

OUR PARISH BULLETIN

World Day of the Poor 2020 – is celebrated today 15 November, 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time. The World Day of the Poor is a Roman Catholic observance established by Pope Francis since 2017. The purpose is to help the disadvantaged and poor, to spread more awareness to the needs of the poor across the world, and encourage people to take more action in serving them. This year's theme "Stretch forth your hand to the poor" is a summons to responsibility and commitment as men and women who are part of our one human family. The World Day of the Poor is also meant to be a small contribution that the whole Church can make so the poor may know their cries have not gone unheard. By the world poverty statistic, 50 % of the global population lives in poverty. Of the 2.2 billion children in the world, 1 billion live in poverty. Globally, 10 percent of the world is living on less than \$2 a day. Malnutrition is the leading cause of poor health and death around the world. Globally, 1 in 9 people is hungry or undernourished. Global poverty is one of the very worst problems that the world faces today. The poorest in the world are often hungry, have much less access to education, regularly have no light at night, and suffer from much poorer health. To make progress against poverty is therefore one of the most urgent global goals.

Pope's Comments on Same-Sex Civil Unions Were Taken Out of Context

- In a letter sent on October 30 from the Vatican's Secretariat of State to papal representatives around the world, the Vatican said that two comments made by Pope Francis in the film "Francesco" were taken out of context. The letter states that the Pope was speaking about the fact that "a son or daughter with a homosexual orientation should never be discriminated against within the family." They're children of God and have a right to a family," which was interpreted by some to mean that the Pope was in favor of same-sex couples forming families. Regarding the pope's comments in the film that "what we need is a civil union law," the Vatican's clarification says that the Pope was speaking about his opposition to a same-sex marriage law in Argentina ten years ago when the Pope was Archbishop of Buenos Aires. In that context, the Vatican's letter claims, the Pope "had spoken about the rights of these people to have certain legal protection," but not about same-sex marriage. "It is clear that Pope Francis was referring to certain provisions made by states, and certainly not to the doctrine of the Church, which he has reaffirmed numerous times over the year."



Our Lady of Mercy Church
Honey Harbour



St. John the Baptist Church
Port Severn

Address:

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Weekend Masses

Sunday 9 A.M. - Port Severn
Sunday 11 A.M. - Honey Harbour

Weekday Masses

(See inside bulletin)

Confession: 20 minutes before weekend Masses
Wedding and Baptism: Call the office

November 15, 2020

Gospel Today: Matthew 25:14-30

Our gifts, or talents, are given to us for the service of others. If we fail to use these gifts, God's judgment on us will be severe. On the other hand, if we make use of these gifts in service to the Kingdom of heaven, we will be rewarded and entrusted with even more responsibilities. This Gospel reminds us that Christian



spirituality is not passive or inactive. Our life of prayer helps us to discern the gifts that have been given to us by God. This prayer and discernment ought to lead us to use our gifts in the service of God and our neighbor. God's grace allows us to share in the work of serving the Kingdom of Heaven.

Collections - Sunday November 8

\$1,100 - Regular Sunday Offerings

Weekday Masses

Wed Nov 18, 11am Mass – for peace in the world & all souls

Thurs Nov 19, 11am Mass – for sick & elderly in the parish & all Souls

Friday Nov 20, 11am Mass – For Melchor, Salus, Claro, Sergio & all souls

Weekend Masses (Feast of Christ the King)

Sunday November 22, 9am- Port Severn – For the people of the parish

Sunday November 22, 11am - Honey Harbour

Knights of Columbus – At last we have now a Knights of Columbus Council, in our parish. The Council is named "Our Lady of Mercy". The Council is registered with "Ontario State Council" as well as "Supreme Council" in Connecticut, USA. We currently have 24 members. If anyone is interested in more information, or joining the Council, please contact Ray Bergie, Interim Grand Knight, 705-242-9653. Congratulations to Ray Bergie for being chosen as the Grand Knight of the newly formed council.

Bishop Daniel Michm (Reopening Update)

Singing At Mass - Permission is now given for the use of a single cantor at Mass. Group singing is still strongly discouraged. Anyone singing or playing wind or brass instruments should be 2 metres from anyone else and separated by an impermeable barrier. If an impermeable barrier is not used, anyone singing or playing wind or brass instruments should be separated from any other person (outside of the same household or social circle) to the greatest extent possible (but at least 2 metres).

Parish Bulettings, Sunday Missals & Offertory Envelopes - Parishes may prepare paper parish bulletins effective immediately and plan a touchless way to make parish bulletins available to parishioners. Similarly, for the distribution of offertory envelopes, parishes will do so in a manner that avoids touching and the gathering of people around a table. Parishioners are advised that paper items left in the church during the pandemic will be collected and put in the recycle bin.

Dispensation From the Obligation to Attend Mass - Dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass remains in effect as follows. "The obligation to attend Sunday Mass does not apply to those who are ill, especially those who suffer from a contagious illness. Those with flu-like symptoms should remain at home in order not to spread the virus to others." "During this period of transition, I continue to dispense the faithful from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass. Those most at risk because of advanced age or compromised health should consider not attending Mass during this time, or attending only weekday celebrations of the Mass when participants are fewer." "This Dispensation also applies to Christmas and the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God" (new Year).

Priest Benefit Fund takes place on the weekend of November 22nd. This is another collection that we have had to reschedule from the period of church closures in the spring. It is an essential one as it maintains the fund that cares for our retired priests in the Diocese, so we really appreciate your generosity in supporting it. Rather than write the customary appeal letter, I tried something a little different this year; a conversation in which I interviewed Father Peter Seabrooke, who is one of our retired priests. You can view that brief video (in our parish website) to learn about the life of a retired priest with its various blessings and a few challenges as well. Those who wish to give for PBF may use any envelope, mark Priest Benefit Fund and his/her name and drop it in the collection basket next Sunday.