THOUGHTS FOR SOWING

NEVER ALONE

But I am not alone, because the Father is with me. I have told you this so that you might have peace in me.

John 16:32-33

Jesus knew most of his followers would scatter when it mattered most, afraid to be seen with him because their own lives could be at risk. He knew he would be isolated. And that is a feeling with which we as humans are all too familiar. Perhaps the person we loved most in the world has died, or a trusted friend had betrayed us, or we feel misled by someone who provided what we thought was good advice. We guard our hearts rather than trusting again and feel so alone.

That feeling is understandable. Others will always let us down, often unintentionally. But their failings – and our own – need not rob us of the peace that surpasses all understanding. Jesus held on to that peace, offering prayers to God even as he breathed his last. He showed us we are never truly alone, and no one can snatch peace from us.

How can you find peace today in a situation that threatens to isolate you?

Melanie Rigney

From: **LIVING FAITH**

LOOKING AHEAD

* Please refer to special notice: "Update on Pandemic Restrictions"

Sun. May 30 FEAST OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

Bundle Up Sunday for SVDP at St. Margaret's (see special notice)

Sun. June 6 FEAST OF THE MOST HOLY BODY AND **BLOOD OF CHRIST (CORPUS CHRISTI)**

Tues. June 8 Congratulations to our Deacon Robert Kinghorn, on the 36th Anniversary of his ordination to the Diaconate for the Archdiocese.

Fri. June 11 FEAST OF THE MOST SACRED HEART OF **JESUS**

Sun. June 13 11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sun. June 20 12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY to all our Fathers!

Sun. June 27 13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

UPDATE ON PANDEMIC RESTRICTIONS

Please note this now information, following the Ontario Government's announcement: "Reopening Road Map" issued on May 27th.

- A. The "Stay-at-Home" Order remains in effect until Wed. June 2nd
- B. There will be **3 Steps** to this process:
 - June 14th July 4th
 July 5th July 25th
 July 26th TBA
- C. What this means for the parish:
 - 1. There will be no public Masses celebrated, on weekends or weekdays, at St. Margaret's or St. Eugene's Chapel until Step #2 begins in July 5th.
 - 2. Starting on Thurs. June 3rd, St. Margaret's will be open for Personal Prayer, Monday - Friday, 9:30am - 3:00pm. This is for all parishioners, from St. Margaret's & St. Eugene's.
- D. Please know that the elderly, those with compromised immune systems or other health conditions should be strongly encouraged to remain home. The dispensation from the Sunday Eucharist remains. A full list of livestream services can be accessed at: www.archtoronto.org

GREAT APPRECIATION FOR GENEROUS PLANNING

Recently we have had two former parishioners leave a gift to the parish through their estates.

We recognize and thank:

MARGARET ANNE STINSON HELEN LORRAINE McALLISTER

For including the needs of our parish in their estate planning. These two recent generous gifts are especially helpful, since we are experiencing such a desperate shortage in our parish revenue, due to this ongoing pandemic crisis.

We thank these two ladies, who made many contributions to the parish over the years, and now, through their estate planning. Like many who have gone before them, Margaret Anne and Helen, now join in, as Benefactors, who we will continue to remember in our prayers, as the faith community of St. Margaret of Scotland.



A St. Vincent de Paul truck will be in the church parking lot so please share what you can with those less fortunate. We will donate & sell these donations to support our outreach efforts. The truck will be open all day Saturday and all day Sunday until 4:00pm.

ORDINARY TIME

In his Apostolic Letter approving the Roman Calendar (14 February 1969), St. Paul VI noted some important facts about the Liturgical Year:

- Over many centuries, Catholics had become accustomed to so many special religious devotions that the mysteries of redemption lost their proper place. This was due to the large number of vigils, holydays and octaves, and to the growing dominance of various seasons over the Church year;
- St. Pius X and St. John XXIII restored Sunday to its former dignity, so that everyone should once more consider it as the Church's original Feast Day;
- The Popes restated the traditional teaching of the Church: The celebration of the Liturgical Year has a special sacramental power and force which nourishes and strengthens the life of Christians. The Church year is not merely a recalling of the historical events by which Christ won our salvations;
- The reason for the restoration of the Liturgical Year is to help believers through their faith, hope and love to share more fully in the entire mystery of Christ as it is unfolding throughout the year.

SHARELIFE CAMPAIGN 2021

Living the Gospel by providing for those in need

Rose of Sharon is an agency you support through ShareLife. It provides support and educational services to almost 300 young mothers each year.

Deanne Kukulewich is the Executive Director at Rose of Sharon. She says, "COVID-19 has forced many young single mothers into seclusion, not for themselves, but to protect their babies, or unborn infants. Through generous donors like you who support ShareLife, young mothers can receive weekly support. Your donations help the Rose of Sharon Services for Young Mothers to provide counselling services to help young women and their families cope through these uncertain times."

When you give to ShareLife, you support more than 40 agencies doing vital work that is truly living the Gospel message.

Thank you for "living the Gospel" through our parish ShareLife campaign. If you have not contributed to date, please consider doing so. 2nd Installment June 19th & 20th

<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 <u>sharelife.org</u> please give generously.

2021 YTD \$18,774 Goal \$150,000

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

SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

1st Reading: Deuteronomy 4.32-34, 39-40

2nd Reading: Romans 8.14-17

Gospel: Matthew 28.16-20 - The Commissioning of the Disciples

Signing Ourselves with the Trinity

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity. The Catechism says that the "mystery of the Most Holy Trinity is the central mystery of Christian faith and life ... It is therefore the source of all the other mysteries of faith" (CCC 234). As Christians, we profess the mystery of the Trinity every time we make the sign of the cross, in the name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

The practice of signing ourselves with the cross is an ancient tradition that likely dates back to the time of the Apostles. Around the year 200, Tertullian wrote that "we Christians wear out our foreheads with the sign of the cross." By signing ourselves, we are joining the countless saints that have gone before us. We can be a witness to the world whenever we sign ourselves in public. For example, the next time we eat in public let us strive to make the sign of the cross as we pray our grace before meals.

Additionally, often times the sign of the cross is the quickest prayer we can muster in times of great stress. St. Francis de Sales, Doctor of the Church, recommends that we "make spiritual aspirations to God by short, ardent movements of [our] hearts." We can do this by invoking all three persons of the Trinity and marking ourselves with the cross, which is the sign of our salvation.

Therefore, the next time we experience a difficult moment let us not despair but boldly make the sign of the cross. This will allow us to continually raise up our minds and hearts to the Blessed Trinity, the greatest mystery of our faith.

Summary

Today is the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity which we profess every time we make the sign of the cross saying "in the name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit." St. Francis de Sales recommends that we "make spiritual aspirations to God by short, ardent movements of [our] hearts." Therefore, the next time we experience a difficult moment in our lives or ministries, let us not despair but boldly invoke all three persons of the Trinity and make the sign of the cross.

From: **STEWARDSHIP**

HUMANITARIAN RELIEF – India's COVID-19 Outbreak

India is reeling from a devastating COVID-19 outbreak. In recent days, the country has been reporting more than 400,000 of new cases and 4,000 deaths every 24 hours. International observers expect that the actual numbers are significantly higher. The medical system, funeral services and other social supports are unable to meet the country's needs at this time.

In response to numerous inquiries from parishioners and clergy, we are providing information for those who may wish to contribute to relief efforts to assist the people of India.

The Archdiocese of Toronto will send donations through **Development and Peace to Caritas Internationalis**, an international confederation of Catholic humanitarian organizations that is already in India helping those who are suffering during this COVID-19 outbreak.

Since the pandemic began, India's Catholic Church, acting principally through Caritas India, has been supporting some of the most disadvantaged groups, such as those with inadequate housing, migrant labourers, persons with special needs and widows. Relief services and materials provided by the Church, or with its support, include:

- Food at kitchens and distribution centres in slums, at migration transit points, etc.
- Masks, sanitizers and hygiene kits to vulnerable communities
- Psychosocial support and hotline services to traumatized and grieving people
- Public education campaigns on infection prevention and vaccination
- Supporting the public healthcare system, including donating expertise, facilities and equipment from Church-run clinics and hospitals

To learn more about Caritas' work in India, please watch this video: http://bit.ly/CaritasIndiaRelief

Those wishing to help may do so in the following ways:

- Online through the Archdiocese of Toronto website: www.archtoronto.org
- By phone through the Development Office 416-934-3411
- Through the parish, making cheques payable to:

Name of Parish – India's COVID-19 Outbreak – Disaster Relief

Please continue to pray for the people of India and all those who are suffering from COVID-19 worldwide. Thank you for your continued assistance.

CHURCH BULLETIN ADVERTISING

Liturgical Publications will be setting up the advertisements for our church bulletin. The advertising will begin in May 2021 & supports the bulletin service. Call Liturgical Publications at 905-624-4422

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 MAY 23, 2021

Offertory \$640 PAG \$925 Budget \$8,300 (\$6,735)

ONGOING DIRECTIVES

1. The parish office is closed to the public. Please contact us by phone only on: Monday, Tuesday, Friday 9:00am – 12noon, 1:00pm – 4:00pm or any day by e-mail at st.marg@sympatico.ca

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. <u>Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)</u> by appointment only
- 4. The Church dispensation 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 EFFECTIVE JUNE 31, 2021

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.

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 a 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 dynamiccatholic.com

POPE FRANCIS PROCLAIMS "YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH" <u>December</u> 8, 2000 – December 8, 2021

Message of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops on the occasion of the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker 1 May 2021

The Feast of St. Joseph the Worker was instituted by Pope Pius XII in 1955 to celebrate Joseph, the patron saint of workers on 1 May each year. We learn from the Gospel of Matthew (Mt 13:55-56) that St. Joseph was a carpenter. As a worker, St. Joseph would have been gifted in his craft but dependent on others for work that would help him meet the basic needs of his family.

Since 1891, when Pope Leo XIII issued the Encyclical Letter *Rerum Novarum* in response to injustices to workers that arose during the industrial revolution, the Church has stated that the right to work, and the rights of workers, must be maintained and strengthened no matter the nature of the work or the stature of the worker. *The Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church* identifies work as a human right that enhances dignity, sustains families, and contributes to the common good of society. Work allows the individual to share his or her gifts, cooperate with others for the building up of society, and participate in God's work of Creation.

Of late, amid the Covid-19 pandemic, Canadians have become acutely aware that despite labour laws that protect workers, there remain many inequities and indeed numerous difficult working conditions for many of our brothers and sisters. We find this particularly prevalent among those deemed "essential workers," such as grocery store clerks, restaurant workers, factory employees, distribution centre workers, gas station operators, health care workers, educators, and migrants who labour in the farming industry – to name only a few. "Essential workers" do not have the option of working from home. Many of these workers do not have access to paid sick leave. Some who need to stay home face consequences such as loss of pay, a lay-off, or even dismissal. Many do not have adequate health benefits that would assist them in purchasing medicine and other supplies. This, combined with the fear of contracting Covid-19 at work and spreading it to their families, makes the situation untenable. Even if "essential workers" are not sick, when schools are closed, and children must learn virtually, access to

affordable day-care is not always available. The parent is left to choose between care and supervision of their children and their jobs. This is a choice that no one should have to make. Furthermore, it must not be lost on us that many of our brothers and sisters here in Canada do not have equitable access to just remuneration, to living wages, paid sick leave and adequate child care. Collectively, we must heed Pope Francis' call to "review our priorities" and advocate for justice for all workers, especially those identified as essential. Work is essential for the life of an individual and of the community.

Another sobering effect of the Covid-19 pandemic has been the reality of increased unemployment in Canada. This is particularly true for women and youth. Many youths rely on the money they make during the summer and throughout the school year to offset the costs associated with post-secondary education. This lack of income has left many in a state of uncertainty and created mounting obstacles to continue post-secondary education. Those who graduated from college or university in 2020 find themselves without work in their field of study, stalling their life plans.

As we continue to celebrate the Year of St. Joseph, we are reminded of the words of Pope Francis in his Apostolic Letter *Patris Corde*, where he writes:

Saint Joseph's work reminds us that God himself, in becoming man, did not disdain work. The loss of employment that affects so many of our brothers and sisters, and has increased as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, should serve as a summons to review our priorities. Let us implore Saint Joseph the Worker to help us find ways to express our firm conviction that no young person, no person at all, no family should be without work!

St. Joseph, patron saint of workers, pray for us! St. Joseph, patron saint of Canada, pray for us!

BARNABAS AND PAUL BY PAT MARRIN

"The hand of the Lord was with them" (Acts 11:21).

Acts 11:19-26

When news came to Jerusalem that gentiles were being welcomed into the church at Antioch, leaders sent Barnabas to investigate, and he found an outpouring of the Holy Spirit there.



He then went on to Tarsus and found Saul, who, according to some biographers, had retreated there for 10 years after his first visit to Jerusalem after his conversion and time in Arabia absorbing his encounter with Jesus on the road to Damascus.

The mother church in Jerusalem may have been less than receptive to Saul at first but remembered him when the Spirit began to move so powerfully among the gentiles, and Barnabas was sent to find him. This decision changed the future of the church by validating the conversion of the great evangelist to the gentiles, who became Paul and began the first of three missionary journeys that expanded membership in the church throughout Asia Minor and into the Mediterranean world centered in Rome.

The Holy Spirit, as Jesus describes her in the fourth Gospel, moves like the wind, going freely beyond boundaries and institutional attempts to contain and control the Mystery of God with doctrine or religious and cultural bias, intellectual systems and rules. The church came to be not by human design but by the will of the Lord of history, bringing it forth as the birth of new hope. How fitting that Paul, who described himself as "untimely born" a surprise rebirth so radical it took him a lifetime to unpack its implications, was chosen to draw the church into the same encounter with the crucified and risen Jesu he had experienced.

Barnabas, "a good man, and filled with the Holy Spirit and faith," later had a falling out with Paul, but he fulfilled the meaning of evangelization when he searched for and brought Saul into the community. Even in Paul's shadow, Barnabas is one of the early church's greatest saints and a model for us. Pope Francis has said that the church grows not by apologetics but by attracting others with holiness and joy, the best argument for Christianity. With Paul and Barnabas ministering in Antioch for a whole year, the community grew rapidly as outsiders, Jew and gentile, saw the love overflowing among these followers of Jesus, first called "Christians" in that city.

From: National Catholic Reporter

BEAUTIFUL FEET BY PAT MARRIN

"If you understand this, blessed are you if you do it" (John 13:18).

John 13:16-20

If you have maps that track Paul's missionary journeys, you will see the three loops he made up into Asia Minor

and Greece and back to Jerusalem, then the final journey in captivity that took him across the Mediterranean and all the way to Rome. Along with the sea voyages, Paul is estimated to have traveled over 10,000 miles on foot to preach the Gospel and pastor the communities he founded.

When Jesus chose foot washing as the final lesson in humility to his disciples, he may have had in mind the distances they would travel to share the Gospel. The line from Isaiah 52:7: "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of those who brings good news," may have been a joke among Paul's companions, but at least they had the benefit of the network of Roman roads to travel on. All of the Apostles were to take up the message from their master, whose feet were nailed to a cross by Rome to stop his revolution, and they brought that revolution to the very heart of the empire.

Today's Gospel passage reminds us that Jesus' mission first had to survive betrayal, denial and abandonment by his own followers. After he washed their feet, including those of Judas, Jesus brought home the importance of this astonishing act. He was their master, yet he performed for them the basest task of the lowliest household slave. Lest they take this as only a gesture or symbol, he then said to them, "If you understand this, blessed are you if you do it."

Liturgy challenges us to see beyond the rituals to the realities we are to put into action. The Mass and the Eucharist are incomplete if we do not take them into our lives and act on them. The breaking of the bread, like the washing of feet, is our celebration of the death of the Lord. He humbled himself, becoming a servant. He laid down his life for us. For Paul, the most stunning aspect of his conversion, what fueled his determination to live out the rest of his life in service of the Gospel, was the realization that the Jesus he was persecuting in his followers was the crucified Christ. The Lord who seized him with love and sent him to preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth had laid down his life for him.

The Easter season extends to Pentecost and invites us to ponder these mysteries in prayer and in the daily readings. But even more, we are being drawn into a lifechanging conversion that leads to an encounter with the crucified and risen Christ. The Holy Spirit seeks a home in our minds and hearts. Blessed are we when that same Spirit reaches to our feet and sends us to share the Gospel in service.

From: National Catholic Reporter

THIS IS A KEEPER

I grew up with practical parents. A mother, God love her, who washed aluminum foil after she cooked in it, then reused it. She was the original recycle queen before they had a name for it. A father who was happier getting old shoes fixed than buying new ones. Their marriage was good, their dreams focused. Their best friends lived barely a wave away.

I can see them now, Dad in trousers, tee shirt and a hat and Mom in a house dress, lawn mower in one hand, and dishtowel in the other. It was the time for fixing things A curtain rod, the kitchen radio, screen door, the oven door, the hem in a dress. Things we keep.

It was a way of life, and sometimes it made me crazy. All that re-fixing, eating, renewing, I wanted just once to be wasteful. Waste meant affluence. Throwing things away meant you knew there'd always be more but then my mother died, and on that clear summer's night, in the warmth of the hospital room, I was struck with the pain of learning that sometimes there isn't any more.

Sometimes, what we care about most gets all used up and goes away ... never to return. So ... While we have it ... it's best we love it ... And care for it ... And fix it when it's broken ... And heal it when it's sick.

This is true. For marriage ... And old cars ... And children with bad report cards ... And dogs with bad hips ... And aging parents ... And grandparents. We keep them because they are worth it, because we are worth it.

Some things we keep. Like a best friend that moved away or a classmate we grew up with.

There are just some things that make life important, like people we know who are special ... And so, we keep them close!

Good friends are like stars ... You don't always see them, but you know they are always there. Keep them close!

HOPE AND WORRY BY MELANNIE SVOBODA SND

The other day I was reflecting on some of the differences between Hope and Worry. Here's what I came up with.

Hope believes a better world is possible... Worry believes the world is getting worse.

Hope asks, How can I help?... Worry asks, What's the use? Hope trusts in God... Worry trusts in nothing.

Hope is afraid, but takes the next first step... Worry is afraid and just sits there.

Hope knows God is always with us... Worry thinks God has abandoned us.

Hope says, I am only one, but I can do something.... Worry says, I am only one.

Hope evokes courage... Worry evokes timidity. Hope energizes... Worry enervates.

Hope hangs on to Jesus' promises... Worry asks, "What promises?"

Hope is joyful... Worry is cynical.

Hope says, "Hang in there."... Worry says, "Give up already." Hope seeks out other hopeful companions... Worry hangs out with other worriers.

> Hope asks, What can I do? ... Worry worries. Hope makes decisions... Worry worries. Hope works hard... Worry worries. Hope prays... Worry worries.



CHUCKLES FROM THE PEWS

Archdiocese

Lockdown Truths (Part 1)

- It's been a great blessing to be at home with the wife these last few months. We've caught up on everything I've done wrong in the last 20 years.
- Struck up a conversation with a spider today. Seems nice. He's a Web Designer.
- Just wait a second, so what you're telling me, is that, my chance of surviving all this, is directly linked to, the common sense of others?
- After my third week at home, the dog started looking at me like, "See, this is why I chew the furniture."
- Whoever decided liquor store is more essential than a hair salon, is obviously, a bald headed alcoholic.