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Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

An inward transformation occurs in a person who decides to follow Jesus Christ. Things change. They see the world differently, understand their journey more deeply and profoundly, have their sights fixed on eternity and union with God and hold themselves to higher standards and virtues. It requires a conscious choice to be a Christian, and this choice must be renewed at least daily. While the basic premise of Jesus' message may appear heart-warming and straightforward: love of God, neighbor, and self, the implications of doing so are challenging. The true disciple is called to live radically, and often finds themselves at odds with the world or even with those in their own homes.

Holding ourselves to higher standards comes with a price. We have to leave other things behind. It is difficult to be people of faith, hope, and love in a world often fixated with its own fulfillment and self-absorption. Justice, temperance, prudence, and fortitude require sacrifice if they are to be lived with integrity. God's ways are not ours. This becomes crystal clear to those who have enough courage to stand against the tide. Putting love into action requires that we challenge accepted modes of doing business and fight complacency. This is what makes the saints stand out as witnesses. They are simply sinners, just like us, who persevere.

People do not want to be told that they're sailing their ships in the wrong direction. Clinging to their insistence and need to be correct, they can become defensive when challenged. This can happen even with those closest to us. As much as the Gospel calls us to unity, it also can easily create division. When we love seriously, we encounter more than feelings of warmth and acceptance. "What does love look like? It has the hands to help others. It has the feet to hasten to the poor and needy. It has eyes to see misery and want. It has the ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of men. That is what love looks like (St. Augustine)." Love also has the courage and honesty to tell people what they may not want to hear but need to, and model, without wavering, a life of humble, loving, and faithful service. Don't lose heart! There are many examples of faith before us and around us. If Jesus endured the voices of opposition, so too can we. There is no need to apologize for speaking the truth.

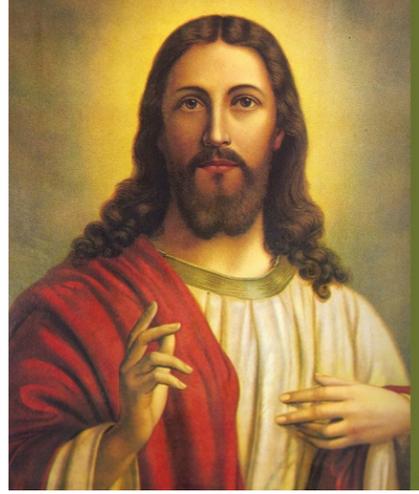


The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin  
Mary August 15th

The church has always held to the belief that Mary was assumed, body and soul, into a heavenly state, even though the belief was not declared as dogmatic until 1950. The early church had a robust tradition of revering relics from the saints of the day, and their complete lack of relics from the Mother of Jesus was seen as evidence of this Marian belief. The celebration of the event as a feast dates back to the fourth century in the East and the seventh century in the West.

Since Mary was untouched by the stain of sin, she was unable to experience the "wages of sin," which is death. But her Assumption also says something about humanity as well. Sin only has power over us if we allow it. Mary was freed from this power in her Immaculate Conception, and when she responded "yes" to God. We were freed from that power when Jesus died and rose, conquering death. Now, we must respond "yes" to claim the victory that was already won for us. On this feast, we should not only celebrate the great works God has done for us through Our Lady, but also celebrate the truth that we have the opportunity to one day spend eternity with her and her Son, Jesus.

**Sunday, August 21st, 2022**



**21<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

"People will come from the east and the west and from the north and the south and will recline at table in the kingdom of God. For behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last." - Lk 13:29-30

Mon. Aug 22 9:30am  
Tues. Aug 23 9:30am  
7-8pm

Wed. Aug 24 9:30am  
Thurs. Aug 25 9:30am  
Fri. Aug 26 9:30am  
Sat. Aug 27 4-4:45pm  
5:00pm



schedule, the Children's Liturgy volunteer leads the children in an age-appropriate liturgy of the Word downstairs in the church hall during the Sunday 9:30 Mass.



reflective of your own experience of your parish and the diocese? How can our diocese better listen to the Holy Spirit and use synodality in the future? What actions might meet both the joys and challenges identified in the findings? A session for all the parishes within the Welland Deanery will be held on **Wednesday, August 24 @ 6:30pm** in **St. Alexander's Church hall**. Visit the diocese's website for more details and other Let's Talk dates. Please call 905-684-0154 to register.

**No Mass**  
**Mass Cancelled**  
**HOLY HOUR & Confessions CANCELLED**  
**Mass Cancelled**  
**Mass Cancelled**  
**Mass Cancelled**  
**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions**  
Special Intention for Annette Mastracci (Adelaine Nohara) Louise MacDonald (Gomez Family) Intentions of the Flatman Family Missa Pro Populo

**Confessions from 9-9:25am before all weekday Masses.**

**Children's Liturgy—We would like to resume this ministry as soon as possible. Volunteers Needed!**

Children's liturgy is designed to introduce our parish children to the Word and allow them to participate fully in the liturgy. On a rotating schedule, the Children's Liturgy volunteer leads the children in an age-appropriate liturgy of the Word downstairs in the church hall during the Sunday 9:30 Mass.

**Let's Talk Sessions: Synod Consultation Summary**  
The diocesan consultation synthesis report from the Synod 2021-23 listening sessions and on-line surveys is ready and the planning committee wants to hear from you...**Let's Talk**. Is it

Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time

The serious disciple knows the necessity and value of discipline. Thinking of discipline as something punitive in nature, we underscore its place in our spiritual lives. Discipline is really about a radical trust in God and his guidance. "When you are conducted by a guide who takes you through an unknown country at night across fields where there are no tracks, by his own skill, asking no advice from anyone, giving no inkling of his plans, what choice do you have but to give yourself completely to his guidance? If you are convinced that he is a good guide, you must have faith in him and abandon yourself to his care (Jean-Pierre de Caussade)."

If someone wants to be physically fit, they readily find a competent trainer who sets them on a rigorous schedule. Determined to reach their goals, they sacrifice personal pleasure and trust in his guidance. Why should it be any different with God? In order to remain true to the way Jesus places before us, we have to listen, learn, and be willing to change. Falling in love with God and maintaining that relationship requires an investment of time, energy, and hard work. Putting personal preferences aside in pursuit of the Gospel and giving proper attention to our spiritual lives is challenging work. At first, "all discipline seems a cause not for joy but for pain, yet later it brings the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who are trained by it (Hebrews)."



"What God does is essentially good. It does not need to be reformed or controlled...If you would live according to the Gospels, give yourself completely and simply to the action of God (Jean-Pierre de Caussade)." Submission to the holy will of God is not a submission to a set of pre-ordained set of circumstances. Rather, it is an abandonment and trust in God's creative, life-giving, and salvific power. God brings light out of darkness and life out of death. Nurturing this bond of trust and seeking God in all things creates an intimate and particular relationship and bond between our Creator and us. When He comes, there will be no issue with us recognizing Him or Him recognizing us. We will have met before.



**Diocese of St. Catharines Policy concerning Collective Mass Intentions, Section 2.2: No more than two Masses with "collective" intentions and offerings shall be offered during any given week.**

Beginning in September, we will designate Wednesday and Friday Masses as those for which we will accept collective intentions.

**Fr. Jacek will be away from August 22-26. Weekday Masses in the parish are cancelled and Holy Hour on Tuesday, August 23rd is also cancelled.** Masses scheduled during these days will be celebrated privately by Fr. Jacek. All who arranged Mass intentions been notified about this arrangement.

**Offence Declarations:** If you are a parish volunteer involved with high risk ministries, you are required to submit an Offence Declaration form to the diocese each year. An email was sent to you on July 13th. The forms were mailed or handed out a week later. A stamped, addressed envelope is included for your convenience. Please submit your form to the chancery office as soon as possible. Your co-operation is appreciated. **Also, for all parishioners who volunteer in high or low risk ministries, please notify the office of any change in your status in order to keep our records up to date.**

**Sunday, August 14th, 2022**



**20<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

"There is a baptism with which I must be baptized, and how great is my anguish until it is accomplished! Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. From now on a household of five will be divided, three against two and two against three." - Lk 12:50-52

Sat. Aug 13 4-4:45pm **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions**  
5:00pm † Bruno Sardella (Michelle Delaney)  
Sun. Aug 14 9:30am Missa Pro Populo  
11:00am † Cecil Shannon (Racz Family)  
Mon. Aug 15 9:30am **No Mass**  
Tues. Aug 16 9:30am Intentions of Mullin siblings (Teresa & Colin Walters)  
7-8pm **HOUR HOUR & Confessions**  
Wed. Aug 17 9:30am † Angelina Addario (Vince Addario)  
† Leslie Marfics (Mary & Bill Podolyak)  
Matthew Addario (Vince Addario)  
Thurs. Aug 18 9:30am  
Fri. Aug 19 9:30am † Isaiah (Magazzeni Family) Special Intention for Michael Wilson (Stephanie Anthony)  
Sat. Aug 20 4-4:45pm **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions**  
5:00pm † Nicola Colangelo (Rosa Colangelo)  
Sun. Aug 21 9:30am Missa Pro Populo  
11:00am † Souls in Purgatory (Teresa & Colin Walters)

**Confessions from 9-9:25am before all weekday Masses.**

**Offertory July 31, 2022– \$2,265.00**  
**Offertory August 7, 2022–\$2,395.00**

**Pope's Prayer Intention Month of August: For Small Business** – We pray for small and medium sized businesses; in the midst of economic and social crisis, may they find ways to continue operating, and serving their communities.

**Church Cleaners needed:** If you can assist, please phone the office. At the moment, we have three teams and would like one more for a four week rotation.



