

THE 4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – SOME MUSINGS

“Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in his hometown.”

When I read the stories of the ways in which people of His time rejected Jesus, I wonder why that would be. Surely they'd seen what He did, heard what He said, watched Him heal and console. And they'd heard Him teach. Perhaps it was in that teaching that they felt they had cause to shun Him. They had been accustomed to the teaching of the priests, the Scribes and the Pharisees; teaching that told them they'd best obey that Law of Moses to its very letter or forever be considered sinners, outcasts. They'd heard little about love, about compassion, about forgiveness. They also knew that this God had promised a Messiah but He'd been a long time coming and Jesus certainly hadn't come in all His glory but rather as a Child, born in a stable: a Child Who grew up in a village, raised by a carpenter and his wife. Hardly seemed like a logical choice for saviour!

We hear so little about the early life of Jesus. It's not until His baptism by John that we hear of His miracles, His healings and His teaching. So perhaps it's easy to understand why the people of Nazareth didn't see Him as a wise and holy preacher. He was, after all, only the Son of a carpenter. He'd been taught the Law; He'd been raised by a good Jewish family who obeyed the commandments and the precepts of the Law. But when He begins to interpret these for them in a different way, they grow angry. It happens still.

Being told to mend our ways can anger or hurt us. We are quite aware of our wrongdoing but changing a bad habit or having it brought to our attention doesn't make us happy. Jesus' teaching requires us to mend our ways, to be more aware of how we treat others and how we worship. It's not as easy as we'd like. Loving God and neighbour requires effort; it requires attention and perseverance. It's a call to holiness. We hear a homily that sheds light on a teaching with which we've been struggling and while we know that our conscience is a good guide, it certainly is not the guide that our Church can be. Yes, we can be made very uncomfortable in our stubbornness of heart.

Oftentimes, that teaching comes from unexpected sources. I recall a time when I was shopping with one of my sons who was five or six at the time. I was looking through a rack of clothing looking for his proper size. A woman reached in front of me and roughly shoved me aside, taking a garment. My son looked at me and in a voice that can only be described as "his outdoor voice" said, "Mommy! That lady didn't even say 'scuse me!" A lesson for her I'm sure. Sometimes the truth is told by those from whom we least expect it. Perhaps that's what was happening at the synagogue in Nazareth.

It's the same thing that happens with us though. We listen to the words of Jesus, explained in a different way and we're troubled. While we may think that we'd not take the person to the edge of the cliff, we can certainly reject what that person is saying. And when we're talking about the words of Jesus, we're rejecting Him, alienating ourselves from Him.

As I look out my window, I see the earth wrapped in a burial shroud of snow; everything looking rigid and stiff, in a state of wintry rigor. The branches of trees no longer whisper to one another but speak in old and scratchy voices as though loathe to speak at all. They seem to close off from the world. When we turn a deaf ear to the teaching of Jesus, we too, become less than we've been called to be.

As we make our way through the cold of winter, let's not become frozen in our ways; rejecting the ways in which Jesus calls us to a fuller, more fruitful life in Him. Let's hear His words of love and compassion no matter who speaks them and make our prayer life richer, our service more joyous, our love of God and neighbour deeper. Let's hear His words and abide by them; making them our personal creed.

Wishing you a week warm love and many small miracles. Betty Bruch

FEBRUARY 3, 2019

4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SACRED HEART PARISH

Sacred Heart Church
24 Albert St.
Langton, ON



St. Michael's Church
978 St. John's Road
Walsh, ON



Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday – 5:00 pm
Sunday – 8:30 am (St. Michael's)
Sunday – 10:30 am

Daily Mass

Tues. – 5:00 pm
Wed. to Fri. – 9:30 am

Reconciliation

20 min. prior to weekday mass
Sat. 4-4:45 pm
Sun. 8-8:20 am, or by appt.(St. Michael's)

Mailing address

Box 8, Langton, ON N0E 1G0

Phone: 519-875-4438

E-mail: sacredheartlangton@dol.ca

Fr. Thomas e-mail: tckuriacko@dol.ca

Parish Clergy

Rev. Thomas Kuriacko, Pastor

Jack Grim, Deacon

Brian Hanley, Deacon

Office Hours: Tues. and Thurs. 9 am – 4 pm;

Baptisms – Contact Rev. Thomas—6 months notice **Marriages** – Contact Rev. Thomas— one year notice required

Schools – Sacred Heart, Langton - St. Michael's, Walsh - Our Lady of Fatima, Courtland

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:

The three readings of this Sunday combined together, challenge us to consider how far reaching the love of God is. We are challenged by the message to persevere in our practice of Christian love. The human person comes in so many shapes, sizes, colors and tongues. All of us, however, are made in God's image and likeness. God knew us even before we were formed in our mother's wombs. In the reading from Jeremiah, God encourages those who suffer from injustices, to be not crushed, 'I will deliver you,' says the Lord. Persevere in faith, hope and love. St. Paul says, avoid forming factions in the one body of Christ, God wants us to persevere as people of faith, hope and love, no matter what happens, even after everything else in life is taken away. In the Gospel reading, we are reminded that Jesus' offer of salvation reaches around the world and back again, and every place in between. The nets have been cast out, how many fish are welcome? All of them! God perseveres in his love for us. And we know how far that love goes.

And so, let's have a practice run at this. Let's see how far along we are on this faith, hope and love business. Take a moment and think of the hardest person or groups of persons that you can ever imagine having to pray for. No one is asking you to like them; it is faith hope and love we are talking about, not faith hope and like. It is easy to confuse these concepts, love and like. Take Jesus on the cross for example. I don't think he liked the people who were hammering the nails, but he loved them. There is a difference. "Like" is more of a feeling. "Love" is more like a choice.

And so, take a moment and think of the hardest person or groups of persons that you can ever imagine having to pray for. It is hard isn't it? It is really very hard. This can be downright impossible for those who have been really hurt by someone. Sometimes the most we can do is to pray for the grace to pray for someone who has hurt us. Do we dare to do this in our prayers? Have we ever tried? Can we try? If we do this, the word of God might become fulfilled in our hearing, our definition of salvation will expand, and we will be forgiven by the measure we forgive others. We will at last exchange our citizenship of a divisive world for citizenship in the Kingdom of God. This journey is made by hearts that persevere in the virtues of faith hope and love.

God bless you all. Have a great week!!

Fr. Thomas

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE – SACRED HEART, LANGTON

DATE	TIME	MASS INTENTION	BY
Tues Feb 5/19	5:00 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paul Herman 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mary De Cloet
Wed Feb 6/19	9:30 am	Sacred Heart School Mass <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marcel Follens 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follens Family
	1:45 pm	Our Lady of Fatima School Mass <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mary Tokaji, Donna & Steve Schonberger 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frank & Cathie Schonberger
Thurs Feb 7/19	9:30 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> John Konopetski 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Laureat & Doris Grenier
	1:45 pm	St. Michael's School Mass <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Louis Keursten Anthony De Carolis Bill Siemens 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Martin & Tonie Van Bommel Tina Martins Armin & Frances Kunkel
Fri Feb 8/19	9:30 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Laura Allewaert 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yvonne Baswick

WEEKLY OFFERTORY – JAN 27, 2019

St. Michael's

Regular Envelope	\$ 375.00
Christmas	\$ 20.00
Thanksgiving Appeal	\$ 10.00
Loose	\$ 45.00
Sub-Total	\$ 450.00

Sacred Heart

Regular Envelope	\$ 1624.00
Initial Envelope	\$ 25.00
New Years Day	\$ 20.00
Loose	\$ 44.30
Sub-Total	\$ 1713.30

Total **\$ 2163.30**

Operating Goal **\$3,700.00**

Shortfall **\$ 1536.70**

SH Building Fund \$ 150.00

STM Building Fund \$ 130.00



Dates to Remember

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Mon Feb 4/19	7:30 pm	CWL Langton Meeting
Tues Feb 5/19	8:00 pm	Knights of Columbus Meeting
Wed Feb 6/19	9:30 am	SHS School Mass
	1:45 pm	OLFS School Mass
Thurs Feb 7/19	1:45 pm	STMS School Mass
Tues Feb 12/19	7:30 pm	Finance Committee Meeting
Wed Feb 13/19	7:00 pm	CWL Walsh Meeting
Sat Feb 23/19	10:30 am	CWL Annual Spring Bazaar at LCC + Pick up of Cabbage Rolls
Wed Feb 27/19	10:15 am	1st Communion Retreat for SHS
Thurs Feb 28/19	10:30 am	1st Communion Retreat for STMS

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Church Prayer

My Church is composed,
of people like me.
it will be friendly,
if I am.

Its pews will be filled,
if I help fill them.

It will do great work,
if I work.

It will make generous gifts,
if I give generously.

It will bring in many people,
if I invite them into its worship &
fellowship.

It will be a Church filled with loyalty, love, faith and
spirit,

if I am filled with the same things.

So with the help of God,

I will be all things that

I want my Church to be !

Amen.

CWL ANNUAL SPRING BAZAAR

The CWL will once again host the Annual Spring Bazaar on Saturday February 23rd, 2019 at the Langton Community Centre. Doors open at 10:30 am with a Giant Penny Sale, Used books, cabbage Rolls for sale, Door prizes and many more. NEW this year will be hot soup and sandwiches. Bingo begins at 1:00 pm. Come out and have some fun! We will also again be collecting items for our White Elephant table as well as good used books. Books can be dropped off at the back of the Church anytime. Items for the White Elephant table can be dropped off at the Community Centre on Friday February 22nd between 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. We will also be taking orders for Cabbage Rolls, Please call Jeanette Major at 519-875-4952. Pick up the Cabbage Rolls on February 23rd, 2019. for more information contact Carol Vanderhaeghe at 519-875-4377.



NEW PARISH WEBSITE

From January 1st our parish is having a new website which we share with St. Mary's Tillsonburg because the Diocese has stopped supporting our parish website. As we are still working on it, it will take awhile for us to post all information's about our parish. In order to have access to our parish bulletin, please click on the Sunday date, and if you happen to click on Saturdays date, you will be finding St. Mary's bulletin. You will no more be receiving the bulletin by emails. Thank you for your patience.

BAPTISMAL PREPERATIONS

There will be Baptismal preparation classes for Grade 2 children who are getting ready for their First Communion, and who are not yet been Baptized, for the following dates : **Wed Feb 6th, Wed Feb 13th & Wed Feb 20th at 6:30 pm at Sacred Heart Church, Langton.**

LANGTON CWL- CABBAGE ROLLS

The Langton CWL are taking orders for cabbage rolls. Price is \$17.00 per dozen. Please pick them up at the Langton Community Centre on February 23rd from 10:30 am to 3:00 pm. Please phone 519-875-4952 or email jmamajor@hotmail.com to order or for more information.

CWL LANGTON BAZAAR

Attention CWL members or ladies of the Parish, Do you do crafts? Do you Sew, knit or crochet? If so, the craft table for the CWL Langton Bazaar is in need of donations. For more information or ideas, please call Diane Kersten at 519-875-2341.

CWL CRAFT DAY & SHOEBOXES

The CWL Craft Day & Shoe Boxes will held on Tuesday February 12, 2019 at the Langton Community Centre, starting at 1 pm. Please come and join us to help fill the shoe boxes and for craft making and a coffee. We are shipping the shoe boxes differently this year, so please bring your articles for them. Thank you Mary Anne Kersten.

