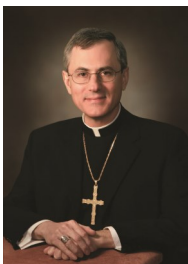


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**FOURTEENTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
July 5, 2020**



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

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MASS TIMES

beginning

July 4th and July 5th, 2020

Saturday 5:00 P.M.

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



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Our Call to Humility

"Today's readings are an invitation to humility and meekness. I think my immediate response might be, 'Humility? Thanks, but I'll pass on it.' Our world doesn't value humility but instead prizes fame, power and a certain swagger. Yet St. Ignatius always tell us that greater intimacy with Jesus comes through humility and humiliation. Ok, Ignatius, I'll pay attention."

In the first reading, the beleaguered Israelites, who were always awaiting a king to save them, are told to expect a different kind of savior. The passage opens with a call to joy and celebration as the Lord says, "Rejoice heartily, O daughter Zion, shout for joy, O daughter Jerusalem! See, your king shall come to you." Yet this king is one who comes in total simplicity, riding not the powerful chariot or a warrior's horse, but the humble, plodding transportation of the poor: a young donkey. This savior promises to banish the weapons and instruments of war "and he shall proclaim peace to the nations." Both the people of Israel, and we today, long for peace. We can hear this promise in our hearts.

The message is reinforced by the psalm, as we are invited into a relationship with a God who is gracious, merciful, slow to anger and kind. Our loving God promises to lift up all who are falling and raise up all who are burdened in life. Are there any of us who don't need, and long for, that kind of support from God who has an endless supply of love?

Matthew's Gospel offers an invitation from Jesus: "Come to me, all who labor and are heavily burdened, and I will give you rest." The audience for this message from Jesus is the people who follow him each day. Pope Francis describes those listeners as simple people, the poor, the sick, sinners, those who are marginalized. The pope said these humble people "always followed him to hear his word — a word that gave hope!" In his ministry Jesus spoke to them, healed them and encouraged them to speak to God as a loving father. Now, Francis says, "He calls them all to himself: 'Come to me,' and he promises them relief and rest."

But of course, in the Christian life, "relief and rest" are not the end of the invitation. We are also called by Jesus to take up his yoke on our shoulders and continue the work of caring for those around us, offering support to so many weary people, worn out under the unbearable weight of neglect and indifference. How are we supposed to do that when we may not feel all that strong ourselves? It helps to picture a yoke, a harness shared by two oxen which allows them to work together as a team. Jesus is not handing over a burden to us but is asking us to join him in his work, to share the yoke. Suddenly, humility seems like something I want to do.

Our world, and maybe our lives, seem so heavy and heart-wrenching right now. We are called to a meekness that allows us to ask our loving God for help; to learn from Jesus how to make our way through it in small and humble service to others. That is where we will finally find peace. We beg for a humility that can place us in the shoes of another to see and begin to understand their world and point of view. We are not in this alone, but side by side with Jesus, doing our part but knowing we are guided and loved by his great heart."

Maureen McCann Waldron, Daily Reflection, Creighton University Online Ministry, July 5, 2020.

Mobile Giving at St. Peter's Cathedral

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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.



Our Seating Capacity

Many of you may have been surprised to read in Fr. Jim's letter to the parish that our seating capacity is 116. Wondering how we figured that out? Here goes: The official seating capacity is 800. The 30% capacity as stipulated by the government brings us to a number of 240. Our support staff spent hours in the Cathedral measuring out the required 6 feet physical distancing standard in the pews and from pew to pew, resulting in every 3rd pew being able to be used. Also, all aisles needed to be measured from the perspective of someone standing in the aisle, so the measurement needed to be taken from the shoulder, 6 feet into the pew to begin the actual seating.

This has left us with seating as follows- Centre pews: we will be able to utilize 8 pews each side, with available seating for 3-5 people per pew, capacity total approximately 64 people.



Photo courtesy of RK Graf Photography

In the side aisles we will be able to utilize 8 pews each side with seating capacity of 2 per pew, capacity total approximately 32 people.

We have designated both transepts as seating for people with disabilities/mobility issues. Sufficient space has been allowed for wheelchairs/other

motorized devices, walkers, etc. in front of the pews with space for a companion that may attend with them to sit, as well as for seating for those with mobility issues in pews behind. The seating allows for 2 pews in the east transept and 1 pew in the west transept to be utilized, total capacity approximately 20 people. To view our seating plan, [click here](#).

Whether you will be able to join us in person this weekend or not, you can view a "[gallery of photos](#)" to see what the church will look like to further explain the seating and the physical distancing measures in place.

On Reconciliation

In one of Bishop Fabbro's updates over the past months he states:

"While it is a good and holy thing to seek the forgiveness of God through the sacrament of Penance, the faithful need to be reminded that God's mercy is not limited to any celebration of the sacraments. God's mercy is rich and overflowing, as Pope Francis has reminded us again and again. In quoting the Catechism of the Catholic Church, he iterated the long-standing teaching of the Church that God welcomes every sinner with open arms. We can go directly to God, be specific about our sins, request pardon, and experience God's loving forgiveness (20 March, #7)."

In the weeks ahead we will explore opportunities to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the provision that Bishop Fabbro has granted on General Absolution.

We Can't Do This Without YOU!

Thank you to the over 40 volunteers that have come forward to assist with safely re-opening our doors this weekend. They have all participated in training sessions and look forward to welcoming you. We will need 15 volunteers for every mass to assist with the various duties needed: 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 are still in need of more volunteers to assist and be able to re-open our doors safely each weekend. Training sessions will continue to take place 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](#).

Donations by E-Transfer

St. Peter's Cathedral now has E-Transfer capabilities for your donations. It is especially helpful for those that want to give during the pandemic and are looking for another way to give electronically without using a credit card. You would first need to navigate to your bank account on-line and go to the Interac E-Transfer

option. To donate by Interac E-Transfer, simply set up the email address 'basilica@dol.ca' as a recipient, choose the amount you wish to give, and press send! No password is required.



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From the Desk of the Rector

Welcome Back. It is a pleasure to welcome you back this weekend as we reopen our cathedral building for Mass on Saturday at 5:00 p.m. and Sunday at 9:00 a.m. and noon. Bishop Fabbro will join us at 9 a.m. This will remain our weekend schedule until further notice. Many people are excited and have wanted to return for some time while others, desiring to come back, are finding themselves very cautious and hesitant. All reactions are common and acceptable. We all miss being able to gather to celebrate the Eucharist together.

When we return, things will definitely be different. There is nothing on the horizon to indicate we will soon return to worship as we experienced it in 2019. I wish to thank our volunteers, Cathryn Hall for training them and overseeing all preparations. Brian Galea, Peter Greff and Fatima Silva are appreciated for their efforts in studying and preparing the seating plan and other necessary arrangements that needed to be considered. They have worked hard to prepare our building so it will be safe to enter. All of the measures being asked of those who will attend are in the interests of everyone. We are still experiencing a pandemic and our concern actually needs to be heightened so we do not waste the results of all of us doing our part to prevent the spread of the virus. To not follow instructions runs the risk of plunging us backwards to a time we hoped to escape. Spending time in church for 60 minutes or less is not the same as going to the store for 10 minutes to pick up bread.

Attending Mass is an essential part of our faith and we all want to get back to normal. However, our primary concern has been and will always be the safety of everyone especially those most vulnerable. We don't want to have to close again but if we have to we will. I've mentioned before... if staying home will save lives, that is the right thing to do.

Over the past few months, I have heard from many parishioners, who missed being at Mass each week. However, while having to remain home they have formed new spiritual practices and a deepened sense of prayer that have not only given them comfort but have

opened them to the Scriptures in ways they never would have thought possible were it not for them to have time to do it and discover God's presence and love for them in the midst of these trying times. Someone quoted a book's title saying this gift of time to reflect was like "meeting Jesus again for the first time."

In order for us to return a lot of "rules" have been put in place. Let's not let these protocols or the "different" experience cause us anxiety – although that will be "normal". It is fine to express any concerns you may have to me or any member of our parish pastoral team or staff. I can be contacted by email at jmockler@dol.ca or by telephone at 519-432-3475 ext. 228. Calm communication and dialogue is always healthy and welcomed.

As our country and the world wrestles with the next phase we can lead by example. We have a chance to set aside our selfish desires and face all the challenges ahead with courage and love.

All that having been said let's not return to Mass only thinking of all the things that we can't do the same way as before. If this happens we run the risk of missing out on the meaningful liturgy that we can still practice. Pay attention to the unchanging Word of God, to his love, to everything we have allowing us to stay connected as a people of a parish who remain the Body of Christ even if it means some things may look a bit different.

Summer Recess and Connections. With the summer months here and less activity in the parish, it is time to catch our breath. We will not publish this bulletin weekly but on an "as-needed" basis. Any updates and information you need, will appear on our parish website, Facebook page or directly by email. You can request being placed on our email notice list either through the website or by emailing basilica@dol.ca. Of course, the pastoral team will be available so do not hesitate to contact us.

Enjoy the summer.

Fr. Jim Mockler

Come Pray With Us

Each weekend we will be providing a Sunday Prayer Service online. The service celebrates a time of prayer and reflection by members of our Pastoral Team. The service will be available at the following [link](#) Sunday mornings.

READINGS - SUNDAY JULY 12, 2020 FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading - Isaiah 55.10-11
Psalm - Ps 65.9abcd, 9e-10, 11-12, 13 (R. Lk 8.8)
Second Reading - Romans 8.18-23
Gospel - Matthew 13.1-23

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

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

Rev. Frank O'Connor; Rev. Ted Johnson, C.S.B.; Catholic Secondary School Teachers; Dorothy de Bakker, Coordinator of Youth Ministry; Deacon Gerard Charette; Rev. Pio Beorchia; Rev. Michael Brand, C.S.B.



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