

The 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – Some Musings

*“If you choose you can keep the commandments.”*

Choices! They are wonderful things aren't they? They enable us to decide what we will do or be. My Dad used to tell us that we could choose all sorts of things; we could choose to be happy or sad, to be an uplifter of people or one who put others down; it all depended on us. He warned us however, that when we made a choice we had to live with the consequences of that choice. Not always a good thing! The prophet Sirach tells us that God puts before us two choices, life on the one side and death on the other. I woke one morning to a gloomy, dull and cloudy day which did nothing to lighten my already dreary mood and I remembered Dad's words again. Yes, I could choose to go about like Pigpen with a dark grey cloud over my head or I could choose to be happy for all the blessings that have come to me in my life. On the one hand was a day filled with dreaded tasks and on the other a day filled with praise and thanksgiving.

These choices are simple when we consider the words of Jesus. Yes, we can choose to obey the letter of the law but that isn't enough. When we're angry with others and vent our frustration on them, Jesus tells us it's the same as taking a knife to them. As I considered that I realized that when I am angry and take that emotion out on others with unkind words or thoughts, I am, in a way, killing another's spirit. Jesus is asking us to live to a higher standard than our world demands. It's easy to think that all we need to do is attend Mass every weekend, keep the Ten Commandments and go about like everyone else but that's not what He wants from us. He wants us to be obedient, not out of fear but out of love for Him.

Standing at my window the other morning to greet the day, I watched as the cloud veiled sun broke through a patch of blue and shed its warming rays on my world. I watched a pair of rabbits as they searched for food and thanked Him that my larder was full. It would be a day when I had the choice to live as His faithful disciple or go my own wayward way. He has given us the ability to choose right or wrong and He's set His law of love and compassion before us. Each day when we rise from our beds is a day to make that choice again. If we choose to do what is right, we can be assured that our lives will be worthy of His love and others will benefit from our choice.

Jesus wants us to be perfect as His heavenly Father is perfect and human weakness can keep us from that perfection. Does Jesus want us to tear out our eyes or cut off our hands? Of course not! We'd not be very useful workers if we did so. We'd be blind to the needs of His people and useless in His vineyard. What He wants us to do is root from our practices and thoughts whatever it is that keeps us from being the sister or brother He needs as His followers. Being a faithful follower requires self-sacrifice and discipline. (Have you noticed just how similar the words “discipline” and “disciple” are?) It requires a stalwart and steady spirit and a loving heart. It requires us to put others needs above our own wants. And it requires prayer and worship.

The other evening I watched as the sun set on another day in which I'd felt blessed by His loving kindness; He'd given me a day of joy with a visit from a friend, the sounds of geese flying overhead and the beauty of His sunset. I asked myself if I'd been His good and faithful disciple, and asked His forgiveness for the times I hadn't. I sat with my cup of tea and basked in the wonder of His great love. I'd had a day to make choices and I prayed that the choices I'd made helped build His kingdom here on earth.

Let's endeavour to make choices that will benefit others by uprooting from our lives those things that keep us bound in the cold grip of our own self-interests. Let's endeavour to become His faith-filled and loyal workers in the world He's so graciously given us. Let's love Him as he would have us do and love one another.

Wishing you a week of many rich blessings and many small miracles.

- Betty Bruch

FEBRUARY 16, 2020

6th 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



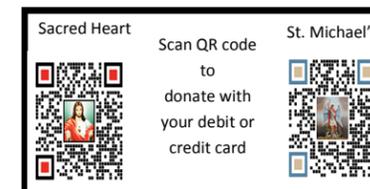
Weekend Mass Schedule  
Saturday - 5:00 pm  
Sunday - 8:30 am (St. Michael's)  
Sunday - 10:30 am

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](mailto:sacredheartlangton@dol.ca)  
Fr. Thomas e-mail: [tckuriack@dol.ca](mailto:tckuriack@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:

In today's Gospel we find the most astonishing statement of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount. "Christ came to fulfill the Law; he is the end of the Law." (Rom. 10:4) To fulfill the commandments is a complicated business for modern man. "Fulfill even the smallest letter of the law? No, not me," he would say. He would not like to be bound, for that would make life tiresome and demanding for him.

What did Jesus mean by the Law? If we look at the Ten Commandments, we can sum up the meaning of the Law: reverence for God, respect for parents, respect for life, truth, etc. Jesus came to fulfill that reverence and respect. It consisted, positively speaking, in living for God and men. Love is the criterion. It alone established a sound relationship between God and man.

Today man craves for money, pleasure and honour. These make him selfish and make him forget God and his fellow-beings. Love of God degenerates into love of material objects, and ultimately he is isolated from God and from the community.

An exaggerated sense of individualism and selfishness are the stumbling block that destroys unity in the family, community and society. Love knows no limits of time and place and people. "Love God, and do what you wish," (St. Augustine) still has universal application. It is love that gives one strength to overcome evil. It is love that gives us the joy of self-giving. Love establishes interpersonal relationships. For this reason Jesus says that we have to be on good terms with our brethren. For, if we are not on good terms with our neighbors how can we be on good terms with God? No prayer, no almsgiving, and no sacrifice is worth anything in the eyes of God if we lack charity. The true disciple of Jesus lives by his spirit.

Cares and worries do trouble us. But we should not make too much of ourselves and our problems. "We should cast our worries on the Lord and he will take care of us and all our problems." St. John says clearly: "If anyone says 'I love God' and hates his brother, he is a liar."

Since we offend God very often, and our neighbor, through sins against love, we need to be reconciled with God and with human beings.

"GOD BLESS YOU ALL!! HAVE A GREAT WEEK!!!"

Fr. Thomas

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE – SACRED HEART, LANGTON			
DATE	TIME	MASS INTENTION	BY
Tues Feb 18/20	5:00 pm	• No Mass	
Wed Feb 19/20	9:30 am	• Mariette Sinnesael	Langton C.W.L
Thurs Feb 20/20	9:30 am	• No Mass	
Fri Feb 21/20	9:30 am	• Ulysse Amirault & Wife Marj	Trudy Konopetski

**LITURGY ASSIGNMENTS FOR SACRED HEART, LANGTON**  
**February 22/23**

Saturday (5 pm)

Lector: Jenny Zamecnik  
 Eucharistic Minister: Deacon Jack  
 Altar Servers: Luke Smithers, Rosa Smithers

Sunday (10:30 am)

Lector: Wanda Demaiter  
 Eucharistic Ministers: Deacon Jack, Cindy Brooke  
 Altar Servers: Michael Demaiter, Joel Demaiter

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Wed Feb 26/20	9:30 am	Ash Wednesday School Mass SHC ( SHS & OLFS)
	1:45 pm	Ash Wednesday School Mass STM (STMS)
Thurs Feb 27/20	7:30 pm	Finance Committee Meeting
Fri Feb 28/20	10:00am	Stations of the Cross (SHS @ SHC)
	7:00 pm	Stations of the cross SHC

**WEEKLY OFFERTORY – Feb 8 & 9, 2020**

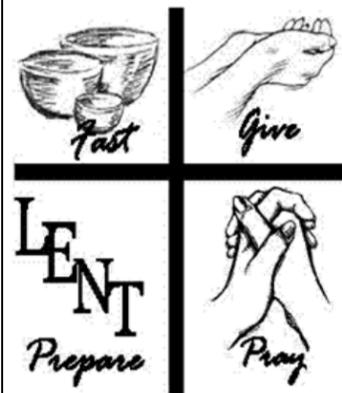
**St. Michael's**

Regular Sunday Envelope	\$ 465.00
Thanksgiving Appeal	\$ 10.00
Loose	\$ 35.20
Building Fund	\$ 5.00
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$ 515.20</b>

**Sacred Heart**

Regular Envelope	\$ 1,376.00
Initial Envelope	\$ 10.00
Loose	\$ 48.85
Building Fund	\$ 145.00
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,579.85</b>

**Total**  **\$ 2,095.05**



**Days of Abstinence:** No meat can be eaten on Ash Wednesday and all of the Fridays during Lent. This applies to all Catholics 14 and older.

**Days of Fast:** Only one full meal is permitted on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday for Catholics between 18 and 59. Two smaller meals are permitted, but the small meals should not equal a second full meal. Drinking coffee, tea and water between meals is allowed. Snacks between meals are not allowed.

*“ Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless.” - St Teresa of Calcutta*

# Lenten Day of Prayer

at St. Mary's Parish, Tillsonburg

Bishop Fabbro has invited each of us to enter into a Year of Prayer which began on Pentecost Sunday this past June. Saturday March 21st we have invited Bishop Fabbro to lead us in a Day of Prayer. We will explore the Lenten scriptures and the Bishop's invitation to deepen our confidence as missionary disciples. All are welcome!

- 9 AM Mass
- 10 AM Opening Presentation
- 12:15 PM Lunch (free will offering)
- 1 PM Second Presentation
- 3 PM Blessing & Dismissal

There is no cost for this Lenten Day of Prayer except for the free will offering for your lunch that will be provided. However you will need to register by **March 7th** by contacting Courtney at St. Mary's Parish (519-842-3224). Late registrations will not be accepted and the day is structured for prayer and exploring the scriptures.

**ST. MICHAEL'S CWL**

Our annual fund raiser, Making Cabbage Rolls will be on April 6, a Monday at the Vittoria Community Centre. We will beginning at 8am and finish around 4pm, you are welcome to come help for as little or as much of that time as you can.



Please come out if possible and help make this event a success. Please save the date, and come out to help trim, roll or package the cabbage rolls. All members, family, friends or neighbors are welcome to come.

**CWL SACRED HEART**

Once again the Langton CWL is taking orders for cabbage rolls, from January 26 – March 1 2020. Pick up is at the Langton Community Centre on March 7,2020 at the bazaar. \$18.00 per dozen. Phone Jeanette Major (519) 875-4952 or email [jmamajor@hotmail.com](mailto:jmamajor@hotmail.com)



**CWL - SACRED HEART**

CWL soft sided Brief cases and 100th Anniversary Pins



Please contact Linda Elku at (519) 875-5648 to place an order and to make arrangements to pay. Please place your order as soon as possible, orders and payment are due before February 29, 2020.

**CWL SACRED HEART**

The CWL will once again host their annual Spring Bazaar on Saturday March 7th, 2020 at the Langton Community Centre. Doors open at 10:30am with a Giant Penny Sale, Used Books, Cabbage Rolls for sale, Door Prizes and many more.

**NEW** this year will be Hot soup and sandwiches. Bingo begins at 1:00pm. Come out and Have Fun.

We will also again be collecting items for our White Elephant table as well as used Books. Books can be dropped off at the back of the Church anytime. Items for the White Elephant table can be dropped off at Mrs. Couture's place at 44 Queen St. Langton or the Community Centre on Friday March 6th between 9:00am and 12:00pm. We will also be taking orders for Cabbage Rolls, please call Jeanette Major 875 4952. Pick up the Cabbage Rolls on March 7th 2020. For more information contact Carol Vanderhaeghe 875-4377.