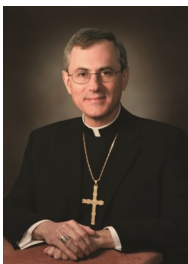


# ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL BASILICA

*We are a Eucharistic faith community, inspired by the Gospel,  
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Most Rev.  
Ronald Peter Fabbro, C.S.B.  
Bishop of London

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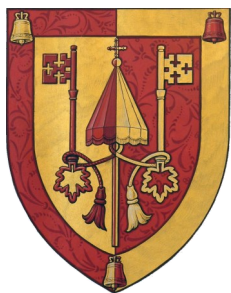
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**SOLEMNITY OF THE  
MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD  
OF CHRIST (CORPUS CHRISTI)  
June 14, 2020**

## Hunger and Thirst for the Eucharist

“Wouldn’t it be nice if you were never hungry or thirsty again? What’s fascinating is that Jesus uses these very natural human experiences to teach us about Himself. He uses natural hunger and thirst to teach us that we long to be satisfied spiritually. And there is only one way to satiate these spiritual longings...through Him.

It is a good spiritual practice to reflect upon your natural longings as an analogy for your spiritual longings. Naturally speaking, we regularly get hungry and thirsty. We eat and drink, but several hours later we hunger and thirst again. This is a cycle we cannot avoid. Our body continually craves food and drink.

The same is true on a spiritual level. We cannot pray once and satisfy our spiritual longings forever. We cannot simply believe in Jesus and then be satisfied forever. Why? Because prayer and unity with Jesus is something that must take place daily throughout your day.

The Eucharist offers insights into this hunger and thirst in that it provides us with our “daily” food. It is a gift that we must daily seek. Some of the Sacraments are given to us only once (Baptism and Confirmation). But the Eucharist is a gift that we must continually consume and long for. The fact that we must continually go to Mass and receive the Eucharist tells us that our Christian life is not something that can be fulfilled by one definitive decision. Rather, it’s something that needs daily nourishment and fulfillment.

What do you do to satisfy this Christian longing each and every day? During our COVID-19 time when we have not been able to gather together to celebrate the Eucharist, how do you still seek to fulfill your Christian desire for Christ each and every day? Do you seek Him who is the Bread of Life every day? Do you seek to satiate your thirst with Christ each and every day?

Loving Jesus and following Him is a decision that must be renewed not only each day, it must also be renewed throughout your day. It must be renewed as often as you become physically hungry and thirsty.

Reflect, today, upon these natural longings you have for food and drink to continually remind yourself of your much deeper spiritual longing for Christ. Praying to Him, listening to Him and receiving Him into your soul is the food that satisfies like nothing else. Jesus is the true Bread of Life and your true Spiritual Drink. He is what you are made for. Let Him satisfy your deepest desires in life!”

*Adapted from “Hunger and Thirst for the Eucharist”, Catholic Daily Reflections, My Catholic Life, April 2020  
<https://catholic-daily-reflections.com/2020/04/27/hunger-and-thirst-for-the-eucharist-2/>*

## Mobile Giving at St. Peter's Cathedral

### Instructions:

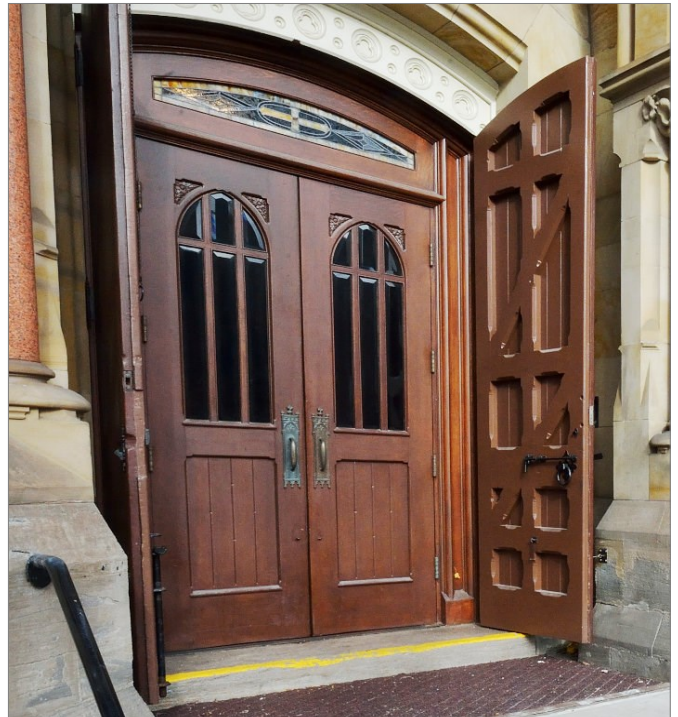
1. Place your device in camera mode or open the QR Code Reader.
2. Hold your device over the full QR Code.
3. Your camera will scan the QR Code.



## Re-opening: We Can Do This, But Not Without You!

As we await the final guidelines and detailed plans on the re-opening of our Worship Spaces soon to be released by Bishop Fabbro, of paramount importance will be the health and safety of our community. We all recognise the church building we left in March will not “look the same” when we do open our doors. The preparation of the worship space with the adjustment of seating necessary to adhere to the 30% seating capacity and ensuring the 2m/6ft social distancing is observed at all times throughout the Cathedral will just be the beginning of what is necessary to re-open our doors safely.

We can do all that will be required of us, but we cannot do any of this without you! At every mass we will need a number of volunteers to assist with welcoming and registering of our parishioners, seating of parishioners, directing of traffic flow in and out of the Cathedral and at communion, and sanitizing of the Cathedral after every mass. We will have more specific “role descriptions” in the days ahead of what will be expected and provide the adequate training in order to carry out all tasks safely and effectively.



*Photo courtesy of Fr. Gary Ducharme*

Please prayerfully consider how you might be able to contribute to this. Please contact Cathryn Hall at [chall@dol.ca](mailto:chall@dol.ca).

## I'm Ready! But Not Yet

As we have seen the gradual re-opening across various sectors and the measured relaxation of some restrictions which are good news stories, we see signs of hope that the many weeks of staying at home and self isolation may end. At the same time we must remind ourselves that the pandemic is not over and the Emergency Act and State of Emergency are both still in effect in our province.

Many of us have longed for the day our beloved St. Peter's would open again and we could return to our spiritual home to celebrate the Eucharist. Before we come back we all must look at the many precautions that have been and continue to be given to us: frequent washing of our hands, the use of hand sanitizer, 2m/6ft social distancing, only essential travel and going out, and the wearing of a face covering or mask when social distancing may be a challenge. Also, the health precautions to those who have existing medical conditions, compromised immune

systems, respiratory issues, those caring for loved ones with these challenges as well as the importance of continued self monitoring of symptoms related to the virus. None of these precautions or advice disappear in our re-opening and all health, safety and preventative measures will need to be employed to maintain a safe environment.

Though our Pastoral Team looks forward to celebrating the Eucharist with you again, we also want all our of parishioners to exercise the same caution you have been carrying out over these months in making the decision to attend Mass. Bishop Fabbro has extended the dispensation of the obligation for Sunday Mass until further notice.

Each and everyone of you are a great gift to our parish. We ask you to “proceed with caution” and know that “I'm ready, but not yet” may be the greatest gift you could give to yourself and your community. Of course, we will be happy to see you but support any decision you make.



## *From the Desk of the Rector*

**Reopening the Cathedral.** As you know the Ontario Government has permitted places of worship to reopen. All of us at St. Peter's are looking forward to that happening as soon as possible and are currently working on procedures that will allow us to do so safely given we are still in the midst of a pandemic. The cathedral will not be open this weekend, June 13th/14th. To keep up-to-date on when reopening will occur please consult our parish website. Regular updates will also be sent out by email. You can request these notices by leaving your name and email address in our parish voicemail box at 519-432-3475 ext. 221. Plans to reopen continue to be fluidly evolving. You will be kept aware of any developments as soon as they occur. I, again, encourage to get connected by subscribing to our email list by phoning, visiting our parish website or, emailing [basilica@dol.ca](mailto:basilica@dol.ca). Thank you and remain safe.

**Praying for an End to Racism.** Two weeks ago I joined with other faith leaders in the City of London to take part in an Interfaith Prayer Service asking for healing, unity and hope in this time of pandemic. Last Thursday I participated in another time of prayer and reflection "Standing on the Side of Love" as we prayed for healing in a time of awareness of racism. These reflections will be broadcast on Sunday, June 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. Here is a [link](#) to the event.

**We Gather. We Serve.** Each weekend we gather to celebrate the Eucharist and like the disciples before us, Jesus challenges us to live as he did in the service of others. We cannot do that on our own. We accept the Eucharist as our nourishment. He gives himself to us so we will be able to give ourselves for others. Who do I see hungering and in need of my service? Does my own hunger and thirst for Jesus urge me to see him in others? Who do I allow to feed me with his presence?

**Retirement for Some.** At this time of year many people bring their working career to a conclusion. We pray for all those who will move on to the next stage of their life, thanking God for the talents they have shared with others. May God give them a good memory of the difference they have made in the lives of others, as well as new insight in discerning how to serve in new ways in the days ahead.

*Fr. Jim Mockler*

*We remember in prayer* all those who are sick, including Shari Houghton, and Martha Lavrin. We also pray for those who have died including, Andrea Vossen, wife of Frank; and comfort those who mourn.

*We pray for those serving in pastoral ministry throughout our diocese:*

Sisters Adorers of the Precious Blood; Diocesan Administrative Assistants; Deacon Donald St. Onge; Rev. Gary Goyeau; Rev. Tadeusz Kowalczyk, C.S.M.A.; Karen Doyle, Coordinator of Youth Ministry; Deacon Dennis Rivest

## **READINGS - SUNDAY JUNE 21, 2020 TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

First Reading - Jeremiah 20.10-13

*The Lord has delivered the life of the needy  
from the hands of evildoers.*

Psalms - Ps 69.7-9, 13+16, 32-33, 35ab+36 (R.13)

*R. Lord, in your steadfast love, answer me.*

Second Reading - Romans 5.12-15

*The free gifts is not like the trespass.*

Gospel - Matthew 10.26-33

*Do not fear those who kill the body.*

\*\*\*

## **Holy Rest**

Over the past several months, our typical Sunday routine has been greatly "disturbed", but the heart of our Sunday has never disappeared. Sunday has always been a day that we have been called to live differently - the Sabbath, a day "to rest". Many of us have had the opportunity to explore new forms of prayer and reflection on Sundays and throughout the week to continue to feed and nurture our spiritual lives.

An interesting article, [Holy Rest](#), explores our understanding of Sunday and what we do on Sunday shapes us to be who we are, in the days that follow.



## **Update on St. Vincent de Paul Home Visits**

This past month of May, our parish's St. Vincent de Paul Society distributed \$1910 in grocery gift cards to 51 of the needy among us. This was done using curb side distribution in order to maintain social distancing. We can only provide this help because of the prayers and financial support provided by parishioners; it is greatly appreciated.





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