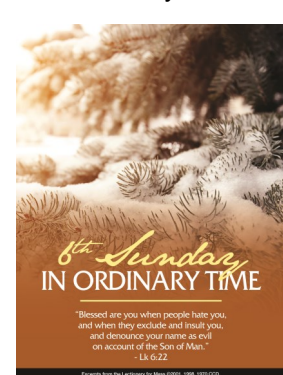


iRev. Chad Grennan, Pastor  
 Email: frchadgrennan@gmail.com  
 Rev. Deacon Jim McLaughlin  
 (phone office for appointment)  
 Liliana Haynes  
 Office Administrator



**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

What an audience Jesus has in today's Gospel! "A great crowd of his disciples and a large number of people from all over Judea and Jerusalem and the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon." Disciples, pagans, and devout Jews gathered together to hear Jesus speak in the Sermon on the Mount. All of these people had something in common. God was someone to be bargained with, and if God liked you, you were rewarded with good fortune. This Sunday, Jesus tells us a different story. "Woe to you who are rich? who are filled now? who laugh? when all speak well of you. Blessed are you who are poor? who are now hungry? when

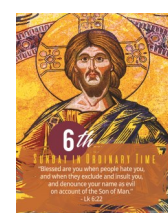


people hate you and when they exclude you and insult you." Jesus completely flips the script on what it means to be blessed by God. What he proclaims as "woe" are states of life we often strive for, and "blessed" are the states we work hard to avoid!

Jesus is concerned with the kingdom of God and the world to come, not the typical structures of power and privilege. The word "now" appears often in these statements. Why? If you are well "now," that's

beside the point. To be rich in this life has no direct bearing on your immortal soul. If you're struggling "now," that's not an indication that God has forgotten you or that - in light of eternity - you're worse off than someone else. In fact, it could be an indicator that you're enduring something that will bring you to a place of greater eternal joy in the future.

This Sunday, consider your priorities. Who do we reject as not blessed, and thereby inflict woe upon ourselves? When we encounter difficult situations in our own lives, do we see them as opportunities to remember God and lean on His mercy and grace?



**Everyday Stewardship**

When I was a child, I often thought of the Church as something mystical and supernatural. I wasn't wrong in my understanding of the Body of Christ, for surely the Church has these characteristics. However, even though we speak about the foundation of all we are as Church being the "mystery of Christ," Jesus became a man so that supernatural element could break into the natural world in a profound way. What we once could not see, we now see. What we saw as a God in a distant place now dwelt among us. It is one of the aspects of Catholicism that I have grown to appreciate the most as I have matured: for a Catholic, the communion of saints is heavenly and earthly at the same time.

The Beatitudes instruct us about this reality. Pope Francis reminds us that holiness is "not about swooning in mystic rapture." Holiness is about living in the real world and doing extraordinary things with our ordinary lives. Our stewardship way of life consists of actions in the natural world that have extraordinary repercussions.

Do not ever take your simple actions of generosity and love for granted. As disciples called to a life of stewardship, we participate in something more profound than what we can see. We are blessed to be called to follow Jesus, and we bring blessing to all those with whom we choose to share ourselves.

**World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome you to join in prayer and action for peace and justice.**

**Prayer and Action Are Inseparable**

On World Day of Prayer, people all around the world will unite to:

- affirm their belief and faith in Christ;
- be enriched by the experiences of other Christians, their countries & cultures;
- pray for and/or with others for the burdens of others;
- become more aware of their own talents, and to be encouraged to use them in Christian service;
- develop awareness of the world as a whole, and to understand and appreciate that God loves all people everywhere.

World Day of Prayer takes place internationally on the first Friday of March every year. **In 2019 that will be March 1st.**

The host country for WDP 2019 is Slovenia. The program was written by women in Slovenia, one of the smallest countries in Europe and a pretty young committee in the WDP movement.

The focus is on Jesus' parable of the Great Dinner (in Lk. 14:15-24) with the theme "Come - Everything is Ready". One phrase in the worship service especially captures the ideas we will explore: "Welcoming God, in your love, you have prepared a table for all, and you inspire us to open our hearts and our homes to offer a place to the ones who are not yet at the table." Who isn't at your table yet? Who isn't at your World Day of Prayer service . . . yet? The women of Slovenia challenge us all to widen our circles, to expand our communities.

Throughout the worship service, we hear the stories of those who are coming to the table of bread, wine, water, and salt. Their stories reflect the political and economic situation from the time Slovenia was a socialist-communist state to today. Their stories are the voices of the refugee and migrant workers, the mothers, the grandmothers, the wives, and the Roma people. While listening to their stories, we ask for forgiveness for being silent in the face of injustice, and we pray that God open our hearts to compassion and understanding. And we leave with a blessing prayer to mutually support one another on the path of freedom, justice and peace. May the welcoming God enable us to set the table and fill the communities with hope, love, and joy!

**Our parish will host the event this year for our local area. The service begins at 2pm followed by a reception in the parish hall. Everyone is welcome to attend the service. Donations of baked goods—cookies, squares etc. for the reception would be greatly appreciated. They can be dropped off at the parish on the morning of March 1st. We ask that you arrange the baked items on a plate or tray ready for serving. Please put your name on the back of the tray and we will be sure to return it to you.**

**The Parish Community of St. Joseph, Grimsby** will be producing *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, February 28 – March 3, 2019. Proceeds from the production will go to support St. Joseph Parish Youth Ministry and the arts program at Blessed Trinity Catholic High School. Tickets \$10 for adults, \$5 for children 12 and under. Tickets are available at St. Joseph Parish office. A flyer is attached to this Update.

**SEPARATED AND DIVORCED HEALING MINISTRY.** The next topic is "Healing", Fr. Hugh Gibson, presenter (Feb 25). Meetings are 7 to 9 pm at Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre, 7020 Stanley Ave, Niagara Falls. Pre-registration is not required. For information call 905-356-4113 or 905-684-0154, or email [separatedanddivorced@saintcd.com](mailto:separatedanddivorced@saintcd.com)

**Parish Calendar**

**February.....**  
**Feb 27th.....** Liturgy Committee meeting **6:30pm.**  
**March.....**  
**March 1st.....** World Day of Prayer. **St. Ann will be the host parish this year.** Service begins at 2pm.  
**March 1st.....**  
**March 6th.....** **Ash Wednesday. Masses 9:30am & 7pm.**  
**March 10th.....** First Sunday of Lent  
**March 12th.....** Lenten Day of Recollection for Diocesan priests and deacons. **Mass this day will begin at 8:30am.**

**Youth Ministry**—Grades 5-8 and high school students are welcome to attend. Wednesday evenings 6:30-8:30pm.

**Bingo:** Thursday Evenings 7pm in parish hall. All welcome to attend.

**Catholic Women's League**  
 The Annual Diocesan Retreat will be held on Wednesday, March 27th, 2019 or Saturday, March 30th at Gethsemane Ministries in Wellandport. The guest speaker will be Fr. Gregory Schmidt. **The deadline for registration is February 18th.** The cost is \$40 but the council will pay half after the retreat when you have attended.

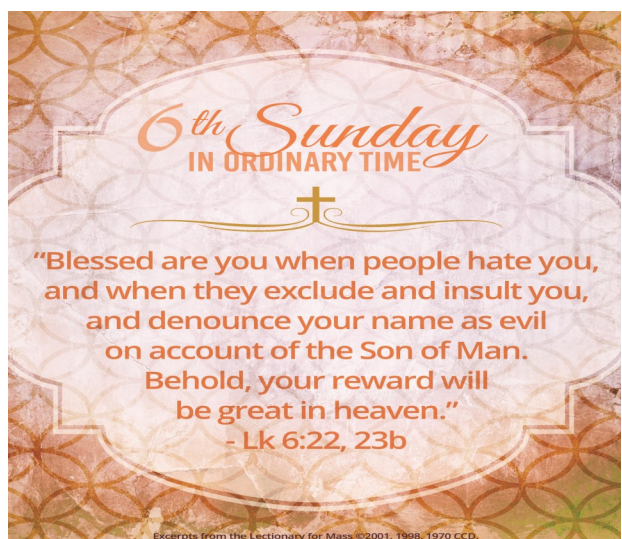
**Thinking about Separation or Divorce?** – Is your marriage or that of a relative or friend heading for divorce? Retrouvaille is designed to help marriages regain their health. The Retrouvaille program is highly successful in saving marriages. For confidential information about, or to register for the program beginning with a weekend on **March 15, 2019**, at the Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre in Niagara Falls, please call **905-664-5212** or email: [retrouvaille.hamilton@cogeco.ca](mailto:retrouvaille.hamilton@cogeco.ca) or visit the web site at [www.retrouvaille.org](http://www.retrouvaille.org).

**ANNUAL DIOCESAN RESPECT FOR LIFE MASS** will be celebrated by **Most Rev. Gerard Paul Bergie**, Bishop of St. Catharines on **The Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord Monday, March 25, 2019** at 7:00 p.m. at **The Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria**, 67 Church Street, St. Catharines. **Let us pray together for the protection of life in all its stages; for greater respect for God's gift of life: for those wounded by abortion. Reception to follow. Hosted by the Diocesan CWL. All welcome.**

**The Family and Youth office of the Diocese is hosting a bus trip to the Lift Jesus Higher Rally 2019 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre on Saturday, March 2nd.** School bus leaving at 7 a.m. from the **Catholic Centre**, 3400 Merriville Highway, Thorold. Adult: \$44 (Price includes event ticket and transportation) Teen (13 – 18): \$34 (Price includes event ticket and transportation). Theme: Hope in the Midst of Suffering. Registration forms were distributed at the Youth Ministry meeting this past Wednesday. **The deadline to register is Wed. Feb 20.** If you plan to go, please have your form and payment with you at Youth Ministry this coming Wednesday (or the office). If you do not have a form, there are some at the back of the church or ask Sister Aracely or Sister Mary Isidore for one. If paying by cheque, please make it out to "The Diocese of St Catharines."

**On Friday, February 22 join St. Patrick's Parish, St. Catharines** at St. Ann's Church Hall in Niagara Falls, Ontario for their Refugee Sponsorship Fundraiser. Comedian, Magician and Illusionist Danny Z will be entertaining the crowd at this family event. Doors open 6:30pm. Raffle prizes, Silent Auction and more. Tickets \$35 each. Please contact Karen Head or Clyde Head 905-964-3150 or 905-359-9963.

**Sunday, February 17th, 2019**



Sat. Feb 16	9-10am	<b>Confession</b>
	4 -4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confession
	5:00pm	✠ Brigid Mary Atkins (Wendy Atkins)
Sun. Feb 17	9:30am	✠ Nina & Czeslaw Aleksiejuk & Betty & Les Szabo (Jan & Lana)
	11:00am	Missa Pro Populo
Mon. Feb 18	9:30am	✠ Isaiah (Magazzeni Family)
	7-8pm	<b>Holy Hour &amp; Confession</b>
Tues. Feb 19	9:30am	Edmund Clancy (Gerry & Delores Kennedy)
Wed. Feb 20	9:30am	✠ Cheryl Anne McCulloch (John & Diane Szydowski)
Thurs. Feb 21	9:30am	Lara Huynh (Ava & Austin Wilson)
Fri. Feb 22	9:30am	Miss DeJulio (Teresa Walters)
Sat. Feb 23	4 -4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confession
	5:00pm	✠ Mario Forte (Family)
Sun. Feb 24	9:30am	✠ Bruce Cook (Carolyn Botari)
	11:00am	Missa Pro Populo

**Reconciliation from 9-9:20am before all weekday Masses.**

**Offertory February 9th & 10th, 2019**

79 Envelopes	\$1, 844.00
Loose Collection	\$ 49.75
Total Offertory	\$1, 893.75

**A reminder- Our website domain name has changed to the following: [www.stannfenwick.com](http://www.stannfenwick.com)**



