THOUGHTS FOR SOWING

GRATITUDE BEGETS GENEROSITY

Then Tobit went back in, rejoicing and praising God with full voice for everything that had happened.

Tobit 11:15

Tobit had two good reasons to be grateful. His sight was restored, and his son returned home safely from his long journey. Little wonder he expressed his gratitude to God "with full voice."

I believe that gratitude is a sign that we are close to God. Why do I say this? First, when we are grateful, we are humbly acknowledging that someone has given us something, that is, we are on the receiving end of someone else's generosity. Ultimately, the giver of all good gifts is God. Second, when we are grateful, we are ordinarily very happy. Gratitude is expressed not in frowns and sadness, but in smiles and joyful exuberance. And third, when we are grateful, we often want to share our good fortune with others. Gratitude begets generosity.

What are you grateful for today?

Giver of all gifts, help me to see the blessings of this particular day. May my gratitude for these gifts bring me closer to you and to others.

Sr. Melannie Svoboda, S.N.D. From: LIVING FAITH

MASS INTENTIONS

Requested by Siena & Family

Requested by the Family

<u>Thursday, June 17th – 8:20am</u> <u>Special Intention for JEAN LO</u> Requested by <u>Lo family</u>

Requested by Lo family

LOOKING AHEAD

* Please refer to special notice: "<u>Update on Pandemic</u> Information"

Sun. June 13 11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Homilist: Fr. Andy Macbeth

Sun. June 20 12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Guest homilist: Fr. Michael Lehman, CSB

- HAPPY FATHER'S DAY to all our Fathers!
- 2nd INSTALMENT FOR OUR SHARELIFE CAMPAIGN

Sun. June 27 13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Homilist: Deacon Robert Kinghorn

Thurs. July 1 154TH CANADA DAY!

- 8:20 am Mass at St. Margaret's Church
- No Mass at St. Eugene's Chapel

Fri. July 2 No Mass at St. Eugene's Chapel

Sun. July 4 14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

UPDATED PANDEMIC INFORMATION

On **Monday, June 7**th we received confirmation from Cardinal Collins that the Provincial Government is allowing churches to <u>re-open for public Masses as of Friday, June 11</u>th. Parishes are permitted <u>15% capacity</u> for Sacramental Celebrations.

Daily and Weekend Masses at St. Margaret's Church and St. Eugene's Chapel have resumed at the regular scheduled times that are posted on the front of our bulletin. However the amended restriction for all sacramental celebrations is 15% of our capacity. For St. Margaret's that is 75 persons and St. Eugene's that is 30 persons. This of course requires that all physical distancing and the wearing of masks must be maintained as part of the ongoing pandemic protocols.

**Please note: Seating at all Masses continues to be on "A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE BASIS"!

THANK YOU FOR MAKING A GIFT TO YOUR PARISH

Our Parish is where we are married and bring our children to be baptized. It is where we come to be fed in the Holy Eucharist, be reconciled with God and the world, and hope to leave this world on our final journey to meet the God that we love.

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT FOR JUNE 6, 2021

Offertory \$1,266 PAG \$925 Budget \$8,300 (\$6,109)

A PRAYER FOR RENEWED HOPE

Lord, our word seems broken. I know that sometimes I'm even part of the problem. Yet I believe that the despair I may feel is a sign that I still love the world and people you made. You planted that love within me. Help me to nurture, protect and act on it, trusting that you

who vanquished death will breathe life into this fallen world again. Amen.

~ Karla Manternach

SHARELIFE CAMPAIGN 2021

Our Second and Third ShareLife Instalments are postponed until October.

It is important we meet our goals, as a parish and an archdiocese, on behalf of those served by our agencies.

The Covid-19 pandemic has been difficult on all of us. These uncertain times have been particularly hard on so many of the agencies you support through ShareLife.

Thank you for "living the Gospel" through our parish ShareLife campaign. If you have not contributed to date, please consider doing so.

<u>Click here Video</u>: **Debra McGraw** shares how Providence Healthcare has been keeping seniors in long-term care safe and engaged during the pandemic.

Please make your sacrificial gift through the parish office or at sharelife.org please give generously.

2021 YTD \$19,499 Goal \$150,000

| Previous Results | Amount | Donors |
|------------------|---------|--------|
| 2020 | 138,138 | 395 |
| 2019 | 148,555 | 821 |
| 2018 | 140,836 | 814 |
| 2017 | 146,628 | 802 |



Dear friends,

We don't need to tell you how difficult parenting has become during the pandemic – many of you are experiencing this firsthand!

On top of the challenges all parents are facing, many teen mothers lack supportive partners and family members, and are juggling parenting with completing their high school education. Research is showing that they are increasingly suffering from anxiety, depression and loneliness during COVID-19. This has serious implications for child development and parent-infant bonding.

Thanks to your support of ShareLife, agencies across the

Archdiocese of Toronto are there for these women. One of these agencies, Rose of Sharon, has given a helping hand to more than 350 mothers and babies in the past year, delivering over 710 care packages and providing 550 hours of telephone support. Emma was just one of the young women you helped through Rose of Sharon:

Emma came to us looking for support. She attended our live nutrition and health webinar when her little daughter was only two days old. Emma said she did not feel so alone when she could see others. She learned some new things and she felt reassured when she could see the smiles on the faces of the staff. She was so grateful for being able to reach out to us to share her joys, her worries, and her future.

While some aspects of life are returning to normal, parenting will remain a huge challenge for moms like Emma. You can make it a bit easier for them by giving to the ShareLife Parish Campaign.

On behalf of our agencies, and the mothers they serve like Emma, we're immensely grateful your continued support.

Arthur Peters
Executive Director

Introducing the ShareLife Podcast



Staff from ShareLife agencies witness firsthand the lives you've changed through your generosity. The new ShareLife Podcast features their stories, along with their insights on the issues facing poor and marginalized people in our communities.

On the pilot episode, we discuss the mental health crisis facing our youth. Our guest Amanda Fellows from Catholic Family Services of Simcoe County explains why so many young people have been struggling during the pandemic, and shares how this agency has been making a measurable impact in their lives.

We invite you to listen to the first episode, available however you enjoy your podcasts.

- Apply Podcasts
- Spotify, Google Podcasts and other platforms

11TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

1st Reading: Ezekiel 17.22-24

2nd Reading: 2 Corinthians 5.6-10

Gospel: Mark 4.26-34 – The Parable of the Mustard

Seed

Making the Church a Home

In today's readings we hear about small things having large impacts. In the Gospel, Jesus says that the kingdom of heaven "is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts

forth large branches so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

The mustard seed in this parable represents the Gospel that Jesus came to proclaim. It started with just a small handful of people but now, 2000 years later, has spread to all the corners of the world. The birds that come to find refuge in the tree represents all of us who come to find rest and shelter in the Gospel and the Church.

As stewards, we should play our part in helping the tree continue to grow through the gift of our time and talents. We should seek ways to help spread the Gospel message in our parish, whether it be through assisting at liturgies, helping with catechesis or serving the poor in our community. We should also spread the message that God desires all of us, even those who have fallen away from their faith, to find healing, safety and comfort in the Church. Let us be committed to making the Church a home for all who seek Christ.

Summary

In today's Gospel we hear about the parable of the mustard seed in which Jesus explains that the tiniest seed can grow into the largest tree that houses many birds of the air. The mustard seed represents the Gospel message that began with a few people 2000 years ago and has now spread all over the world. As stewards, we should play our part in helping the tree continue to grow through the gift of our time and talents.

From: STEWARDSHIP

IN LOVING MEMORY

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of *Carmel Moore*. Carmel and her family have been members of the parish for almost 50 years. She has been an active member of the St. Margaret's Seniors Social Club for many years, serving as their well-received "Bingo Caller" during the last few years before moving to a retirement home close to her daughters.



As an active parishioner, Carmel served as an Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist (Communion Minister) and a member of our ShareLife Committee. Carmel will always be fondly remembered as a proud "Newfoundlander," who left her mark and made such a contribution to the parish family of St. Margaret's. The family has yet to make their arrangements.

CATHOLIC FAMILY SERVICES OF TORONTO'S ONLINE SESSIONS

Catholic Family Services of Toronto is now offering online quick access single sessions. The single-session consultation is a quick and effective way for individuals, couples or families to address a mental health or relationship concern.

Clients who are interested in pursuing other or additional services in the agency have the option to access our ongoing counselling, wellness or group programs. Counselling fees are charged according to a client's income level. No one is denied service because of his/her inability to pay fees.



Online Quick Access Single Session Counselling For Individuals, Couples &Families

Catholic Family Services of Toronto is now offering Online Quick Access Single Sessions.

To arrange for a session, please email info@cfstoronto.com or call 416 921-1163 or 416 222-0048. Leave us a message with your name, email and phone number, and a staff person will contact you.

Catholic Family Services of Toronto is a Catholic Charities member agency supported by ShareLife.









HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED HOW THE CATHOLIC FAITH COULD HELP YOU LIVE BETTER?

How it could help you find more joy at work, manage your personal finances, improve your marriage, or make you a better parent?

THERE IS GENIUS IN CATHOLICISM.

When *Catholicism* is lived as it is intended to be, it elevates every part of our lives. It may sound simple, but they say *genius is taking something complex and making it simple*.

Dynamic Catholic started with a dream: to help ordinary people discover the *genius of Catholicism*.

Whenever you are in your journey, we want to meet you there and walk with you, step by step, helping you to discover God and become the-best-version-of-yourself.

To find more helpful resources, visit us online at

To find more helpful resources, visit us online at dynamiccatholic.com

STATEMENT FROM CARDINAL COLLINS, ARCHBISHOP OF TORONTO re DISCOVERY OF CHILDREN'S REMAINS AT FORMER KAMLOOPS RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL

June 3, 2021

"If one member suffers, all suffer together with it." (1 Cor 12:26)



In recent days, the country has been shocked, saddened and angered by the discovery of the remains of 215 children in unmarked graves who attended a residential school in Kamloops, British Columbia. We pray for the children who died in Kamloops and in residential schools throughout the country – they must not be forgotten. We must also recognize the betrayal of trust by many Catholic leaders who were responsible for operating residential schools, abandoning their obligation to care for young and innocent children.

We all seek the truth and this tragic discovery provides yet another opportunity for us to learn more about this dark chapter in our history and the painful journey experienced by so many of our Indigenous brothers and sisters.

There is much more work to be done. Since the 1990's, many of the Catholic entities responsible for the operation of residential schools have apologized publicly for their actions and have journeyed together with victims on the path to truth and reconciliation. This includes the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, the religious order that operated the residential school in Kamloops, which over the weekend again apologized for its role in the residential school system. Pope Benedict XVI also had the chance to meet with Indigenous leaders in 2009 to personally express his sorrow and anguish.

These actions do not erase our history; they acknowledge our past, force us to face the consequences of our behaviour and compel us to ensure that our sins are not repeated.

While the Archdiocese of Toronto did not operate residential schools, we join with the Indigenous peoples, the Catholic community and Canadians from coast to coast to coast in a period of collective grief for those who are physically, emotionally and spiritually wounded. This Sunday, I will offer Mass for those who died or were abused at residential schools and for all those who deal with the intergenerational trauma caused by this system. We must also continue to build on the tangible initiatives present throughout the country, like the Our Lady of Guadalupe Circle, where bishops and priests, women religious, laity and Indigenous peoples are committed to walking together on a path to reconciliation.

As I have stated previously when speaking of abuse in the Church, the real scandal is when evil festers in the darkness. Once in the open, evil can be rooted out. That must happen. Then new life can begin. Let us journey together to find light

through the darkness once again. Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, pray for us.

+ Thomas Card. Colling

Thomas Collins
Archbishop of Toronto



CONFÉRENCE DES ÉVÊQUES CATHOLIQUES DU CANADA CANADIAN CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

June 10, 2021

CCCB Statement Delegation to the Holy See

The Catholic Bishops in Canada have genuinely heard the sincere invitation to engage wholeheartedly with the past and are deeply committed to take truly meaningful active steps together with Indigenous Peoples in view of a future filled with greater respect and cooperation. The recent discovery of children's remains at a burial site of a former residential school in Kamloops, British Columbia remind us of a tragic legacy still felt today. With the strong encouragement of Pope Francis, the Bishops of Canada have pledged true and deep commitment to renewing and strengthening relationships with Indigenous Peoples across the land. In recent years, regional and diocesan listening circles have taken place across the country in order to hear the stories from local Indigenous communities and their hopes for the future. Mutual listening is the beginning of our common efforts to bring about shared and long-lasting reconciliation, authentic healing and bridge building.

In conversation with Indigenous people and communities, both at the local and national levels, and bilaterally with the First Nations, Métis and Inuit national organizations, the Bishops, sponsors of this project, have been preparing, for over two years now, a delegation of Indigenous people to meet with the Holy Father to foster meaningful encounters of dialogue and healing. This pastoral visit will include the participation of a diverse group of Elders/Knowledge Keepers, residential school survivors and youth from across the country. The event will likewise provide Pope Francis with a unique opportunity to hear directly from Indigenous Peoples, express his heartfelt closeness, address the impact of colonization and the implication of the Church in the residential schools, so as to respond to the suffering of Indigenous Peoples and the ongoing effects of intergenerational trauma.

The global pandemic caused by COVID-19 has stalled this project; however, the Bishops remain committed to moving forward with the delegation prior to the end of 2021, in compliance with international travel guidelines.

The delegation to the Holy See represents an important step on the journey of reconciliation and shared healing for Indigenous Peoples and the Church in Canada. Pope Francis, in his 6 June 2021 Angelus message, spoke about the

shocking discovery of children's remains at the former Kamloops residential school and, while conveying sorrow and solidarity, emphasized the importance of "walking side by side in dialogue and in mutual respect in the recognition of the rights and cultural values of all the sons and daughters of Canada". It is our hope that these forthcoming encounters and the important collaboration and partnership that has supported the planning – will lead to a shared future of peace and harmony between Indigenous Peoples and the Catholic Church in Canada.

May 31, 2021

brought to light.

Statement from the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops following the recent discovery at the former Kamloops Indian Residential School on the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc First Nation

On behalf of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB), I express our deepest sorrow for the heartrending loss of the children at the former Kamloops Indian Residential School on the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc First Nation. The news of the recent discovery is shocking. It rekindles trauma in numerous communities across this land. Honouring the dignity of the lost little ones demands that the truth be

This tragedy profoundly impacts Indigenous communities, with whom many people across this land and throughout the world now stand in solidarity.

As we see ever more clearly the pain and suffering of the past, the Bishops of Canada pledge to continue walking side by side with Indigenous Peoples in the present, seeking greater healing and reconciliation for the future.

We lift up prayers to the Lord for the children who have lost their lives and pledge our close accompaniment of Indigenous families and communities.

May our Creator God bless all of us with consolation and hope.

> + Richard Gagnon Archbishop of Winnipeg and President of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS REGARDING **RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS – JUNE 2021**

There has been considerable media coverage and discussion in recent days following the discovery of children's remains at the former residential school in Kamloops, British Columbia. The discovery has reopened a painful wound for many in our country and has identified the need for all Canadians to learn more about our history, the role of



residential schools as part of that journey and to seek the

truth regarding all those who suffered and continue to do so to this day.

The abuse of Indigenous peoples is a dark chapter in the history of Canada and the Catholic Church. While the Church has cared for and served Indigenous people in many ways, it is undeniable that some members of the Church undermined the dignity of First Nations people. There is evidence that much of this abuse occurred at residential schools, which were largely operated by Christian denominations.

This communication is intended to provide some context and address some frequently asked questions about this important issue. We must all join in the collective efforts on the path to healing and reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.

1. I am deeply troubled by the discovery of children's remains in Kamloops on the site of a former residential school. Who operated the school?

The discovery of 215 unmarked graves in late May 2021 will require further investigation to help seek the truth of who these children were, how they died and how they were buried so far from home. The school was built and initially operated by the federal government, opening in 1890. In 1892, the federal government asked a Catholic order, the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate, to take over operations, which they did until 1969. The federal government resumed operations of the school from 1969 until its closure in 1979.

The religious order issued a formal apology in 1991 in addition to paying settlements to residential school survivors. An excerpt of the apology reads as follows: "We wish to apologize in a very particular way for the instances of physical and sexual abuse that occurred in those schools...Far from attempting to defend or rationalize these cases of abuse in any way, we wish to state publicly that we acknowledge they were inexcusable, intolerable and a betrayal of trust in one of its most serious forms. We deeply and very specifically, apologize to every victim of such abuse and we seek help in searching for means to bring

2. Is the Catholic Church assisting with the efforts to seek the truth in Kamloops and elsewhere?

about healing."

Father Ken Thorson, current Superior of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate, has reached out to the Tk'emlups te Secwépemc Chief Rosanne Casimir to offer assistance and to express sympathies following the discovery of the remains of 215 children on the grounds of the former school. Father Thorson has communicated that records from the Kamloops Indian Residential School are with the Royal British Columbia Museum and has indicated the order will assist in sharing any information regarding records at this and other locations where the order operated schools.

Among the groups of dioceses and religious communities that operated residential schools, there is a spirit of cooperation with Indigenous peoples with regards to personal records and information relating to the former schools. At the same time, there are also privacy rights, including those of Indigenous peoples who attended these schools, which need to be taken into consideration on a case by case basis.

3. Why aren't we hearing an apology from the Catholic Church in Canada?

There is no such entity as the Catholic Church of Canada. Each Catholic diocese and religious order is an independent legal entity. Despite this reality, in 1991,

Canadian Catholic Bishops, along with leaders of men and women religious communities, issued a statement that "We are sorry and deeply regret the pain, suffering and alienation that so many experienced" at residential schools.

Approximately 16 out of 70 Roman Catholic dioceses in Canada were associated with the former residential schools, in addition to about three dozen out of over one hundred Catholic institutes (commonly referred to as religious orders). Each diocese and institute is corporately and legally

Many of the dioceses or orders operating schools have offered apologies, dating back to the early 1990s. In recent days, many bishops throughout Canada have offered statements and introduced other initiatives to continue our ongoing path to truth and reconciliation.

responsible for its own actions.

A listing of some of the numerous apologies and other resources can be found at:

www.cccb.ca/indigenouspeoples/indian-residential-schools-andtrc/

4. Did the Archdiocese of Toronto operate residential schools?

The Archdiocese of Toronto did not operate residential schools yet we share the collective grief and sorrow as the result of any representative of the Catholic Church inflicting pain or abuse on an individual, especially vulnerable children.

5. Have Indigenous leaders met with the Pope?

Yes, in 2009, the National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations, Phil Fontaine, along with other Indigenous representatives, had a moving encounter with Pope Benedict XVI at the Vatican. In describing the meeting, Chief Fontaine told the media he hoped the expression of regret would "close the book" on the issue of apologies for residential school survivors.

Another attendee at the meeting with Pope Benedict, Edward John, Grand Chief of the First Nations Summit in British Columbia, said the Pope acknowledged the suffering of those who are still living with the effects of their experiences

at the schools. In comments to the media he said, "I think in that sense, there was that apology that we were certainly looking for."

The Catholic Church continues to work alongside and with Indigenous communities in order to foster an ongoing culture of reconciliation. There have been, and continue to be, numerous initiatives by Catholic dioceses, institutes and organizations throughout Canada to assist with support the ongoing healing and reconciliation journey.

6. I understand there was a formal request in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission report for the Pope to personally apologize in Canada?

The Holy Father has already been invited to Canada by the present and previous Prime Minister. The Catholic Bishops of Canada, including the current and past Presidents of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, have assured the Pope they would joyfully and gratefully welcome him in a visit to Canada. Likewise, in a number of instances, Canadian Bishops, individually and collectively, have formally invited Pope Francis to visit, including with specific reference to Call to Action #58 (a recommendation of the 2015 Truth & Reconciliation Commission asking the Holy Father to apologize on Canadian soil within one year of the report being issued).

Pope Francis has encouraged the Bishops to continue taking leadership and assuming their proper role in pursuing their pastoral engagement and reconciliation efforts with Indigenous peoples, including ongoing conversations among the Bishops and Elders. This work builds on past apologies, dialogue and the desire to move forward together.

A formal papal visit involves a number of steps from both government and church leadership as well as significant logistical, financial commitments and other considerations. No papal visit has been publicly announced at this time.

7. Will the Catholic Church pay financial reparations to those harmed by residential schools?

The Catholic entities that operated residential schools were part of the 2006 Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement (IRSSA).

The Holy See and the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops were never involved in running the former schools. The "Roman Catholic Entities" named as parties in the IRSSA were legally deemed to have fulfilled the requirements of the settlement agreement by a judicial review. Following this review, the former Conservative government released the entities from further obligations — a decision which the present Liberal government did not appeal.

The 50 or so individual entities which signed the IRSSA paid: i. **\$29** million in cash (less legal costs);

ii. more than the required \$25 million of "in-kind" contributions; and

iii. an additional \$3.7 million from a "best efforts" campaign.

Those same entities, together with other dioceses, institutes and national Catholic organizations, continue to be involved in efforts across the country to provide inkind contributions, which go well beyond the scope of the Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement.

8. Where can I find additional resources?

Our Lady of Guadalupe Circle is a Catholic coalition of Indigenous people, bishops, lay movements, clergy and institutes of consecrated life, engaged in renewing and fostering relationships between the Catholic Church and Indigenous Peoples in Canada. For more information visit: www.ourladyofguadalupecircle.ca

REMAIN IN MY LOVE BY PAT MARRIN

"Remain in me, as I remain in you" (John 15:4).

1 John 3:19-24: John 15:1-8

The image of the vine and the branches provides multiple references to the organic growth and intimate union with Jesus that is the source of the vitality of the church. It conveys well St. Paul's central idea of the church as the body of Christ, a living communion of the baptized with one another and with the crucified and risen Christ in the world. The metaphor covers many aspects of the Christian life as something cultivated, pruned to maximize productivity, open to ecumenical grafting and, in the end, directed to joy, the new wine of love in the vineyard of the Lord.

One verb repeated often in the fourth Gospel is "to remain." The first disciples who followed Jesus home remained with him. Their growth and maturity required that they follow him and know him from the exuberant first days of discipleship in Galilee, then through the confusion and suffering of his journey to Jerusalem and apparent failure, and finally through the mystery of his death and resurrection. Just as the branch may take years to produce grapes, so the disciple must remain on the vine through seasons of growth to show results.

The author of 1 John anticipated the challenges of remaining faithful, especially from loss of confidence or even self-rejection for failing to live the ideals of union with Christ. Even if our conscience condemns us, God is greater than our conscience and sustains us in mercy and unconditional love. How discouraged the early

missionaries, including St, Paul, must have been by the controversies and attacks they suffered from within and without. Yet they pressed on, remained in the love Jesus had poured out on them even when they were sinners. The history of the church is a miracle of mercy and a message of mercy to an obstinate and sinful world.

Dorothy Day often said that the goal of the Catholic Worker was not success but remaining faithful. God alone can produce abundant fruit through us if we stay on the vine, even if we do not feel successful or see progress on our own terms. How many reformers endured rejection and silencing in the decades before the Second Vatican Council, only to emerge as its architects? How many modern-day martyrs, both physical and spiritual, saw their lives and work cut short, only to bear fruit in God's time?

Intimacy with Christ is the one thing necessary, the contemplative source of all genuine results that build up the body of Christ. A single mature Christian positioned within a faithful community of disciples can inspire everyone in the full use of their gifts to produce astonishing results. God is the patient gardener who finds and nourishes such holiness. We can all experience it if we remain on the vine of God's love in Christ Jesus.

From: National Catholic Reporter

THE FARMER AND THE LITTLE BOY

A farmer had some puppies he needed to sell. He painted a sign advertising the 4 pups and set about nailing it to a post on the edge of his yard.

As he was driving the last nail into the post, he felt a tug on his overalls.

He looked down into the eyes of a little boy.

"Mister," he said, "I want to buy one of your puppies."

"Well," said the farmer, as he rubbed the sweat off the back of his neck, "These puppies come from fine parents and cost a good deal of money."

The boy dropped his head for a moment. Then reaching deep into his pocket, he pulled out handful of change and help it up to the farmer.

"I've got thirty-nine cents. Is that enough to take a look?"

"Sure," said the farmer. And with that he let out a whistle. "Here, Dolly!" he called.

Out from the doghouse and down the ramp ran Dolly followed by four little balls of fur.

The little boy pressed his face against the chain link fence.

His eyes danced with delight.

As the dogs made their way to the fence, the little boy noticed something else stirring inside the doghouse. Slowly another little ball appeared this one noticeable smaller.

Down the ramp it slips, Then in a somewhat awkward manner, the little pup began hobbling toward the others, doing its best to catch up...

"I want that one," the little boy said, pointing to the runt.

The farmer knelt down at the boy's side and said, "son, you don't want that puppy. He will never be able to run and play with you like these other dogs would." With that, the little boy stepped back from the fence, reached down, and began rolling up one leg of his trousers.

In doing so, he revealed a steel brace running down both sides of his leg attaching itself to a specially made shoe

Looking back up at the farmer, he said, "You see sir, I don't run too well myself, and he will need someone who understands."

With tears in his eyes, the farmer reached down and picked up the little pup.

Holding it carefully, he handed it to the little boy. "How much?" asked the little boy... "No charge," answered the farmer, "There's no charge for love." The world is full of people who need someone who understands.

ONGOING DIRECTIVES

The parish office is closed to the public – limited essential appointments only. Please contact us by phone only on: Monday, Tuesday, Friday 9:00am – 12noon, 1:00pm – 4:00pm or any day by e-mail at stmargaretofscotland@archtoronto.org

2. **UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION**

Obviously due to the present restrictions, it becomes even more important to have the e-mail addresses of as many parishioners as possible. If you or you know anyone who may not have already informed the parish office of your e-mail address, we strongly encourage you to contact the parish office during the above scheduled times!

- 3. Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) by appointment only
- 4. <u>The Church dispensation</u> from attending Sunday Eucharist, for all the faithful, who are unable to

attend Sunday Mass, continues throughout the covid-19 pandemic.

LET'S KEEP IN TOUCH!

We will continue to update you as the situation evolves, via our website and parish blast. We pray that you and your loved ones remain safe and healthy. May God continue to bless you now and always!

NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS & WEBSITE

We encourage you to visit and explore our new website. stmargaretofscotland.archtoronto.org

NEW E-MAIL

stmargaretofscotland@archtoronto.org

Our new website, aside from being aesthetically pleasing, is more interactive, AODA compliant and is easier to navigate. We are excited of the new experience, but we know there's still work to do. In the coming months, we hope to continue improving the site that it best serves how we communicate with you.

CHUCKLES FROM THE PEWS

Senior Driver

Sitting by the side of the highway waiting to catch speeding drivers, an OPP police officer sees a car puttering along at 27 km/h.

Says he to himself: "This driver is just as dangerous as a speeder!" So he turns on his lights and pulls the driver over. Approaching the car, he notices that there are five elderly ladies, two in the front seat and three in the back, wide eyed and white as ghost.

The driver, obviously confused, says to him "Officer, I don't understand, I was doing exactly the speed limit! What seems to be the problem?"

"Ma'am," the officer replies, "You weren't speeding, but you should know that driving slower than the speed limit can also be a danger to other drivers."

"Slower than the speed limit? No sir, I was doing the speed limit exactly... twenty-seven kilometres an hour! ... The elderly woman says a bit proudly.

The police office, trying to contain a chuckle, explains to her that 27 is the highway number, not the speed limit.

A bit embarrassed, the woman grins and thanks the officer for pointing out her error.

"But before I let you go, Ma'am, I have to ask... is everyone in this car OK?"

"These women seem awfully shaken, and they haven't made a peep this whole time," the office asks.

"Oh, they'll be all right in a minute, officer. We just go off highway 169."