

AUGUST 14TH, 2022— TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**St. Thomas More Parish
with St. Bernadette Mission**



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Millbrook, ON L0A 1G0

705-932-3325 or 705-854-1533

office@stthomasmillbrook.ca

stthomasmillbrook.ca



PASTOR: FR. ANTONIO BAROL

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

Those who are sick, especially:

Erica Perk, Lois Kelly, Rita Lockhart, John Miron,
Isabel O’Gorman, and Mark Leisbank

THIS Week’s MASS SCHEDULE

ST. THOMAS MORE RECTORY CHAPEL

WEDNESDAY: 5:00 PM,

THURSDAY & FRIDAY 10:00 AM

ST. THOMAS MORE CHURCH, MILLBROOK

SATURDAY: 4:00 PM

For the People of the Parish

SUNDAY : 9:00 AM

For the healing of all the sick.

ST. BERNADETTE , NESTLETON

SUNDAY: 11:00 AM

For Peace in the World

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FR. ANTONIO BAROL’S MESSAGE FOR SUNDAY— AUGUST 14TH, 2022

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

Let me use the antiphon of the feast of the Holy Trinity as my greeting to you. “Blest be God the Father, and the only Begotten Son of God, and also the Holy Spirit, for he has shown his merciful love.” It is said that we have to start the day with a prayer of praise and thanksgiving before we proceed with our petitions, because we have been blessed already with so many good things in life and even our waking up in the morning is already a special blessing because many have set their alarm clock for the morning but failed to hear and wake up when it sounded. No wonder last weekend Jesus warned us to be watchful and ready for we know not when the Son of Man is coming. There are different reactions to this statement of Jesus about his coming without a warning like a thief in the night; some might react with fear in their heart, while others might stay calm and with hope in their heart. All the reactions would depend on how we prepare ourselves and how we look at life’s journey. We know that Jesus had assured us not to fear, last Sunday’s gospel he said, “Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.” But Jesus mentioned one thing, “Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near, and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” Now let us ask ourselves, “Where is my treasure?”

This weekend the readings are presenting to us a battle between good and evil, in the world and in ourselves, and the winner is the one that we care and nourish in life. Prophet Jeremiah in the first reading for speaking the truth of God’s plan was thrown into prison because the officials do not want to listen to the prophet’s words and the king seemed to be powerless against the religious leaders.. Prophets were the mouthpiece of God and for them the word of God would be burning inside them if they are not spoken out to those who they are intended for.

Cont’d...../over

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We remember Prophet Jeremiah as the farmer young and had a speech impediment and not a son of a prophet therefore people were suspicious of his background and so they had a hard time accepting him as one especially with the kind of words he conveyed to the chosen people. The religious leaders who were a strong group that time can even dictate to the king what to do. They suggested that Jeremiah had to be silenced and the best way was to kill him, though not directly but slowly by throwing him into the cistern and since there was no water he sank in the mud. Biblical writers interpreted this as a foreshadowing of the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus.

From this reading we know that Jeremiah brought fire into the world of the chosen people, division between those who accepted and those who rejected him and this would bring us to the gospel today that Jesus said, "I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled." We know that fire is a symbol of purification, like the gold being tested in fire and fire is also light that Jesus brought to the darkened world of sin. Talking about the baptism that he was about to take, the word baptism means to be submerged and Jesus was to submerge himself to his suffering and dying to save the world. He said, "and what stress I am under until it is completed." For him it was a struggle to do the will of the Father or to do it according to the wish of the people. He submitted himself at the agony in the Garden of Gethsemane when he said, "Father, if you are willing, take this cup away from me. Nevertheless, let your will be done not mine." (Lk. 22:42).

Is it not that life as a journey is also full of fire and divisions, we should carry the fire of purification to our very own life and purify our actions towards the kingdom of God as Jesus said, "Blessed are the pure in heart for they will see God." (Mt. 5:8). Our task of bringing the Good News to others will find opposition even among our family members and circle of friends, that's why Jesus talked about conflict and divisions even among family members and as followers of Jesus, he himself had assured us not to worry because he is with us at all times even to the end of the world. Just try to see what's going on in your family, do you see harmony or division when it comes to our faith and even traditions. The world needs prophets like Jeremiah to denounce the culture of death and to protect the innocent lives of the children and the vulnerable sector of our society. A Christian is considered a sign of contradiction in today's society and we should not be silent in the face of what's going on in this culture of death generation. In the beatitudes Jesus said, "Blessed are those who are persecuted in the cause of righteousness, for the kingdom of heaven is theirs."

Please, stay safe and healthy at all times. God bless.....Fr. Tony.

Quote of the week: "Jesus is happy to come with us, as truth is happy to be spoken, as life to be lived, as light to be lit, as love to be loved, as joy to be given as peace to be spread." (St. Francis of Assisi)

Intentions: Saturday, August 13 @ 4:00 PM - For the People of the Parish, Sunday @ 9:00 AM - For healing to all the sick and at St. Bernadette's @ 11:00 AM - For peace in the world

Pope Francis' prayer intention for the month of August: For Small Businesses – "Let us pray for small and medium-sized businesses, hard hit by the economic and social crisis, so they may find ways to continue operating, and serving their communities."

Announcements:

- Please, mark in your calendar: St. Bernadette's summer picnic at the German Park will be on the 21st of August. Mass in the park at 11:00 AM to be followed by a BBQ and a pot-luck. Invitation is extended to St. Thomas More parishioners. They will be providing the hamburgers and hot dogs so please sign up if you are planning to attend for they want to know the number or call Mary Frances, (905-213-8198).
- St. Thomas More parish summer family get-together will be on Sunday, September 18th, a pot-luck in the parish hall at 2:00 PM. St. Bernadette Mission church members are welcome to make it a real Parish Get-Together. The more we get together, the happier we are as a parish family

Please, take note that the First Friday mass in the summer will be in the Church at 9:00 AM.

Prayer for the sick: Erica Perk, Lois Kelly, Rita Lockhart, John Miron, Isabel O'Gorman, Mark Leisbank., Fr. Luis Lapinid.

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

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