



Our Lady of Mercy  
Pray for Us

**"The kingdom of Heaven is like a Pearl of great Price."**



St. John the Baptist  
Pray for Us

### *The Sunday Gospel Matthew 13:44-52*

Throughout these three weeks we have heard Jesus teaching crowds about the kingdom of heaven. In this week's Gospel, Jesus offers three more short parables.

The first two parables describe the great value of the kingdom of heaven. In the first parable, Jesus says that the kingdom of heaven is like a buried treasure that is worth possessing even if it means giving up everything else. In the second parable, Jesus proposes that the kingdom of heaven is like a pearl of great worth for which one will sell everything else to possess. These parables teach us that we are to place everything we value in the service of the pursuit of the Kingdom of God.

In the third parable, the kingdom of heaven is compared to fishing with a wide net. After the fish have been collected, the good fish are kept and the bad fish are thrown away; so too, in the final judgment, will the wicked and the righteous be separated.

Today's Gospel concludes with a curious statement about the scribe who understands the kingdom of heaven. The scribes referred to here are experts of Mosaic law. It is possible that Jesus is here instructing the early Christian community on how to proceed in the interpretation of Jewish law with respect to Jesus' "new" teaching. Jesus' teaching about the kingdom of heaven does not replace the Jewish tradition; it interprets it in a different light.

*Collections Last Weekend July 12<sup>th</sup> - \$1,125 Regular Sunday Offerings*

**\$3,400 – Total Donations for HH Church Facade Renovations to date**

#### *Weekday Masses*

Wed July 29, 11am- *For Safety of Covid-19 Front Liners*

Thurs July 30, 11am Mass- *For peace in the world*

Friday July 31, 11am Mass- *For End of Pandemic*

#### *Weekend Masses*

Sunday August 2, 9am- *Port Severn*

Sunday August 2, 11am- *Honey Harbour - People of the parish*

## Important Links

<https://www.peterboroughdiocese.org/en/index.aspx> - Mass of Michael Heffernan – 17th Sunday Ordinary Time  
<https://www.ladyofmercyhoneyharbour.ca> - Our parish website  
<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/848623575RR0008-our-lady-of-mercy-church/> - Online Donation to Our Lady of Mercy Honey Harbour  
[www.peterboroughdiocese.org](http://www.peterboroughdiocese.org) – Diocese of Peterborough

## Announcements

**Campus Ministry Special Collection.** On the weekend of August 1-2, a special collection will be taken up for the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Peterborough and for Peterborough Campus Ministry. The Vocations Office supports our seminarians and young men and women who are discerning their Vocations. Peterborough Campus Ministry brings the saving message “job and pursue something that had been of Jesus’ life death and resurrection to campus at Trent University and Fleming College’s Sutherland Campus.

**Face Mask Mandatory** – In Simcoe-Muskoka, the Health Unit has ordered that a face covering must be worn in places of worship as of Monday, July 13, 2020. This Order aligns with the By-law passed in the City of Toronto. The thinking behind the Health Unit's Order is that the Simcoe-Muskoka area receives many visitors from the GTA either as summer residents or cottagers. Therefore, in view of this population influx into the area, the Simcoe-Muskoka Health Unit issued an Order making the use of face coverings mandatory in all public places, including places of worship. The Simcoe-Muskoka Health Unit is the only Health Unit in the Diocese of Peterborough that has made the use of face coverings mandatory.

We are all committed to caring for our neighbors and those around us. While a number of restrictions have been lifted as the province moves into Stage 3 of Re-Opening, we are still in the middle of a pandemic and need to take the appropriate steps to minimize any potential spread of the COVID-19 Coronavirus.

**Provincial Specific Stage 3 effective Friday July 17<sup>th</sup>** Premier Doug Ford announced on Monday that most of the province will be moving to Stage 3 as of Friday, July 17 at 12:01 am. In the Diocese of Peterborough, this means that all areas except the Durham Region will be moving to Stage 3. The Durham Region remains in Stage 2. For places of worship, the provisions that were implemented in Stage 2 are unchanged i.e. 30% capacity. Bishop Daniel Miehm and the Reopening committee have deemed that Parish halls will remain CLOSED for rentals, events, etc. for indoor gatherings at this time.

**St. Peter Chrysologus (Feast-July 30)** A Bishop and Doctor of the Church, he was born at Imola, Italy in 380. St. Peter merited being called "Chrysologus" (golden-worded) from his exceptional oratorical eloquence. In 433, Pope Sixtus III consecrated him bishop of Ravenna. He practiced many corporal and spiritual works of mercy, and ruled his flock with utmost diligence and care. He extirpated the last vestiges of paganism and other abuses that had sprouted among his people. "Anyone who wishes to frolic with the devil," he remarked, "cannot rejoice with Christ." He also counseled the heretic Eutyches to avoid causing division but to learn from the other heretics who were crushed when they hurled themselves against the Rock of Peter. He was made a Doctor of the Church, largely as a result of his simple, practical, and clear sermons which have come down to us, nearly all dealing with Gospel subjects.

**Pope Francis:** “When love for parents and children is inspired and purified by love for the Lord, it then becomes wholly fruitful and produces good fruits within the family itself and well beyond it.”

## Important Reminders During Pandemic

***Pray always.*** Stay at home as much as possible. Wash your hands frequently and thoroughly. Observe physical distance. Wear a face mask or face shield when physical distancing is not possible. Connect with others virtually. Say “thank you” to frontline staff and community workers.

***Prayer During Pandemic:*** O Mary, you always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm. You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need, and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of the resurrection. Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.