



Our Lady of Mercy  
Pray for Us



"Lord,  
help  
me."



St. John the Baptist  
Pray for Us

### *Collections Last Weekend, August 9*

\$1,330 - Regular Sunday Offerings

\$4,810 – HH Church Façade Renovation to date

### *Weekday Masses*

Wed August 19-NO MASS

Thurs August 20, 11am Mass- *For peace in the world*

Friday August 21, 11am Mass- *For safety of Covid Frontliners*

### *Weekend Masses*

Sunday August 23, 9am- *Port Severn- for +Peter Schadt by Rosa Schadt*

Sunday August 23, 11am- *Honey Harbour- for people of the parish*

### *The Sunday Gospel Matthew 15:21-28*

The woman, who is not Jewish, approaches Jesus, requesting that he heal her demon-possessed daughter. At first Jesus ignores her; he says nothing. The disciples ask Jesus to send her away, and Jesus agrees, remarking that he was sent to minister to the Jews alone.

The woman persists, paying homage to Jesus, and yet Jesus denies her request again. He even insults her, using a Jewish word of derision for Gentiles, "dog." But the woman cleverly turns Jesus' insult into an affirmation of faith. Only then does Jesus grant her request and heal her daughter.

Jesus' unresponsiveness to this woman may strike us as uncharacteristic or shocking. Yet in Matthew's Gospel, Jesus' ministry is directed primarily to the people of Israel. At only a very few points, such as the one found in today's Gospel, do we find Jesus anticipating the later Christian ministry to the rest of the world.

Behind Matthew's text we can hear this early Christian community's struggle to understand how God's selection of Israel is consistent with two events: Israel's rejection of Jesus and the Gentiles' acceptance of Jesus. Just as Jesus was surprised by the faith expressed by the Canaanite woman, so too the first Christians were surprised that the Gentiles would receive the salvation God offered through Christ.

The faith that the Canaanite woman expresses is an affirmation of and confidence in God's abundant mercy. Yes, salvation comes through Israel, but it overflows for the benefit of all.

### Important Links

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fW780\\_YE2Bo&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fW780_YE2Bo&feature=youtu.be) - Mass of Bishop Miehm – 20th 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

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. 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. For places of worship, the provisions that were implemented in Stage 2 are unchanged i.e. 30% capacity. Parish halls will remain CLOSED for rentals, events, etc. for indoor gatherings at this time.

Vatican Press Release Aug. 7 - Pope Francis has sent a donation of 250,000 euros (\$295,488) in aid to the Church in Lebanon to help with recovery efforts after the devastating explosion which occurred in the capital city of Beirut earlier this week. "This donation is intended as a sign of His Holiness's attention and closeness to the affected population and of his fatherly closeness to people in serious difficulty".

*"We Never Leave the Lord Alone"* - Since Aug. 1, 1885, the chain of perpetual adoration of the Holy Sacrament at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Montmartre in Paris, France has continued uninterrupted, including during the 1944 bombing and the coronavirus crisis. Day and night since Aug. 1, 1885, the Body of Christ in the Holy Sacrament has been exposed and adored inside the basilica (except for Good Friday), whatever the external conditions, even the most extreme. This is remarkable, as the history of France hasn't exactly been calm since that time, including for the Catholic Church, which is also facing an unprecedented wave of secularization at every level of society. "The adoration hasn't stopped even for a minute, including during the two world wars. "Even during the 1944 bombing, when some fragments fell right next to the basilica, the adorers never left." Sister Cécile-Mari

St. Pope Pius X (feast day Aug 21) He was born on June 2, 1835 as Giuseppe Melchiorre Sarto in Treviso, Venice. Two of the most outstanding accomplishments of this saintly Pope were the inauguration of the liturgical renewal and the restoration of frequent communion. He placed a renewed liturgical emphasis on the Eucharist, saying, "Holy Communion is the shortest and safest way to Heaven." He also emphasized frequent recourse to the Sacrament of Penance so that Holy Communion would be received worthily. Pius X's devotion to the Eucharist would eventually earn him the honorific of "Pope of the Blessed Sacrament". He also waged an unwavering war against the heresy and evils of Modernism, gave great impetus to biblical studies, and brought about the codification of Canon Law. His overriding concern was to renew all things in Christ. Above all, his holiness shone forth conspicuously. From St. Pius X we learn again that "the folly of the Cross", simplicity of life, and humility of heart are still the highest wisdom and the indispensable conditions of a perfect Christian life, for they are the very source of all apostolic fruitfulness. His last will and testament bear the striking sentence: "I was born poor, I have lived in poverty, and I wish to die poor."

Pope Francis – "The coronavirus is not the only disease to be fought, but rather, the pandemic has shed light on broader social ills. One of these is a distorted view of the person, a perspective that ignores the dignity and relational character of the person." "We are born with a seed of dissatisfaction in search of fulfillment. Our heart, even without knowing it, thirsts for the encounter with God and seeks it, many times taking the wrong road. When our dissatisfaction encounters Jesus, the life of grace begins."

### 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.