

July 4 and July 11, 2021

## MASS INTENTIONS

The church is now open to a 25% capacity. All are welcome. No reservations are required it will be first come first served.

Wednesday July 7 – Rev. Msgr Paul Boucher

Friday July 9 – Ilham Zoghaib

Saturday July 10 – Bonnie Mosher, Lucy Bozzelli, Special intentions of Andre & Mary Beth

## DIOCESAN PRAYER CALENDAR July 5 – 10

MON - Rev. Robert Sims

TUE - Rev. Godwin Pinto

WED - Our Parish Community

THU - Rev. Edward Henhoeffler

FRI - Rev. John Schnurr

SAT - Rev. Joseph Gregory Michel

THANK YOU!  
FOR YOUR ON- GOING GENEROSITY

The parish office is open Monday to Thursday 8:30am to 12:30pm. The office is closed on Fridays and the weekend.

Like Us on facebook.com/mstblssdscremnt! Tweet Us @MSTBLSSDSCRMENT! Follow Us @branchesoffaith! We are on social media. Stay up to date, with happenings in the parish, faithful posts, and much more!

Spread the word that we have social media to your family and friends, so they are also up-to-date. See you online!

**IMPORTANT REMINDER** – You must have your Fundscrip order with full payment in on **Monday, July 5.** We are not able to process credit card payments or debit.

### Sacred Heart Parish, Hamilton 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

This September 12<sup>th</sup>, Sacred Heart Parish will be celebrating 100 years. We ask former and present parishioners to please send photos of memories at Sacred Heart either by email: [sacred.heart@cogeco.ca](mailto:sacred.heart@cogeco.ca) or to bring them to the parish rectory. Due to ongoing pandemic uncertainties, it has been decided to extend our celebration into next year. Bishop Crosby has agreed to celebrate the Anniversary Mass on June 5, 2022 which is the Feast of Pentecost and which is in the month of June – the month dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. This will be followed by brunch at Michelangelo's. We hope to have a large gathering of former & present parishioner for such a momentous occasion.

## MEDITATIONS – JULY 4 – 10

### *They took offense at him* (Mark 6:1-6)

The people of Jesus' hometown of Nazareth stood at a crossroads. Having heard Jesus preach and having seen his works of healing and deliverance, they had to choose. Would they let their amazement lead them to faith and acceptance of Jesus? Or would they respond with hardness of heart, skepticism and rejection?

Mark tells us how the Nazarenes answered: they "took offense" at Jesus. The Greek word he uses, *eskandalizonto*, can also be used to mean they "fell away" or were "scandalized" by Jesus. Those are pretty harsh words, but they seem to fit the situation. The people's response was so negative that even Jesus was "amazed" at their lack of faith.

The story of Jesus' return to Nazareth can lead us to our own self-examination. Will we accept Jesus and his will for us today? Or will we take offense at him and turn aside?

This isn't a one-and-done question. Every day, we face numerous situations where we find ourselves at a crossroads. Should I forgive that casual but hurtful remark from a family member? Can I give up some of my free time to help a neighbour in need? Will I say no to the harsh, judgmental thoughts arising in my heart as I read the day's news? Over and over again, Jesus stood before the people of Nazareth, asking us to accept him and his word.

Today, along with millions of other believers around the world, you will proclaim your faith in Christ as you recite the Creed during mass. Take this as a new opportunity to place your faith in Jesus. Take it also as a moment of grace as you ask the Holy spirit to help you uphold your decision to live for Christ in the coming week. Then, when you are ready to receive Jesus in Communion, seal your declaration of faith and surrender with a firm, trusting "Amen."

**JULY 24<sup>th</sup> There will be a BOTTLE DRIVE in the parish parking lot from 9am to 3pm. The proceeds will go to the Food Bank**



## MASS INTENTIONS

The church is now open to a 25% capacity. All are welcome. No reservations are required it will be first come first served.

Wednesday July 14 – Rick Wade

Friday July 16 – special intentions for Jacqueline Ashbaugh

Saturday July 17 – Leo Adams

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## DIOCESAN PRAYER CALENDAR July 12 - 17

MON - Most Rev. Anthony Tonnos

TUE - Rev. Francis Salasiar

WED - Society of Christ

THU - Rev. Ronald Hodara

FRI - Rev. William Foote

SAT - Rev. Michael Isabelle

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ONGOING GENEROSITY

**Marriage Support** - Is your marriage experiencing more trouble than joy, feeling stagnant or disconnected and/or causing you worries? **The solution is Retrouvaille** - a program for married couples facing difficult challenges in their relationship. Retrouvaille has one purpose: to help couples restore their marriage and rebuild a loving partnership. This is a practical program, where sharing is not required except between the couple themselves, designed to improve communication, build stronger marriages, and help couples reconnect. It also works well for couples who may be considering separation or divorce. Retrouvaille is offering their weekends by zoom offering more possibilities for engagement. For more information call 905-664-5212 or email [teamrecine@gmail.com](mailto:teamrecine@gmail.com).

**Do you need support after an abortion?** Either your own, or someone else's? Do you feel alone, emotional, or angry? Project Rachel is available to help. This confidential service allows people to work through their feelings on an individual basis, with a trained counsellor, to find hope and healing. **Please contact us at 905-526-1999 or toll free at 1-888-385-3850.**

## MEDITATIONS JULY 11- 17

*Earn your bread by prophesying (Amos 7:12)*

The book of Amos marks a turning point. From the time of King Saul, prophets had gathered in guilds and were seen as employees of the king. But Amos says he does not come from a “company of prophets”. He was a farmer when God called him. From then on, prophets who followed Amos – Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and the others – were called directly by God. They wanted to be clear that they too were not “professional” prophets.

Why is this important? Because many career prophets in the time of Amos softened their message to win the king's favour. Or they took payment for their services. That's why the priest Amaziah told Amos that he should earn his bread by prophesying elsewhere. He certainly wasn't about to pay a prophet who condemned the king! But Amos didn't have competing loyalties. God had given Amos his message, and God expected him to deliver it.

Fast-forward to today's Gospel reading, where Jesus sends out the Twelve to preach and to heal. They certainly weren't in it for the money or to win Herrod's approval. God had called them, and that was enough. So when they returned to Jesus after their journeys, they were excited, not because they had made any money, but because they had seen the power of Jesus' word.

By virtue of your baptism, you too are called to spread your faith to the best of your ability. You do this by sharing what God has done in your life, by caring for the needy, and by following Church teachings even when it's inconvenient or difficult. It won't make you rich. It might not make you popular. But there's nothing like seeing God work through something you say or do. God is still speaking to his people. And he's calling you to help them hear his voice.

*“Lord, help me hear and speak your word!”*



In a parish where the Sunday Mass was usually followed by a coffee and rolls breakfast, the priest asked a little boy why he thought they did this. The little fellow answered.: “I guess it's to wake people up after the sermon so they can drive home.”