

SAINT MARGARET PARISH WEEKLY BULLETIN

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MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

Christ's One and Eternal Sacrifice was and is for all humanity. With each Mass offered at the Altar, we give thanks that Christ offers His Sacrifice, keeping close to His Sacred Heart the following:

SUNDAY, AUG 2, PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
MONDAY, AUG 3, ALEX VERDUCI
TUESDAY, AUG 4, PAULINA LAW +
WEDNESDAY, AUG 5, ITALIA VISCIGLIO
THURSDAY, AUG 6, ELAINE FRENCH
FRIDAY, AUG 7, ROLANDO GILBUENA +
SATURDAY, AUG 8 PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

MASS TIMES

Monday, Wednesday and Friday at **6pm**
Tuesday and Thursday at **8am**
Saturday at **6pm**
Sunday **7:30am** (Latin), **9:30am**, **11:30am**

Those receiving Holy Communion are asked to do so directly on the palms. Approach the Sacrament with humility.

OUTSIDE CONFESSIONS WILL BEGIN 30 MINS BEFORE EACH WEEKDAY MASS
Saturday at **5:15pm**

Masses will now be held in the Piazza-make sure to bring a hat or umbrella to cover up from the sun.

THE POPE'S MONTHLY INTENTIONS



AUGUST: THE MARITIME WORLD

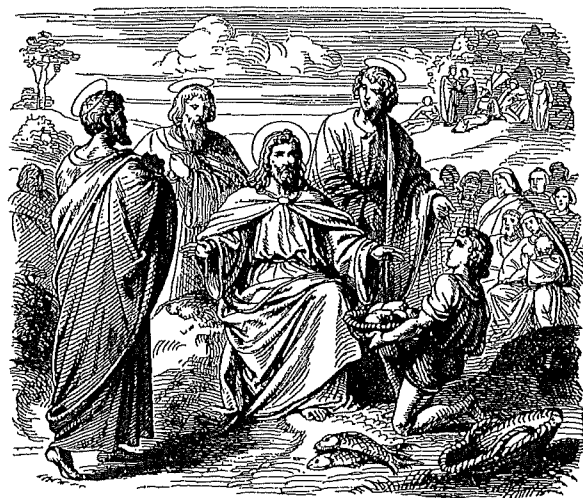
"We pray for all those who work and live from the sea, among them sailors, fishermen and their families."

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Draw near to your servants, O Lord, and answer their prayers with unceasing kindness, that, for those who glory in you as their Creator and guide, you may restore what you have created and keep safe what you have restored. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

THIS WEEK'S GOSPEL MEDITATION

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 14:13-21



This miracle was an act of kindness and loving thoughtfulness on the part of Christ. He saw the people's needs and He worked a miracle to provide for this need. The miracle also helped to convince the people of Galilee that He was the expected Messiah, but especially it prepared the way for the announcement of the greatest miracle of all - the miracle of the Eucharist. The bread He miraculously multiplied that day to supply the bodily needs of the Galilean multitude was but a foreshadowing of that heavenly food which He was about to give as spiritual nourishment to the millions who would become His followers down through the centuries until the end of time.

Outside Miracles

Gospel for the Week of Sunday, August 2, 2020

Matthew 14:13-21

They all ate and were satisfied.

"He ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, he said the blessing, broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, who in turn gave them to the crowds. They all ate and were satisfied, and they picked up the fragments left over— twelve wicker baskets full. Those who ate were about five thousand men, not counting women and children."

When Our Lord blessed and broke the loaves of bread and fed the multitudes, it was, in a way, an outside "dress rehearsal" for the Last Supper He would eventually share with His disciples inside the Upper Room, the first church building. How true this is for us!

Like the biblical account, we too are sitting outside. Christ, once again, feeds us through the blessing and breaking of the Eucharistic Bread - His substantial presence on earth as it is in heaven. We may not be literally sitting on the grass, nor numbering over five thousand, but until Mass is offered inside the church building without restrictions, our outside numbers continue to multiply like the loaves and fishes recounted in the Gospel.

Just like the hungry crowds Our Lord responded to, we will likely have to get used to being outside for the summer and probably for the weeks that follow. We have multiplied the chairs and the sanitizers - not exactly a miracle! But we have to also be prepared for an increase in sun and summer temperatures. That is why the outside Masses are short, no spoken sermon, and we quickly transit through the church for Holy Communion.

To that end, we have a few practical issues that we will need to address. Unlike the hardy people Our Lord preached to at length while outside under the beating sun, we have to be conscious of sunburn and heatstroke. In other words, use sunscreen, bring bottled water, wear a hat as needed or bring an umbrella for shade. There are not enough trees for shade to go around for everyone!

Although in January I had shared the desire to build a permanent shaded area around the piazza for small gatherings, the pandemic has put a hold on that for now. We are now looking at some sort of outside shade for as much of the piazza itself as

possible in order to "buy" us enough time for the rest of the year.

Suggestions surfaced about purchasing some kind of wedding tent, but with too much open access to the church grounds, especially after hours, and with an increasing transient population, tents might invite overnight camping (which we are not zoned for!) Prudence suggests we will have to secure the parish perimeter better to more adequately address health and safety concerns.

Presently, we are looking at some semi-permanent shade structures over the piazza that will not cheapen our sense of the sacred while offering the Sacraments outside.

Added to this, with the fire season upon us and with the church grounds located around a residential area, you will begin to see a lot of work during these coming weeks, clearing out brush, dangerous trees from around the hall and hillside and practical landscaping maintenance. So, just when I thought we would be saving money by not running the air conditioners inside, the outside environmental controls are just as taxing!

Why can it not be as simple as it was in the biblical days when we could just sit on the hills and grassy meadows and listen to our Lord and partake of the free gift of His presence among us?

In short, it is because the outside world has become so complicated, politicized, and much more challenging. But even still, Our Lord, as does the church, meets us where we are. And that's where He finds us today - in the trenches, in a field hospital, and still feeding us by His Sacramental presence. He is our shield in the battle, the healer of wounds and our shade in the heat of the day.

Thank you for your great patience, your example of sacrifice and perseverance, generosity and practical help that give assurance that we will endure and offer up to God the challenges we all face inside or out.

Fr. Carona Wallace