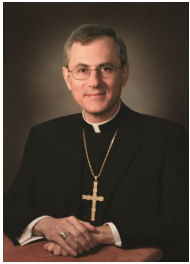


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**TWELFTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
June 21, 2020**



Most Rev.
Ronald Peter Fabbro, C.S.B.
Bishop of London

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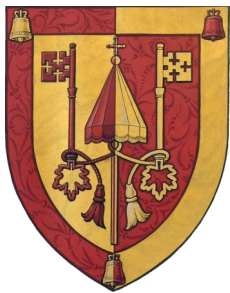
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Opening our Doors

This week all pastoral teams received the finalized version of "[Directions and Recommendations for the First Stage of Reopening Churches](#)" from the Diocese of London. The document is adapted from a detailed document of the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario. Earlier this week your pastoral team attended a diocesan-sponsored webinar and met several times to determine what St. Peter's Cathedral needs in place in order to safely reopen our building. We are determining the seating capacity, accounting for the 6 feet social distancing in the pews and aisles, working on volunteer recruitment and training, as well ensuring that appropriate measures for the use of personal protective equipment and all cleaning and sanitizing products are in place.

As we finalize our plans for reopening, our number one priority will continue to be the health and safety of our parishioners. As Bishop Fabbro has stated previously: "we want to ensure that we reopen our churches in a manner which is prudent and responsible and which allows for the reverent celebration of the Eucharist".

Our primary focus will be directed to the Sunday celebration of the Eucharist.

To begin, Masses will commence on the weekend of Saturday July 4th/Sunday July 5th and will be celebrated at the following times:

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. & 12:00 p.m.

This Mass schedule will be in effect until Labour Day when it will be reviewed. Mass attendance will be on a "first come, first serve" basis. The Cathedral will remain closed during the week as will the parish offices and Parish Centre. As we continue to monitor and assess things we will make necessary adjustments.

We know this has been a difficult time for many not being able to be with their community and celebrate the sacraments. For those who will choose to return to our worship space we ask you to exercise patience and charity with our volunteers and our staff. For those who will be unable to attend at this time know that the community holds you in prayer at every Mass.

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2. Hold your device over the full QR Code.
3. Your camera will scan the QR Code.



God Cares for Us and Protects Us



“Today’s Gospel offers the disciples consolation against this difficult truth that Jesus has predicted: that the disciples will face difficulties in their mission. Many people will not receive them well, even within the land of Israel. Even family members will turn away from the disciples

because of the disciples’ commitment to Jesus and the kingdom.

This section of Matthew’s Gospel should be read in the context of Matthew’s intended audience, a Jewish-Christian community. The Gospel alludes to the dangers and persecutions that this community has most likely already faced and will continue to face. To reassure this community, Matthew recalls for them the encouraging words of Jesus that we read today.

In this Gospel passage, Jesus might be understood as putting suffering in perspective. The disciples of Jesus are called upon to keep their focus on God. Those who can harm the body do not have ultimate power; God does. Still persecution and suffering can not be avoided or prevented. But Jesus reassures his disciples that God knows and cares about what happens to his children.

We might not face the same type of persecution, but we do experience difficulties as we endeavor to live a Christian life. Sometimes we let the opinions of others prevent us from doing what we know to be right. We need the reminder that what God thinks about us is more important. We are reassured by the promise that God cares for us and protects us.”

*Adapted from Sunday Connection, 12th Sunday of Ordinary Time,
Loyola Press*

We Can’t Do This Without YOU!

When we re-open our doors in a couple of weeks, 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.

Please prayerfully consider how you might be able to contribute to this. Please contact [Cathryn Hall](#).

Growing in Your Spiritual Life

Over the last 3 months, our bulletin has changed greatly in focus, from “information pieces” to formational pieces on growing in our spiritual life. We have tried to provide a variety of resources for prayer and reflection. Many people have commented that during this “time away” their prayer life has increased and deepened; new forms of personal prayer and reflection have taken root. This is good news indeed. If you would like to share any thoughts on your personal spiritual journey during this time of isolation, we would love to hear from you. Please submit any thoughts to [Cathryn Hall](#) for future bulletin use. No names will be used in publication.

Were We Ever Really Closed?

With our attention to “re-opening of churches”, we have been focusing on the re-opening of our physical church building. While the building holds its importance as the place where the community gathers to celebrate the sacraments, the term “church” has a greater meaning: the people of God. In that sense, during this time of pandemic, we were never really closed! While some may return to our church building in a couple of weeks, others may not be able to, but we will never cease to “being church”.

An interesting article on What is the Church can be found [here](#).



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Congratulations Class of 2020

Bishop Fabbro has prepared a video congratulating our elementary and secondary school graduates.

A link to it can be found [here](#).





From the Desk of the Rector

Major Question Answered. For quite some time the most constant question fielded has been “When will our cathedral building open again?” On page one of this bulletin we have our answer. In the next few days you will receive more detailed information - through a parish letter, website and email updates along with next week’s bulletin - about how events will be carried out and what precautions will be needed in order to make the days ahead safe and healthy for all who come to celebrate and pray.

It’s Not About Me. Over these 100 days of pandemic I’ve continued to receive numerous emails and phone calls about various matters. They are not all coming from parishioners. Among them are comments from people unhappy with the Church’s response to the crisis and clearly angry that we should never have closed our buildings. A growing number are claiming the virus can be defeated by faith in God alone. Caution, employing physical distancing and the use of masks are all considered unnecessary during these days. An invitation to discuss the matter is rarely accepted. In a newspaper article a former major league baseball player commented “I’m not a sheep... For me, I know just as much as any of these (expletives). Nobody knows what’s going on. So, I’m going to use my gut feeling, my common sense... I have the Holy Spirit in me. And I truly believe unless you have the Holy Spirit in you, you are unable to discern lies and truth.” Each one of us is entitled to our personal opinion and I’ll give mine – briefly. The fact that 8300 people in Canada, 2500 in Ontario and 57 in London have died from the virus makes me vigilant and careful. Most people are doing what they can to prevent the spread of the virus. They are doing it because taking preventative measures is not about us but about protecting other people. Cardinal Thomas Collins recently informed CTV that “the Holy Spirit expects us to use our brain.”

What Our Graduates Learned. Wednesday was the scheduled day for an evening Mass where we planned to welcome, pray for and congratulate the graduates from Catholic Central High School. I’m disappointed we won’t be able to do this but no more disappointed than the graduates who were looking forward to it. World events took a different turn. Countless events that are meaningful in people’s lives were postponed. A colleague of mine commented “The classes of 2020 deserve special recognition. In the weeks leading up to the March Break, there was a happy, carefree anticipation in the air. On March 13th that shifted when it was announced that schools would be closed for an additional two weeks due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Little did we know at the time how far that decision would ripple into our lives...” Current students and lifelong learners of every age soon discovered God’s plan isn’t always the same one that we envision for ourselves. Each part of the journey has a specific lesson that God, in His wisdom, wants us to learn. Difficult events draw us near to Him, and joyful events remind us of how blessed we are. My friend went on to say... “the Classes of 2020 will be remembered as ones that had to consider their own health and that of others first; heroic classes that lived through the struggle of sacrifice and tough decisions leading to change and transformation for a safer and better world. It will all be O.K.”

Happy Father’s Day! “Let us pray for all our fathers... for fathers who had no opportunity to know their own dad, for fathers who have none, for fathers who grieve the loss of their dad, for fathers who are chronically or terminally ill, for fathers expecting the birth of a child, for fathers expecting the arrival of an adopted child, for men who desire to be fathers, for fathers who see the sun rise and sun set in the eyes and smiles of their children, for fathers in good relationships with their children and for those who aren’t, for fathers who grew up without a dad, for fathers who will be forgotten or ignored on this Father’s Day, for fathers who work multiple jobs to provide for their families, for unemployed fathers desperately looking for work, for fathers whose sacrifices are unknown to their families, for fathers unable to provide what they want their children to have, for every father mourning the loss of the child he loved, for fathers who are single parents, for divorced or separated fathers who miss their children, for fathers estranged from or barred from seeing their children, for fathers who are in prison, for fathers who have been abused or gone missing, for grand and great-grandfathers who care for the children’s children, for teachers and coaches and mentors who’ve been a “father” to many young people, for all fathers in need of our prayers.” (Austin Fleming)

Prayer to the Potter for our Reflection. “Lord, the lump of clay that I am keeps crying for some from day by day. I yearn for you to mold me. This is a trust-song, Lord. I am in your hands like clay. I am ready to be transformed: I expect to be molded. I expect to be beautiful. I expect to be loved. And if, by chance, someone should drop me as your apprentices sometimes do, I expect to be hurt. I’m just trying to say I have surrendered to your dream for me. I am in your hands like clay.” (Macrina Wiederkehr, O.S.B.)

Fr. Jim Mockler

READINGS - SUNDAY JUNE 28, 2020

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading - 2 Kings 4.8-12a, 14-16

Psalm - Ps 89.1-2, 15-16, 17-18 (R.1a)

R. Forever I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord.

Second Reading - Romans 6.3-4, 8-11

Gospel - Matthew 10.37-42

*Whoever does not take up the cross and follow me
is not worthy of me.*

Whoever welcomes you, welcomes me.

We remember in prayer all those who are sick, including Shari Houghton, and Martha Lavrin.

We also pray for those who have died including, Gerda Foti, mother of Markus and Michael; Sr. Eveline Gagner, of the Sisters of St. Joseph; Bob Kornacker, brother of Fr. William Kornacker; and comfort those who mourn.

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

Deacon George Sebok; Annette Donovan-Panchaud, Pastoral Minister; Rev. Greg Blonde; Rev. Lucio Couto; Rev. David Connolly, O.F.M. Cap.; Faculty and Staff of the Catholic Universities in the Diocese of London; Rev. Tom Ferrera



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