

## **WORLD DAY OF THE POOR**

Today, Sunday, 13 November, Pope Francis celebrates Mass in St. Peter's Basilica with the poor, marking the VI World Day of the Poor that was established by the Pope at the close of the 2016 Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy. Celebrated every year on the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, its aim is to encourage the Christians to "go forth" into the peripheries where so many people struggle with economic and existential problems and to offer service as "a sign of love, the love shown by Jesus himself." The Vatican has organized a series of initiatives promoted by the Dicastery for Evangelization to celebrate the World Day. They include lunch served to Rome's poor in the Paul VI Hall after Sunday's Mass as well as a number of long-term initiatives that aim to support families and individuals in difficulty. The inauguration of the health clinic in Peter's Square to give free health screenings and medical care, including general check-ups, electrocardiograms, blood tests, flu shots, COVID-19 tests, and screening for HIV, Hepatitis C, and Tuberculosis, to those who might otherwise not have access, comes after two years of pandemic and soaring inflation triggered by the war in Ukraine and the global energy crisis. This service, is all the more urgent at a time in which the sheer numbers of poor people are increasing tenfold. Another way the Vatican is helping struggling families is by giving boxes of food to parishes around Rome to distribute to families in need and by paying soaring bills. It is noted that not just the homeless need assistance, but more and more families who are unable to reach the end of the month because they are poor. Just in Italy, more than five million poor people - that can give you an idea of what can happen in the world, as Italy is one of the six wealthiest nations. It should make us think about what it means for some regions in Asia, Latin America, Africa. It should trigger a wave of solidarity amongst all the nations. At the heart of all the initiatives is Pope Francis' reminder that poor not only are the ones closest to the Lord, they are agents of evangelization. "The poor allow us, all of us believers and nonbelievers, to understand that the essence of the Gospel is to be close, to be near, to be in the service of all people who are weak in the world of today," he said.

## **OUR PARISH BULLETIN**



**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**

## 33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time

November 13, 2022

**GOSPEL TODAY TODAY** Luke 21:5-19 "Jesus warns that his followers will face persecution for their beliefs. And here he is telling them that perseverance in the face of persecution will lead to their salvation. He is also assuring them that God is present to all believers, even in times of trouble. Ultimately, Jesus will witness to this with his own death. As disciples of Jesus, we try to follow his example, trusting in God's mercy and protection, even when we are facing difficulties."

**"By your  
endurance  
you will  
gain your  
souls."**



### **COLLECTIONS Last Sunday**



\$910 -Regular Sunday Offerings

### **WEEKDAY MASSES** (Honey Harbour Chapel)

Wed Nov 16, 11am – For the sick members of our parish

Thurs Nov 17, 11am – For peace in the world

Friday Nov 18, 10:30am – Exposition of Blessed Sacrament & Mass -  
For the Souls of our beloved Deceased

### **WEEKEND MASSES** (Feast of Christ the King)

Sunday Nov 20, 9am @ Port Severn- For the people of the parish

Sunday Nov 20, 11am @ Honey Harbour

**MISSALS 2022-2023** – These new Missals are available at the church entrance. \$5 each is asked to defray purchase & delivery expenses.

**SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME CYCLE C** – In our Liturgical calendar, today is the last Sunday of Ordinary Time Cycle C. The coming Sunday celebrates the feast of Christ the King, then Sunday following it will start the Advent Season in Cycle A. As we bid goodbye to Year C and welcome Year A, we praise & thank our Lord for all the graces & blessings we received during the past liturgical year. "A Thankful person is always more likely to be happy, not just on good times, but even in hard times and right through life."

**POPE FRANCIS** - Saints do not come from a "parallel universe". They are believers rooted in their daily activities with their families, study, work, social, economic and political life. In all these settings, they fearlessly strive to carry out God's will."

**WORLD DAY OF THE POOR** – Today, 33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday is World Day of the Poor. Find and read at the back page of this Bulletin the Statement of Vatican regarding this day of observance.

**BAHRAIN** - Pope Francis traveled to Bahrain recently to attend a conferenced titled, "Bahrain Forum for Dialogue: East and West for Human Coexistence". Bahrain is 70 percent Muslim. Although majority Muslim, it is home to the Arabian Gulf's first Catholic church, which opened in the capital city of Manama in 1939, as well as its largest, the Our Lady of Arabia Cathedral, which opened last year in the town of Awali and was built on land gifted by His Majesty King Hamad. In Bahrain, pope Francis calls for full religious freedom. He also calls for equal dignity and equal opportunities to be concretely recognized for each group and every individual, that no forms of discrimination exist, and that fundamental human rights are not violated but promoted. "I am here today as a believer, as a Christian, as a man and as a pilgrim of peace, because today, more than ever, we are called, everywhere, to commit ourselves seriously to peacemaking," he said. Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle described pope's visit to Bahrain as "a pilgrimage of peace and the call for all peoples of religions, different religions and cultures and nationalities to rediscover our common humanity."

**CHURCH TEACHING/POSITION** (On Celibacy) Mandatory celibacy for the priesthood is a discipline of the Church, not a doctrine or a dogma.

Theoretically, any pope could modify or dissolve mandatory celibacy at any time, but it's highly improbable, because it's been part of the Western Church's priesthood since the fourth century. Additionally, the Church teaches and affirms that celibacy isn't just a sacrifice; it's also a gift. The "Decree on the Ministry and Life of Priests" asserted: "Perfect and perpetual continence for the sake of the Kingdom of Heaven was recommended by Christ our Lord. It has been freely accepted and laudably observed by many Christians down through the centuries as well as a feature of priestly life. Through celibacy, a priest, identifying himself with Christ, dedicates his whole life to the service of his Lord and the Church. Celibacy enables the priest to focus entirely on building up the kingdom of God here and now. Priests can "cling to Christ with undivided hearts and dedicate themselves more freely to Him and through Him to the service of God and men". They are a sign in this world of the Church's union with her spouse, Christ, and of the life in the world to come "in which the children of the resurrection shall neither be married nor take wives".