

THE 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – SOME MUSINGS

“When He has found it He lays it on His shoulders and rejoices”

Three losses and three findings. Repetition is used for emphasis and we need to ask what Jesus is emphasizing here. There’s the lost sheep and the lost coin and then the lost son. Each of these things is eventually retrieved and for me, it’s in the finding of these lost items that I have a way to seek the meaning of these parables. Sheep are not the brightest of creatures; they’ll follow without thinking or knowing where they’ll end up. The lost coin was likely lost inadvertently or by some accident or carelessness. The son on the other hand makes a choice to leave and make his way in the world. Yet each is found because of a decision made.

It’s easy to follow the way of the sheep in that first parable. So much in our world leads us away from the fold of our Lord and Saviour. The media bombards us with tantalizing things to buy and to strive for. When the Christmas season begins we’re told we need to buy, buy, buy! Update your home with a new dining table we’re told. Living in this consumer society, it’s a simple thing to follow the latest trend and wander mindlessly down some path that takes our attention from the loving arms of our God. And when we do that, He’ll come looking for us, and on finding us will welcome us back to His love.

Or we can be like the woman who lost that coin. We become careless in our faith practice. We’re too busy to pray; we have to take the kids to some activity or other and that means that Mass gets put on hold; we become lax in saying grace at meals. We neglect opportunities to avail ourselves of the sacraments. But some event in our lives will force us to turn back and go on a desperate search for a return to our faith and the love of God and when we find it again we do, indeed, rejoice.

However, a lot of the time we’re like the son in that last parable. We want to go out into the world, try our wings so to speak, and get led astray by the temptations that exist in the world. Like that lost sheep we follow the latest guru, the latest fad, the newest thing that is a “must have” for the “in crowd” and we do want to be in that in crowd! I love some of those silly bumper stickers and the other day I saw one that made me think of what happens when we’re lost and following the newest trend. It read, “Don’t follow me, I’m lost too!” Yes it gave me a good chuckle at the time but it held a good deal of truth. Often when we’re lost we don’t realize it for a time. We go along our foolish path thinking that everything is going just fine but suddenly we come to a realization that what we’re living in is just not making us happy or at peace. Following the latest trend leaves us exhausted and frustrated. It leaves us feeling empty and alone. It’s then that we make the decision to return to our God, ask His forgiveness, knowing that He’s waiting with open arms to welcome us back.

There is so much in the world that can keep us in His peace: the morning sun streaming through the windows, the evening breeze easing us after a productive day, a welcoming home. We don’t need to follow false gods and false prophets when we have Jesus, His Father and the Holy Spirit to sustain and uphold us. Let’s keep our boats anchored in His love and His Church and let’s always remember that no matter how often we fail through lack of attention, carelessness or a decision to take the wrong path we can always come home to Him.

Wishing you a week of many blessings and many small miracles. Betty Bruch



SEPTEMBER 15, 2019

24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SACRED HEART PARISH

Sacred Heart Church
24 Albert St.
Langton, ON



St. Michael’s Church
978 St. John’s Road
Walsh, ON



Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday – 5:00 pm
Sunday – 8:30 am (St. Michael’s)
Sunday – 10:30 am

Daily Mass

Tues. – 5:00 pm
Wed. to Fri. – 9:30 am

Reconciliation

20 min. prior to weekday mass
Sat. 4-4:45 pm
Sun. 8-8:20 am, or by appt.(St. Michael’s)

Mailing address

Box 8, Langton, ON N0E 1G0

Phone: 519-875-4438

E-mail: sacredheartlangton@dol.ca

Fr. Thomas e-mail: tckuriacko@dol.ca

Parish Clergy

Rev. Thomas Kuriacko, Pastor

Jack Grim, Deacon

Brian Hanley, Deacon

Office Hours: Tues. and Thurs. 9 am – 4 pm;

Baptisms – Contact Rev. Thomas—6 months notice **Marriages** – Contact Rev. Thomas— one year notice required

Schools – Sacred Heart, Langton - St. Michael’s, Walsh - Our Lady of Fatima, Courtland

FROM THE PASTOR’S DESK:

The theme of today’s readings is that of God’s mercy towards sinners. In the First Reading we see that the people had abandoned God and fallen back into idolatry. God’s reaction seems to portray him as an angry, jealous God, who will resort to the most terrible punishments when his law is disobeyed. But that is not the message of the story. The message is that God pardons the sin of his people in response to the prayer of Moses. In the Second Reading Paul’s conversion is proof of the fact that Christ came into the world to save sinners.

The fact that Jesus welcomed sinners and ate with them was a cause of scandal to the Pharisees. They, the ‘separated ones,’ avoided all contact with sinners. They assumed that God has no dealings with sinners either. But Jesus shows them a very different kind of God. By means of three parables he justifies his concern for sinners. All three parables stress God’s concern for the lost one, and his joy when a lost one is found.

Someone once asked Charles Dickens what was the best short story in the English language, and his answer was, ‘The Prodigal Son.’ The Gospel we read and reflect on this Sunday has a message for all of us.

One cannot live without forgiveness. We all have sometime or other “gone astray” and disobeyed God’s commandments. Though we are all sinners we hope in the great mercy of God.

God’s mercy is sung 25 times in the Psalm 196: ‘The mercy of God is everlasting.’ More than all the others, Luke’s Gospel stresses God’s mercy. Luke’s chapter 15 can be called the “chapter of joyful mercy.” The three parables of Jesus illustrate it very vividly: ‘The lost sheep, The lost coin, The prodigal son.’

The lesson we learn is simple: God loves man, man is precious to him. By all means God wants to save man. “Found,” “returned,” “forgiven,” “reconciled”: these are catch words of the Gospel.

God is goodness itself, love itself; we can count on Him, build on Him. God comes even to the most sinful man with His forgiving love. Therefore each one of us should realize that our God is a good God. His name is “I will forgive you.” Jesus’ words and deeds confirm it. He reveals God’s love and goodness; he reconciles us to the Father. Since God ever forgives, we ourselves have to forgive the offences of our fellow beings. We have to make a fact of what we pray: “Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.” All of us have stains of sin. But we will never get lost just because of sin. Sinners are lost not because they are sinners but they persist in their sinful habits and turn away from God. Let us therefore not forget God even when we have sinned, and let us make others share the forgiveness we receive from God. That will bring us to a closer experience of God.

“GOD BLESS YOU ALL. HAVE A GREAT WEEKEND!!”

Fr. Thomas

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS:

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE – SACRED HEART, LANGTON			
DATE	TIME	MASS INTENTION	BY
Tues Sept 17/19	7:00 pm	• Maurice Tack	• Andrew Zei
Wed Sept 18/19	9:30 am	• Regina Zarycki	• Teresa Keenlside
Thurs Sept 19/19	4:00 pm	Caessant Care • For all parishioners	
Fri Sept 20/19	9:30 am	Commencement of School Year Mass (3 schools) • For vocations to priesthood & religious life	

DATES TO REMEMBER		
DATE	TIME	EVENT
Tues Sept 17/19	8:00 pm	Parish Pastoral Council meeting with St. Mary's Church, Tillsonburg following the 7:00 pm mass at SHC
Fri Sept 20/19	9:30 am	Commencement of School Year Mass (all 3 schools) SHC
Tues Oct 1/19	8:00 pm	Knights of Columbus Meeting
Wed Oct 2/19	7:00 pm	Walsh CWL Meeting
Mon Oct 7/19	7:00 pm	Langton CWL Meeting
Wed Oct 9/19	9:30 am	Thanksgiving School Mass for SHS
	1:45 pm	Thanksgiving School Mass for OLFS
Thurs Oct 10/19	1:45 pm	Thanksgiving School Mass for STMS
Sat Oct 12/19 & Sun Oct 13/19	Weekend masses	Confirmation- weekend of commitment & Enrollment
Wed Oct 16/19	7:30 pm	Finance Committee Meeting

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES	
Mon Sept 16/19:	St. Cornelius & St. Cyprian
Fri Sept 20/19:	St. Andrew
Sat Sept 21/19:	St. Matthew

LITURGY ASSIGNMENTS FOR SEPT 21 & 22

Saturday (5 pm)
 Lector: Josie Edwards
 Eucharistic Minister: Mary DeCloet
 Altar Servers: Kyle Kershaw, Jeffery Lindsay & Ryan Kershaw

Sunday (10:30 am)
 Lector: Jeanette Major
 Eucharistic Ministers: Erik Dekeyser & Christine Denn
 Altar Servers: Colton Butler, Scott Boyd & Ethan Spriet

WEEKLY OFFERTORY – SEPTEMBER 7/8, 2019

St. Michael's	
Regular Envelope	\$ 605.00
Loose	\$ 72.50
Sub-Total	\$ 677.50

Sacred Heart	
Regular Envelope	\$1,757.00
Building Fund	\$ 220.00
Loose	\$ 157.00
Sub-Total	\$2,134.00

Total **\$2,811.50**

MASS INTENTIONS

We do not have many mass intentions for the coming weeks, if you would like to have a mass said for your loved ones, please call the office at 519-875-4438.

MASS CARDS

Did you know that you can have a mass said for someone living? For someone struggling with health issues or another of the many of life's issues that we face. We have special mass cards for the living—offering a mass for gift for healing. Drop into the office and check them out.

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION- ST. MARY'S CHURCH, TILLSONBURG

Are you interested in developing your families' faith and in connecting with other families who share a common purpose? The Family Catechism program begins Sunday, October 20 at St. Mary's Parish, Tillsonburg and is open for registration online. Families with children and youth of all ages are welcome to attend. Please visit www.famfi.ca or contact Karin Lansink at ijklansink@gmail.com or 519-550-03304.

ST.MARY'S CWL TILLSONBURG

St. Mary's CWL is taking orders for Meat & Apple pies. The cost is \$4.00. To place an order, please call: Nora Marie Bruder at 519-842-8460 or Irene Gubesch at 519-842-3312.

PARISH NURSING & HEALTH CARE WORKERS

The Institute for Ongoing Formation at St. Peter's Seminary has partnered with the University of Dayton to offer online education programs. All nurses and other health-care workers are invited to enroll for their own personal and/or professional development. "The Parish Nurse as Counsellor and Spiritual Companion" addresses topics such as: pastoral care, holistic health, mental health, and grief, loss and suffering. Many other online courses are also offered. Register by Oct. 14. Course dates: Oct. 18 – Nov. 21. For more information, visit www.stpetersseminary.ca/Programs/Parish-Nursing/21 under the "Online Studies" heading on the Parish Nursing page.

"FOR OUR COMMON HOME" - DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

The Amazon produces 20% of the oxygen we breathe. Yet its forests, streams and people are threatened because of the resources there. Join a workshop on Development and Peace's new campaign, For our Common Home: A future for the Amazon," a future for all to learn about the vital role the Amazon plays for the entire planet and the importance of standing alongside those who protect the Amazon. A future for the Amazon is a future for all!



PICK FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

FORMED RECOMMENDATIONS



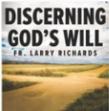
FEATURED IN SEPTEMBER PRAYER



STUDY



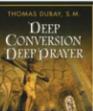
WATCH



LISTEN



YOUTH



READ



FOR CHILDREN



SPANISH

Visit Formed.org and use our Parish Code: GKKYTH

FORMED UPDATE

We hope you are enjoying your free subscription to FORMED – an amazing revolutionary online platform providing access to the best Catholic audio talks, movies, e-books and video-based studies. If you are new to FORMED and want to sign up please visit Formed.org and login using our parish code GKKYTH. If you need help navigating the FORMED platform please contact us at the parish office – we would be happy to help!

RETRouvaille

Retrouvaille London/St. Thomas announced their Marriage Help Program for couples with marriages in distress being held on September 27-29 at the Michaelite Centre, London. Retrouvaille ("retro-vie") has helped tens of thousands of couples experiencing marital difficulty. The program is designed to provide the tools to help get marriages back on track and includes Post Weekend Sessions over a two-month period.