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Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
 "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." This is a fascinating promise. Jesus enlightens us today about the power of communal faith. He emphasizes that a gathering of like-minded believers, small though it may be, has a powerful effect. As he tells his disciples, "If two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father."

Alright then, what are we waiting for? We should take Jesus up on this amazing offer! Going to Mass is one way to do so. When we gather together every Sunday, we do more than listen to readings and receive the Eucharist. We also **pray** together. The priest leads us in these prayers, of course, but we are meant to join with him, as the Second Vatican Council put it, with "fully conscious, and active participation" (*Sacrosanctum Concilium*, #14). We are to make the prayers our own by attentively joining in with them from our hearts. Mindlessly reciting "Amen" or absently whispering the words of the Our Father likely loses the effect Jesus was talking about in today's Gospel. But truly praying together with our parish community certainly fits the bill. Those of us who live with others can exercise communal prayer every day in our own homes, just by joining each other for a few moments of petition or praise. Those who live alone may need to reach out more deliberately, but it only takes a phone call to "gather together" with another believer and offer up our prayers. May we have the courage to invite others to join us as we bring our needs to God.



Invite others to join us in prayer

Sunday, September 10th, 2017
23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, so that every fact may be established on the testimony of two or three witnesses." — Mt 18:15-16

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| Sat. Sept 9 | 9-10am | Reconciliation |
| | 4-4:45pm | Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation |
| | 5:00pm | Missa Pro Populo |
| Sun. Sept 10 | 9:30am | ✠ Kristina & Frank Hozjan (Stefan Hozjan & Family) |
| | 11:00am | ✠ Mary Voogt & David Green (Voogt & Green Families) |
| Mon. Sept 11 | 9:30am | ✠ Vivian Morin (Janet Battersby) |
| | 7-8pm | Holy Hour & Reconciliation |
| Tues. Sept 12 | 9:30am | ✠ Jo Anne Bonomi (Janet Battersby) |
| Wed. Sept 13 | 9:30am | All Souls in Purgatory (Maria Baptista) |
| Thurs. Sept 14 | 9:30am | ✠ Nick Lancione (Sherry Lancione & Family) |
| Fri. Sept 15 | 9:30am | ✠ Dominique Forgeron (André & Therese Czychun & Girls) |

Reconciliation from 9-9:20am before all weekday Masses.
Offertory August 26 & 27, 2017

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| 71 Envelopes | \$1,681.00 |
| Loose Collection | \$ 54.10 |
| Total Offertory | \$1,735.10 |
| Diocese of Keren | \$ 666.65 |

Offertory September 2 & 3, 2017

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| 64 Envelopes | \$1,395.00 |
| Loose Collection | \$ 47.00 |
| Total Offertory | \$1,442.00 |
| Diocese of Keren | \$1,305.00 |
| Maintenance Collection | \$ 215.00 |

Month of August:
Income: \$ 8,181
Expenses: \$10,682

Special Collection—Needs of the Church in Canada—September 24th, 2017: Envelopes are in your offertory boxes. If donating by cheque, please make it payable to "St. Ann Parish."

Sunday, September 17th, 2017
24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Peter approached Jesus and asked him, "Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus answered, "I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times." — Mt 18:21-22

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| Sat. Sept 16 | 9-10am | Reconciliation |
| | 4-4:45pm | Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation |
| | 5:00pm | Jack & Ivana Wilson (Karen & Michael) |
| Sun. Sept 17 | 9:30am | ✠ Dominique Forgeron (Olga Rosinski) |
| | 11:00am | Missa Pro Populo |
| Mon. Sept 18 | 9:30am | ✠ José Baptista (Maria Baptista) |
| | 7-8pm | Holy Hour & Reconciliation |
| Tues. Sept 19 | 9:30am | ✠ Jean Frasier (Helena & Adam Sarvis) |
| Wed. Sept 20 | 9:30am | ✠ Kelly Morellato (Racz Family) |
| | | ✠ Jacob Damen (Schaefer Family) |
| Thurs. Sept 21 | 9:30am | ✠ Mary Voogt & David Green (Voogt & Green Families) |
| | | Intention Available |
| Fri. Sept 22 | 9:30am | Reconciliation |
| Sat. Sept 23 | 4-4:45pm | Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation |
| | 5:00pm | Missa Pro Populo |
| Sun. Sept 24 | 9:30am | ✠ Ugo & Antonietta Scurci (Scurci, Devine & Gregoris Fam) |
| | 11:00am | ✠ Mary Voogt & David Green (Voogt & Green Families) |

Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"I forgave you your entire debt because you begged me to. Should you not have had pity on your fellow servant, as I had pity on you?" The parable Jesus tells today is the story of a king, but in truth it is about Jesus himself. He is the "king" who has forgiven our debts. We are the "servants" whose sins have earned us chastisement. But when we repent and ask for Christ's mercy, he grants it to us without hesitation. The point of the parable, then, is that we too should extend this mercy to others. We should not be like that "wicked servant" who begged for mercy but would not show it to others. Elsewhere, Jesus teaches us to pray, "Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors" (Mt. 6:12). We use different words, but a similar meaning when we pray the Our Father asking God to "forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." But are we sure that we mean what we say? It's important to pause and evaluate how we are doing in this regard. Are we harbouring any grudges? Are there people we refuse to forgive? Is there a situation where we are seeking revenge instead of extending mercy? Jesus asks us to do otherwise.

Looking for an amazing Bible Study?

Discover the "big picture of the Bible", as St. Ann's hosts Jeff Cavins' popular video series, "The Great Adventure: A Journey through the Bible." This exciting study will take your understanding of Sacred Scripture and your Catholic Faith to entirely new levels:

- Understand how the **people, places and events of the Bible fit together** in God's plan of salvation history and **how relevant this is to our lives today.**
- Learn the **six covenants God made with humanity** and how they led to the establishment of the Catholic Church.
- Discover how **your own Catholic faith fits into "His story"**.

The first session of this 24 week, two part series will be offered on **Tuesday evenings from 7:00 to 9:00 pm starting Oct 3, 2017 and will run to Dec 19, 2017** in the Parish Hall; the second part will resume in January of 2018. Cost is for materials only: student workbook is \$48.99 + tax. Please register by calling the Parish office or by e-mailing stannsfewick@cogeco.net. Anyone needing financial assistance to purchase the student workbook should send an email to the above email address.

On the weekend of Sept 23/24, a promo video will be presented and you can register. There will also be an opportunity to register on the weekend of Sept 30/Oct 1.

Thanksgiving Food Drive: Begins the weekend of Sept 9/10. Baskets are the back of the church. Donations to Pelham cares appreciated. The following are a list of the **Items Most Urgently Needed**: Canned Fruit, Juice boxes, Apple/berry school snacks Jam (regular and sugar free), Stew / Chili, Honey, Nut free granola bars, Sugar free Jello, Cooked and instant pudding, "Wow Butter" (soy based), Unsweetened Almond Milk, Shampoo Please note that at this time, there is an abundant supply of dried pasta and pasta sauce. Thank you so for your support!

Parish Calendar

September.....
Sept 10th.... Sundaes Sunday after Sunday morning Masses
Sept 10th.... St.V. de Paul meeting following 11am Mass
Sept 13th.... Finance Committee meeting 6:30pm
Sept 13th.... Confirmation Class 4-5:30; Youth Ministry 6:30-8:30
Sept 14th.... **BINGO RESUMES—Thursdays 7pm**
Sept 18-Oct 6... Office Closed. Messages will be checked regularly.
Sept 20th.... St. Ann School Opening Mass 9:30am
Sept 24th.... Bishop's Collection for Needs of the Church In Canada

Youth Ministry: Wednesday Nights 6:30-8:30 for all youth grades 5 to 12 in the parish hall. Confirmation preparation classes resume from 4:00 to 5:30 on Wednesdays as well. We also will continue our Nickel Bingo at Looking Ridge on the First Friday of the month from 6:30 to 8:30pm. If anyone is interested in joining our volunteer team, or registering for our youth program please join us on any youth night to register or contact gbroadley@branchesoftheword.org or 289-219-4233

First Session on September 7th: We had a great kick-off night at youth ministry – record breaking 35 students came out! Check out the photos on St. Ann Fenwick Youth Ministry Facebook page –parishioners are invited to like us on Facebook and follow us! You will see all the wonderful things that are going on at Youth Ministry! <https://www.facebook.com/SaintAnnYouthMinistry/>

ST. ANN WEEKLY BINGO—NEW DAY
Beginning the week of September 11th, our church bingo will be held on THURSDAY evenings beginning at 7pm.
 The format will remain the same—you can play one card or 10 cards—YOU DECIDE! Regular cards are 50cents—specials 50cents each. Jackpot \$100. This parish social/fundraising event assists with some of our regular maintenance items (elevator inspections/licences) and supplements other maintenance expenses. Your support over the years is very much appreciated! Come out and enjoy a social evening and support your parish.

Year of the Rosary: CELEBRATION OF A LIVING ROSARY: Saturday, September 30th, 2017, St. Alfred, 272 Vine St., St. Catharines. 8:30am– Mass with Bishop Gerard Bergie; 9:15-11:30am—reflection, song and prayer. All the faithful from across the diocese are invited to this special event to pray for peace in the world during the 100th anniversary of the Fatima Apparitions. Free admission. No registration. All are welcome!

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE
 If you are a CWL member and plan to attend the Celebration of the Living Rosary on September 30th (see above), please contact Donna Larocque 905-386-6703.
 The next CWL meeting will be held on **Wednesday, September 27th**, with Mass beginning at 6:30pm followed by a meeting (in the parish meeting room). The CWL would like to keep members informed of league activities/events happening in our parish and diocese and a great way to do this is through email. If your email has recently changed or you now have access to email, please notify the office so we can update our records. We look forward to seeing everyone at our meetings this year! Thank you!