

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time-Year C

Diocesan Theme: **Christ is Everything for Us!** "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life".
(John 6.68).

Parish Mission Statement: **Love God, Love Others, Make Disciples!** Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal parish through the liturgy, faith formation and sacramental life, provides opportunities for members to develop their faith and service to others.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 12

4:30pm - For the repose of the soul of Murray Fleet by the James Family

Sunday, February 13 - Sixth Sunday in ordinary time

9:00am- For the intentions of the Parishioners by the Pastor

10:45am- For the repose of the soul of Diane Tremblay by Dale & Lorraine Harper

Tuesday, February 15

7:00pm - For the repose of the soul of Tom & Bea Mascaro by James Family

Wednesday, February 16

9:30am - For the conversion of souls by a parishioner

Thursday, February 17

9:00am - For the intentions of Nicholas Brown by Deidre Larocque

Friday, February 18

9:00am - For the intentions & well-being of all seniors

Saturday, February 19

4:30pm - For the intentions of Mary Ellen James & her family by CWL

Sunday, February 20 - Seventh Sunday in ordinary time

9:00am - For the intentions of the Parishioners by the Pastor

10:45am - For the repose of the soul of Diane Tremblay by Don & Kristina Beaudin

Tuesday, February 22 - Chair of St. Peter

7:00pm - For the repose of the soul of Marcel Cote by the James Family

Wednesday, February 23 - St. Polycarp

9:30am - For the birthday intentions of Robert Brown by Deidre Larocque

Thursday, February 24

9:00am - For the repose of the souls of deceased members of the Helliker & Coffey Families

Friday, February 25

9:00am -

Saturday, February 26

4:30pm - For the birthday intentions of Nicholas Brown by Deidre Larocque

Sunday, February 27 - Eighth Sunday in ordinary time

9:00am - For the repose of the soul of Michael Toth by Mom & Dad

10:45am - For the intentions of the Parishioners by the Pastor

Intentions of the Holy Father for February:

Religious Sisters and Consecrated Women:

We pray for religious sisters and consecrated women; thanking them for their mission and their courage; may they continue to find new responses to the challenges of our times.

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C "Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude and insult you, and denounce your name as evil on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice and leap for joy on that day! Behold, your reward will be great in heaven." It takes a lot of faith to "rejoice and leap for joy" after experiencing hatred and persecution from another. Even when one is persecuted on account of his/her faith in Christ, it takes a lot of faith and a lot of love to sincerely rejoice. But with that said, this level of faith and love is possible! If it were not, our Lord would not have given this teaching. It is a teaching to live the highest ideal. It's a calling to live in Beatitude. Try to put your eyes upon the ideals of the Christian life. If you aim for anything less, you run the risk of actually attaining that lower goal. But if you put your eyes upon the high calling of the Beatitudes, then you will find that our Lord will continually draw you closer to His heart, cleansing you, strengthening you, filling you with more faith, hope and love, and bringing you to an increasingly blessed level of holiness. It's worth it to aim for the ideal. *Lord of perfection, please make me holy. Help me to keep my eyes upon You and upon the virtues and Beatitudes that You call me to live. May I never settle for a mediocre life. Instead, may I strive only for a life of perfection and holiness making You the center of all I long for. Jesus, I trust in You.*

Alpha for Seniors: Explore Life, Faith & Meaning. Sessions beginning Tues., Feb. 15, 3:00 pm via Zoom. Free; all seniors welcome. To register: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/alpha-for-seniors-tickets-247364954237>. If you have questions, or if you'd like to help as a small group host or helper, email Rob at: seniors@annuciation-ottawa.com.

Parents of all children who wish to receive the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion this year. There will be a parents information night on Wednesday, February 23rd at 6:00PM in the church hall. Registration will take place that evening. Please bring a copy of your child's baptismal certificate and \$25.00 to register. For first communion the children will be doing a video series at home.

Parents of all children who wish to receive the sacrament of Confirmation this year. There will be a parents information night on Wednesday, February 23rd at 7:00PM in the church hall. Registration will take place that evening. Please bring a copy of your child's baptismal & first communion certificates and \$25.00 to register. For confirmation the children will be doing a series of worksheets at home.

February 13 – February 27

**Are you new to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Parish?
WELCOME! If you have not yet registered, please complete a registration
form found in the foyer or in the office.
You may bring the completed form to the office**

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C “Stop judging and you will not be judged. Stop condemning and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven.” Do you judge others? Judging another is an easy thing to do. Sometimes we can meet a person and immediately arrive at some form of judgment. Perhaps they are not as friendly as we think they should be at first and, as a result, we offer a judgment of them right away. Of course this can happen at times, even before we meet the person. Or, it can also happen in relationships that we’ve had for a long time. Do you condemn others? Condemnation comes in two forms. First, either we have formed a false judgment of another and this results in a false condemnation. Second, we can judge a situation correctly, that this person is guilty of some sin, and we act as though we have a right to condemn. We act as if we have a right to issue a sentence upon them. Both judging and condemning are far from Christian virtues. They are not healthy or holy in any way. So, the way they are overcome is through mercy and forgiveness. Do you forgive? Forgiveness is hard to do most of the time. It must be offered in the light of our tendencies to both judge and condemn another. First of all, forgiveness cures the tendency to condemn because it acknowledges a fault and forgives it anyway without requiring the imposition of a “punishment,” so to speak, upon the offender. Forgiveness does not mean that the offense was OK or nonexistent. On the contrary, forgiveness in this case clearly sees a sin for what it is. But once acknowledged, it forgives that sin. This is very important when it comes to forgiving in a close relationship. It’s never healthy to pretend that some hurt or sin never happened, but it’s always healthy to forgive the sin that is present. When it comes to judgment, forgiveness goes even further than forgiving a sin. Forgiveness must also move us to a point where we do not even form a judgment as to another’s fault. We suspend judgment. This is especially seen in the statement of Jesus on the Cross when He said, “Father, forgive them, they know not what they do.” He didn’t even allow Himself to arrive at the judgment of those who were condemning Him to death. He did not hold anything against them and presumed the best in regard to their intentions. “They know not what they do.” This requires a great depth of love and mercy. Reflect, today, upon your own ability to forgive completely. Start by letting go of the condemnation of another’s sin. Then try to let our Lord bring you one step closer to His perfect merciful heart by letting go even of judgment. Let God be the judge. For your part, seek only to forgive.

Most merciful Lord, help me to forgive all who have offended me and all with whom I am angry. Free me from the burdens of condemnation and judgment and replace these tendencies with Your merciful heart. May I imitate Your perfect forgiveness in my life. Jesus, I trust in You.

SYNOD 2021 – 2023

Pope Francis has asked the church to participate in a Synod on Synodality. At the local level we are holding small group meetings to answer two questions:

1. A synodal Church, in announcing the Gospel “journeys together.” What experiences of your local church does this question remind you of? What joys did they bring? What difficulties and obstacles did they encounter? What wounds did they reveal? What insights did they give rise to?
2. What steps does the Spirit invite us to take in order to grow in our “journeying together”? What is the Spirit asking of us? What needs to be confirmed, what changes need to be considered, what steps need to be taken? Where do we see a consensus being reached? What paths are open for our local church?

This video explains a synod: <https://youtu.be/I5IAktuejwo>. If you would like to participate in a small group discussion as part of the synod, please contact Erin Bennett at ebennett778165@gmail.com. Various meetings are taking place in March and early April.

DEVELOPMENT & PEACE 2022 PEOPLE & PLANET FIRST CAMPAIGN WORKING FOR JUSTICE FOR ALL

Established in 1967 by the Conference of Canadian Catholic Bishops, Development and Peace – Caritas Canada is the official international social justice organisation of the Catholic Church in Canada. Our Share Lent 2022 campaign brings the need for a binding Canadian law to protect the lives and rights of those who fight for human rights & environmental rights so that when Canadian registered companies involved in global developmental work engage in criminal activities, those who survive the crimes may press their cases through the Canadian courts. At present, even when these crimes are public knowledge, communities in Latin American countries have no means to seek justice. The need for this law has long been recognised internationally as have the crimes committed in those countries by Canadian companies. We are organising to meet with our federal members of parliament to present signed petitions, demanding this new law be established. To learn more about and to join our movement, visit devp.org or speak with your D&P parish representative, Janyce Elser-Ethier at 613 618 5749 or at jaejaetorontoblue@gmail.com.

Ash Wednesday

Our Lenten journey begins on Wednesday, March 2, with the imposition of ashes. I invite you to do all you can to make this year’s Lent a truly life-changing experience. Lent helps us to draw closer to God and rediscover who we are through acts of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. We are reminded that Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. However, I also encourage you to observe other Fridays in Lent as a day of abstinence for your own spiritual good and that of your loved ones. Our Ash Wednesday liturgy in which ashes will be distributed will be at 9:30am and 7:00pm in the church. Please join us.