



Is God calling you to be a priest?

You are *not* alone.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart... He will direct your path."
(Proverbs 3:5-6)



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IN HIS NAME

Statement on the Persecution of Christians
Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops
Episcopal Commission for Justice and Peace

A WAY FORWARD...Continued

In this regard, we can follow the example of Pope Francis during his meeting with the Orthodox Patriarch of Moscow in 2016. Given that the Catholic and Orthodox Churches have been separated for nearly a thousand years, this meeting was historic. The common declaration they issued dealt largely with the question of persecution of Christians, which has touched both churches. Although they were once enemies, these churches are now on a path of dialogue.

Out of great suffering, hope can arise. Even Saul, who had uttered "threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord" (Acts 9:1), became Paul, the apostle to the Gentiles who would have to suffer for the sake of the Lord's name (cf. Acts 9:16). The proclamation of the Good News brings hope to the world, yet it also brings difficulties - something Christ's disciples experience even today. If Saul, a terrible persecutor of Christians, could become Paul, the great disciple, then we can be sure that anything is possible in the hope that does not disappoint us (cf. Romans 5:5).

IN OUR COUNTRY

Our situation in Canada is certainly different from that of our persecuted Christian brothers and sisters around the world. Here, many of us feel uncomfortable being Christian in a world where religion is accorded a shrinking role in the public square. But in reality, what do we have to lose? Our discomfort comes from the fact that our values are different from those of contemporary society. We should rejoice because it is precisely in this way that we are prophetic disciples. When faced with the treatment we receive, let us do so with boldness, freedom, and dialogue.

CONCLUSION

Our suffering Christian brothers and sisters require tangible actions from us and an ongoing commitment. They hope for our prayers, that they may have the strength to endure the trials that come, and that even within chaos they may encounter those who look on them with love. They also wish us to pray for those who torment them. Let us pray without ceasing for persecutors, that their hearts of stone might become hearts of flesh. Here, Jesus' command to love our enemies (Matthew 5:44) takes on its full meaning.

The need us to be informed about the persecution they are undergoing, and to share this with others. The media gives little coverage to these situations, apart from when something spectacular occurs. Being knowledgeable about the condition of persecuted Christians can help us to change their reality; we can become a voice for those who suffer in silence. We can make their cry heard, a cry that is also a call to solidarity with all people.

Finally, our persecuted brothers and sisters count on our help in navigating their trials. In this regard, we can bring them pastoral and material assistance. Pastoral assistance is very important, since very often their faith is the source of their courage and is their only hope. Material assistance does not solve the problem of discrimination or persecution, but it allows persecuted Christians to survive.

ST. VERONICA'S CHURCH

INFORMATION

559 Douglas St
Sault Ste Marie

P6C 1V3

Ph: (705) 253-9411

Hall: (705) 253-4352

veronicassm@shaw.ca

Parish Priest:

Fr. Ron Ambeault

Parish Council Chair:

Santa De Marco

Children Sacramental

Prep. Coordinator

Fran Boyle

CWL President:

Rose Linklater

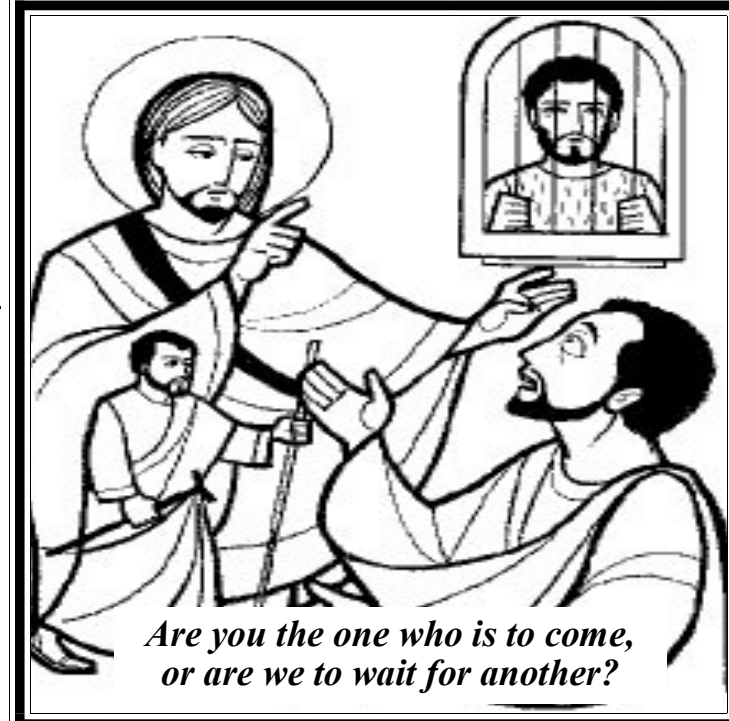
Knights of Columbus

John Sullivan

Parish Secretary:

Lisa Maville

SUNDAY DECEMBER 15, 2019 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



*Are you the one who is to come,
or are we to wait for another?*

"How many problems would we avoid in life if we learned to listen?"

- Pope Francis

Reconciliation

Saturdays:
3:00 - 3:30 pm

Baptism :

Expectant parents welcome to register, and speak with Fr. Ron after Mass

Matrimony :

Must register at least eight months in advance. Book the Church before the hall.

Communion at Home :

Lay ministers are available to bring Communion to shut-ins. Phone the parish office.

Prayer-Line :

Rose Marie Spina
254-4064

Angela Filice 253-8607
(Italian)

Visiting & Card

Ministry:

If you wish to send cards or have someone visit people who are confined to their homes. Contact the parish office.

REGULAR CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Tues - Friday
9:00-12:00

Thank-you To All Who Give!!

Web site:
veronica.church

Got Questions About Life?

TRY ALPHA

New Program
Starting Thursday, January 16th

Register at www.veronica.church



WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, December 16, 2019
1:00 PM
Italian Prayer Group.



Friday, December 20, 2019
9:00 AM

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 21, 2019
4:00 PM MASS

Fortunata Serrao by Raffela Serrao.
Michele and Carolina Battisti by daughter-in-law Maria Battisti and family.
Giovanni Spina by Anna Spina.
For the intentions of all parishioners of St. Veronica's.

Sunday, December 22, 2019
11:00 AM MASS

Giovanna Marrelli by Pasquale Marrelli.
John Naccarato by Arlene Delaney.
Ottavio and James Mancuso by the Mancuso family.
For the intentions of all parishioners of St. Veronica's.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS CHEER

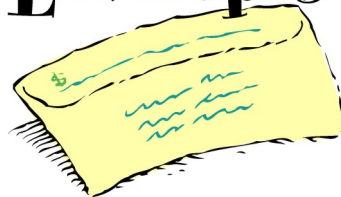
WHEN: Wednesday, December 18th @ St. Veronica's Church
7:30 AM for approximately 1 hour to transfer boxes
from the truck to the basement

If interested, please phone JoAnne McFadden 705-253-8677

REMINDER

We have the 2020 collection envelopes available at the front entrance of the Church for those who have had envelopes this past 2019 year. We also have pre-authorized forms which is our preferred method of donations. Please ask Fr. Ron for the forms. You can also donate by credit card, Pay-Pal, or interac. Please do this by visiting our website veronica.church and following the link for donations. For those who are able to give occasionally, there are green envelopes available at both entrances of the church. Just fill in the information and put it in the collection basket. We thank all of you for your ongoing financial support of St. Veronica's Parish.

Offering Envelopes



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24 - 4:00 PM

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25 - 11:00 AM

THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY THE HOLY
MOTHER OF GOD
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31 - 4:00 PM



Christmas Flowers

Christmas Flowers in Memory of loved ones. If you would like to make a donation for flowers to be purchased for Christmas, please put your donation along with your name & address in an envelope marked "Christmas Flowers". This donation will be included on your tax receipts. If you would like to donate in memory of deceased loved ones, please use the following example: Christmas Flowers in Memory of (Print name of loved ones) by: (print your name & address for your tax receipt)



NOTIFICATION - UPCOMING CWL EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE - December 14th and 15th. CWL Christmas bake sale after the Masses. Coffee will be served.



Also, the membership drive for 2020 has begun. The CWL would like to invite and welcome all of the women of the Parish to join and participate. The annual membership fee will be \$20 for everyone.

FIRST COMMUNION CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to SOPHIA OMOLOLA and TESSA YOUNG who received the Eucharist for the first time on Sunday, December 8th.

Thank you to their families and catechists for journeying with them.

Thank you to Angie Gervasi for making the beautiful cake and coordinating the reception.

