

TWENTY -THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

September 4th, 2022

The First Reading is part of Solomon’s prayer for wisdom. God, the Creator of the universe, is all-wise. In contrast, human beings are ignorant. However, God does not leave us in our ignorance, but bestows the gifts of wisdom on all who humbly seek it. Jesus was on His way to Jerusalem (Gospel Reading). He knew that suffering, rejection and death awaited Him at the end of that journey. But it seems that some Galileans regarded it as a victory march of the Messiah. In no uncertain terms Jesus disillusioned them. Knowing that His disciples would have to face a similar challenge, Jesus spoke about the cost of discipleship. He didn’t literally mean hating one’s father and mother. The word “hate” is a Semitic expression. “Love less” would be nearer to what Jesus had in mind. He was telling His disciples that they must be ready if needs be to sacrifice the dearest things in life. In certain, rare, circumstances they might have to choose between Him and their own relatives. The two short parables make the point that discipleship is a serious calling. It could mean persecution and even death. In this, as in any other spheres of life (such as business and politics), one shouldn’t walk into it blindly. One must calculate the cost before setting out.

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday, September 4 th <i>23rd Sunday in OT</i>	9 am 11 am	<i>Missa Pro Populo</i> <i>Missa Pro Populo (Macton)</i>	
Monday, September 5 th <i>Ordinary Time</i>	-	-	-
Tuesday, September 6 th <i>Ordinary Time</i>	12 pm	CLERGY SEMINAR/CANCELED	
Wednesday, September 7 th <i>Ordinary Time</i>	12 pm 4 pm	CLERGY SEMINAR/CANCELED CANCELED (Linwood)	
Thursday, September 8 th <i>Ordinary Time</i>	8 am	CLERGY SEMINAR/CANCELED	
Friday, September 9 th <i>Nativity of the BVM</i>	8 am	CANCELED	
Saturday, September 10 th <i>Ordinary Time</i>	5 pm	+ <i>Len Hergott</i> + <i>Joan Jewell</i>	By Ann Bender By Murray & Sharon Runstedler
Sunday, September 11 th <i>24th Sunday in OT</i>	9 am 11 am	<i>Missa Pro Populo</i> <i>Missa Pro Populo (Macton)</i>	

Our Saint of the Week: St. Anne & St. Joachim – the Church has celebrated Mary’s birth since at least the sixth century. A September birth was chosen because the Eastern Church begins its Church year with September. The September 8 date helped determine the date for the feast of the Immaculate Conception on December 8. Scripture does not give an account of Mary’s birth. However, the apocryphal Protoevangelium of James fills in the gap. This work has no historical value, but it does reflect the development of Christian piety. According to this account, Anna and Joachim are infertile but pray for a child. They receive the promise of a child who will advance God’s plan of salvation for the world. Such a story, like many biblical counterparts, stresses the special presence of God in Mary’s life from the

beginning. Saint Augustine connects Mary’s birth with Jesus’ saving work. He tells the earth to rejoice and shine forth in the light of her birth. “She is the flower of the field from whom bloomed the precious lily of the valley. Through her birth the nature inherited from our first parents is changed.” The opening prayer at Mass speaks of the birth of Mary’s Son as the dawn of our salvation, and asks for an increase of peace. We can see every human birth as a call for new hope in the world. The love of two human beings has joined with God in his creative work. The loving parents have shown hope in a world filled with travail. The new child has the potential to be a channel of God’s love and peace to the world. This is all true in a magnificent way in Mary. If Jesus is the perfect expression of God’s love, Mary is the foreshadowing of that love. If Jesus has brought the fullness of salvation, Mary is its dawning. Birthday celebrations bring happiness to the celebrant as well as to family and friends. Next to the birth of Jesus, Mary’s birth offers the greatest possible happiness to the world. Each time we celebrate her birth, we can confidently hope for an increase of peace in our hearts and in the world at large.

GOLDEN YEARS CLUB – Cards will start Thursday, September 8th in the church call. Everyone is welcome!

USHERS NEEDED – If you are interested in serving our parish as an usher at Sunday or Saturday Mass, please contact the office or reach out to Jim Hehn. A special thank you to all of the ushers who have served our community so generously throughout the years.

ST. TERESA OF AVILA'S ANNUAL GARDEN PARTY – will be held on Friday, September 16th, 2022 at St. Teresa of Avila Church, 19 Flamingo Drive, Elmira. Enjoy our Community BBQ in the hall from 4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m., an Outdoor Snack Booth with chips, soft drinks, fresh made popcorn and candy. Lots of fun for young and old - penny table, silent auction, bouncies, tombola, 50/50, music, inside and outside activities, play area for children 5 and under and much more. Come and enjoy an evening of food and fellowship. Fun starts at 4:30 p.m. and ends with fireworks at dusk. All are welcome!

EVENINGS WITH HIS EXCELLENCY – Evenings with His Excellency, Bishop Wayne Lobsinger, continue this fall at St. Ann’s Parish, Ancaster. Class is the second Friday of each month, beginning September 9th at 7:00 p.m. For more information, visit the Parish website: <https://stannparish.ca/>.

VOCATION SEEDS – Having a loose grasp on those things that rightly belong to God is required of every follower. The open hands you are left with will be filled by God and overflowing. Can you let go? If God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, contact Bishop Wayne Lobsinger, Director of Vocations and Priestly Formation, Diocese of Hamilton (905-528-7988). Email: vocations@hamiltondiocese.com Website: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/>

DIOCESE OF HAMILTON PRAYER CALENDAR – Please remember the following in your prayers: Rev. Marko Stefanec, Rev. Joseph Akanbi, Sisters of Our Lady Immaculate (S.O.L.I.), Rev. Charles Jordan, Rev. Lourdy Dorismond, O.M.I., & Rev. Archange Kebe.

LAST WEEK’S COLLECTION – St. Clements: Operating \$2,090.00. Thank you for your generosity!