

JANUARY 16TH, 2022 - SECOND 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, Gerrard Coady and
Fr. Peter Conlin

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 Daniel Beebe
SUNDAY : 9:00 AM (Rosary at 8:45AM)
For the people of the parish

ST. BERNADETTE , NESTLETON
SUNDAY: 11:00 AM — For the sick, the homebound and
for an end of this pandemic.

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[https://www.peterboroughdiocese.org/en/how-do-i-find/
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FR. ANTONIO BAROL'S MESSAGE FOR SUNDAY – JANUARY 16TH, 2022

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

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love and mercy of God the Father in communion with the Holy Spirit be with you always..

We are back to the ordinary time of the Church calendar year and we do it after Jesus' baptism. In this ordinary time we focus on the work of redemption through the mission of Jesus in his proclamation of the Kingdom of God. During ordinary time, the Church celebrates the fullness of the mystery of the Lord Jesus. The people of God offer praise by celebrating the Paschal Mystery of the Death and Resurrection of Jesus. On the first day of the week, the Lord's Day, God assembles the beloved people to hear the Word, to reflect upon it, to offer the living sacrifice of praise, and to eat and drink the banquet of the Lord. Then God sends them forth to proclaim this love by their words and actions. Sunday is the original Christian Feast Day, following the tradition handed down from Apostolic times, for this was the day of the Lord's Resurrection. Today's Christian communities continue this tradition by celebrating every Sunday as the day of the risen Lord.

Although we are in cycle C of the Church's liturgical calendar and we will be focusing on the gospel of St. Luke, this Sunday we take the gospel according to St. John in order to open the year with the manifestation of Jesus during the wedding feast in Cana, when Jesus performed his first miracle of changing the water into wine, so the disciples will see in Jesus that he was not an ordinary teacher but greater than any teacher during his time. Of course in this miracle story we give honor to Mary also who made the miracle possible through her intercession when she noticed that they were running out of wine, she came to Jesus and said, "They have no wine." Even though Jesus' first reaction was somewhat negative, "Woman how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come." Cont'd/

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Some would interpret this statement as somewhat disrespectful, but in reality it was a very sublime title for Mary for indeed she is the New Eve of the new creation which we talk about last week about the baptism of Jesus as the New Adam from above and here we have the Blessed Virgin Mary as the new Mother of the whole creation. With the response of Jesus, Mary took the initiative by telling the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." This is where the need of our heavenly Mother Mary comes in our journey of life, that we as children of God we need the intercession of Mary in everything we need for the good of all. The history of the Church has proven that in many occasions in the past, when the going gets tough, the children of God call on our heavenly Mother for her intercession. Besides the title "Queen of the Holy Rosary" and the story of the Battle of Lepanto, I would like to mention another Marian icon that is presently venerated in many Catholic churches in the world, "Our Mother of Perpetual Help" that devotees try to set aside every Wednesday to pray her novena. The story goes that this was painted on a wood around the 13th century. The two Archangels Michael and Gabriel holding the instruments of the Passion; St. Michael holds the spear, the wine sponge and the crown of thorns while St. Gabriel holds the cross and the nails. The artist tried to depict the child Jesus contemplating the vision of his coming passion. It also conveys the triumph of Christ shown by the golden background and the manner the angels hold the instruments of the passion like 'trophies' gathered up from Calvary on Easter morning. When this icon was transported from Crete to Rome a terrible typhoon occurred and the merchant who brought asked the people to unveil the icon, they prayed and on arrival they placed the icon at St. Matthew's church which lies between St. Peter's and St. John's church as authorized by Pope Pius IX. The icon survived during the invasion of Napoleon and was handed to the Congregation of the Holy Redeemer or the Redemptorist priests and brothers, and now finds its home at Saint Alphonsus Church in Rome. The devotion to Our Mother of Perpetual Help has a huge following all over the Catholic world. In this time of the pandemic it is good to ask the intercession of our heavenly Mother Mary, asking her to ask her Son Jesus to heal the world from this Covid virus. The first miracle of Jesus happened when his mother told Jesus about what was going on and when she asked the servants or servers to do what her son Jesus will tell them to do, "Do whatever he tells you." There might be a problem with what is happening in the world, it is the question of doing what Jesus is telling us to do in this pandemic time. Let us not forget that God uses people to tell us what to do in this difficult time, yet many times we tend to ignore the protocols and the call for prevention like vaccination because we listen to those who play "the expert role" even if it is not their line of expertise. The best we can do this time is to pray that people will consider doing a little sacrifice for the good of others and that Mother Mary, through her intercession her Son Jesus, will take this virus away from us and heal the world.

Thank you for your kind cooperation in this difficult time. Stay safe and God bless....Fr. Tony

Quote of the week: "Let us run to Mary, and as her little children, cast ourselves into her arms with a perfect confidence." (St. Francis de Sales)

Mass Intentions: Saturday-Jan. 15 @ 4 PM mass- for the eternal rest of Daniel Beebe; Sunday – Jan.16 @9AM – for the People of the Parish, 11AM @. St. Bernadette – For the sick, the homebound and for an end of this pandemic.

Prayer for Christian Unity: January 18 -25, 2022 – This universal week of prayer encourages Christians of all denominations to meet, to participate in various liturgical and other community activities, and to pray together that all may be one, as Christ desires.

The Greater Toronto Council of Churches will live stream a celebration on Sunday, Jan. 23, 4:00PM.

<https://www.facebook.com/TorontoArmenianChurch/>

Reminder: During winter, if you think that the front steps are slippery and you are not comfortable using them, please feel free to use the Hall entrance and enter the church through the back stairs. Please, be extra careful especially on snowy days.

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

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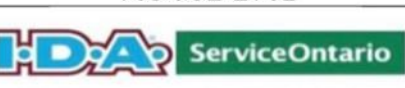
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