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**The Diocese of St. Catharines  
 60th Anniversary—1958-2018**  
*“Put out into the deep water and let down your  
 nets.” (Lk 5:4)*  
**Sunday, June 17th, 2018**  
**Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*“This is how it is with the kingdom of God; it is as if a man were to scatter seed on the land...Of its own accord the land yields fruit, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the grain is ripe, he wields the sickle at once, for the harvest has come.” — Mk 4:26, 28-29*  
Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Sat. June 16	9-10am	<b>Reconciliation</b>
	4-4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation
	5:00pm	✠ Harry Atkins and Helen Hills (Wendy Atkins)
Sun. June 17	9:30am	Missa Pro Populo
	11:00am	✠ Mary Dobson (Karen & Michael)
Mon. June 18	9:30am	✠ Benito Bachetti (Michael Wilson)
	7-8pm	<b>Holy Hour &amp; Reconciliation</b>
Tues. June 19	9:30am	✠ Anna Ryan (Voogt & Green Families)
Wed. June 20		<b>St. Ann School Year End Mass</b>
	9:30am	✠ Eric Egert (Gloria Egert)
Thurs. June 21	9:30am	✠ David Christopher Green (Gary & Patricia Green)
Fri. June 22	9:30am	✠ Kelly Morellato (Racz Family)
Sat. June 23	9-10am	<b>Reconciliation</b>
	4-4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation
	5:00pm	Missa Pro Populo
Sun. June 24	9:30am	✠ James Blackett (Kerr Family)
	11:00am	✠ Robert Vaillancourt (Shirley Milo & Family)

**Reconciliation from 9-9:20am before all weekday Masses.  
 Offertory June 9th/10th, 2018**

71 Envelopes	\$1,710.00
Loose Collection	\$ 128.05
Total Offertory	\$1,838.05
Maintenance	\$ 150.00
Education of Seminarians	\$ 508.25

The month of June has traditionally been dedicated to the **Sacred Heart of Jesus**. “In that divine heart beats God’s love for everyone, for each one of us individually.”—St. John Paul II

**Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
*“This is how it is with the kingdom of God.”* What is a kingdom? Is it the brick and mortar that build up the castle? Is it the expanse of land a king can reasonably defend? Our notions of kingdoms may be romanticized in the modern era, but for the Israelites, a kingdom held deep historical meaning. Thousands of years before the birth of Christ, the Israelites had asked God for a king. After the reigns of David and Solomon, the united kingdom dissolved into factions, and the land was conquered by the Assyrians, Babylonians, and, finally, Romans. For the Israelites, a kingdom was something to build, both structurally and civilly. While this had ended in ruin for their ancestors, many of Jesus’ contemporaries longed for the restoration of an earthly kingdom.



Jesus’ words in today’s Gospel are a radical departure from this perspective. He compares the Kingdom of God to a field, but it appears that the farmer has little to do with its progress. *“The seed would sprout and grow, he knows not how. Of its own accord, the land yields fruit.”* Jesus introduces his followers to a new sort of kingdom, a kingdom where God provides the growth.

There is work to be done, of course. *“When the grain is ripe, he wields the sickle at once, for the harvest has come.”* But for the Kingdom of God to flourish, there are certain things that are outside of our control. We sow seeds of kindness, justice, and integrity ... and then we must be patient. As shoots of faith appear, we nurture the growth with prayer and encouragement. As Christians, our task is not to build the Kingdom of God under our power alone, but to trust in the life-giving movement of God.



Fathers are called in a special way to reflect God’s unconditional love and forgiveness. Similar to the way our heavenly Father cares for us, they correct us when we sin and pick us up when we fall.

God the Father gave up his only Son, Jesus Christ, so that we might be saved through him. He provides an example of the very vocation of fatherhood.

Today, in a special way, let us be grateful for: Our fathers, by birth or adoption, who love us and support us through life; Our Church leaders, who take on the paternal role of guiding us through life; And God our Father, who will always teach justly and grant us boundless mercy.

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

Jesus compares the Kingdom of God to a mustard seed, the tiniest of seeds. When planted, the tiny mustard seed grows into a tremendous tree with large branches. So, too, in each of our lives, small things can have profound effects. God can use one of our more insignificant gestures to radically change another person’s life. It may be the kindness of a smile, our willingness to accommodate someone, listening to someone’s story, helping someone who is hurting, standing up for someone who is right, or complimenting someone on something they did. We all have God-given gifts and talents. Our task is to use them creatively, consistently, lovingly, and generously. We trust that God will take care of the rest.

**Outdoor Mass at Holy Cross Cemetery:** All welcome to join with Bishop Gerard Bergie as he celebrates the sixth annual Outdoor Mass at Holy Cross Cemetery, 50 Woodlawn Rd., Welland on **Saturday, June 23rd, 2018 at 11am**. In the event of inclement weather, the Mass will be re-scheduled for Sat. July 7th at 11am.

**Our Annual Strawberry Fair** last weekend was a wonderful success. We were blessed yet again with a lovely day for this annual event. Thank you to everyone who assisted—the committee who organized the event, those who shopped and prepared food, donated baked goods and food items, sold food and 50/50 draw tickets and baked goods, set up, cleaned up, and to all who supported this annual event with their attendance. A special thank you to our youth who organized and ran the children’s games! What an awesome job they did!! This event requires a lot of organization and planning and would not have been possible without the many people who volunteered so generously with their time. A total profit of **\$1,377.32** was raised for the parish. Congratulations to **Ann & Paul Lopinski**—winners of the 50/50 draw—**\$205.00. Ticket# 9787859.**

**Members of the present Strawberry Fair Committee have been organizing this event for the past 13 years. After some careful consideration and thought, we have decided to step down and give other members of the church community the opportunity to plan and organize this event. We have comprehensive notes on what needs to be prepared, purchased and organized for the day. And you can be sure of our support to guide you through the process the first year. Also, this is an opportunity to add your own ideas and venues to the event which has varied over the years to a food event from one which also included a penny sale and country market. Although the next fair is a year away, we mention this now, to give you a chance to think about it and approach us with any questions. The Strawberry Fair is a long standing tradition in the parish, one that we want to see continue for years to come. We have archival material for this yearly event dating back to the mid 1990’s! The committee has thoroughly enjoyed bringing this event to the parish over the years; we have experienced many good times and laughs running it. We would like to thank everyone for their support and assistance. Please consider taking a leadership role next year. Contact the office with any questions or concerns. Thank you!**

**The following are the main areas of the days’ events which need a lead person to organize and then you would recruit other parishioners for help.**

- Kitchen** - oversee breakfast and serving of breakfast, sundaes and strawberry shortcake - set up and clean up
- BBQ** - oversee the BBQ of lunch and onions - serving lunches and drinks - set up and clean up
- Supplies** - inventory and purchase of all supplies (can be shared by others)
- Bake Table** - receive, organize, price and work the bake table - set up and clean up
- Finance/budget/advertising** - meeting notes, balance budget and report on finances of Strawberry Fair - tracking purchases and sale of all items
- Strawberries** - source out strawberries, order, pick up Sat and Sun and deliver to church - organize cleaning team for Saturday - set up and clean up
- 50/50** -sell tickets the day of event
- Advertising**—media notices, flyers church/community
- Children’s Games**— we hope our Youth Ministry will continue to assist in this area.

**Catholic Women’s League:** Our last gathering before the summer will be after morning Mass on June 27th at the Grill on Canboro in Fenwick with a short information meeting and brunch. **We hope many of you will be able to attend.** If you are able to join us, please phone the office and let us know you are coming so that we can give the restaurant a number.

**Parish Calendar**

<b>June.....</b>	
<b>June 20th.....</b>	Year end school Mass 9:30am
<b>June 27th....</b>	CWL Mass 9:30am followed by breakfast social At Grill on Canboro. All ladies welcome!



**Summer Mass Hours**  
**Beginning the weekend of June 30th/ July 1st weekend Masses will be celebrated on SATURDAY @ 5PM, & SUNDAY @ 10AM. This schedule will be effective for weekends in JULY**

**AND AUGUST ONLY.** Regular weekend Mass hours resume Labour Day weekend—September 1/2. Beginning the first weekend of July, the bulletin will be published every 2 weeks to the end of August.

**Children’s Liturgy** will continue throughout the summer months (July and August) **during the 10am Sunday Mass**. If your child has not received the Sacrament of First Eucharist, he/she is welcome to attend. Children’s Liturgy leaders spend time with the children reviewing the day’s Gospel at their level of understanding using picture and literature resources.

**Elisha House Pregnancy & family Support Centre— Celebrating 30 Years** campaign runs from **MAY 13 JUNE 17 (Father’s Day)**. Bottles are now due back. Please bring them to the parish as soon as possible. Thank you for your support!

**SEPARATED AND DIVORCED HEALING MINISTRY.** *‘Loving and Respecting Yourself’,* (June 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)  
**\*\*Note** This is the last meeting before a break for the summer. Meetings resume in September.

Join us for a night of faith, food, music & fellowship as Branches presents **Faith on Tapas\* with Father Richard Kowalchuk Friday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018, 7:00 to 9:30 pm** (Doors open at 6:30 pm; tapas ordered by 7:15 pm). Branches Catholic Books & Gifts 43 Maywood Avenue, St. Catharines. Limited seating; to reserve your seat contact [gbroadley@branchestheword.org](mailto:gbroadley@branchestheword.org) or call 905-685-7000. Cost is for Tapas from Huong’s Kitchen should you like to order food.



**ST. THOMAS MORE:** “I am the King’s good servant, but God’s first.” So said St. Thomas More, whose feast we celebrate on June 22nd. St. Thomas More was once Sir Thomas More, a lawyer and statesman in the court of King Henry VIII. When the king wished to dissolve his marriage to Catherine of Aragon — who was infertile — the pope held up the validity of the marriage. Desperate to generate an heir, King Henry declared himself the head of the Church of England and granted himself an annulment. Most leaders signed the “Oath of Supremacy,” declaring the King’s power over the English Church. Thomas More, then the Lord Chancellor, refused to sign. He was sentenced to death. St. Thomas More reminds us of our call to integrity and to the defense of truth in the public square. Thomas More is the patron saint of lawyers, politicians, and civil servants. St. Thomas More, pray for us!

**Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Shrine,** 4706 Miller Road, Port Colborne operates May to October. Thursdays at 7:00 p.m., in the Chapel, the Rosary & the celebration of Holy Mass. For more information please call Shelley Tamas, 905-714-7677 or visit [www.rosaryshrine Niagara.com](http://www.rosaryshrine Niagara.com).



