#### **THOUGHTS FOR SOWING**

#### WHAT GOD USES FOR HIS GLORY

I will rather boast most gladly of my weaknesses, in order that the power of Christ may dwell with me.

2 Corinthians 12:9

There's a squirrel that's been hopping around our house for a while. He caught my eye because he only has a stump of a tail. This clearly makes a difference in his movement. His jumps are shorter, less like floating, and he lands more forcefully on the ground. He's not nearly as grateful as his kin.

The squirrel doesn't know how his movement is impacted by this limitation. I have countless limitations too, or "thorns in the flesh," as Paul describes his own. I know about some of these weaknesses, and others I probably bear like the squirrel with the stumpy tail, unaware of how they impact me.

The squirrel has adapted. I can too, but I can do even more. I can give the broken, stumpy parts of me – hidden or known that seem to keep me close to the ground – and let God use them, trusting that he will for his glory.

Lord, let your power work through my weakness.

Amy Welborn From: LIVING FAITH

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

1) "THIS IS KEEPER"

Please hold on to this Bulletin since it will be the last until Sunday August 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be handy if you need to refer to any information or phone numbers listed on the front during the weeks of July and August.

2) PARISH OFFICE SUMMER HOURS Effective Aug. 10th Monday to Thursday 9am – 12nn, 1pm-5pm Friday 9am – 12nn, 1pm-4pm Saturday & Sunday - CLOSED

#### **IMPORTANT NEWS FOR ST. EUGENE'S CHAPEL**

It was our hope to welcome **FR. LUI SANTI**, C.PP.S this weekend, as our new Associate Pastor who would be ministering at St. Eugene's Chapel.

Unfortunately, Fr. Lui has developed some medical concerns and will not be able to assist us, until a later date. However, until Fr. Lui joins us, other priests from the Precious Blood Fathers will be assuming the duties at St. Eugene's.

We thank **FR. MARIO CAFARELLI**, C.PP.S and his confreres, who you will be seeing at St. Eugene's in the coming weeks, for their service.

NB Due to extenuating circumstances and limited priestly availability, there will be only the Weekend Mass Schedule, NO Weekday Masses at St. Eugene's Chapel until the present circumstances can be stabilized. Again, our thanks to the Precious Blood Fathers who are assisting us with these temporary arrangements. Please give a warm welcome to Fr. Mario and his team.

#### **MASS INTENTIONS**

Monday, July 5<sup>th</sup> – 8:20am

For the Protection of Unborn Children

Requested by Tellis family

Requested by the Family

Thursday, July 8<sup>th</sup> – 8:20am MARGIE POSLUNS

Requested by Chris Bienkowski

Requested by Emma & Vito

# **LOOKING AHEAD**

Sun. July 4 14<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Homilist: Fr. Andy Macbeth

Sun. July 11 15<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Guest homilist: Fr. Michael Lehman, CSB

Sun. July 18 16<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Guest homilist: Fr. Ed Eherer, C.Ss.R.

Sun. July 25 17<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Homilist: Deacon Robert Kinghorn

\* WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS & ELDERLY

"I Am with you always" Matt 28:20

Fri. July 30 3:00pm Parish Office Closed

Sun. Aug. 1 18<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Guest homilist: Fr. Michael Lehman, CSB

Mon. Aug. 2 CIVIC HOLIDAY

8:20am Mass at St. Margaret's

• Parish Office Closed for holiday

Sun. Aug. 8 19<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Homilist: Deacon Robert Kinghorn

Tues. Aug. 10 PARISH OFFICE RESUMES regular
SUMMER HOURS

Sun. Aug. 15 FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Homilist: Deacon Robert Kinghorn

 ANNUAL COLLECTION for "THE CATHOLIC MISSION IN CANADA"

Wed. Aug. 18 ANNUAL MASS FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

7:00pm Livestream Mass from St. Michael Cathedral \*see special notice

Sun. Aug. 22 21<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Homilist: Fr. Andy Macbeth

Sun. Aug. 29 22<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Guest homilist: Fr. Michael Lehman, CSB

#### ANNUAL MASS FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Due to the protocol surrounding COVID-19, this year's Annual Mass for the Faithful Departed has unfortunately been cancelled at our seven Catholic Cemeteries.

His Eminence Thomas Collins, Archbishop of Toronto, will celebrate and livestream a special Mass in honour of our faithful departed on Wednesday, August 18, at 7 p.m. at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica. the Mass can be viewed here: www.stmichaelscathedral.com/live

Thank you for your ongoing support of Catholic Cemeteries & Funeral Services and for your continued prayers.

### 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 27, 2021** 

Offertory \$4,231 PAG \$925 Budget \$8,300 (\$3,144)

### **PARISH DONATION ENVELOPES**

The following envelope numbers have not been properly identified with parishioners' information. If you see your envelope number listed please call the office at 416-485-7781. Thank you.

**Envelope numbers: 121, 183, 1222** 

#### Friendly Reminders!

- 1) When you use the envelope for the first time write your complete name and address on the **first three** envelopes.
- 2) Do not use past years (2019 & 2020) envelopes.
- New information e.g. new address, change of name, moved to different parish, please email us at new address for any changes.

# RE-SCHEDULING CELEBRATIONS OF SACRAMENTS FROM 2020 & 2021

For all families, whose children were to celebrate sacraments in 2020 or 2021, this is to let you know that, we are starting to make plans for the <u>Fall of 2021</u> and the **Spring of 2022**.

It is <u>very important</u>, for all families concerned, to have completed a <u>Registration Form</u> for each particular sacrament, <u>including your email address!</u> Beginning in late August, we will be forwarding information to all registered families, via your email address.

**NB** If your child, has <u>not already completed</u> the necessary <u>registration forms</u> for: Confirmation in 2020, First Reconciliation, First Eucharist or Confirmation in 2021, you need to contact the parish office, as soon as possible, to have your email on our list, for the upcoming information.

#### **BLESSINGS AT COMMUNION TIME**

We would like to remind our parishioners about receiving a blessing at the Communion time of our Sunday liturgies. To indicate to the Priest, Deacon or Communion minister that you wish to receive a blessing and not



the Eucharist you are instructed to cross your arms over your chest.

#### This is for:

- a) Children who have not received First Eucharist.
- b) Non-Catholics
- c) Catholics who cannot receive due to an irregular marriage or other spiritual impediments.

In this case of very young children we ask that a parent hold them up before the minister.

If all who wish to receive a blessing follow this guideline it will greatly assist our Communion Ministers.

### **RESPECTING OUR NEIGHBOURS**

Once again it is time for a reminder about serious parking concerns. Unfortunately, we never seem to have enough designated parking spaces but we will still

need to be responsible in our parking habits.

First, there should never be any parking in the circular driveway in front of the Church as it is a fire/emergency route. Second, there should be no parking on the east side of Ridley beside the Church since this could prevent fire trucks from attending an emergency.

Finally, over the years we have had a wonderful working relationship with our neighbours at the Armour Heights Community Centre. They run programs every Sunday and they need to use their parking spots

# **REQUEST FOR MASS INTENTIONS**

When requesting Mass Intentions at the parish office, there are two types:

Announced Mass – a date is chosen due to availability and the name of the individual for whom the Mass is being said, along with the name of the person/family requesting the Mass is posted in the bulletin during the week of requested Mass. (Donation \$20)

**Unannounced Mass** – there is no specific date given for when this Mass would be celebrated and the intention does not appear in the bulletin. (*Donation \$10*)

It is important to note that when requesting any **Announced Mass**, it is recommended that you contact the parish office as early as possible, as sometimes we have Masses scheduled two months in advance. For both kinds of requests, Mass cards are provided at the office for those making arrangements for these special Masses.

#### A BIG THANK YOU

You may have noticed the beautiful colourful flowers growing in the planters around the Church, Rectory & Hall. These are the result of much work done by two

"Gardening Angels"! We want to thank

Cherie Zuzarte & Brenda Aquilina, for all their efforts in purchasing, planning, planting & caring for, these wonderful additions to our parish grounds.

Thank you ladies for coming forth and

contributing in such a positive way to your parish family.

### **UPDATED PANDEMIC INFORMATION**

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 <u>15% of our capacity</u>. For <u>St. Margaret's</u> that is <u>75 persons</u> and <u>St. Eugene's</u> that is <u>30 persons</u>. This of course requires that all <u>physical</u> <u>distancing and the wearing of masks must be maintained</u> as part of the ongoing pandemic protocols.

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

#### **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
- 3. <u>Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)</u> by appointment only

office during the above scheduled times!

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!

# 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 dynamiccatholic.com

# 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 <a href="mailto:info@cfstoronto.com">info@cfstoronto.com</a> 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.









### **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.

#### **SHARELIFE CAMPAIGN 2021**

Our Second and Third ShareLife Instalments are postponed until October.

"These uncertain times are especially difficult for

addiction clients. Our programs would not be open without ShareLife donors, Through your support we are able to dramatically reduce social isolation for men and women living with mental health and addictions."

— Robin Griller, St. Michael's Homes

Please also remember that organizations are also there to help you. If you, your family or other loved ones are in need of support from the services of a ShareLife funded agency, visit sharelife.org and click on the "Need Help?" button.

Many thanks to all the generous supporters of our parish's ShareLife campaign.

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

2021 YTD \$24,574 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

# 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?

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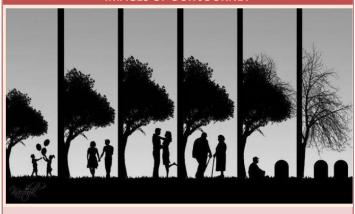
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#### **IMAGES OF OUR JOURNEY**



### **NATIONAL CATHOLIC REPORTER**

**THE NARROW GATE** BY PAT MARRIN

"Enter by the narrow gate" (Matt 7:12)

Gen 13:2, 5-18; Matt 7:6, 12-14

I once had a teacher whose favorite line to his classes was that teaching us was like "casting fake pearls before real swine." It was a joke, I think. We took it as humor but also as a swipe at undergraduate education in general.



Successful communication of an important message requires an

attentive audience. When Jesus sent his disciples out to preach, they must have reported back their frustrations at trying to tell the crowds his message, only to have it misunderstood and even distorted by critics.

Jesus himself may have started out by speaking directly to people, only to revert to parables that conveyed the message but made it available to a range of audiences and interpretations. The crowds would hear entertaining imagery, but those seeking deeper meaning would get the real invitation contained in his stories.

His audiences were like concentric circles. At the fringes were people who were curious but only in passing. Others felt the challenge but were not ready to commit. The innermost circle was drawn to Jesus personally and felt the call to follow him. Those most affected by Jesus could not turn away, realizing that he was offering a once in a lifetime invitation to give themselves to God, whatever that entailed. Some few must have realized that Jesus himself was God's parable to the world. He was the treasure hidden in a field, the pearl of great price, the source of grace and love they were longing for.

Matthew preserved several short parables in today's text. The invitation to enter God's kingdom should not be wasted on audiences that were not ready to receive it. "Don't cast your pearls before swine." Jewish audiences were to be preferred. "Don't give what is holy to dogs," was a slur on pagans who were thought to lack context to grasp the deeper message.

The door to God's kingdom is open, but it is "a narrow gate" that requires a stripping away of assumptions and certainties by those who try to enter. Real conversion is a multi-stage process that requires commitment, and only those who are serious will persevere. It requires a unique life decision, the kind a person must make alone, free of all distractions and outside influences, with the purest of motives, from the heart, what we really want but also who we really are.

As in every love affair, God first lures us closer, then tests us before revealing the deeper truths and challenges of intimacy. How much do we really want to be holy? Real love will break our hearts in order to enlarge our capacity for the kind of love God has. Only if we are ready to surrender ourselves completely will we enter full friendship with God. But what else is there except to say yes? We were made for this kind of love.

#### **STRETCH** BY PAT MARRIN

"Jesus stretched out his hand" (Matthew 8:2).

Gn 17:1, 9-10, 15-22; Matt 8:1-4



The word "stretch" is used in a number of Jesus' miracles to describe going beyond the normal bounds. When he stretches out his hand to

touch the leper in today's Gospel, he is both reaching out and exceeding the limits prescribed by the Law. He

is responding to a man who has also stretched out to him, risking rejection and further humiliation to seek help from someone he had heard might risk censure for touching his diseased skin. Jesus is typically responding in kind, meeting the leper in the middle of their mutual risk-taking. Because the man is showing faith, Jesus knows healing can take place.

Abraham was honored as the father of faith not only for the Jews but for Islam because he was stretched beyond every limit by God, who called him and tested him repeatedly before revealing the Covenant that would initiate the entire history of the Chosen People and the covenant that would redeem the world. He is first called to leave his native land for a place he did not know, led by God from Ur to the land of Canaan, controlled by a hostile people. Only by cunning and repeated protection is Abraham able to secure the first claim on what would become the Promised Land.

Abraham is already 75 years old when first called and, despite his age, God begins to promise him and his elderly wife, Sara, a child to carry on their memory. Sarah and Abraham both laugh to themselves, not knowing they were already naming the child Isaac, a Hebrew word that means "he will laugh." As a promise, it was a real stretch, but Abraham believed, and though he was 99 years old and Sarah 90 before the child was born, he kept faith. But God was not done stretching him.

Believing God was directing him, Abraham nearly sacrifices his beloved son as an act of faith. The disturbing story was preserved to reject child sacrifice but also as another sign of Abraham's absolute faith. God will always provide. St. Paul will use his example to show that salvation is based on faith and not on keeping the Law, which did not come until Moses. Abraham is father of both the Jews, Muslims and Christians because he showed extraordinary faith.

If we review our own histories with God, we are likely to find that the most important experiences involved stretching beyond our comfort zones and control to take risks and make decisions whose outcome we could not predict.

We learn that God never stops calling us, and that each time we respond we learn that God really does keep promises, even if they seem delayed or altered. Once we determine to see Providence at work, even suffering and loss become invitations to deepen our trust.

# What's the Most Courageous Thing You Ever Did? By Melannie Svoboda SND

Today let's reflect on courage. We'll begin with this definition: Courage is the mental or moral strength to withstand or endure despite danger, pain, difficulty, or fear. If that's our working definition, then how would you answer this question: What's the most courageous thing you ever did? Don't sell yourself short. You can't be an adult without having made some decisions along the way that took real courage!

Let me suggest a few possible answers to that question. You might say: I got married... There's certainly a lot of risk and involved in making a life-long commitment to someone—not to mention trying to live out that commitment. Or maybe your answer is: I got divorced... Talk about pain and difficulty! As we can see, courage is not a simple thing. What looks like courage could actually be a cowardly thing to do—depending on the circumstances. And what looks cowardly could really be the courageous thing to do.

Here are a few other answers to the question: What's the most courageous thing you ever did? I had children... (As we've just celebrated Father's Day, I marvel at the courage it takes to bring children into the world and raise those children with unconditional love and lots of hard work! On Father's Day, I went to 8:00 Mass at St. Mary's in Chardon. Fr. Steve asked all the fathers to stand while he read a beautiful prayer for fathers. I must admit, as I looked at all those fathers [all ages, shapes, and heights] I was really inspired!) Or we might say things like these: I accepted that job... I quit that job... I chose chemo... I declined chemo... I said I was sorry... I forgave him (her)... On the school playground years ago, I defended the kid everyone was making fun of... I entered into a relationship... I ended a relationship... I joined AA... I accepted a particular limitation I have... I told the truth—and it had serious consequences for me... I made the decision to pray every day... I got involved in an issue I felt passionate about... I changed my mind... I accepted growing older... I got out of bed that day when all I wanted to do was to hide under the covers forever... I handed my life over to God. Again. And then again.

Courage is not always a showy thing. Writer Mary Anne Radmacher said, "Courage does not always roar. Sometimes it is the quiet voice at the end of the day saying, 'I will try again tomorrow." Courage doesn't

always do the talking either. Someone once wrote, "Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak; courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen." I also appreciate Sue Monk Kidd's words about courage: "The opposite of courage isn't only fear but security." And finally, sometimes courage can be on opposite sides of an issue. As John Kerry said, "I saw courage both in the Vietnam War and in the struggle to stop it."

Here's a simple song called "Take Courage" by Kristene Di Marco. My favorite line is this: "God is in the Waiting." CLICK HERE FOR THE VIDEO

# CHUCKLES FROM THE PEWS THE OBNOXIOUS PARROT....

A young man named John received a parrot as a gift. The parrot has a bad attitude and even worse vocabulary.

Every word out of the bird's mouth was rude, obnoxious, and laced of profanity.

John tried and tried to change the bird's attitude by consistently saying only polite words, playing soft music and anything else he could think of to "clean up" the bird's vocabulary.

Finally, John was fed up and he yelled at the parrot. The parrot yelled back.

John shook the parrot and the parrot got angrier and even ruder.

John, in desperation, threw up his hand, grabbed the bird and put him in freezer.

For a few minutes the parrot squawked and kicked and screamed. Then suddenly there was total quiet. Not a peep was heard for over a minute.

Fearing the he'd hurt the parrot, John quickly opened the door to the freezer.

The parrot calmly stepped out onto John's outstretched arms and said "I believe I may have offended you with my rude language and actions. I'm sincerely remorseful for my inappropriate transgressions and I fully intend to do everything I can to correct my rude and unforgivable behavior."

John was stunned at the change in the bird's attitude. As he was about to ask the parrot what had made such dramatic change in his behaviour, the bird continued, "May I ask what the turkey did?"

Have a wonderful and safe summer!
Bulletin resumes August 29<sup>th</sup>