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Thirty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
"But the man who received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and buried his master's money." This servant was scared. He didn't want to take any risks and just wanted to play everything safe. As he confesses to his master, *"Out of fear I went off and buried your talent in the ground."* And the master was not pleased. The other servants who invested the money he gave them were richly rewarded for their efforts to produce more. But this servant was punished for letting his fear rule the day.

What factors are keeping us from making a return on God's investment in us? He has given us all life, and each of us also has a special collection of "talents" to make use of. We have certain gifts, skills, experiences, resources, and abilities that (though we may not often think about it) come from God. He calls us to make the most of these things, not just to take them for granted or bury them in the ground, so to speak. Our gifts are meant not just for our own enjoyment, but to help others, to spread truth and goodness and beauty to the world around us.

Sometimes, however, we fail to really capitalize on our potential. Laziness, distraction, or self-pity can get in the way if we are unwilling to put in the hard work to improve our natural gifts, if we allow ourselves to zone out with entertainment or frivolous pastimes instead of making good use of the time entrusted to us, or if we wallow in negativity by focusing on what we *don't* have instead of embracing what we do.

Each moment is a gift from God. May we seize every opportunity to multiply the investment God has made in us so that we may be worthy to hear God tell us, *"Well done, my good and faithful servant."*

Please support the Deo Gratias Collection of November 18/19, 2017. All revenue will go to our Clergy Aid Society. We are grateful to God, and to our retired clergy in the Diocese of St. Catharines who, from the time of their ordination, have cared for us and our spiritual needs. In thanksgiving to God for them and their years of faithful service, your generous support of the *Deo Gratias* collection will enable us to care for those who have dedicated their lives to caring for us. The revenue from this collection does not go into an endowment fund but goes directly to the Clergy Aid Society which provides an income for our retired clergy. **Envelopes are in your offertory boxes dated Nov. 12th. Donations will be accepted throughout all weekends of November. Thank you for your support.**

Lighting of the Advent Wreath: The First Sunday of Advent will be on the weekend of **December 2/3.** Families or individuals are asked to volunteer to light the candles during each of the weekend Masses of **Advent.** The sign up sheet is at the back of the church. You may choose a mass during any of those weekends. The four candles of the Advent Wreath represent the period of waiting during the four weeks of Advent, which themselves symbolize four centuries of waiting between the prophet Malachi and the birth of Christ. There are three purple candles and one rose candle. The purple candles represent the royalty and majesty of Jesus Christ as King of Kings. Purple also represents prayer, pertinence, and preparation. The rose candle (Candle of Joy) is lit on the third Sunday of Advent, also called Gaudete Sunday. Advent is a time for preparing the Way for Christ, as we await Christmas and the Birth of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour!



LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK
 Every one of God's children is a unique creation with talents and gifts that are found in no one else. Each of us is asked to bring our special "twist" to life and to living the Gospel, leaving our impact on the world in a way that no one else can. Are we ever afraid to use our gifts to help build the kingdom of God on earth? Fear can cripple us and prevent us from discovering the profound and creative ways in which we can become the person God meant us to be. We like our comfort zones and do not like to be stretched and challenged. Yet this is necessary if we are going to produce the fruit we are capable of producing and live the radical message of the Gospel. For serious Christians, the status quo has got to go!

CONFIRMANDI CLASS OF 2017
 Congratulations to the following students who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on November 11th.
Ashley Bowman **Ella Robert**
Katharyn Hulley **Parker Triano**
Jerzy Olsen **Blaine Zantinge**
Nate Prevost
 Thank you to everyone who assisted with preparations for the Sacrament of Confirmation last weekend. It was a beautiful celebration for our students, their families and our parish community.

CWL Membership: Envelopes are in your offertory boxes dated Nov. 5th or you may use a plain envelope. FEES ARE \$25. Please ensure your FULL MAILING ADDRESS OR CHANGE OF ADDRESS is included on your envelope with your payment no later than the end of November. If you are joining us from another parish, please include that info as well as the year that you joined. We look forward to your active participation in our league! If you wish to receive the CWL league magazine for the winter, be sure to submit your membership dues before December.

The Catholic Women's Leadership Foundation (CWLF) is accepting applications for its initial Leadership Program for Canadian Catholic women. The Program will be facilitated by the Providence School of Transformative Leadership and Spirituality, Saint Paul University, Ottawa. For more information about the CWLF, the Leadership Program, and to complete an application form, visit <http://cwlfcanada.ca>

Campaign Life Coalition—Christmas Cakes made by the Monks of Val Notre-Dame Abbey. Traditional ages Christmas Cakes—regular size (600 grams) \$18, deluxe size (1kg) \$25. Abbey Gift Basket \$30. They will be selling the cakes in our parish on the weekend of December 16/17.

St. Mary Welland Turkey Dinner, Wednesday, Dec. 6, 2017. 90 Griffith St., 905-734-3143 for tickets or advance take out orders. Turkey, potatoes, stuffing, gravy, vegetables, salad, buns, tea/coffee, dessert. Dine in or take out. Adults \$15, Children \$7 (8yrs and younger). Check bulletin board for sitting times.

Christmas at St. Julia's featuring St. Julia Church Choir, Denis Morris High School Choir & St. Peter's Elementary School. An afternoon of Lessons and Carols for the seasons of Advent and Christmas. Reception to follow in parish hall. Sunday, November 27th, 2017 3pm. Admission is free. A donation of non-perishable food items will be collected at the door for St. Vincent de Paul. All welcome.

Parish Calendar
 Nov 19..... Special Collection—Deo Gratias
 Nov 20..... First Reconciliation 10am
 Nov 26..... Youth Mass 9:30am
 December.....
 Dec 3rd..... First Sunday of Advent
 Dec 5th..... Mass cancelled
 Dec 7th..... Final Bingo before Christmas
 Dec 16/17..... Campaign Life Coalition will be selling Christmas cakes

Youth Ministry— Wednesdays 6:30-8:30
Please check the website for any changes
 Nov. 26th – Youth Mass 9:30 am
 December
 Dec. 1st – BINGO @ Lookout Ridge 6:30 - 8:30 pm
 Monday 25th – Christmas break starts
 Dec. 31st – Youth Mass

St. Joseph 2018 Missals— If you would like one for your personal use, they are available to purchase - \$3 each. If you are a lector or musician, please take one at no cost.

The Diocesan Separated & Divorced Healing Ministry Support Group meets every second and fourth Monday of the month (except holidays) 7:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m., Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre, 7020 Stanley Avenue, Niagara Falls, 905-356-4113 or 905-684-0154, or email separatedanddivorced@saintcd.com.
 November 27, 2017 **Surviving the Holidays, Fr. Michael Wastag Presenter**
 December 11, 2017 **Overcoming Loneliness**

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Throughout Advent, beginning the weekend of Dec 2/3, baskets will be left at the church entrance for **donations to Pelham Cares.**

Items most in need include: Canned Fruit, Canned meat (not tuna) Jam (regular and sugar free), Juice boxes, Plain oatmeal, Stew / Chili, Cereal, Honey, Nut free granola bars, Pudding cups, Sugar free Jello, Cooked and instant pudding, "Wow Butter" (soy based), Unsweetened Almond Milk, Dish soap & laundry soap, Personal care items including Shampoo & conditioner. Please note that at this time we have an abundant supply of dried pasta and pasta sauce. Your support will assist those most in need in the Pelham community.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society will also be collecting **gift card donations for Pelham Cares.** The age group Pelham Cares has determined to be the most difficult to provide for is teenage boys. Therefore gift cards for places such as Giant Tiger, Old Navy, Sport Check or Canadian Tire would be most welcome. They distribute cards to a maximum value of \$50. During Advent, we will have a tree with envelopes for the cards. They can then be placed in the collection basket and will be forwarded to Pelham Cares. Please make your donation on or before the weekend of December 16/17 in order that Pelham Cares receives them in time for distribution before Christmas.

The SVDP is a lay Catholic organization whose mission is to live the Gospel message of serving Christ through the poor with love, respect, justice and joy. Please help support this worthy cause!

Sunday, November 19th, 2017
33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Master, you gave me five talents. See, I have made five more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master's joy.'"

— Mt 25:20b-21

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

Sat. Nov 18	9-10am	Reconciliation
	4-4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation
	5:00pm	Missa Pro Populo
Sun. Nov 19	9:30am	✠ Dominique Forgeron (Larocque Family)
		✠ Lewis Tremeer (Conley & Schaefer Families)
	11:00am	Ilona Yungblut (Karen Kennedy)
Mon. Nov 20	9:30am	✠ Ann Ireland (Voogt & Green Families)
	7-8pm	Holy Hour & Reconciliation
Tues. Nov 21	9:30am	50th Anniversary Blessings for Rosemary & Steve Lastovic (Gloria Egert)
Wed. Nov 22	9:30am	✠ Mary Voogt & David Green (Voogt & Green Families)
Thurs. Nov 23	9:30am	Michael Wilson (Stephanie Anthony)
Fri. Nov 24	9:30am	✠ Dominique Forgeron (Larocque Family)
Sat. Nov 25	9-10am	Reconciliation
	4-4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation
	5:00pm	Missa Pro Populo
Sun. Nov 26	9:30am	✠ Edward Hogan (Marco Magazzeni & Family)
		✠ Nina & Czeslaw Aleksiejuk (Lana & Jan)
	11:00am	✠ John & Teresa Sporbeck (Ted Uranowski & Family)

Reconciliation from 9-9:20am before all weekday Masses.
Offertory November 11th & 12th, 2017

73 Envelopes	\$1,730.00
Loose Collection	\$ 281.50
Total Offertory	\$2,011.50
Maintenance	\$ 90.00
Deo Gratias	\$ 275.50
(15 Envelopes)	