

DECEMBER 11TH, 2022 — THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

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,
Joslyn, and Mariana Moniz.

THIS Week’s MASS SCHEDULE

ST. THOMAS MORE RECTORY CHAPEL

WEDNESDAY: 5:00 PM,

THURSDAY & FRIDAY: 10:00 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

Wedding Anniversary of Kris & Ted Roberts

ST. BERNADETTE , NESTLETON

SUNDAY: 11:00 AM

For the Sick of the Parish

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<https://www.peterboroughdiocese.org/en/index.aspx>

FR. ANTONIO BAROL’S MESSAGE FOR SUNDAY— DECEMBER 11TH, 2022

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

The mass entrance antiphon, “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed the Lord is near.” Today is Gaudete Sunday and the message of rejoicing should echo in the world that we have to rejoice and be glad for the Messiah is near. Once again Prophet Isaiah tried to give hope to the people who walked in darkness in their exile, that there is hope and that there will be peace amidst their experience of chaos in the land of exile. He said, “And the ransom of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads.”

What we need while we wait is the virtue of patience, as St. James said in the second reading, “Be patient brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and late rains.” In this busy time of the year, it is easy to get impatient especially in waiting, like when you go to the grocery store, or going to a doctor’s appointment and could also be with our spiritual activities like people would like the mass to be just 30 minutes, or just pray fast and quick. In this Advent season let us try to develop the virtue of patience and let us try to spend more time in prayer as the Lord is near at hand and one of the reasons why we do not experience joy is because we do not have the patience of waiting. If we look around, we live in an instant world, we do not have the patience of waiting. This Christmas let us ask the Lord to teach us the joy of waiting and that prayer is the best thing we can do while we wait.

The gospel of St. Matthew is telling us about the two cousins, John the Baptist and Jesus. Tired of waiting for the Messiah, the people tried to focus their attention to John as the Messiah so they came to him to be baptized but John knew that he was not the Messiah but only a person who will prepare the coming of the Messiah. He was imprisoned for speaking against the evils of the world especially about King Herod’s unlawful relationship with his brother’s wife. Knowing that he was not the Messiah he had to send delegates to ask about Jesus.

Cont’d ... /over

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

Jesus showed the followers of John his works and words about the restoration of the lost glory of creation; "Go and tell John what you hear and see; the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them." To clarify matters Jesus also said about John, "Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he." We know that St. Matthew was very focus on the fulfillment of the Old Testament prophecies as being fulfilled in Jesus.

As we come near the celebration of the first coming which we call Christmas, let us not forget the second aspect of Advent which is to prepare for the second coming of Christ, so that with joyful hearts we celebrate the first coming and also anticipate his second coming.

Take care, stay safe this Advent season and Christmas God bless.....Fr. tony

Quote of the week: "Mary sustains our journey toward Christmas, for she teaches us how to live this Advent season in expectation of the Lord. For this time of Advent is a time of waiting for the Lord, who will visit us all on the feast, but also, each one, in our own hearts. The Lord is coming! Let us wait for him." (Pope Francis)

Mass Intentions: Saturday – Dec. 10th @ 4:00 PM – For the People of the Parish - Sunday Dec. 11th @ 9:00 AM – Wedding Anniversary of Kris & Ted Roberts, and 11:00 AM @ St. Bernadette in Nestleton - For the Sick of the Parish.

This coming Thursday, December 15, 10 AM mass will be in the Church. Please join me after mass for coffee/tea/ juice as well as submarine sandwiches for the children.

The December mass at the Centennial Place is moved to the 22nd in order to be closer to Christmas day. We know we still have to undergo the health protocol of testing, but if you want to visit and celebrate Christmas with them, please come a little early to join in singing some Christmas carols with them.

Christmas Masses:

Saturday – December 24th @ 4:00 PM, for families with children; and @ 10:00 PM – everyone.

Also on Saturday 7:00 PM @ St. Bernadette's in Nestleton. Sunday - Christmas Day 10:00 AM @ St. Thomas More, for those who cannot attend the Christmas evening masses.

New Years - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God and Holy Day of Obligation.

Saturday, December 31st @ 4:00 PM - Mass followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Thanksgiving prayers (Holy Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy) end with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Please, come and let us join together in thanking God for all the blessings of 2022 and ask God for a blessed and bountiful year 2023.

Sunday January 1st @ 9:00 AM - St. Thomas More and 11:00 AM - St. Bernadette, Nestleton.

Calling all children especially those who had received first communion to come and join the Parish Family Christmas Pot-luck on the 11th of December at 4:30 PM. We need children for our little Christmas play. Thank you.

Thank you to all those who made our St. Thomas More Annual Christmas Bazaar a success; to the members of the CWMC for organizing it, and all the volunteers, the donors, and benefactors. You did an awesome job. May God bless and protect you at all times.

Announcement: The 2023 Church Offertory Envelopes are now ready for pick up. There might be some change in the number due to some parishioners who are no longer here and some also switched to the Pre-Authorized Offering Plan (POP). If you have not signed up for an envelope and you want to have one, please feel free to take a blank box and write your name and address on the first few envelopes when you come to church and the secretary will include you on the parish list. Thank you for your kind support to our parish that we remain open and have a resident pastor.

Development and Peace announcement: We are blessed to announce that, Lisa VanDrunen has taken over as our representative of Development and Peace. Please visit D&P website and click the news button to get some updates about this program. Thank you and God bless.

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