

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

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 members to develop their faith and service to others

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 18th

4:30pm Repose of the soul of Claude Turbide by the James family

Sunday, February 19th – Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00am Intentions of the parishioners by the Pastor

10:45am Repose of the soul of Jacoba Bols by the CWL

Tuesday, February 21st

7:00pm Repose of the soul of Anny Nyentap by the CWL

Wednesday, February 22nd – Ash Wednesday

9:30am Intentions of Venerable Edel Quin for the extension of the Legion of Mary

7:00pm Intentions of the parishioners by the Pastor

Thursday, February 23rd

9:00am

Friday, February 24th

9:00am

Saturday, February 25th

4:30pm Repose of the soul of Kenneth Gaydamack by the KOC Council 12401

Sunday, February 26th – First Sunday of Lent

9:00am Intentions of Yohan Louise and family by Michael Smith and family

10:45am Intentions of the parishioners by the Pastor

YOUR OFFERINGS FOR

February 12th, 2023 = \$4,093.

Thank you for your generosity and support



Begin the journey to the cross

February 22nd

9:30am & 7:00pm OLMM

11:00am MTCS

Intentions of the Holy Father for February 2023

For parishes

We pray that parishes, placing communion at the center, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

“You have heard that it was said, You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your heavenly Father, for He makes His sun rise on the bad and the good, and causes rain to fall on the just and the unjust.” Matthew 5:43-45

Nowhere in the Old Testament does it say that we should hate our enemies. Note that Jesus did not say “It has been written...” Instead, He says, “You have heard that it was said...” So who said this? Some traditions among the Scribes and Pharisees held this erroneous belief. Because some held that position, Jesus addressed it.

In this passage and in many others, Jesus calls us to a new depth of love that many thought impossible. In fact, even Jesus Himself acknowledged the height of His teaching when, at the conclusion of this passage, He says, “So be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect.” Too often in life we settle for everything other than perfection. And though we may never achieve that level of holiness in this life, it must be our constant goal. In regard to our “enemies,” perfect love for them must become our daily mission. So who is your “enemy?” Though Jesus does not define this for us, we should consider it to be anyone with whom there is some form of tension or discord. Perhaps there is someone who hates or dislikes you and speaks ill of you or treats you poorly. Or perhaps there is someone whom you dislike and find yourself angry at or even judgmental toward. So begin by trying to identify anyone with whom you have a lack of perfect affection. In truth, there might be many more people on that list than on the list of those you “love.” Once you identify those who fall into the category of enemy to one extent or another, consider whether you love them. One Church Father says that we love our enemy “when we are not sorrowful at his success, or rejoice in his fall.” This is a very helpful definition to consider. Ultimately, this is the definition of envy.

Jesus concludes His teaching by saying that His Father “makes His sun rise on the bad and the good, and causes rain to fall on the just and the unjust.” In other words, God bestows His perfect love and mercy upon everyone equally. The only difference is that some people choose to accept that mercy and others reject it. As for ourselves, just like our loving God, we must offer love and mercy to everyone equally and as completely as we can.

Reflect, today, upon those with whom you struggle to love to perfection. As you call them to mind, pray for them, for their good and for God’s blessings upon them. Try to see some goodness in them. Try to thank God for them, and try to remove any disordered feelings or thoughts you might have about them. This is the first step in your mission to fulfill Jesus’ new command of love.

My loving Lord, You love and bestow Your unlimited mercy upon all people, the good and bad alike. I pray that I may always be open to that love and receive it deeply into my own life. I pray also that Your love may shine through me into the lives of those who

February 19, 2023

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 or drop in the collection basket

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*LENT STARTS ON ASH WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 22ND*

PLEASE JOIN US EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT FOR THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

February 24th – Led by Fr. Anthony
March 3rd – Led by the CWL
(24-hour Adoration won't start until after Stations of the Cross)
March 10th – Led by Deacon Allan
March 17th – Led by K of C
March 24th – Led by Youth Group
March 31st – Led by Fr. Anthony



STATIONS WILL START AT 7:00. THERE WILL NOT BE A MASS AFTER THEM.

Youth Group

The next Youth Group meeting will be on Friday, February 24th from 7:00 - 9:00pm at the church hall. Children ages 12 to 19 are welcome to participate. For more information and to register, contact Chris Smith at 613-223-7582 or email at cdansmith@hotmail.com.

Do Something Amazing Retreat: Are you between 18-30? Do you want to deepen your faith and share it with youth across Canada alongside other young Catholic adults like you? NET Canada invites YOU to a Do Something Amazing Retreat on Saturday, February 25th, 10:00am - 5:30pm at Annunciation of the Lord Parish. Come find out what's it like to be a NET missionary and how you can radically change the lives of young people across Canada through the life-changing message of the Gospel! Interested or know someone who would be? Register at netcanada.ca/apply. Have questions? Email recruit@netcanada.ca or call/text 613-292-9991.

Mary's Way of the Cross for Lent: A Lenten Journey Through Mary's Eyes. This Way of the Cross takes us through Lent to Easter. It begins in ashes and enters the desert of our emptiness. Fridays during lent: March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 and ending on Good Friday, April 7. Starting at 6:45pm with hymns and 7pm Mary's Way of the Cross. Sponsored by the Committee of the Annual Pilgrimage to the Shrines of Ste-Anne-de-Beaupré and Our Lady of the Cape. Info at mike.budge@bell.net. Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86321925761?pwd=aVl0dzF0ZzJHwJZoaFlTODRVTEwxdz09>.

REMINDER: SCAM ALERT We would like to remind you that there is an increase of scams circulating, via emails, websites, or phone calls where the felon impersonates someone to obtain money or uses scare ware to gain access to your computer or bank account. Please DO NOT respond to any requests for private information or money. Rather notify the Ontario Provincial Police, Russell County Detachment at 613-443-4499 or our parish office (admin@olmm.ca). Please also note that Fr. Anthony would never solicit funds or ask for personal favours from you. Thank you.

The 2022 income tax receipts are ready for pickup in the foyer.

Spiritual Library News

New Adult Books available in the library

The Life and Prayers of Saint Lucy of Syracuse
Feast Day – December 13th

Because of various traditions associating her name with light, she came to be thought of as the patron of sight. She was one of eleven female saints officially recognized in the Roman Catholic Mass as early as the year 600.

St Gerard Majella: the Wonder-Worker and Patron of Expectant Mothers

Feast Day – October 16th

St Gerard is a major saint of the Catholic Church who became famous for his miracles and cures. Read more about his death, funeral and miracles after his death.

Jean de Brébeuf: Saint Among the Hurons

Feast Day – October 19th

This is more than a biography of a great saint who was a French born Jesuit missionary and martyr of New France who arrived in North America in 1625 to evangelize Native Americans. He is one of seven other missionaries who are collectively called the North American martyrs.

St Michael the Archangel

Feast Day – September 29th

A goldmine of traditional facts, this little book is an eye-opener and a tremendous encouragement to all Catholics today in their daily battles.

Check out the B03 section for more books by and about saints.

Happy Reading