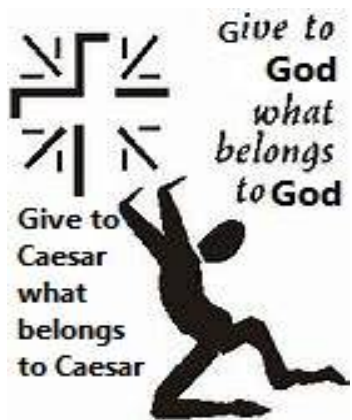




Our Lady of Mercy  
Pray for Us



St. John the Baptist  
Pray for Us

### Collections Last Weekend of October 11th

**\$1, 379 - Regular Sunday Offerings**

### Weekday Masses

Wed Oct 21, NO Mass

Thurs Oct 22, 11am Mass

Friday Oct 23, 11am Mass - Safety of Covid-19 Front Liners

### Weekend Masses

Sunday October 25, 9am- Port Severn – For the people of the parish

Sunday October 25, 11am- Honey Harbour

### St. Mary's Catholic Women's League, Victoria Harbour

Saturday November 14 from 10am-3pm & Sunday November 15 from 12N-2pm. *Huge Craft and Penny Sale with a large selection of Gifts and Preserves for Sale.*

### The Sunday Gospel Matthew 22:15-21

In today's Gospel Jesus and the religious leaders in Jerusalem continue their tense exchange of questions and challenges. At this point the disciples of the Pharisees, together with the Herodians, try to entrap Jesus by their question about the payment of taxes.

The Herodians were supporters of Herod Antipas, a Jewish political leader who collaborated with the Romans. The Pharisees, on the other hand, taught scrupulous observance of the Mosaic Law and opposed Roman occupation. Herodians favored the payment of taxes; the Pharisees opposed it. The Herodians and the Pharisees approach Jesus, asking that he take sides in their dispute. If Jesus answers with the Pharisees, he shows himself to be an enemy of Rome. If he answers with the Herodians, he offends popular Jewish religious sensibilities.

Jesus' response to this attempt to trap him exposes the guile of his questioners. From his first words to them, Jesus shows that he is very much aware of what they are trying to do. He asks to see a Roman coin.

Jesus takes his response one step further. He asks that his questioners examine the coin. Agreeing that it is Caesar's image on the coin, Jesus tells them that it must belong to Caesar. Avoiding the question of lawfulness altogether, Jesus answers their question with simple logic. Then, going further still, Jesus tells them that their obligation is to pay to God that which belongs to God.

Jesus' response to the Herodians and Pharisees suggests the ethic that Christians ought to adopt. It reminds us of the importance of keeping things in their proper perspective. Do we attach ourselves to worldly things at the expense of the love and honor that we owe to God?

### Important Links

<https://youtu.be/JJdf80SkJOA>- Mass for 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time by Fr. Tom Lynch

<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

*Bishop Daniel Miehm* - 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.

### World Food Day – (October 16) Where would we be without food?

Food is seen as a basic human right, and yet one in nine people globally experience chronic hunger. As far back as 1945 the United Nations recognized food as not a privilege, but a right, and that's why they created World Food Day, observed annually on October 16, in 1979. It's a day of observance to draw attention to the plight of the hungry. The day is of immense importance as it caters to one of the basic human needs. The main objective behind the establishment of this organization was to attack hunger and eradicate the bane of hunger from the global population. The main reason why the world faces a shortage of food is mainly due to the gaps found in the food production and distribution system. It is aptly said that instead of raising our compounds because of security, we should instead open our doors to hungry people. Hunger is one of the significant causes of death every year. There are so many lives who can't afford even a single square meal every day. Poverty and malnourishment are some of the worst issues that the world is facing from a long time. Governments should tie-up with citizen volunteers and strive to remove hunger without a trace.

*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."