

The 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Some Musings

“ . . . for He makes His sun rise on the wicked and on the good . . . ”

The other evening as I came home from Mass the setting sun brushed the cloud veiled sky with hints of pink and pale blue. Sunrises and sunsets always give me such joy, reminding me that I've done nothing that warrants the beauty with which God surrounds me. The love of God is boundless and overflows for us, showing us on a daily basis how great is His love for His people; so praise and thanksgiving should come easily to our lips. How can we possibly love like that? It's only with His grace and help that we can accomplish even a small measure of that kind of love. I realized that that sunset was there for the wicked people in the world as well as for the good and we, as His followers, are meant to love as He does.

Loving the way that God would have us do is no easy thing. The problem can be that we confuse like and love. We don't have to like people or approve of what they do but we do have to love them. Separating those two things is, at times, a very tough task. I find it easy to love those who live in other countries, places where I can send a few dollars to alleviate hunger or disease: but loving a neighbour who comes home late at night and shouts good night to a friend is a lot more challenging.

The love that we are called to is meant to be as limitless as the sky and as all-encompassing as God's love for us. When we look at the crucifix we can see, in some way, the greatness of that love. He was willing to leave His heavenly home to spend time rubbing shoulders with sinners and people who were out to get rid of Him and obliterate that message to love others. It seems that people haven't changed a great deal since the beginning of time and for me, when I consider that, I have to take a good long hard look at the way in which I treat others.

It's less difficult to love others when our own lives are going well, when we're around people who are easy to get along with and who love us. It's easy to say how much we love God when we not only see, but realize, the beauty with which He's surrounded us; when we are unable to count our blessing on all our fingers and toes: however when our lives seem like some vast tornado that keeps us off balance and off our target, loving God and others may seem well nigh impossible.

There are times we just don't feel like loving others, and it's at times like that we make the decision to love in spite of our hesitancy. Love, I discovered a long time ago is not a feeling, it's a decision. When our children were recalcitrant or just plain stubborn (no idea where that trait came from!) we loved them regardless. There's a lovely song by George Strait that says, "Daddy's don't just love their children every now and then, / It's a love without end. Amen!" And I thank God every day that He doesn't just love me when I'm His dutiful and obedient daughter; He loves me with that love without end. Learning to love others can take time and energy but it's so worth the effort.

Living without love is like diving headlong into an empty swimming pool – one doesn't get wet or cold but the headache! Oh the headache! It's almost better to say "heart ache". If we can remember that God's love is a love with no bounds, perhaps we can loosen the bonds of anger and hurt that keep us from loving our enemies, from doing good to those who do not do good to us, and remembering that we're called to be perfect as He is perfect, then we can open our hearts to others. If we loosen those bonds we open the door to the joys of His love and His mercy. Harboursing anger and hurt hurts us far more than it hurts others. Let's become that peace loving and forgiving people He's called His children.

Wishing you a week of much love and many small miracles.

Betty Bruch

FEBRUARY 23, 2020

7th 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: tckuriack@dol.ca



Sacred Heart Scan QR code to donate with your debit or credit card St. Michael's

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 Jesus tells: " Love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you; this way you will be sons of your heavenly Father in heaven, for He causes his sun to rise on the bad as well as the good." None of the prophets spoke as Jesus did.

Are we not subject to the law of retaliation? How many wars are waged, how many cities are bombed, how many families communities are at the strife because of the 'law of violence', retaliation? Jesus brings in a correction in our attitude, a reform of life. It was a complete surprise for his contemporaries, for they were subject to the Law of Retaliation of the Old Testament. The Gospel gives priority to the spirit rather than to rules and regulations. Evil cannot be overcome by evil or by 'balance of forces.' Retaliation or revenge will only add to the evil and aggravate violence and injustice. The precept of Jesus is to overcome evil with goodness, enmity with love: 'love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven.' Thus Christ gives the law a new dimension a new spirit: non-resentment and non-retaliation.

Why is love of one's enemies so important? This is the proof that we are "children of the Heavenly Father," who loves both the good and the bad, the just and the unjust. To love somebody who loves us in only natural. People of every religious and cultural traditions and even sinners do so. Love's greatest proof is loving those who hate us, those who hurt us, those who never encourage or appreciate us. The true test of Christianity lies in loving such people.

Every Human being is sacred, and loving him/her whether good or bad is divine. Love leads to perfection and we have to be 'perfect as the heavenly Father is perfect.'

Jesus knew very well that his enemies were going to trap him, insult him, and nail him to the cross. And it is here that Jesus showed love's greatest proof: While hanging on the cross he prayed for them: "Father, forgive them!" His love did not spring from any false emotion or superficial feelings: it came from the heart. It came from the will to love; it was a determined love that conquered the natural tendency to anger and retaliation, and accepted people as they are.

Jesus by his conduct not only sets an example of love and forgiveness, but he goes one step further: he prays for his enemies. Let our prayer be sincere and true. Let us love those who hate us. And when we feel like hating somebody, let us say a prayer for him/her. This will remedy things.

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

Fr. Thomas

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE – SACRED HEART, LANGTON			
DATE	TIME	MASS INTENTION	BY
Tues Feb 25/20	5:00 pm	• Elza Bolle	• Madeline Lammens
Wed Feb 26/20	9:30 am	Ash Wednesday School Mass (OLF & SHS @ SHC)	
	1:45 pm	Ash Wednesday School Mass (STMS @ STM)	
	5:00 pm	Ash Wednesday Celebration (SHC)	
Thurs Feb 27/20	9:30 am	• Rene DeCarolis	• Armin & Francis Kunkel
	4:00 pm	• Crescent Care	
Fri Feb 28/20	9:30 am	• Sharon Brown	• C.W.L
	10:00 am	Stations of the Cross (SHS @ SHC)	
	7:00 pm	Stations of the Cross SHC	

**LITURGY ASSIGNMENTS FOR SACRED HEART, LANGTON
February 29/ March 1**

Saturday (5 pm)

Lector: Rita Weiler
Eucharistic Minister: Matthew Weiler
Altar Servers: Ryan Kershaw, Jeffery Lindsay

Sunday (10:30 am)

Lector: Jeanette Major
Eucharistic Ministers: Mary Lamont, Darlene Casier
Altar Servers: Ethan Spriet, Chelsie Spriet

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
Sub-Total	\$ 515.20
Sacred Heart	
Regular Envelope	\$ 1,376.00
Initial Envelope	\$ 10.00
Loose	\$ 48.85
Building Fund	\$ 145.00
Sub-Total	\$ 1,579.85
Total	\$ 2,095.05



DATES TO REMEMBER

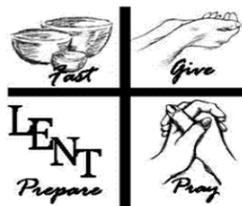
DATE	TIME	EVENT
Thurs Feb 27/20	7:30 pm	Finance Committee Meeting
Fri March 6/20	10:00 am	Stations of the Cross (SHS @ SHC)
	7:00 pm	Stations of the Cross STM
Tues. Mar 10/20	11:15 am	Lenten School Confessions OLFS @ OLF
Wed. Mar 11/20	11:15 am	Lenten School Confessions STMS @ STM
Thurs Mar 12/20	11:15 am	Lenten School Confessions SHS @ SHC

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.



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 begin 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

2020 LANGTON C.W.L. RUMMAGE SALE

April 4, 2020

8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon
Langton Community Centre
Flea Market, Clothing, Books, Toys, & More

Donation Drop Off Dates

and Times Langton Community Centre

Thursday April 2: 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Friday April 3: 8:30 a.m. to noon.

Volunteers Needed

To help load and unload trailer on Thursday April 2 @ 5:00 p.m. Call for location and information due to changes!

Please come out and join us

April 3rd for set up day and

April 4th for the sale day.

Everyone is welcome.

Questions?

Call Darlene @ 519-875-1887 or

Roxanne @ 519-875-3347

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.

BAZAAR ANNOUNCEMENT

C.W.L. Ladies of St. Anthony Daniel in Scotland will be holding their Spring Bazaar on Saturday March 28th, 2020 from 1:00-3:00P.M. in Parish Hall 57 Simcoe Street. Cabbage rolls, baking, crafts, penny table and much more. Free admission and door prizes.