

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



**Sunday, July 16th, 2017**  
**Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

“The seed sown among thorns is the one who hears the word, but then worldly anxiety and the lure of riches choke the word and it bears no fruit. But the seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold.”  
 — Mt 13:22-23  
Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Sat. July 15	9-10am	<b>Reconciliation</b>
	4-4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation
	5:00pm	Missa Pro Populo
Sun. July 16	10:00am	✠ Ugo & Antonietta Scurci (Scurci & Devine Families)
Mon. July 17	9:30am	✠ Mick Kennedy (Karen & Michael)
	7-8pm	<b>Holy Hour CANCELLED</b>
<b>Tues. July 18 – Fri. July 21</b>		<b>Masses Cancelled</b>
Sat. July 22	9-10am	<b>Reconciliation CANCELLED</b>
	4-4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation
	5:00pm	Missa Pro Populo
Sun. July 23	10:00am	✠ Anthony Filbert (Lynda Filbert & Family)
<b>Mon. July 24-Fri. July 28</b>		<b>Masses Cancelled</b>
Mon. July 24	7-8pm	<b>Holy Hour CANCELLED</b>
Sat. July 29	9-10am	<b>Reconciliation</b>
	4-4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation
	5:00pm	Missa Pro Populo
Sun. July 30	10:00am	✠ Michael Brazeau (Tim & Joan Crowther)

**Reconciliation from 9-9:20am before all weekday Masses.**  
**Offertory July 1st & 2nd, 2017**

58 Envelopes	\$1, 242.65
Loose Collection	\$ 100.10
Total Offertory	\$1, 342.75
Maintenance Collection	\$ 310.00

**Offertory July 8th & 9th, 2017**

63 Envelopes	\$2, 538.00
Loose Collection	\$ 88.25
Total Offertory	\$2, 626.25

**Garden Maintenance:** Our parish is in need of a garden maintenance team to regularly maintain the flower beds, shrubs etc. This would begin in spring and continue through the autumn depending on the need. Four to six people would be adequate. If you feel you can assist with this parish ministry, please phone the office soon.

**Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
*“But some seed fell on rich soil, and produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold.”* In the parable of the sower that Jesus tells in today’s Gospel, the ideal is to be *“the seed sown on rich soil”* that yields an abundant harvest. As Jesus explains, this means we should strive to be *“the one who hears the word and understands it.”* So how do we place ourselves in this category? How do we assure that we will hear God’s voice (i.e., the word) and actually understand what he’s saying to us? The answer comes in the parable itself. Jesus explains what we need to avoid in order to make sure our seed bears fruit. First, we must beware of *“the evil one”* who comes and steals away the seed of God’s word. Faithfully praying the Lord’s Prayer, with its request to “deliver us from



evil,” is a good starting point here. Placing ourselves under God’s protection every day is like taking up a shield against the forces that would seek to derail us. Secondly, we must be committed enough to God’s word that *“tribulation or persecution”* do not uproot us or make our faith wither and die. Here, too, sincerely praying the petition in the Lord’s Prayer—“Thy will be done”—can prepare us to accept whatever comes our way without waffling or wavering. Finally, we must be careful that *“worldly anxiety and the lure of riches”* do not “choke” us. Again, we turn to the Lord’s Prayer and find an antidote built in: “Give us this day our daily bread.” We pray not for a new car or a winning lottery ticket, but for our basic needs. So let us embrace the prayer Jesus gave us, indeed the **words** he himself gave us to say, as we seek to truly hear and understand God’s word.

**Feast of St. Ann Celebration—Community BBQ:** will take place on **Sunday July 30th** following the 10am Mass. It will be a one day event consisting of an indoor Mass at 10am followed by a free community BBQ/picnic behind St. Ann School. There will be face painting and everyone is welcome to participate in games. We will need volunteers to assist the morning of the event Beginning at 9am to set up the picnic area and help clean up after. A sign up sheet is at the back of the church.



**Saint Anne** was the spouse of St. Joachim, and was chosen by God to be the mother of Mary, His own blessed Mother on earth. One thing only was wanting to their union - they were childless, and this was held as a bitter misfortune among the Jews. At length, when Anne was an aged woman, Mary was born, the fruit rather of grace than of nature, and the child more of God than of man. With the birth of Mary the aged Anne began a new life: she watched her every movement with reverent tenderness, and felt herself hourly sanctified by the presence of her immaculate child. But she had vowed her daughter to God, to God Mary had consecrated herself again, and to Him Anne gave her back. St. Anne is the patron saint of mothers and women in labour and minors and is symbolized by Mary in her lap holding the infant Jesus.

**Prayer to St. Anne & St. Joachim**  
 Saints Anne and Joachim, we bless you for your great faith and love as parents. Your respect and reverence for the sacredness of human life made you the parents of Mary, Mother of the Lord. Through your intercession, we ask God to grant young people today that same reverence for the gift of new life. May they accept, cherish, and nourish life from the very moment of conception to natural death. Grant to us as a nation a renewed reverence for every human life. As Mary cherished her Child from the womb even to the tomb, so may we see in every person the very image of God. Great Saints Anne and Joachim, we ask this grace in the name of Mary’s Son, Jesus the Lord. Amen.

**Sunday, 23rd, 2017**  
**Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

“The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all who cause others to sin and all evildoers. They will throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father.”  
 — Mt 13:41-43a  
Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

**Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*“The weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sows them is the devil.”* This is not a pretty picture. Jesus shares a parable in today’s Gospel that reminds us of a truth we would rather forget: evil is real, and the devil is at work. The bountiful harvest of our faith is something that Satan wants to destroy.



And he has a host of diabolical tactics to help him carry out his wicked plans. But there is one strategy in particular that we must be on guard against. As the French poet Charles Baudelaire put it, “The devil’s finest trick is to persuade you that he does not exist.” Sneaky as it may be, this approach is effective! And, unfortunately, the attitude of our modern era is very conducive to buying the lie. Too often we dismiss the idea of the invisible spiritual reality of angels and demons. It doesn’t seem “scientific” enough for us because it can’t be seen or “proven.” But neither can our faith! We believe in a host of invisible realities starting with God himself. We should not be fooled into thinking that the devil is a make-believe cartoon character with red horns and a pitchfork on his shoulder. Alas, no. As the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* reminds us, “Scripture witnesses to the disastrous influence of the one Jesus calls ‘a murderer from the beginning’” (CCC 394) and, as we read in the Bible, *“Indeed, the Son of God was revealed to destroy the works of the Devil”* (1 Jn 3:8). This is not pretend, and so it must be taken seriously. But so too, the reality of Satan must be situated within the broader context of God’s supreme power. The devil “cannot prevent the building up of God’s reign” (CCC 395). The influence of evil can never defeat the power of our faith, unless we let it do so.

**LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK**

Today we are presented with the parable of the weeds and the wheat. We struggle with the imperfection that exists in our world. This imperfection shows itself in human sinfulness with its consequences—disease, natural disasters, suffering, and even death. We wonder why God did not simply make everything perfect right from the beginning so that harmony, peace, and tranquility would be the norm. God builds free will into us and into our world so that we can learn to freely love him. Anything less than this would not provide the freedom to choose to acknowledge and develop our relationship with our Creator. For now, the weeds and the wheat must coexist. Our faith teaches us that we live and walk in hope that when the harvest comes only the wheat of God’s love will remain.

**Coming up THIS SUMMER at Youth Ministry**

**Vacation Bible School – August 14<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup>**  
 St. Ann Parish is once again running Vacation Bible School this summer from August 14<sup>th</sup> to August 18<sup>th</sup>, from 9am to noon each day. The theme this year is “Weird Animals – How Jesus Love is One of a Kind!” The camp is free to all who register, and a free will donation will be collected at the end of the week. Registration forms are available at the parish office, at the back of the church, and at the school. All students are welcome. ELKP to Grade 6 will be campers, and Grades 7 and 8 will be team leaders. We are still looking for volunteers to help run camp activities: bible study, snack time, crafts, and games. **This is a great opportunity for volunteer hours for high school students, and a really fun way to spend a week of your summer!**  
**August 2nd– A meeting for all volunteers for VBS 6:30pm.**  
**August 8 & 9—Prop Days to prepare for VBS. Volunteers needed for each day from 1-4pm (youth or adults).**

**Summer Lock-In – Fri. August 25<sup>th</sup> - Sat. August 26<sup>th</sup>**  
 At the request of our St. Ann Youth Ministry students, we will be hosting a Summer Lock-In from Friday, August 25<sup>th</sup> to Saturday August, 26<sup>th</sup>. Students will gather at the parish on Friday evening after dinner, around 7:00pm. We will play lots of games and participate in activities. Later in the evening we will participate in a Midnight Prayer Service. Weather permitting, we will be camping out in the field behind the church and having a bonfire. Snacks will be provided throughout the evening and we will make breakfast together in the morning in the parish hall. If any parents are interested in chaperoning for this event please let me know. Also we are looking for families who can bring/ provide tents. Each student will be responsible for their own sleeping bag and pillow.

**Parish Calendar**

<b>July 18-28...</b>	<b>Weekday Masses cancelled</b>
<b>July 17th....</b>	Holy Hour Cancelled
<b>July 22nd.....</b>	Reconciliation 9-10 cancelled
<b>July 24th....</b>	Holy Hour Cancelled
<b>July 30th.....</b>	Feast of St. Ann celebration after 10am Mass
<b>August.....</b>	
<b>Aug 2nd.....</b>	Volunteer Meeting VBS 6:30pm
<b>Aug 4th.....</b>	Visitation of sick and homebound
<b>Aug 6th.....</b>	Spanish Mass 1pm
<b>Aug 13th.....</b>	Special Collection –Catholic Missions Shared Collection
<b>Aug 14-18...</b>	Vacation Bible School 9-12
<b>Aug 25-26....</b>	Youth Ministry Lock in
<b>Aug 26/27...</b>	Mission Appeal—Diocese of Keren, Eritrea, East Africa

**A Diocesan Marian Event,** in celebration of the Year of the Rosary & the 100th anniversary of the Fatima Apparitions will be held on Saturday, September 30, 2017 at St. Alfred Church, 272 Vine Street, St. Catharines, Ontario. Mass will be celebrated by Most Reverend Gerard Bergie at 8:30 a.m. Reflections on Mary and the Rosary and Celebration of a Living Rosary 9:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Parishioners and diocesan organizations from across the diocese are all welcome. Free Admission/No Registration.

Fr. Chad will be away from Monday evening July 17th to Friday, July 28th. Messages will be checked regularly. Consult the bulletin for all Mass cancellations. In case of emergency and a priest is needed, please ask for the priest on call at the hospital.