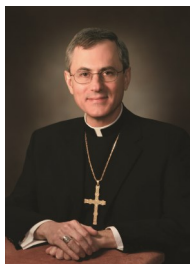


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**TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
September 6, 2020**



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

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MASS TIMES

Saturday 5:00 P.M.

Sunday 9:00 A.M. & 12:00 P.M.



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The Church: A Community of Love

"We are reminded today that to belong to the Church is to belong to a community of brothers and sisters in Christ. This means that being a Christian is not a private, purely personal affair, although that is the way some people seem to behave. The teaching of the Gospel is that indeed I am responsible for my brothers and sisters. Not only that, our relationship with Jesus, with God, depends intimately on how we relate with other people – be they members of our own family or complete strangers.

The whole of Matthew chapter 18 is a discourse on mutual relations within the Christian community and, especially, what to do when divisions arise, as must inevitably happen. In today's passage we see first of all a three-stage procedure for dealing with a community member who has done "something wrong". The whole thrust of the passage is that we should all work towards reconciliation rather than punishment. So, the first stage is for the two people concerned to solve the issue among themselves. If it works out at that level, that is the ideal situation. If the offender refuses to listen to his "brother", then others should be brought in as confirming witnesses. And, if he refuses to listen to these, then "tell it to the church" (Greek, *ekklesia*, *ekklhsia*). 'Church' is here understood as the local community because, in the thinking of the Christian Testament, each self-contained community is a 'church'. In the last resort, if the offender still refuses to listen or to change, "treat him like a pagan or tax collector". That is to say, let him be put out from the community and be regarded as an outsider. Obviously, this is a drastic and final step and to be taken not in a spirit of revenge or vindictiveness but out of real concern for the wellbeing of the whole community.

How, someone may ask, can this be squared with Jesus' openness to sinners, including corrupt tax collectors and prostitutes, or with the story of the Prodigal Son? But Jesus' reception of these people was not unconditional. It depended on their change of heart and the abandonment of their sinful ways. Once the person repents and converts, they will be – indeed must be – received back with joy. And so it is that Paul in the Second Readings puts the emphasis on love. It contains all other Christian obligations. To keep the commandments without love – and it is possible – is to become not another Jesus but a Pharisee.

It is easy to think that being a Catholic means being concerned with the relationship between God and me, that my duty is to "save my soul". But, in fact, the only way to "save my soul" is by becoming a truly loving and caring person as part of a loving and caring community of people united in Christ. As a community we have a responsibility for each other's wellbeing. We do not further the witness of a loving community when we, in false "charity", ignore social problems such as drug-taking, alcoholism, compulsive gambling, violence in the home, discrimination against the physically and mentally handicapped, racial exploitation and the like taking place in our parish community. It is not enough just to deal with these things in the privacy of "Confession" for, ultimately, reconciliation must be at the community level. And, as such, this is the responsibility of the community exercising its calling as the Body of Christ."

*Excerpt from "Commentaries on the Daily Readings", 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Living Space;
<https://livingspace.sacredspace.ie/oa231g/>*

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.



Dear Parishioners of St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica,

Since the announcement of my move from the parish to St. Peter's Seminary, I have received many gracious words of appreciation and support for what lies ahead of me. Thank you for all of your kindness and goodness to me throughout my three short years as your assistant priest.

I mentioned in my farewell last Sunday that one of the great gifts of St. Peter's Cathedral Parish is its rich diversity on a number of levels. That diversity, as I said is a richness and gift in itself, but it also forces us to stretch ourselves in a loving service of people from all walks of life. The diversity of this community of Christians has helped me to grow and I am sure it has prepared me for a more specialized ministry in preparing men for the priesthood.

Another gift that flowed from my time at St. Peter's was the experience of collaborative ministry shared with the parish team and the parishioners who serve on various committees,

organizations and ministries in the parish. I am most appreciative of Fr. Jim's gentle friendship and guidance as a brother priest. I'm ever so grateful to Cathryn, Brian, Deacon Len and Deacon Rudy for the pastoral work we shared together. I want to thank RoseMary, Vianca, Peter, Shaun, Ron, Gloria and Rachel and the other workers and volunteers I would encounter regularly at the parish. All of you offered your support and service with glad and kind hearts. Thank You!

I will not easily forget the wonderful experience of serving at the principal church of the Diocese. Thank you, St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica Parish.

Fr. Gary Ducharme
Parochial Vicar



Knights of Columbus Update

Visit our newly launched Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/StPetersKnights> for info about our Order and current activities.



Alpha Online-St. Justin's Parish

St. Justin's Parish will be hosting an online Alpha program beginning Wednesday, September 16th to November 25th, 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. To learn more about Alpha and to register for the next session contact [St. Justin's Parish](#).



St. Peter's Seminary 2020 Parish Appeal

St. Peter's Seminary has launched its 2020 Parish Appeal "*Rekindling the gift that is St. Peter's.*" Click [here](#) to read this year's appeal brochure.

Looking to grow in your Spiritual Life?

Hallow is a Catholic meditation app to help you find peace and grow in your spiritual journey. Click [here](#) to find out more.



Seasons of Hope

St. George Parish Bereavement Ministry is offering a six-week online Faith Sharing Bereavement Group beginning Wednesday, September 16th.

Click [here](#) for more information.



Growing in Faith, Growing in Christ Resources

As our children and young people prepare to return to school the digital resources Growing in Faith, Growing in Christ, the Catholic School Religious Education program, is now available for home use. The website features videos, songs, bible stories, prayers, interactive activities and more. Click [here](#) to access these resources with Username: GIFGIC_student99 and Password: Student99.

(NOTE: Login will only work when using Internet Explorer/Edge).



From the Desk of the Rector

Farewell and Hello. Last week we said farewell to Fr. Gary Ducharme at all our Masses. I'll repeat what I said on August 16th and at the Masses last weekend. Fr. Gary will take up new responsibilities as a member of the faculty of St. Peter's Seminary, having an active role in the formation of seminarians for our diocese and dioceses across Canada. It is important for those being ordained as priests to have an understanding of parish life in today's Church. We are in a new era of evangelization discerning the movement of the Holy Spirit in the Church today. Fr. Gary fully understands parish life. We all know that. He has rich experience as a pastor and spiritual director and over the last three years we have witnessed his presence and ministry in various ways. I will miss him, as I know you will. He has been a valued colleague in ministry adding much to the depth of the Cathedral pastoral staff and administrative team. We have all appreciated his presence among us along with his insights and talents. Thank you Fr. Gary. Please know of our gratitude. As well, count on our prayers as you continue to serve the Church in your new role. In today's bulletin you find a note from Fr. Gary.

This weekend we welcome Fr. Peter Amszej who joined our pastoral team on September 1st. Fr. Peter is a Londoner and a priest of our diocese who had previously been assigned to St. Michael's and Holy Family in London. His latest appointment was serving in the Chatham Catholic Family of Parishes. The family includes Blessed Sacrament, St. Joseph, St. Ursula, St. Agnes, and Our Lady of Victory. In next week's bulletin look for a note from Fr. Peter telling us more about himself.

Labour Day is a good day to reflect on our work and determine if we are doing the work we are called to do. For us as Christians, work is not just a way to make a living. It is that but much more. In God's plan, by our work we who have been created like God are to continue what God has begun – become co-creators with God in shaping the world the way God wants it shaped. As we learned in the documents of Vatican II, our role is “to penetrate the temporal world with the spirit of the Gospel.”

That's the dignity of work, the worth of our work in God's eyes – and our dignity as workers as well. That's why each worker needs to be treated with respect by employers with a living wage and healthy working conditions, why employees need to respect employers with an honest day's work and respect for the common good, the right for all, management and labour to participate in decisions that affect life and livelihood.

A great vision – but there's a problem: the reality of child labour, unfair wages, dehumanizing working conditions, unfair hiring practices, some workers being paid less for doing the same job, arrogance and entitlement people in one job looking down on others with different tasks.

Let's be grateful for the work we have been given to do and not forget those who are weary and overworked, those who search day in and day and yet still find themselves unemployed, those who work too hard to the neglect of family and friends and themselves. May our work, whatever it is, give praise and glory to God each day of our life.

Fr. James Mockler



Celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism

We welcome into God's Family through
the waters of Baptism:

✠ Nikhil Ganeshkumar	✠ Connor Douglas Caton
✠ Daniel Giovanni Rolo	✠ Lilah Pearl Josephine
✠ Annabelle Marie Caton	Tobias

Come Pray With Us

Since the last weekend of June, we have been providing a Sunday Prayer Service online. The service invites us into the Sunday scriptures and celebrates a time of prayer, music, and reflection led by members of our Pastoral Team. The service will be available at the following [link](#) each Sunday morning.

We remember in prayer all those who are sick.

We also pray for those who have died including Sr. Caroline Martz & Sr. Jane Marie Stock of the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph; Ida Regio, mother of Manuelita, Nadia, and Diana; Fr. Charles Goakery of the Community of the Redemptorists; and comfort those who mourn.

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

Rev. James Conlon; Daniel Pettipas, Coordinator of Parish Ministries; Madonna House Apostolate; Rev. John Jasica; Rev. Vincent Van Zutphen; Rev. Denis Grecco; Deacon Art Williams

READINGS - SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 13, 2020

First Reading - Sirach 27.30-28.7

Psalm - Ps 103.1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 (R.8)

Second Reading - Romans 14.7-9

Gospel - Matthew 18.21-35



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