

# Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time September 11, 2005



I give you a new commandment:  
love one another as I have loved you.

**WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE – Sept 12 to Sept 16**  
~ Our priests will be on retreat from September 12 to 16 ~  
**Mon. 7:30 p.m. Mass, Tues., 7:30 p.m. Communion Service,**  
**Wed to Fri 8:30 a.m. Communion Service**  
NB We are again celebrating **5pm Sunday Mass** (Sept – May)

## HAPPY 30<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY FR. MIKE!!

Fr. Mike Shaw is celebrating his **30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** of ordination to the priesthood on September 13<sup>th</sup> 2005. Fr. Mike served as curate at St. Thomas à Becket from 1975 to 1980. Many blessings to Fr. Mike! May God bless you in all you do. Please join us for reception with Fr. Mike in narthex after the Monday evening Mass September 12.



## FAITH FIRST NEWS

Please note: **Late registration** for Faith First continues until September 16. There is a late fee of \$25.00 per child. **No registrations** will be accepted **after September 16, 2005**. For more information call 620-4057.

## FAITH FIRST WORKBOOK DISTRIBUTION.

Faith First workbooks, calendars and activity sheets will be available for pick up in the Parish hall **September 14 & 15 from 7-9 p.m.**

## BLESSING OF SCHOOL BAGS AND FAITH FIRST BOOKS

Our annual blessing of school bags and Faith First workbooks will be held at all weekend Masses **September 17&18, and 24&25**. This special blessing is open to **students of all ages** from preschoolers to university!

## IN OUR PARISH

### FR. TOM'S FAREWELL CELEBRATION

Join us for a pot-luck dinner and dance on September 17 after the 4:30 p.m. Mass as we say a final good-bye to Fr. Tom. **Sign up in Narthex.**



### PARISH BAZAAR – OCTOBER 15 & 16

Donations and volunteers needed. Call Maggie: 626-2015. Donors please bring your articles to the parish hall starting October 10, before 8 p.m.

### ATTENTION EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS AND LECTORS

Please pick up a copy of the **new schedules** in the Narthex. We also need a Mass Coordinator and Eucharistic Ministers for the **5 p.m. Sunday Mass.**



## NEEDS OF THE CHURCH COLLECTION - 25 SEPTEMBER



If you were asked to describe the work of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCCB), how would you answer? If you answered that, as the name indicates, it brings together the Bishops of Canada, allowing them to work collectively for the good of our Church, you would be right!

Many people also know the Conference through its work in coordinating major events, such as World Youth Day or the veneration of the relics of St. Therese of Lisieux across Canada. The CCCC also participates actively in dialogue with representatives of other Christian churches and religions. The Conference encourages missionary and evangelical work throughout the world, but also here in Canada, in the Far North. The CCCC also works in collaboration with Development and Peace – an organization that it founded – to promote international solidarity. It urges our government on topics important to Canadians, including marriage, health care, child poverty, respect for life, and the state of the family.

Within our Church, the CCCC plays a unique and irreplaceable role, as do the diocese and the parish. In order to continue its work, the Conference needs your financial assistance. Thank you in advance for your generous donation on the occasion of the Bishops' Collection for the Needs of the Church in Canada, which will be held on **Sunday, 25 September 2005**. Information: [www.cccb.ca](http://www.cccb.ca) or [cecc@ccb.ca](mailto:cecc@ccb.ca).

### HAS GOD CHANGED YOUR LIFE?

Our God is a God who changes lives, because He gives Himself to us, in the Person of Jesus, Man and God, his Son. The Alpha Course takes just 10 weeks to explore this wondrous mystery, and is designed especially for the person who knows nothing about God, Jesus, Christianity, or Church. Has God changed your life? Was it through an Alpha Course? If it was and you know the value of this powerful course, encourage others to come and see at our Alpha Supper next Sunday at 6:00. It's "Pot luck" so bring a dish and our team will set up the dishes, reheat if necessary, so we can begin supper around 6:30. After supper, there will be an interesting talk entitled: "Christianity: boring, untrue, or irrelevant?" Your guests will enjoy a great meal, good company, hear an interesting talk, be free to take it or leave it, with no obligations whatever. That's a good deal, and you needn't be embarrassed about proposing it. In fact, they'll be grateful you did. If you're not familiar with Alpha, you may want to check it out for yourself first, or come with your friends. Information for those interested in the Alpha Course will be available at the Supper. Info: Parish Office.

### PROTESTANT? WISHING TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION?

If this is you, and you'd like to know more about the Roman Catholic faith tradition and Church, all you need to know is where to inquire. To start, you can come to the Alpha Supper mentioned above and/or sign up for the Alpha Course, which will begin at the end of the month. Then you can get in touch with one of our priests or with the Parish Office and we'll be glad to explore the possibilities with you. If you're tired of general impressions and want to know real Catholic Christians and our faith, we'll be very glad to join you in your search. It's all about freedom, truth, and peace in God.

## WONDERING WHAT CHRISTIANITY IS ALL ABOUT?



If you know anyone or you yourself are wondering about who Jesus Christ really is and what his Church is all about and whether Christians are doing anything to resolve their differences, you will find that the Alpha Course is a good place to start. We warmly invite you to join us – for the eighth year – at an Alpha Supper next **Sunday September 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.** in the Parish Hall. Bring your questions and get some good leads in your quest for truth. Pour le Cours **Alpha en français**, appelez Hélène à 695-9955.

## 40<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY NEWS

If you have been away from the parish for the summer, please see copies of the bulletin insert at the back of the church for information regarding the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary news. The DVD trailer is available on the What's New section of our parish website [www.stthomasabecket.org](http://www.stthomasabecket.org) If you would like to make any contributions of time, talent, memories, pictures, anecdotes etc. etc. for our anniversary celebrations, please call 626-4111.

## THURSDAY MORNING PRAYER GROUP

Will resume on the **15<sup>th</sup> of September at 9:15 a.m.** in Cahill Hall. This fall's study will be "The life you've always wanted. Spiritual discipline for ordinary people".

## COME AND DISCOVER YOUR PURPOSE

You are invited to join us for a women's study "Pathway to Purpose" beginning **Tuesday September 20<sup>th</sup> from 1-3 p.m.** in Cahill Hall. Please register early as spaces are limited. Nathalie 695-7896 Louise at 630-6556.

## BECKET SENIORS

New season begins for Becket Seniors **September 12 at 1:30 p.m.** Membership is \$15.00. Join us! Audrey 626-3586 or Lois 626-7437.

## VISITORS TO THE SICK AND ELDERLY

We need to make a list of **all those involved in visiting the sick and elderly**. All parishioners who make visits to the sick and or elderly are asked to include their name on the list that can be found in the Narthex.

## CWL

We cordially invite you to join us for a beautiful morning as we at the CWL St. Thomas à Becket Council once again host our 6<sup>th</sup> annual **WOMEN'S POWER BREAKFAST: "Enfolded in His Love"** on Saturday, **October 1<sup>st</sup> 2005, 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** Featuring our guest speaker Catherine Cherry and to lead us in song: Christine Zarzour with accompanist Marie Benveniste. **RSVP deadline Sept. 26.** Please call Lauren 626-4129 or Louise 630-6556 (\$12.00 fee at the door)

## DO WE HAVE FUN?

Yes! Come and join us **Tuesday, Sept 13<sup>th</sup> for the 7:30 p.m.** communion service followed by a wine and cheese in Cahill Hall for our first CWL meeting of the season. All women non-members are welcomed Info: Kathleen 695-7230 or Louise 630-6556.

## YOUTH

### YOUTH INFORMATION FUN DAY

Calling all youth groups!! Want to attract others to your youth group? Want to let other youth in the parish know all about what you do and how they can get involved? What to get involved? All youth are invited to come and share, or come learn about the youth activities in our parish on **September 24 and 25 after all Masses**. All groups leaders are asked call Vita Lewis at 694-1118 to set up in Hall. *“I know that you as young people have great aspirations, that you want to pledge yourselves to build a better world. Let others see this, let the world see it, since this is exactly the witness that the world expects from the disciples of Jesus Christ.”*

*Excerpt from Pope Benedict’s homily to youth, August 21, 2005 at WYD*

### COMMUNITY SERVICE FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

All student parishioners who are required to do community service as part of their high school curriculum are invited to call the parish office. We may have opportunities for you within the parish community. 622-4111.

### CHILDREN’S CHOIR

The children’s choir will be starting practices, **Sunday September 18<sup>th</sup>** in the church. New members wishing to join are asked to contact K. Lalonde 695-7230. Children should love to sing and be able to read.

### CHILDREN’S LITURGY

Children’s Liturgy takes place at the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Masses and runs from October 23 to Dec. 18, then from Jan 15 to Mother’s Day.

Registration will take place **Sept 14 & 15 from 7-9 p.m., Sept.18** after morning Masses and during Youth Information Fun Day, **Sept. 24 & 25**. **Teachers and helpers are needed** to ensure the success of this program. Please consider this stewardship opportunity when you register your child.



### PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

The annual fraternal fall gathering of priests will be held this year from September 11 to 16. Please pray for Fr. Gilles, Fr. Placido, and all our priests, living and deceased, between now and the annual retreat. Thank you for your loving support and prayers!

*Divine and Holy Shepherd, remember at all times the men who have taken up Your call to deny themselves and follow you. They are your shepherds, your precious and beloved priests who walk courageously in the footsteps of Peter.*

*We your people ask that You grant them every grace to carry out your mission: to find within the daily living of their vocation all of the joy, the hope and the faith that they will need to be true disciples of Your Word.*

*May they know your strength in times of struggle, your wisdom in times of doubt, your comfort in times of sorrow, and your abiding hope in times of uncertainty. Bless the young ones with perseverance, bless the old ones with patience, and bless them all, young and old alike, with peace.*

*For they are our blessing, the fulfillment of your great promise to us, and we are truly grateful for their courage, for their service, for their vision, and for the gift of their priesthood! Amen!*

**Roberta McClelland**

## **HAVE A CAR FOR GOD?**

In 1999 I left my 1986 Pontiac Sunbird with Madonna House Apostolate. It had been a gift 3 years after my ordination from cousins in 1986, was a gift from the Lord, and I carefully maintained it. At the 1999 summer Billy Graham School of Evangelism I heard a call from the Lord in my heart to donate my car for his glory. I was very attached to this car, but trusting in the Lord, when I went to the annual Associates Meeting in September I left Madonna House the car and got a lift back home. On my return, I appealed to you for a car and a parishioner offered me the 1992 Grand Prix I currently use. It needed repair, but it has been a very safe, comfortable, useful, and enjoyable vehicle.

Once again this summer I heard a call from the Lord to donate this car to Madonna House. How can we know it's a call from the Lord? My first reaction – as soon as the thought crept through my heart – was “No way! I like this car. I've put a lot of money into it to keep it in top shape! It's got cruise control and is comfortable; making my long drives a breeze! Besides, it has a lot more years left in it.” Then, a deep, warm, generous consent began to happen within. I recognized that as a grace, a “touch of the Holy Spirit” giving us the desire to want what God wants. Madonna House Apostolate is a work of Our Lady, it's her house and they are her children. She cares for them and appeals to the Father for them. They do the Father's will and Jesus' work all around the world. I remember once consecrating all my life and possessions to Jesus through the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Why shouldn't she feel free to ask for this car? The Lord loves all of his children, and we are happiest when He gets what He wants.

I'll never be able to afford a new car, but rather than try to find one myself from a used car dealer, I'd much rather give you an opportunity to share in the great joy of making such an offering to the Lord for his work. If you'd like to offer a good car to Him, please see me, and we'll explore the possibilities. The ideal time would be anytime from now to September 23<sup>rd</sup>; because I'd like to leave the Grand Prix at Madonna House when I go to the annual Associates Meetings the following week. May God bless you, your family, and your work, now and always. **Fr. Gilles, your Pastor**

## **BECKET PANTRY NEEDS**



Current needs: dish soap, bar soap, toothpaste, kleenex, toilet paper. Thanks for you continuing generosity. We **desperately** need more **VOLUNTEER DRIVERS** to deliver groceries to needy families in our parish territory. Please consider this rewarding stewardship opportunity. Call 626-4111.

## **HELP WANTED FOR YOUNG FAMILY**

A family within the parish is expecting triplets soon. They will need volunteers to help with the babies and with light housekeeping when they come home from the hospital. If you can help please call 626-4111.

## **AROUND TOWN**

### **SACRED HEART SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE**

The Sacred Heart School of Montreal is one of Canada's oldest independent Catholic secondary schools for girls. All parents and girls of the parish are welcome to attend Sacred Heart's Open House at 3635 Atwater Avenue, Saturday, **September 24, from 1 – 4 p.m.** Welcome!

Info: [www.sacredheart.qc.ca](http://www.sacredheart.qc.ca) or call 937-2845.