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Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"The Pharisees and scribes began to complain, saying, 'This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.'" Jesus knew these self-righteous religious leaders were complaining. And he knew they needed to learn a lesson. So, in addition to giving a lived example of welcoming the company of "tax collectors and sinners," Jesus also directly taught the skeptics about the importance of welcoming those who have been lost. Today's Gospel gives a powerhouse lineup of three parables that all teach a similar message: rejoice over the lost sheep, rejoice over the lost coin, and rejoice over the return of the lost son.



The theme can be summarized in the simple directive: rejoice don't reject. When someone who isn't part of the "fold" appears in church, this is cause for rejoicing! It should not be cause for gossip, sideways glances, or nervous whispers about what to do or say. Rather a genuine smile and word of welcome would be in order at the very least, and a heartfelt invitation to join the community would be totally appropriate.

Too often we become complacent about our Christian company. We get used to seeing the same people every Sunday and forget about the "lost" men and women who are outside the bounds of our comfort zone. Jesus gives us the image of an active shepherd who goes "after the lost one until he finds it," and a diligent widow who will "sweep the house, searching carefully" until she finds her coin. He tells us of a father who "ran to his son, embraced and kissed him," in spite of the separation they had faced. We too are called to take initiative in seeking out those who are lost, and to rejoice heartily when they finally do come back home.

The Jubilee Year of Mercy : In response to our Bishop's request, St. Ann's has a Prayer Hour for Mercy with Eucharistic Adoration every Monday evening at 7:00 p.m. The Sacrament of Confession is available during that time until 7:55 p.m. when we will have Benediction.



The Legion of Mary: Do you want to grow closer to Jesus and His Beloved Mother? Are you being called to help the Church through prayer and works? The Legion of Mary is seeking active and praying members in our parish. Members from the Legion of Mary will be conducting a membership drive in our parish on **September 10 at the 5pm Mass and on September 11 at the 9:30 and 11am Masses.** Come and join this wonderful organization.

Migrant Worker Ministry: As Christians, we are called to reach out to and pray for all migrants to emphasize the unity of the human family and the values of acceptance, hospitality, and love of neighbour. We are most thankful and grateful for the commitment in our parish with this important ministry. In these past months we have welcomed the migrant workers in our area to our Sunday Masses and encouraged their participation in our parish community. We have provided transportation for them in the form of 32 donated bicycles and arranged to have a Spanish Mass celebrated at 1pm on the First Sunday of every month from the spring to early fall. These Masses have been generally well attended and appreciated by the workers. Some workers have also joined our Coffee Sundays each weekend and taken the opportunity to socialize and acquaint themselves with parishioners. Thank you to all who have encouraged the growth of this ministry in our parish and worked to bring it to a successful outcome. We will continue, with your assistance, to do our best to assist the migrant workers with integration in our community and parish.

**Sunday, September 11th, 2016
 Twenty Fourth Sunday In Ordinary
 Time**

"I tell you, there will be rejoicing among the angels of God over one sinner who repents." — Lk 15:10

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Sat. Sept 10	9-10am	Reconciliation Cancelled
	4-4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation
	5:00pm	Missa Pro Populo
Sun. Sept 11	9:30am	✠ Kristina & Frank Hozjan (Stefan Hozjan & Fam.)
	11:00am	✠ Beverley Rosile (Sherry Lancione & Fam.)
Mon. Sept 12	7:00pm	Holy Hour & Reconciliation
Tues. Sept 13	9:30am	✠ Anthony Filbert (The Chater Family)
Wed. Sept 14	9:30am	✠ Mary Vanderlee (Leo & Emmy Reus)
Thurs. Sept 15	9:30am	✠ Mary Voogt (Voogt & Green Families)
Fri. Sept 16	9:30am	Anniversary Blessings for Jack & Ivana Wilson (Michael & Karen)
Sat. Sept 17	9-10am	Reconciliation
	4-4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation
	5:00pm	Missa Pro Populo
Sun. Sept 18	9:30am	✠ James Blackett (Kerr Family)
	11:00am	✠ John & Ann Mikolasek (Mary Ann Biggar)

**Reconciliation from 9-9:20am before all weekday Masses.
 Offertory August 27th & 28th, 2016**

64 Envelopes	\$1, 438.15
Loose Collection	\$ 72.30
Total Offertory	\$1, 510.45
Scarboro. F. Missions	\$ 210.00

Offertory September 3rd & 4th, 2016

68 Envelopes	\$1, 426.25
Loose Collection	\$ 95.00
Total Offertory	\$1, 521.25
Maintenance Collection	\$ 180.00

Month of August:
Income: \$ 9, 374 Expenses: \$12, 634

The DIOCESAN SEPARATED AND DIVORCED HEALING MINISTRY support group meetings will resume **Monday, September 12, 2016.** Meetings are held every second and fourth Monday (except holidays) from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre, 7020 Stanley Avenue, Niagara Falls. For a pamphlet or information call 905-356-4113 or 905-684-0154, or email separatedanddivorced@saintcd.com. No pre-registration required. This month's topics are 'The Journey of Separation and Divorce' (Sept 12); and 'Coping With the Stresses of Separation and Divorce' (Sept 26). Meetings are 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm at Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre, 7020 Stanley Ave, Niagara Falls. No registration required. For information call 905-356-4113 or 905-684-0154, or email separatedanddivorced@saintcd.com. Pamphlets are available at the back of the church.

Revelation: The Kingdom Yet to Come is an intriguing study that shows how the kingdom established by Christ in his Church is intimately connected with the kingdom of heaven. Here you will discover what the mysterious figures and images of Revelation mean. You will see how Revelation is more than an apocalyptic vision of the "end times." It is a revelation of God as our Divine Bridegroom and the Church as his spotless Bride, forever united in a heavenly, holy, and mystical marriage that we enter into every time we celebrate the Mass.

The ten week bible study series will be held on Tuesday evenings at St. Alexander Parish in Fonthill, between 7 and 9 p.m. beginning October 18 in the Hospitality Room, ending December 20, 2016. All are invited. Please contact Irma Ruiter at 905-650-2580 or at iruiter@branchestheword.org to register.

Making Sense of Ecclesiastes: Join us on Wednesday, September 28th at St. Helen Church in Beamsville from 7 to 8:30 p.m. with Dr. Robert Holmstedt, Professor of Hebrew Scriptures, University of Toronto & members of St. Helen Church. The book of Ecclesiastes is rarely read in our lectionary cycle, yet it provides strong guidance for thinking through issues facing the Christian in a challenging world. Join us in a discussion of the themes prominent in Ecclesiastes, the keys to understanding the book, and a discussion about how to apply this part of Scripture to our lives. Bring your bible and enjoy.

Regenerate(d) 2016: Sponsored by Branches Catholic Ministries, Regenerated 2016 will take place again at the Scotiabank Convention Centre in Niagara Falls, Ontario on Saturday, November 19th. This year's theme is on the Holy Eucharist and will feature dynamic talks on how Our Blessed Mother brings us closer to this sacrament, on how to explain the Eucharist to others, on current Eucharistic miracles and the scientific evidence behind them. For early-bird tickets visit branchestheword.org or call Branches at 905-685-7000.

Reasons to Attend

- To grow in your understanding of relevant topics to our Catholic faith
- To challenge your own doubts and misgivings about Church teaching
- To experience the excitement of your faith in a dynamic setting
- To be regenerated and allow God to speak to your heart To "Get Connected" with your Catholic family

Parish Calendar

September.....	
Sept 10th/11th..	Legion of Mary Membership Drive
Sept 11th....	Sundae Sunday for school children
Sept 13th.....	Tuesday Bingo Resumes 7pm
Sept 13th....	Syrian Refugee Resettlement Committee Meeting, Fenwick Lions Hall, 7pm
Sept 14th....	Confirmation Class 5-6:30pm
Sept 14th....	Finance Council meeting 6:30pm
Sept 25th....	Special Collection—Bishop's Collection for Needs of the Church in Canada
Sept 28th.....	Confirmation Class 5-6:30pm

YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth Ministry will resume October 5th, 2016

Genevieve Broadley will be taking over as St. Ann's new YM Co-ordinator effective immediately. Please extend a warm welcome to Genevieve as she begins her ministry here. Weekly Youth Ministry nights resume on Wednesday, October 5th from 6:30pm – 8:30pm. More to follow on upcoming events.

The Chosen Confirmation prep courses will be starting up again for all grade 8's! The program will run **every other Wednesday from 5:00 – 6:30pm in the parish hall from September 14th to March 22nd.** Dinner will be provided. Looking forward to seeing you all there as we continue on the journey towards Confirmation!

First Eucharist and Confirmation: If you have a child attending another school who is planning to receive the Sacrament of First Eucharist this coming school year, please phone the office to receive information regarding upcoming registration and classes.

The Catholic Women's League : The fall bazaar fundraiser in November will be a raffle for chance to win \$500 cash. Tickets to buy or sell are available. If you would like to purchase tickets or sell them, contact us and we will be happy to accommodate your request. We thank you for supporting this fundraiser.

Come on out to Bled Hall in Beamsville and help us celebrate Father Philip English's 25 years in the Priesthood and 30-year Anniversary of St. Helen as a parish. You are invited to attend for a wonderful meal of Roast Beef and gravy, Chicken Schnitzel and red pepper sauce, soup, salad, mashed potatoes, rice, vegetables, and coffee and desert. Wine and Beer will be available for purchase. **September 24th @ 6:30.** Tickets are \$25.00 each for adults and \$ 10.00 each for children 10 and under. There will be a DJ and dancing, silent auction, 50/50 draw and prizes. Profits will go to debt reduction. Best wishes only. Tickets available at St. Helen Church after all weekend masses or the office from 9:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m. Tuesday-Friday.

Retrouvaille—A Lifeline for Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? This program has helped 10's of 1000's of couples experiencing marital difficulty at all levels including disillusionment and deep misery. For confidential information about, or to register for the program beginning with a weekend on **October 14, 2016** please call **905-664-5212** or email: hamiltonretrouvaille1@cogeco.ca or visit the web site at www.retrouvaille.org.

Amatrice, Italy Earthquake Relief Fundraiser: Tuesday, Sept. 20th, St. Mary Parish Hall, Welland. Pasta, Sausage & Meatballs, salad, rolls, dessert & coffee. Take out 3-6:30m, Dine in 4:30-6:30pm.