

PARISH WEEKLY COLLECTION UPDATE:

My dear parishioners, our parish is in a dire and serious financial situation which can only be remedied by your weekly parish offertory commitments. The following information will be posted in the bulletin each week until such time as we begin to meet our weekly financial commitments to keep everyone apprised of our overall financial situation. *Thank you. Fr. Charles*

■ WEEKLY COST OF RUNNING OUR PARISH - \$6,243.

LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY COLLECTION

• Envelopes, Loose bills and change - \$3,346.

• Pre-Authorized Giving (PAP) - \$1,343.

➔ TOTAL COLLECTION LAST WEEK: **\$4,689.**

Deficit in last week's collection: \$1,554.

SO, MASS IS BORING, EH?

"Mass is boring." "I don't get anything out of Mass — why should I go?" "Why can't I just pray alone?"

These are common feelings, especially among young people but among many adults as well. How should we respond?

"Do this in memory of me."

- JESUS, THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE 22:19

The great Bishop Fulton J. Sheen, when conducting a retreat for teenagers, once gave a talk on the meaning of the Mass. He said, "If you don't get anything out of Mass, it's because you don't bring the right expectations to it." The Mass is not entertainment, he said. It is worship of the God who made us and saves us. It is an opportunity to praise God and thank Him for all that He has done for us.

If we have a correct understanding of Mass, Bishop Sheen said, it will become more meaningful for us. We will want to go to Mass. We will understand why the Mass is God's precious gift to us, and we wouldn't think of refusing that gift. Here are eight reasons to go to Mass:

1. The Command of God.

The Third of the Ten Commandments given to Moses by God is, "Remember to keep holy the Sabbath day" (Exodus 20:8).

2. The Command of Christ.

Why should we keep the Sabbath holy by going to Mass? The Mass was instituted at the Last Supper by Jesus before his Crucifixion. The Last Supper was the first Mass.

When the hour came, he [Jesus] took his place at the table with the apostles . . . Then he took the bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which will be given for you. Do this in memory of me" (Luke 22:14,19).

When we celebrate the Mass, we repeat the Last Supper, as Jesus commanded us to do. In doing this, we remember and re-present his great act of love for us on the Cross — taking our sins upon himself so that we, if we follow his commandments, can live with him forever in heaven.

3. The Command of the Church.

The Church teaches that we must fulfill the command of Jesus ("Do this in memory of me") by attending Sunday Mass (or the Vigil Mass the night before). The Catechism of the Catholic Church (1994, pp. 493-94) explains that Mass attendance on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation is the first of the six

Commandments of the Church. These Commandments of the Church also require receiving Communion at least once a year during the Easter season, confessing any mortal sin as a preparation for Communion, and observing the prescribed days of fasting and abstinence. These Commandments spell out the minimal responsibilities of a Catholic. To fail to fulfill them through our own fault, the Church teaches, is a serious sin.

4. The Church speaks with the authority of Jesus.

Why should we obey these teachings of the Church? Where does the Church get its authority? From Jesus. In Matthew 16:18-19, Jesus made Peter the head of his Church — the first Pope. He gave Peter and the Church "the keys to the kingdom of heaven": I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

The Church's authority in faith and morals is absolute because Christ's authority is absolute.

5. What we do at Mass.

The Mass is first of all a sacrifice — the perfect sacrifice, created by Jesus. Through the priest we offer Jesus, Body and Blood, to the Father, just as Jesus offered Himself to the Father on the Cross. In an unbloody way, we repeat — make present — Christ's death and Resurrection. Through this memorial of Jesus, we offer God our praise, sorrow for our sins, and deepest thanks.

The Mass is also a meal. At the Consecration, the bread and wine, through the power of the Holy Spirit, become the Body and Blood of Christ. Not a mere symbol, but Jesus' real flesh and real blood, under the appearance of bread and wine. When we receive Holy Communion, we receive Jesus Himself. He is real food for our soul. He said this very plainly: I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day. My flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him. (John 6:55-56).

What are the benefits of Holy Communion? It strengthens our union with Jesus; He lives within us in a special way. It cleanses us from venial sins. (Mortal sins require forgiveness in Confession.) It gives us grace to avoid sin in the future. It increases our love of God and neighbor.

6. Why do we have to worship with other people?

God made us social beings. He wants us to come together in community to worship Him. Jesus said, "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I" (Matthew 18:20).

7. What are the consequences for others if we stop going to Mass?

James Stenson points out:

"Our ancestors risked persecution, even death, to be able to take part in Mass. When you have children someday, they will need the graces and strength that come from the Mass. If you fail to pass it on because of your own indifference, you will do the gravest injustice to them and to God. You have the power to snuff out, in one generation, the faith that has sustained your family

for generations. This is an enormous responsibility. You will have to answer to God for it."

8. The benefits of Mass.

If we give God a chance, He will help us experience the tremendous benefits of the Mass and the Eucharist. James Stenson writes:

"Be patient. Bring an attitude of prayer and thanksgiving to Mass, and you will reap great spiritual riches: consolation, confidence, peace, deep happiness, and spiritual strength for the challenges of life."

Mother Teresa once wrote: "Jesus is my God/ Jesus is my Spouse/ Jesus is my Life/ Jesus is my Everything. Because of this, I am never afraid." Mother Teresa went to Mass every day. If we love the Mass as she did, we, too, will live in Jesus and he in us, and will we never be afraid.

IN THE PARISH THIS WEEK:

- This Sunday is Coffee Sunday after the 9 & 11 am masses.
- Next Friday Nov. 4th is Euchre Night starting at 7 pm sharp.
- Knights of Columbus selling Right-to-Life Christmas Cards after the weekend masses next weekend.
- CWL Meeting next Sunday Nov. 6 after the 11 am Mass. Guest Speaker – Margaret McIntyre. Topic – Vaccines. Light Lunch Provided.

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, Nov. 1 – 8:30 a.m. – Andrew Nemeth+

Wednesday, Nov. 2 – 7:00 p.m. – Feast of All Souls

Thursday, Nov. 3 – 8:30 a.m. –

Friday, Nov. 4 – 8:30 a.m. –

Saturday, Nov. 5 – 5:00 p.m. – For the intentions of our Parish
Community

Sunday, Nov. 6 - 9:00 a.m. –

- 11:00 a.m. – Wanita & Julie Gourdiert+

THE CWL WILL BE TAKING ORDERS FOR CHRISTIAN GREETING CARDS THIS WEEKEND – SEE SIGN ON TABLE IN THE CHURCH ENTRANCE.

STILL A FEW BABY BOTTLES TO BE RETURNED. NEEDED BY ROSE OF DURHAM FOR FUTURE.

Our parish has a trained and dedicated team of Lay Pastoral Visitors (LPV) who visit the sick and homebound of our parish, bringing them Communion each Sunday, if requested. These Lay Pastoral Visitors assist Fr. Charles in bringing Communion to the many whom are unable either temporarily or more regularly to attend Sunday Mass. These LPV's go directly from the Sunday Mass to the homes of parishioners with Communion. If you or a family member would like to be visited, please call the parish office at 905-655-3286 ext. 101.

CRAFT/VENDORS FAIR

Saturday, November 5th, 2011 - 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
CHRISTMAS SHOPPING MADE EASY!

SPONSORED BY C.W.L.

IN LOVING REMEMBRANCE

The Book of Remembrance, in which parishioners can record the names of their deceased family members, is on the lectern (on the right-side of the altar) in front of the statue of Mary. You may enter the names of those you wish remembered. During the month of November all the Holy Souls will be remembered at all the masses.

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS WILL BE SELLING RIGHT-TO-LIFE CHRISTMAS CARDS ON NOVEMBER 6, 13, AND 20 AND CAMPAIGN LIFE CHRISTMAS CAKES – DECEMBER 3/4, DECEMBER 10/11 AND DECEMBER 17/18, 2011 IN THE CHURCH VESTIBULE AFTER ALL THE MASSES.

PLEASE SEE THE FLYER ON THE CHURCH BULLETIN BOARD RE CONQUEST BOYS CLUB. CONQUEST IS A NATIONAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM THAT TRAINS BOYS TO BECOME SELF-DISCIPLINED AND CONFIDENT YOUNG MEN. CATHOLIC LEADERS WHO POSSESS MORAL INTEGRITY AND ARE COMMITTED TO IMPROVING THE COMMUNITIES IN WHICH THEY LIVE.

"THE LOVE OF CHRIST URGES US ON" TO RADICALLY RESPOND TO HIS CALL TO FOLLOW HIM WHOLE-HEARTILY. JESUS IS INVITING YOU TO SPEND TIME WITH HIM SO THAT YOU MAY DISCOVER HIS CALL.

NOVEMBER 4 TO 6, 2011

ST. AUGUSTINE'S SEMINARY

THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUNG MEN OF 18 YEARS OR OLDER TO SPEND A WEEKEND OF PRAYER, REFLECTION AND INFORMATION ON THE PROCESS OF BECOMING ONE OF CHRIST'S DISCIPLES THROUGH THE CATHOLIC PRIESTHOOD.

SERRA CLUB OF DURHAM REGION MEETING – NOV. 2ND, 2011 – 7:00 P.M. MASS FOLLOWED BY REFRESHMENTS AND GUEST SPEAKER IN THE ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER, OSHAWA - PARISH HALL. PLEASE SEE THE POSTER ON THE CHURCH BULLETIN BOARD.

THE SERRA CLUB OF DURHAM IS HOSTING THE 5TH ANNUAL PRIEST APPRECIATION DINNER ON NOVEMBER 15TH AT 6:30 P.M. AT ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER PARISH HALL (1100 MARY ST. N., OSHAWA). TICKETS ARE \$35. FOR TICKETS OR INFORMATION PLEASE CALL CAROLE OSIER AT (905) 571-4605 OR BY EMAIL AT SERRADURHAM@HOTMAIL.COM TICKETS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER PARISH OFFICE DURING OFFICE HOURS (905) 432-2300.

PLEASE SEE THE POSTER ON THE CHURCH BULLETIN BOARD - THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONNECTION OF ST. THERESE PARISH, COURTYARD, ONTARIO CHRISTMAS BAZAAR ON NOV. 5, 2011 FROM 10 AM TO 2 PM.

PLEASE SEE THE DURHAM REGION HEALTH DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY FLU VACCINE CLINICS POSTERS ON THE EASEL BOARD IN THE CHURCH VESTIBULE.