

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



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stthomasmillbrook.ca



PASTOR: FR. ANTONIO BAROL

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

Those who are sick, especially:

Lois Kelly, Rita Lockhart, John Miron, Isabel O’Gorman,
Don Cascone and George Korcsok

And for the dead, especially: †Erica Perk

THIS WEEK’S MASS SCHEDULE

ST. THOMAS MORE RECTORY CHAPEL

WEDNESDAY: 5:30 PM,

THURSDAY & FRIDAY: 9:00 AM*

**(1st Friday of the month, mass will be at the Church)*

ST. THOMAS MORE CHURCH, MILLBROOK

SATURDAY: 4:00 PM

For the People of the Parish

SUNDAY : 9:00 AM

For the Eternal rest of Erica Perk

ST. BERNADETTE , NESTLETON

SUNDAY: 11:00 AM

For the Sick, Homebound and the Front-line Workers

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FR. ANTONIO BAROL’S MESSAGE FOR SUNDAY— OCTOBER 16TH, 2022

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

Our entrance antiphon this Sunday is indeed a very appropriate statement that relates with our readings, from Psalm 16: “To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me; and hear my words. Guard me as the apple of your eye; in the shadow of your wings protect me.” As I mentioned that in order to increase our faith, we should devote some time in prayer because it is already a sign that we believe and that the more time we devote in prayer the more our faith grows stronger especially as Jesus said to pray always and not to lose heart. We have to use all the means that we know in order to have a close encounter with God who listens and answers our prayers.

In the first reading from the Book of Exodus, we learn that in order to occupy the land promised to the Israelites they have to fight those who would oppose them. The Amalekites tried to prevent the people of Israel to occupy their place, so the Israelites had to fight against them. Moses told Joshua to select some men to fight while he will be praying for them on a hill overlooking the battlefield. Whenever his hands were raised in prayer, the Israelites were winning and when they were down, the enemy was winning; so Aaron and Ur, helped Moses in raising his hands up until sundown and the Israelites won the day. They believed that God is fighting the battle with them, but they had to do their part, to put an army and to pray.

In the gospel Jesus is giving us the lesson to be persistent in prayer and not give up easily, when he told the parable of the widow who kept coming to the unjust judge demanding that she be given justice against her opponent. During the time of Jesus judges were considered corrupt and notorious and could be bribed in order to get a favorable verdict, they were called ‘robber judges’. The widow was the symbol of all who were poor and defenceless, she had no money to bribe the judge, but she only had one weapon, persistence. Jesus had said, ask and it shall be given to you seek and you shall find, knock and the door will be opened for you.

Cont’d.../ over

It is easy to be disheartened and to give up when we feel our prayers are not answered as if God is sleeping or doesn't care about our pleas. One reason is that we expect God to answer our prayers as soon as possible. Let us be aware that God listens and answers our prayers but not according to our terms, our timetable and according to what we had planned. As a loving Father, a father has to refuse the request of a child, because he knows that what the child asks would hurt rather than help. God is like that. We do not know what is to happen in the next hour, let alone the next week, or month, or year. Only God sees time whole, and, therefore, only God knows what is good for us in the long run. We should not lose hope but continue believing because prayer is a means by which we grow in relationship with God, and it is surely transformative. We might not see it immediately, but the Lord is constantly working in our lives. Let us pray that our prayer can transform our fears into courage, weakness into strength, uncertainty into confidence, loneliness into friendship. Try to pray as a family as it was said by the Rosary Crusader, Fr. Patrick Peyton, "the family that prays together, stays forever."

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

Quote of the week: "We recognize a tree by its fruit, and we ought to be able to recognize a Christian by their action." (St. Ignatius of Antioch).

Intentions: Saturday, October 15 @ 4:00 PM - For the people of the Parish; Sunday, October 16 @ 9:00 AM- For the eternal rest of Erica Perk and 11:00 AM at St. Bernadette in Nestleton - for the sick, the homebound and the frontline workers.

Prayers for the sick: George Korcsok, Don Cascone, Lois Kelly, Rita Lockhart, John Miron, Isabel O'Gorman.

Let us continue praying the Holy Rosary especially in this month of October, for peace in the world and for a complete healing from this pandemic. Please, come 15 minutes early for mass to be able to join in the Holy Rosary.

Next weekend is Mission Sunday and, in our prayers, please, let us include all the missionaries all over the world, priests, religious, sisters, brothers and lay people who answered the call of Christ to leave behind and go proclaim the Gospel.

Announcements:

Starting November, Thursday and Friday weekday masses will be at 10:00 AM in the rectory.

Upcoming Events:

- St. Thomas More Women's & Men's Council will be meeting on Saturday, October 15th in the Church Hall. Parishioners are welcome to attend.
- Coffee Sunday will be October 16th. Please join us as a parish family following 9:00 a.m. mass.
- Parish Fall Clean-up is scheduled for Saturday, November 5th, commencing at 9:30 a.m.
- St. Thomas More Parish Christmas Bazaar is scheduled for Saturday, December 3rd in the Legion Hall in Millbrook.

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

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