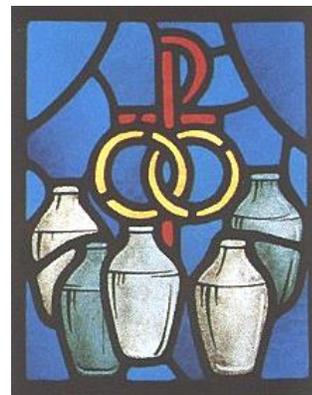


Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 20, 2019



MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS: JANUARY 19 TO JANUARY 27

Saturday	Jan. 19	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
4:30 pm	Chris Kolodnicki	Mike & Rina Callard
Sunday	Jan. 20	
9:00 am	Our Parishioners	
11:00 am	Maria Bastone	Concetta Vocino
Monday	Jan. 21	
8:30 am	William Ford	Barbara & Nicole Percival
Tuesday	Jan. 22	
8:30	Stanley Szuszkowski	Linda Kunz
Wednesday	Jan. 23	
8:30 am	Tom O'Connell	Denyse Fournier
Thursday	Jan. 24	
8:30 am	Babs Linton	Ron & Joy Pinto
Friday	Jan. 25	
8:30 am	Dean & Tom Stock	Cathy, Phil & Family
Saturday	Jan. 26	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
4:30 pm	Maria Bastone	Rosemary & Joe Furino
Sunday	Jan. 27	
9:00 am	Our Parishioners	
11:00am	Francis Mendonza	The family

SANCTUARY LAMP (Week)

January 20: Antonio & Alberta Fiori, requested by their family.

January 27: Francis Mendonza, requested by his wife & family.

LORD GRANT MERCY AND LASTING PEACE to those who have died recently and strength and comfort to those who mourn them: Pasqua Balenzano mother of Giuseppe Magistrale.

TUESDAY MORNING MEET AND GREET resumes February 5 after morning Mass. All welcome.

FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD FEBRUARY 2, Mass at 11:00 am. Bring your candles and Father will bless them during the Mass.

FEAST OF ST. BLAISE: Blessing of Throats

This popular feast is not observed liturgically this year as it falls a Sunday, however, our priests will carry out the blessing of throats after the Saturday and Sunday Masses, February 2 & 3.

PARISH VITALITY CONFERENCE FOLLOW UP: Join us on Saturday, January 26, 9:00 a.m., at Becket, to continue the dialogue. Fr. Raymond Lafontaine E.V. and Terrel Joseph will guide us as we network and discuss together the ways that our parishes can be beacons of the Gospel in our communities. Coffee and refreshments will be served. Admission is free. **ALL ARE WELCOME**, even if you did not attend the conference in November. Please register online <https://tinyurl.com/yd5jd357>

FEAST OF THE CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE: January 25



The conversion that Paul had on his way to Damascus, was at the beginning of the 30s in the first century. It was after a period in which he had persecuted the Church that the decisive moment in Paul's life occurred. He began, unexpectedly, to consider as "loss" and "refuse" all that had earlier constituted his greatest ideal, as it were the *raison d'être*

of his life. What had happened?

The heart of the event was that the Risen Christ appeared as a brilliant light and speaks to Saul, transforms his thinking and his entire life. The dazzling radiance of the Risen Christ blinds him; thus what was his inner reality is also outwardly apparent, his blindness to the truth, to the light that is Christ. And then his definitive "yes" to Christ in Baptism restores his sight and makes him really see. In the ancient Church Baptism was also called "illumination", because this sacrament gives light; it truly makes one see. Thus St Paul was not transformed by a thought but by an event, by the irresistible presence of the Risen One whom subsequently he would never be able to doubt. It radically changed Paul's life in a fundamental way.

In St Paul's Letters, the clearest text found is in his narrative of what constitutes the centre of salvation history: the death and Resurrection of Jesus and his appearances to witnesses. He says that Jesus died on the Cross, was buried and after the Resurrection appeared risen first to Peter, then to the Twelve, then to 500 brethren, then to all the Apostles. And to this account handed down by tradition he adds, "Last of all... he appeared also to me." Thus he makes it clear that this is the foundation of his apostolate and of his new life.

Thus we can see that the two sources, the Acts of the Apostles and the Letters of St Paul, converge and agree on the fundamental point: the Risen One spoke to Paul, called him to the apostolate and made him a true Apostle, a witness of the Resurrection, with the specific task of proclaiming the Gospel to the Gentiles, to the Greco-Roman world. And at the same time, Paul learned that he had to enter into communion with the Church, he himself had to be baptized, he had to live in harmony with the other Apostles.

What does this mean for us? For us, too, Christianity is not a new philosophy or morality. We are only Christians if we encounter Christ. Of course, he does not show himself to us in this overwhelming, luminous way, as he did to Paul to make him the Apostle to all peoples. But we too can encounter Christ in Sacred Scripture, in prayer, in the liturgical life of the Church. We can touch Christ's Heart and feel him touching ours. Only in this personal relationship with Christ, the Risen One, do we truly become Christians. Therefore let us pray the Lord to illuminate us, to grant us an encounter with his presence in our world, and thus to grant us a lively faith, an open heart and great love for all, which is capable of renewing the world.

~ Pope Benedict XVI (excerpts)

January 25 marks the close of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Let us pray in the words of Jesus: *"I pray . . . for those who will believe in me through their word, so that they may all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you, that they also may be in us, that the world may believe that you sent me."* (John 17:20-21)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR JAN 12/13

Offerings: \$5, 702.75 Helping Others: \$1, 980.00

FOR BETTER & FOREVER! AN INVITATION TO: “THE MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE” All couples considering marriage (whether currently engaged or not) are encouraged to learn how to lay the foundation for a relationship that will last a lifetime. The Marriage Preparation Course is ideal for couples who wish to discover more about themselves, and married life, before the day they say “I do!” The key to having a great marriage is not finding the right spouse, but being the right spouse! You are invited to join us over 5 weekly sessions, in a relaxed home setting in Kirkland, on Tuesday evenings at 7:15 pm, starting Jan 29, ending Feb 26. There is absolutely no group work and all discussions remain completely private between you and your partner. The fee is \$50.00 per couple. To register, or for more information, please contact Nathalie or John Bondyra at 514-695-7896, or at kahndyra@sympatico.ca.

FAITH FIRST

First Communion Parent Info Meeting: Wednesday, Jan 23 at 7pm in the church
Confirmation Parent Info Meeting: Wednesday, Jan 23 at 8pm in the church

HERE’S A QUESTION



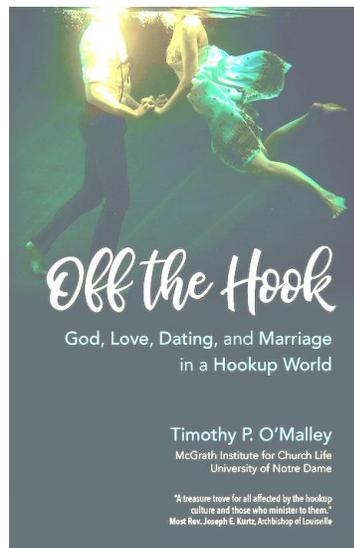
If God already knows our future and what we will choose, then what’s the point?

The question regarding God’s foreknowledge and our free will is one of the most vexing to puzzle Christian theologians, and it was one of the fundamental issues leading to the breakup of Christianity during the Protestant Reformation. *The Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches: “To God, all moments of time are present in their immediacy. When therefore he establishes his eternal plan of ‘predestination,’ he includes in it each person’s free response to his grace” (No. 600). In its simplest terms, this means God provides grace sufficient to save a soul, but this grace has no effect if an individual refuses to cooperate with it. We conclude this because our faith teaches (1) God has conferred a supernatural destiny upon us and (2) our first parents, before the Fall, were endowed with sanctifying grace, but they chose to disregard it.

~ Father Reginald Martin

BE REFRESHED IN MIND, BODY AND SPIRIT... Silent, directed weekend retreat at La Maison de Prière Notre-Dame, in Longueuil. Begins Friday evening February 15, and ends Sunday afternoon. Info: 514-626-9462 or 514-633-1172 or visit www.montrealretreats.org

WORTHWHILE READING:



Off the Hook: God, Love, Dating, and Marriage in a Hookup World, by Timothy P. O’Malley
Hookup culture is about much more than the quest for pleasure. It offers an easy way out of real communication and lasting relationships. It also teaches us to treat each other as objects for personal satisfaction. Even those who reject the hookup culture can still be negatively affected by it and develop poor habits of relating to others. In *Off the Hook*, Timothy P. O’Malley, professor of theology at the University of Notre Dame, shows how God’s plan for love serves to heal the wounds of hookup culture and is a medicine for what ails our understanding of sex, romance, love, and marriage.