

Saint Dunstan's Basilica Parish

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SEPTEMBER 20, 2020

PASTORAL TEAM:

Bishop: Most Reverend Richard Grecco
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Property & Finance Chair: Bill Hook
Refugee Committee: Dan Doran
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MASS INTENTIONS - WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 20

Sun.: 9:00 a.m. John B. MacDonald
Sun.: 5:00 p.m. Ellen Driscoll
Mon.: 9:00 a.m. Clifford (A) & Imelda Gillis
Tue.: 9:00 a.m. Robert & Bernice Kenny
Wed.: NO MASS
Thur.: 9:00 a.m. Joseph & Aldona O'Hanley & DFM
Fri.: 9:00 a.m. Earl Dillon (A)
Sat.: 4:00 p.m. Ryan Mullally

PLEASE NOTE: WEEKDAY MASS IS IN GLASTONBURY HALL (CHURCH LOWER LEVEL).

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Tuesday and Thursday, 11-11:45 am; Saturday, 2:15 to 3:15 pm. All downstairs in Glasonbury Hall. Use Dorchester St. Entrance.

SEPT 13 OFFERING	\$1,677.00
SEPT 13 PRE-AUTHORIZED DEBIT	\$1,095.00
SEPT 13 E-TRANSFERS	\$ 110.00
SEPT 13 FUEL COLLECTION	\$ 10.00
SEPT 13 ST. VINCENT DE PAUL	\$ 554.00
OTHER COLLECTIONS:	\$ 190.00

AUTOMATIC DEBIT is an option for those who would like to contribute using that means. Please contact the Parish Office for information.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED GENEROSITY

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

With the return of the bulletin this week, another step is taken toward the more familiar, left behind last March. COVID-19 has impacted us in lots of ways. We've had to make adjustments in all aspects of our lives--including our liturgical worship. It's easy to get discouraged. Sometimes we need to sit with the distress and pour out our hearts to God.

This past Tuesday, we celebrated the Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows. The first reading was from the letter to the Hebrews (5:7-9). Here is part of what was read: *In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death.*

Those *prayers and supplications* were sometimes on his own behalf--as when he asked in the garden of Gethsemane on the night before he died if he could be spared the cup of suffering (see Mt. 26:39, Mk. 14:35, Lk. 22:42) or on the cross when he cried out to his Father his feelings of abandonment (see Mt. 27:46, Mk. 15:34).

Those prayers and pleas, though, went beyond himself. He interceded for those around him, in Jerusalem and Galilee, whose anguish touched his heart. He included, even, those who had arranged and those who would accomplish his death (see Lk. 23:24).

More than that, his cries and tears were for those countless since Adam and Eve, whose lives were burdened with all manner of sickness and frustration and failure and chaos. He would visit them in his descent among the dead, during that interval between his cross and resurrection, with the gift of redemption.

And, in his love as Son of Mary and Son of God, he reached into the future, even to us, to let us know that in our own struggle--with COVID-19 and all other of our burdens--he is with us, interceding. As one, who knows, first-hand, what it is to live upon this earth, he walks with us helping us carry the load, and ahead of us into the hope of glory.

That same reading from the letter to the Hebrews continued, [*Jesus*] *learned obedience from what he suffered.* The word "obedience" comes from the verb "to listen." Out of his own distress, out of the suffering he witnessed around him, out of his awareness of humanity's affliction--before and after his time on earth--Jesus learned to listen to the voice of his Father, reassuring him that he would neither be forgotten or left alone. That reassurance was shown to be well-founded in his resurrection.

It's the same for us. In our own strife--pre, during, and after this pandemic--will we learn to listen--as individuals, as families and communities, as the human family--will we learn to listen for and to the voice of God? That voice speaks the same words to us as have been spoken time and again through the record of salvation history "I have saved you in the past. I'm saving you now. And, be not afraid, I will remain faithful."

In last Tuesday's Mass for the memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows, the gospel was taken from John's account of the death of the Lord (19:25-27). *When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman behold your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother."* That touching scene is the beginning of the unique relationship between the mother of Jesus and his beloved disciple. It's the inauguration of Mary's role as our mother. It's also the mandate we've all received from the Lord to live as caregivers to one another. As he was to remain with his mother and disciple in their relationship, so does he remain with us in our blessed relationship, in him, with one another. It's part of the undying bond of love between and among us we profess when we say we believe in "the communion of saints."

So...since mid-March, we and our world are living together in a different and unfamiliar way. We join the vast "cloud of witnesses" gone before us, who have been challenged with making big adjustments, and called to share responsibility for each other's well-being. We prepare the way for those who come after us, and will, in their own unique ways, be called upon to do the same. We, as were they, as will they, are neither abandoned nor alone. Through, with, and in Christ Jesus, in the company of one another, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, may we learn to listen for and to the voice of the Father, bestowing upon us courage, hope, generosity, as we walk together toward a future filled with hope.

Jesus Christ broke the chains of death and rose triumphant from the grave. The power of his resurrection is with and in us. Alleluia!!

Peace be with you,
Fr. Keith

MASS READINGS FOR SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

1st Reading:	Ezekiel 18.25 – 28
2nd Reading:	Philippians 2.1 – 11
Gospel:	Matthew 21.28 – 32

PARISH NEWS

NEW PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Monday 9—noon, Tuesday and Wednesday, 9—4, Thursday 9—noon. The Office, for now, is not open on Friday.

CATECHETICS: A meeting was held this past week among the parishes in the Charlottetown area to discuss catechetics in view of COVID-19. No-one has begun as yet. Everyone is adapting, and planning is on-going. Some have decided against any in-person classes, opting for home-based teaching; some are having in-person classes for grades 2 and 9 only, in order to prepare for the sacraments associated with those grades. We are in the process of discussing our options. We **will** offer catechetics this year. The form it will take is to be determined. More details to follow.

OUR FATHER'S ADORATION CHAPEL will be reopening Monday, September 28. It will open daily from 7 am - 9 pm, except for cleaning on Sunday, 9 am - 1 pm. You may request to have a candle burn in the Adoration Chapel during this time (\$7 Sun – Sat.) Please contact Brady & Jodi Grant – bradyandjodi@gmail.com or 902-218-8282.

PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT: Anyone wanting new envelopes, note: they are available at the Parish Office. If you would like to sign up for automatic debit or arrange E-transfer, please contact the Parish Office. Thank you for your financial support of the parish. It is appreciated and needed.

UPPER ROOM PEI is a weekly gathering for young adults seeking deeper relationship with Christ. Hour of Adoration--every Tuesday, 7:30 pm in Glastonbury Hall. For more info, follow us on Facebook @Upper Room PEI.

DIOCESAN NEWS

DIOCESAN WEBSITE: Parishioners may learn about diocesan ministries, services and lay associations by checking out the website www.dioceseofcharlottetown.com

ST. ANDREW'S: Those interested in preserving the history and heritage of the early Catholic settlers, the creation of our diocese, the Island's first bishop, Angus MacEachern and the historic site at St. Andrew's are invited to become members of the *Friends of St. Andrew's Chapel*. Our address is PO Box 1864, Charlottetown PE C1A 7N5. For information you may contact 902 620 9336. The annual membership fee is \$10 or \$25 for family or \$100 for life membership. Donations are tax deductible.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY: National Collections for World Mission Sunday is set for October 18.

INSPIRED BY THE TRUE STORY, the newly-released movie "*Fatima*" can be watched on-demand through Apple TV, YouTube, Bell, Rogers, and several other Canadian sources. This highly acclaimed movie dramatizes the story of three young children and the Blessed Virgin Mary's appearances to them in Fatima, Portugal in 1917. Go to www.fatimathe-movie.com/more-ways-to-watch for full list of providers.