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Sunday, July 30th, 2017
Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

“The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.” – Mt 13:44

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Sat. July 29	9-10am 4-4:45pm	Reconciliation Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation
Sun. July 30	5:00pm 10:00am	Missa Pro Populo ✠ Michael Brazeau (Tim & Joan Crowther)
Mon. July 31	9:30am	✠ Gloria Hayes (Maeve & Doug Devlin)
Tues. Aug 1	7-8pm 9:30am	Holy Hour ✠ Fr. Trevor Plug (Deacon Jim & Judy McLaughlin)
Wed. Aug 2	9:30am	Intention Available
Thurs. Aug 3	9:30am	✠ Mary Voogt & David Green (Voogt & Green Families)
Fri. Aug 4	9:30am	Special Intention for Jackie & Guy Lupien (Maeve & Doug Devlin)

Reconciliation from 9-9:20am before all weekday Masses.
Offertory July 15th & 16th, 2017

75 Envelopes	\$1, 682.80
Loose Collection	\$ 99.15
Total Offertory	\$1, 781.95

Offertory July 22nd & 23rd, 2017

62 Envelopes	\$1, 465.00
Loose Collection	\$ 137.40
Total Offertory	\$1, 602.40

In today's bulletin you will find the second quarterly financial report for the six months ending June 2017.

During the month of August, on the 6th & 9th, we are reminded of that the cities of Hiroshima & Nagasaki were ravaged by atomic bombs in 1945. In your daily prayers please pray for global peace and all who suffered, died and those still plagued by war and oppression.
Prayer intention Month of August:
Universal– That artists of our time, through their ingenuity, may help everyone discover the beauty of creation.

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
“When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it.” Jesus today gives us the image of a merchant who knows he has discovered a great treasure. In fact, its value is so tremendous that the man is willing to sell **everything** else in order to possess it. Why? Because he knows it will all be worth it. He knows that the pearl will bring him more reward than anything else he has ever owned, more even than all his possessions combined.
This Gospel story is meant to help us understand the unfathomable value of the kingdom of heaven. Nothing else can compare to it. No material item, no honour or success, can compete with this pearl of great price. Everything we have, short of this, is **finite**: limited, temporary, and ultimately fleeting. Eternal happiness, on the other hand, is **infinite**. It never ends. This is the deep contentment, the satisfaction, the peace, and happiness that we crave, the kind that doesn't disappoint. Like the merchant in the parable, we too should understand the value of this discovery. As Christians, we have “found” the treasure beyond all other treasures! Life in Christ, both now and in heaven, is truly the pearl of great price. The only question is whether we are willing to “sell” all that we have to obtain it. In other words, are we willing to release the other things that claim hold on us? Are we ready to put Christ first in our lives? All of us need to take pause from time to time and examine our attachments and priorities. Money, pleasure, success, or comfort can often seem so important to us that we falsely begin to imagine these things will bring the happiness we so desire. But the message is loud and clear today: the kingdom of heaven is the true treasure we long for.



their medical clearance and interview by Canadian Embassy officials. The last step in the process is the security check which should occur in the near future. The Housing committee is now looking for help in finding permanent or temporary accommodations for a family of 3 and a family of 4 or all 7 together. Ideal location would be near a bus stop in Welland, Thorold or St. Catharines. If you know of a suitable space please call the church.

Diocese of St. Catharines Canadian Missions Shared Collection – August 12 & 13, 2017
This shared collection will benefit **Catholic Missions In Canada** and the Diocese of St. Catharine's Canadian Mission partner, the **Diocese of Churchill-Hudson Bay in Nunavut. Catholic Missions In Canada** provides over \$3 Million in financial support to missionaries working in 24 Mission Dioceses in Canada: support of missionaries (\$2 million); religious education (\$1 million); repair & maintenance of churches (\$550,000). www.cmhc.info . Since its founding in 1908, Catholic Missions In Canada, then known as The Catholic Church Extension Society of Canada, seeks to sustain and extend the Catholic Faith in isolated, poor and hard-to-reach mission areas in Canada. These are communities where diocesan resources are insufficient to keep the Church alive. Catholic Missions promotes national awareness on the needs of our Canadian missions and raises funds to sustain the work of evangelization. **Thank you for your generous support.**

Sunday, August 6th, 2017
The Transfiguration of the Lord

While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud cast a shadow over them, then from the cloud came a voice that said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.” – Mt 17:5

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Sat. Aug 5	9-10am 4-4:45pm	Reconciliation Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation
Sun. Aug 6	5:00pm 10:00am	Missa Pro Populo ✠ Nicola Colangelo (Rosa & Family) ✠ Anthony Filbert (Deacon Jim & Judy McLaughlin)
Mon. Aug 7	9:30am	Continued Good Health for Maria Forte (Mario & Anna Ferrara)
Tues. Aug 8	7-8pm 9:30am	Holy Hour ✠ Mary Voogt & David Green (Voogt & Green Families)
Wed. Aug 9	9:30am	✠ Jean Frasier (Helena & Adam Sarvis)
Thurs. Aug 10	9:30am	✠ Gloria Hayes (Jackie & Guy & Family)
Fri. Aug 11	9:30am	Intention Available
Sat. Aug 12	9-10am 4-4:45pm	Reconciliation Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation
Sun. Aug 13	5:00pm 10:00am	✠ Wally & Sophie Paterak (Meyo Family) Missa Pro Populo

Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord
“This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.” Oh, to be on that mountain! What a priceless experience for Peter, James, and John. If they had ever doubted, if they wondered whether Jesus was really who he said he was, their confidence surely got a boost on the day of the Transfiguration. Before their very eyes, Jesus' divine beauty radiated gloriously while the two ancient prophets also appeared in miraculous manner. And to top it off, the voice of God the Father spoke from the heavens and confirmed that it was all true: Jesus really is the Son of God!
Why did Jesus reveal himself in such a remarkable way to these men? Perhaps we have an answer in today's epistle. Peter writes, “We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven while we were with him on the holy mountain.” Peter mentions this fact in order to confirm his credibility as a preacher as he goes on to say, “We possess the prophetic message that is altogether reliable. You will do well to be attentive to it.” Because of the mission that Peter had to help shape and nurture the Church in its earliest days, his position as an “eyewitness” to the Transfiguration helped to gain the attention, and the faith, of his hearers.

Coming up THIS SUMMER at Youth Ministry

Vacation Bible School – August 14th - 18th
St. Ann Parish is once again running Vacation Bible School this summer from August 14th to August 18th, from 9am to noon each day. The theme this year is “Weird Animals – How Jesus Love is One of a Kind!” The camp is free to all who register, and a free will donation will be collected at the end of the week. Registration forms are available at the parish office and at the back of the church. All students are welcome. ELKP to Grade 6 will be campers, and Grades 7 and 8 will be team leaders. We are still looking for volunteers to help run camp activities: bible study, snack time, crafts, and games. **This is a great opportunity for volunteer hours for high school students, and a really fun way to spend a week of your summer!**
August 2nd– A meeting for all volunteers for VBS 7:00pm.
August 8 & 9—Prop Days to prepare for VBS. Volunteers needed for each day from 1-4pm (youth or adults).

Summer Lock-In – Fri. August 25th - Sat. August 26th
At the request of our St. Ann Youth Ministry students, we will be hosting a Summer Lock-In from Friday, August 25th to Saturday August, 26th. Students will gather at the parish on Friday evening after dinner, around 7:00pm. We will play lots of games and participate in activities. Later in the evening we will participate in a Midnight Prayer Service. Weather permitting, we will be camping out in the field behind the church and having a bonfire. Snacks will be provided throughout the evening and we will make breakfast together in the morning in the parish hall. If any parents are interested in chaperoning for this event please let me know. Also we are looking for families who can bring/ provide tents. Each student will be responsible for their own sleeping bag and pillow.

Parish Calendar

July 30th.....	Feast of St. Ann celebration after 10am Mass
August.....	
Aug 2nd.....	Volunteer Meeting VBS 7:00pm
Aug 4th.....	Visitation of the sick and homebound
Aug 6th.....	Spanish Mass 1pm
Aug 13th.....	Special Collection –Catholic Missions Shared Collection
Aug 14-18...	Vacation Bible School 9-12
Aug 25-26....	Youth Ministry Lock in
Aug 26/27...	Mission Appeal—Diocese of Keren, Eritrea, East Africa



Adult Altar Servers: Over the past years the number of children attending the 11am and 5pm weekend Masses has been declining. We are at a point now where there are no permanent young altar servers at 11am and only a few at 5pm. We have decided to look at other options. One of these is to build up a group of adult altar servers who would serve at Mass when the younger servers are not available. We are looking for volunteers to take on the role of Adult Altar Server for the 11am and 5pm Masses. Anyone in their teens and older can sign up. There will be training in late August/early September after which a schedule will be prepared. Adult altar servers will need to arrive at the church 10-15 minutes before Mass to help setup and will need to have a clean and neat appearance suitable to the role that they will be performing during Mass. Please contact Liliana at the parish office if you are interested.