

## Twenty-Fifth 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, September 23<sup>rd</sup> – St. Pius of Pietrelcina**

**4:30pm** Repose of the soul of Michael James by the James family

**Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup> – Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**9:00am** Repose of the soul of Sandra O’Connor Hogan by the Urlocker-Lalonde family

**10:45am** Intentions of the parishioners by the Pastor

**Tuesday, September 26<sup>th</sup> – St. Jean De Brébeuf and St. Isaac Jogues**

**7:00pm** Repose of the soul of Ron Lacroix by the Kolman family

**Wednesday, September 27<sup>th</sup> – St. Vincent De Paul**

**9:30am**

**Thursday, September 28<sup>th</sup>**

**9:00am** Repose of the soul of Arturo Nuesca Lopez by his loving family

**Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup> – St. Michael, St. Gabriel, St. Raphael**

**9:00am**

**Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup>**

**4:30pm**

**Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> – Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**9:00am** For the intentions and blessings of Tom and Annette Urlocker on the occasion of their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary by the Urlocker-Lalonde family

**10:45am** Intentions of the parishioners by the Pastor

### YOUR OFFERINGS FOR

**September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 = \$3,165.**

***Thank you for your generosity and support***

#### **Intentions of the Holy Father for September: For people living on the margins**

We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.

#### **Intentions of the Holy Father for October: For the Synod**

We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.

### *Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)*

“When it was evening the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Summon the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and ending with the first.’ When those who had started about five o’clock came, each received the usual daily wage. So when the first came, they thought that they would receive more, but each of them also got the usual wage.” **Matthew 20:8–10**

Is life always fair? It would seem not. We have all experienced situations in life when we felt as though we were cheated. Children are especially sensitive to this and will often complain to a parent when they feel as though they have been treated unjustly. From an earthly perspective, it is true that life is not always fair. But we ought not live by an earthly perspective. We are called to live according to the divine perspective. From that perspective, everything is fair in the end, and true justice is meted out to everyone.

When we consider the question of whether or not life is fair, we should always begin with the Son of God. Jesus was certainly not treated fairly. In fact, it is hard to conclude that anyone who has ever lived received a more unjust treatment than Jesus, at least from an earthly perspective. He was perfect in every way. He treated everyone throughout His life with perfect virtue. He never lied, cheated, stole, etc. Yet we all know what happened to Him. He was falsely accused, dishonestly judged, brutally abused, and murdered on a cross. From an earthly perspective, it is clear that this was not fair.

Jesus’ life, along with ours, must not be evaluated from the perspective of earthly justice. It’s not that treating others unjustly is permissible by the will of God. Each of us has a moral responsibility to act in justice as a minimum requirement. But we are also called to exceed earthly justice and live by the new standard of supernatural grace. From that perspective, Jesus’ suffering and death was not tragic; it was glorious. His Cross was not an instrument of injustice, it was His throne upon which He established His new Kingdom. Once grace enters the picture, all apparent injustice is turned upside down and must be looked at from a different perspective.

The parable we read today presents to us the scenario in which God has chosen to bestow His grace and mercy in abundance to all who turn to Him. We can never earn the right to His mercy. Nothing we can do will ever give us the right to the gift of eternal salvation. Therefore, this parable especially challenges us to look at Heaven and the life of grace on earth from the perspective of “gift.” All is a gift from God. Whether we convert at the end of our lives, after living sinful lives, or whether we have spent our whole lives serving the will of God, all is a gift in the end, all is grace.

Only when we comprehend God’s goodness and infinite generosity will we be able to overcome our temptations toward jealousy and selfishness. Those who have dedicated their entire lives to the love of God, if it is a genuine love and service of God, will, as a result, take on the perspective of the mind and heart of God.

Reflect, today, upon how deeply you desire to see those who have not yet given their lives to God to come to Him and receive the fullness of grace. Look at them within the context of this parable. Examine how you feel about those laborers who have not yet begun their service of God. Examine, also, your feelings toward those who seem undeserving of the fullness of God’s grace. If you find that you have jealousy, or judge others from the perspective of earthly justice, work to eliminate that perspective so that your heart’s deepest desire is to see God bestow the fullness of mercy upon everyone in this world when they turn to Him with a contrite heart.

*Most merciful Lord, You are generous beyond comprehension. You bestow mercy upon those who turn to You from their sin and seek to serve Your holy will. May I be among those who labor in Your vineyard, and may I also be among those who desire to see everyone accept the invitation to receive the fullness of Your grace. Jesus, I trust in You.*

September 24, 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

### Bathroom Renovations Have Started

Parishioners are advised to use the front door to enter and exit the church except for those who need to use the elevator. During the duration of the renovation, please use the portable toilet located outside the church.

**A reminder to all parents** with children wishing to make their First Communion during the 2024 Easter season, a parent information meeting and registration will be held on **Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm in the OLMM church.**

**Parents and Candidates** in grade 6 or above, who wish to receive the sacrament of Confirmation, are asked to attend an information night and registration on **Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm in the OLMM church.** For more information regarding this important evening please contact the parish office at [613-445-3054](tel:613-445-3054).

### Youth Group

If you are between the ages of 18 – 35 and feel called to help with the youth group, please contact Chris Smith at [cdansmith@hotmail.com](mailto:cdansmith@hotmail.com)

## BAPTIZED IN THE HOLY SPIRIT



**Welcome to the family of God:  
Coleson Mateo Aubin  
Archer Boyd Battersby  
Maciee Jordan Lyne Munde**

**Welcome to new parishioners:** If you are new to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, welcome to our Parish. Please take a moment to fill in a registration form that are available from the office. Say “hello” to Fr. Anthony and share fellowship with parishioners at one of our events

## GROWTH

The Catholic Women’s League has grown to become Canada’s largest women’s organization. Did you know it meets with government and has an impact on legislation and policy? Help us continue to grow and make a difference.

Please mark your calendars – The next Life Chain will be on Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> from 2-3pm at the Corner of Concession and Castor Streets.

**Save the Date – Special Collection November 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>**  
In the fall of 2021, Canada’s Bishops set up a \$30 million Indigenous Reconciliation Fund. A *Christ-Centred, Co-Journey Towards Healing* is the Archdiocese of Ottawa-Cornwall’s campaign to raise the \$1.2 million that we have pledged to the IRF. The money raised goes to support projects such as the 23rd Annual Ottawa Indigenous Children and Youth Pow Wow held March 25, 2023. Pow Wows are important Indigenous gatherings where multiple generations come together to enjoy food, honour traditions, forge a sense of community and practice spiritual healing. Learn more at [www.journeyforhealing.ca](http://www.journeyforhealing.ca)

### WORKSHOP: Discover Development and Peace — Caritas Canada’s *Stand for the Land* campaign

This fall, we’re continuing the **Create Hope: Stand for the Land** campaign. This time, we’ll be meeting communities in northern Honduras who have been struggling to preserve their land and water since an iron ore mine opened in Carlos Escaleras National Park, and poisoned the rivers on which they depend for their livelihoods.

**“We live every day with the fear of being killed or having one of our children taken away.”**

— Juana Zúniga, member of the Committee for the Defence of Common and Public Goods of Tocoa, Colón

To learn more, join us for our fall campaign workshop on Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup> from 8:30am to 1:30pm at St. Joseph parish, 151 Laurier Avenue East, Ottawa. Refreshments & light lunch are provided on site. Questions? Please contact D&P parish representative & council chairwoman, Janyce Elser-Ethier at [elserethierjanyce@gmail.com](mailto:elserethierjanyce@gmail.com) or 343-463-4381. Please register at [kiegan.irissh@devp.org](http://kiegan.irissh@devp.org) or 613-738-9644, ext. 224. There is no cost for the event. A zoom link will be provided for out of town members & guests.

**13th Autumn Annual Pilgrimage to St-Joseph’s Oratory and 13th Anniversary of the canonization of St-Brother André** from the Archdiocese of Ottawa-Cornwall taking place on Sunday, October 15, 2023. See attached, departures and costs for the day program. For more information, contact Mike Budge at [mike.budge@bell.net](mailto:mike.budge@bell.net) or by phone 613-224-8110. Limited space.