



Our Lady of Mercy
Pray for Us



Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb! - Rev 19:9



St. John the Baptist
Pray for Us

Collections Last Weekend of October 4th

\$1, 480 - Regular Sunday Offerings

Weekday Masses

Wed Oct- No Mass

Thurs Oct-No Mass

Friday Oct 16, 11am Mass- Safety of Covid-19 Front Liners

Weekend Masses

Sunday October 18, 9am- Port Severn – +Joseph & Josephine King by Don & Eileen Cadeau

Sunday October 18, 11am- Honey Harbour – +Stanley Nowocin by Hearn family

Ken Cadeau – A very big “thank you” to Ken Cadeau for voluntarily cutting the grass at the west part of Port Severn Church. Now St. John the Baptist church building is visible to motorists from the highway because of Ken’s generous efforts.



The Sunday Gospel Matthew 22:1-14

In the parable of the wedding feast, Jesus offers an image of the kingdom of heaven using the symbol of a wedding banquet. With the invited guests deemed unworthy to attend the king’s wedding feast, the servants are sent to invite whomever they can find. The guests arrive, but it appears that accepting the king’s invitation brings certain obligations. The guest who failed to dress in the appropriate wedding attire is cast out of the feast. We are reminded that while many are invited to the kingdom of heaven, not all are able to meet its requirements. God invites us to his feast, giving us his salvation. Yet he asks us to repent for our sins.

Jesus’ message in the parable cautions against exclusive beliefs about the kingdom of heaven. The parable also teaches about humility. Those who assume that they are the invited guests may find that they have refused the invitation, and so others are invited in their place. To accept the invitation is also to accept its obligations. God wants our full conversion in complete acceptance of his mercy.

Important Links

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8fMt-Qglvas&feature=youtu.be>

- Mass for 28th Sunday Ordinary Time by Bishop Daniel Mieh

<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 – Diocese of Peterborough

Bishop Daniel Mieh - We are working to look after each other's safety and good health during these days of the pandemic. It is our hope that working together, we can stop the spread of this virus and join together in prayer safely. It remains critically important for each of us to continue following public health advice. This includes:

- staying home when ill, even with mild symptoms;
- practicing physical distancing of 2 meters or 6 feet with those outside your household or social circle, or at gatherings or at church;
- protecting your social circle;
- wearing a face covering when physical distancing is a challenge or where it is mandatory to do so;
- washing your hands frequently and thoroughly; and
- adhering to gathering limits and rules.

For places of worship within the jurisdiction of the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit, wearing a face mask is mandatory in the church, and at funerals for clergy and laity. This time of uncertainty calls each one of us to renew and amplify our Christian commitment to prayer, reflection, prudent care of each other, and helping others. Let us continue to pray for those who have died, those who are ill, those who work on the front lines and serve our community, and the ongoing work of medical researchers to discover a vaccine and a cure.

CoVid-19 – Social gathering limits across the whole province have been decreased and fines have been increased effective immediately. Social gatherings indoors have been restricted to 10 people. Social gatherings outdoors are now restricted to 25 people. Places of worship remain at 30% capacity with 2 metres/ 6 feet of physical distancing, hand sanitizing, regular cleaning and the Health Unit Orders pertaining to the wearing of face coverings/face masks in place. *Clarification on provincial restrictions: The reduced limits do not apply to places of worship that are monitored - this assumes that physical distancing, the wearing of face masks, washing of hands, etc. are in place.

Pope Francis - Excerpt from his encyclical, "Fratelli Tutti" (all brothers)-

"The pain, uncertainty and fear, and the realization of our own limitations, brought on by the pandemic have only made it all the more urgent that we rethink our styles of life, our relationships, the organization of our societies and, above all, the meaning of our existence. God continues to sow abundant seeds of goodness in our human family. The recent pandemic enabled us to recognize and appreciate once more all those around us who, in the midst of fear, responded by putting their lives on the line. We began to realize that our lives are interwoven with and sustained by ordinary people valiantly shaping the decisive events of our shared history: doctors, nurses, pharmacists, storekeepers and supermarket workers, cleaning personnel, caretakers, transport workers, men and women working to provide essential services and public safety, volunteers, priests and religious... They understood that no one is saved alone. Christians from the earliest times understood that if one person lacks what is necessary to live with dignity, it is because another person is detaining it. Saint John Chrysostom summarizes it in this way: 'Not to share our wealth with the poor is to rob them and take away their livelihood. The riches we possess are not our own, but theirs as well.' In the words of St. Gregory the Great, 'When we provide the needy with their basic needs, we are giving them what belongs to them, not to us'. Let us dream, then, as a single human family, as fellow travelers sharing the same flesh, as children of the same earth which is our common home, each of us bringing the richness of his or her beliefs and convictions, each of us with his or her own voice, brothers and sisters all."

Bishop Daniel Mieh - I sent a video message to our priests last week, focused on reviewing the various safety protocols we have in place for the celebration of Mass. It seemed like a timely reminder as our province is well into a second wave of the pandemic with case numbers surpassing even what we saw in the spring. I am grateful to our priests, parish staffs and many volunteers for the work that they have been doing to help us gather safely, and likewise appreciative for the cooperation of parishioners. None of us want to see another closure of our churches, so we should commit to doing the utmost to observe the precautions that have been put in place.

This is National Catholic Health Care Week, sponsored by the Catholic Health Alliance of Canada. The theme of the week is AWAKEN: Revealing the Courageous Gift of Catholic Health Care. A few facts about Catholic health care in Canada: there are 129 Catholic health care organizations in Canada providing 19,575 beds. Staff numbering 88,000+ serve more than 5 million people with an annual operating budget of 6 billion dollars. Catholic health care in Canada rests on the foundational work of Religious Sisters, visionary women who for generations cared for the most destitute people in their communities. In the Diocese of Peterborough, we owe much to the Sisters of St. Joseph whose legacy of service in health care continues today at St. Joseph's at Fleming and Marycrest at Inglewood. What a blessing they are in our community!