Jesus and not prevent them. We should become instruments of God in the mission of bringing our sisters and brothers into the light that they will see the mercy and love of God. In this difficult time of the pandemic, let us try to be sensitive to the needs of others and respect another's opinion, but let us also try to protect each other in our cautiousness and let us be prudent in our decisions for the good of others especially the most vulnerable among us.

This weekend, the readings are reminding us of our basic Christian obligation to love God and to love our neighbor. These two commandments are like the two sides of a coin that one will not make sense without the other. In the gospel of St. Luke this question of the lawyer leads to the story of the Good Samaritan for he asked, "Who is my neighbor?" In the version of St. Matthew Jesus said, "The whole Law of Moses and the teachings of the prophets depend on these two commandments." As many would comment that Jesus summarized the Ten Commandments into two great commandments, the first three commandments refer to our relationship with God, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." The commandments number 4 to 10 are our relationship with others, "Love your neighbor as you love yourself."

We are aware that the word 'love' is used and interpreted in many different ways, but one thing is sure that it is of a divine origin and we hear people say, "God is love" and because of this love He sent his only Son to become one of us in all things except sin in order to save the world. The problem lies in our capacity to respond to God's love, how do we show our love of God? If a person loves another he/she has to show that love, by words and by deeds. We too have to exhibit this love of God by our words in prayers and by our deeds by celebrating the day of the Lord with our sisters and brothers and sometimes we need to go another mile not just a Sunday mass but towards a devotion to the Holy Eucharist. To fulfill the second great commandment is to answer the Lord's inquiry during judgement day, "Whatever you do to the least of my sisters and brothers you did it to me." Let us remember the words of Jesus to the lawyer who asked him, "and who is my neighbor?" knowing the neighbor as the one who answered the need of the needy, Jesus said, "You go and do the same."

As I have mentioned about life priorities, "It is God who is first, the neighbor is second and the self is the third." God bless....fr. tony

Quote of the week; "Let nothing disturb you, let nothing frighten you. All things pass. God does not change. Patience achieves everything." (St. Teresa of Avila)

Mass Intention:

Saturday October 30, @ 4PM in Millbrook– For the eternal rest of Marie Joncas

Sunday: October 31 @ 9AM, in Millbrook for the eternal rest of Dolores Flood, and 11AM in Nestleton – For the people of the Parish

Even if it is no longer October let us continue praying the Holy Rosary asking the intercession of our heavenly Mother to an end of this pandemic, so please come a little early (15 minutes) before the Mass to be able to join the Holy Rosary and thank you that our number is growing.

November 1st – Feast of All Saints, mass at 10AM in the church, November 2, All Souls Day, mass at 10AM in the church. Please, drop your "All Souls" envelope in the box. No masses on Wednesday and Thursday. Mass on November 5, first Friday at 10AM in the rectory. Thank you.

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

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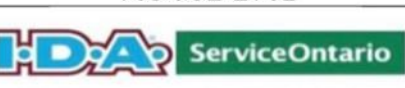
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