

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 27, 2017



MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS: AUGUST 26 TO SEPTEMBER 3

(L) indicates a living intention

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	Aug. 26	
4:30 pm	Rosa Bastone-Perri	Rosemary & Joe Furino
Sunday	Aug. 27	
9:00 am	Our parishioners	
11:00 am	Jean Mack	The Robertson family
Monday	Aug. 28	
8:30 am	Anna Donald & Family (L)	Julia Principe
Tuesday	Aug. 29	
8:30 am	Cindy Cameron	Betty & Andy Quinn
Wednesday	Aug. 30	
8:30 am	Samir Kafena	Vera Furci & Biagio Argento & family
Thursday	Aug. 31	
8:30 am	Maria Kustec	Martin Matajic & Family
Friday	Sept. 01	First Friday
8:30 am	George Martin	The McNally family
Saturday	Sept. 02	
4:30 pm	Joan Colford	Angela Colford
Sunday	Sept. 03	
9:00	Robert Remedios	Mervyn & Cynthia
11:00 am	Our Parishioners	

SANCTUARY LAMP:

Week of:

August 27: Santo Anania, requested by Lucia Anania & family

September 3: Sean Richardson, requested by Gerry & Dawn Richardson

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

Offering amounts for August 19/20

Offerings: \$4,341.00

Upcoming special collection: September 10 - Helping Others

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION: September 01 is the First Friday of the month. After Mass, you are invited to join us for an hour between 10:00 a.m. and midnight for exposition and adoration of the Holy Eucharist. Please sign up in the book at the back of the church.

GROWING IN VIRTUE When you enter into the St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City, one of the first works of art that you notice off to the right is that of Michelangelo's famous Pietà, his depiction of the Blessed Mother holding our Lord after He has been taken down from the Cross. This sculpture was the only work of art that Michelangelo signed, and here's why.



The Pietà was the first great work that Michelangelo did in Rome. He was only 24 when he finished sculpting that masterpiece, so he was still an unknown artist at the time. When the Pietà was finally unveiled, all wondered who could have made such a masterpiece. When Michelangelo told them that he did it, they

didn't believe him. So one night he snuck into the basilica and etched his name on a sash across Mary's chest. Michelangelo soon realized the sin of his actions and never again signed another piece of work.

Now, what sin did Michelangelo commit? It was the sin of pride. And not only did he commit the sin of pride, but he committed it by putting his name across the chest of the Blessed Mother, who is the Church's model of humility.

Humility is often called the mother of all virtues, because it is the virtue that opposes pride, which is the mother of all vices. Pride was the original sin, the sin of Adam that caused the fall of man. But humility, the virtue that God demonstrated in becoming man, frees our will, our intellect, and our heart to the promptings of the Holy Spirit, that we may recognize the way, the truth, and the life that will lead us to our heavenly reward; for as the psalmist tells us: "A humble and contrite heart, O God, you will not spurn."

Humility isn't hiding or not using whatever gifts we may have. That, more often than not, comes from the sin of sloth. Humility is acknowledging our gifts and talents, not showing them off, but acknowledging them to ourselves and to our heavenly Father who gave them to us, and using them always for His greater glory, not our own, desiring only the reward of heaven for ourselves. We live in a culture that teaches us, "If you've got it, flaunt it." That's why today's fashions are so immodest, why pride and vanity are advertised as virtues.

Now, how might we acquire this virtue of humility?

First, "please": devotion to the saints, that is, asking for their prayers. The saints are all models of humility for us and powerful intercessors in Heaven.

Second, "thankyou": remembering to make prayers of thanksgiving. Prayers of thanksgiving remind us that what we have been given is a gift from God. Even when it's something that we may not think we want or need, giving thanks changes our whole perspective about the gift.

And third, "I'm sorry": making regular use of the Sacrament of Confession. This beautiful sacrament forces us to make an examination of conscience, to look deeply, personally, and honestly [at ourselves] and then to do the most humbling act that God requires of us, to swallow our pride and expose our naked, sinful soul to another human being; and through that humble act, we're able to experience the depth of God's mercy and love.

From an article by Fr. Augustine H. T. Tran

BECKET PANTRY NEEDS: Fridge, crib, double stroller, high chair, infant clothing, car seat, size one diapers, sugar (small 2kgs packages), tinned meats, baked beans, tomato paste, tomato juice, juice, muffin mix, pudding, jam, crackers, cookies. Thank you very much to everyone who has responded to our needs.

ST. MONICA & ST. AUGUSTINE: THE POWER OF PRAYER



Monica was born into a moderately wealthy family in North Africa about 331. An old Christian maidservant brought her up in the Christian faith.

Monica was given in marriage to Patricius, who was not a Christian. For many years Monica sought to win Patricius to the Lord. Following the advice of I Peter 3, Monica realized her conduct more than her words would be the means of Patricius' conversion. By persevering in patience and meekness, Monica won her mother-in-law to Christ. Patricius too eventually became a Christian towards the very end of his life.

Though the wife of a non-Christian, Monica prayed that her family might eventually all come to Christ. She attempted to bring her children up in the ways of the Lord, and it pained her to see them stray from the truth she had taught them. Her most promising son, Augustine, was given an excellent education, and Monica hoped this might be a means of his more fully reaching God. Augustine ignored his mother's warnings and pursued a life of self-gratification and immorality while continuing his classical education. He lived with a woman not his wife and fathered a child. Monica didn't have the words to convince her son of the truth of Christianity, but she determined never to stop praying that he would turn to God.

When Augustine went to Italy to teach, Monica, by then a widow, followed him there. In Milan she attended the church pastored by St. Ambrose and rejoiced when Augustine was befriended by Ambrose and eventually baptized by him.

Monica died in 387 at 56. In his Confessions, Augustine spoke of his grief and weeping for the mother "now gone from my sight, who for years had wept over me, that I might live in [God's] sight." She died a happy woman for she had seen her prayers answered, and both her husband and her son had become believers. Augustine was only 33 at the time of his mother's death, and many years of service to Christ and His Church lay before him. In later years Augustine could recognize the importance of his mother's perseverance in prayer to his own salvation and ministry. St. Monica's feast day is August 27. She is the patron saint of married women, mothers, victims of infidelity, and widows. St. Augustine's feast day is August 28.

FAITH FIRST NEWS

Welcome back families!

Here are some important dates to take note of for the start of our year.

Book Pick-up: Saturday, Sept. 9 from 1pm to 4:30pm & Sunday, Sept. 10 from 8:30am to 12:30pm (before & after masses) - in Cahill Hall

First Communion Info Meeting for parents with children celebrating this spring 2018 (second year)

Tuesday, Sept. 19 from 7pm-8pm - in the Church

Confirmation Info Meeting for parents with children celebrating confirmation in spring 2018.

Tuesday, Sept. 19 from 8pm-9pm - in the Church

New Families Orientation Parent Meeting

Thursday, Sept. 21 at 7:00 pm - in the Church Hall

Interested in joining our catechetical and sacramental preparation program? Online registration is open at www.becket.ca for children in grade 1 and up. Deadline is September 6, 2018.