

**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, 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 Eternal rest of Edward Bobee

SUNDAY : 9:00 AM  
For the People of the Parish

**ST. BERNADETTE , NESTLETON**

SUNDAY: 11:00 AM  
For Peace in the World

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**FR. ANTONIO BAROL’S MESSAGE FOR SUNDAY— AUGUST 7TH, 2022**

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

Allow me to use the Gospel Acclamation as my greeting: Alleluia, alleluia; “Keep awake and be ready, for you know not when the Son of Man is coming.” Alleluia. The gospel reading this weekend is indeed a reminder for us that we are all pilgrims here on earth and we are on a journey towards eternal life in heaven with God. If we go back two Sundays ago, we were taught by Jesus how to pray and pray consistently and persistently because we have a loving Father who knows what we need and know how to give good things to his children who call on him.

Last weekend Jesus taught us how to take good care of God’s gift and blessings, that we should not become greedy because anyway all the things we have are not meant for us only personally, we have to share them and we should not hoard them to the point that others will be deprived. At the end of our earthly journey all that we possess will become useless because we cannot bring them to where we are going. Jesus admonished us to store up treasures in heaven, for what counts in life is not what we have acquired, but what we have given away and that where our treasure in heaven starts, it is in giving that we receive eternal life. If we recall St. Paul’s letter to the Colossians, “Seek the things that are above, not on things that are on earth.” St. Paul warned us about this fact because he knew there is life beyond this earth and we should at all times be prepared for this place which we longed for, otherwise our heart will be restless and it is only when we focus our attention to spiritual things that we become at peace with ourselves, knowing that what we do is for the glory of God and not for our own selfish ambition.

Cont’d .../2

St. Paul experienced this kind of life until one day he met the Lord along his journey towards Damascus when he was commissioned to bind all the believers of Christ, but he was struck down from his horse and he heard the voice of Christ. In all of his writing St. Paul always looked forward to the beyond of this world and even mentioned that our citizenship is in heaven and our life on earth is just a preparation of the eternal life with God seeing him as He is no longer like seeing the self in a mirror but a real encounter of our Creator and Savior; and since we do not know when that time will be, we just have to be ready at all times as what our gospel acclamation from the gospel of St. Matthew, "Keep awake and be ready, for you know not when the Son of Man is coming."

In the gospel this Sunday, Jesus said to his disciples and that includes all of us in this generation, "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." The only requirement is we know how to detach ourselves from the things of this world and trust in God's providence and store up treasure in heaven so many in the world who are afraid to let go of what they have especially earthly treasure and that was one of the mistakes that the rich fool in last Sunday's gospel made, he never thought of others only himself and he never thought of the beyond - he said to himself, "Soul you have ample goods laid up for many years, relax, eat, drink, be merry." But God said to him, "You fool! This very night your life is demanded of you." People might find this teaching of Jesus hard to accept but even if we do not sell our possessions, at least we take responsibility in giving alms to the poor and the needy in the world and let our treasure be the things of heaven.

This passage from St. Luke's gospel has two senses. In the narrower sense it refers to the second coming of Jesus Christ, and in its wider sense it refers to the time when God calls us individually at the end of our earthly journey. Whichever may come first, we are warned to be ready at all times, like a wise steward waiting for the master's return. Since we do not know when, the best thing to do is to be ready at all times for he said that it will be like a thief in the night.

In the Book of Wisdom, it tells us that the night of the deliverance from Egypt was made known beforehand to our ancestors, and so they were able to prepare everything before they left Egypt, and they even had the Passover meal to sustain them for a long journey towards freedom. It is different with our deliverance from this world, we do not know when the Son of Man is coming and so the best preparation is to be ready at all times. The consolation that we have is that it is our heavenly Father's pleasure to give us the kingdom. It was created for us, and we are created so one day we shall occupy this place if we are ready and have prepared ourselves by detaching ourselves of the things of this world which has become the center of our life instead of God. Let us then pray for one another that God will continue to bless and protect us as we navigate our life towards eternal life with our Creator.

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

Quote of the week: "One who governs their passions is master of their world. We must either command them or be enslaved by them." (St. Dominic)

Intentions: Saturday, August 7 @ 4:00 PM - For the eternal rest of Edward Bobee, Sunday @ 9:00 AM - For the people of the Parish and 11:00 AM @ St. Bernadette - 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.

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

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