

Welcome to the Holy Family Parishes of
Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Parish
Lost Nation & Toronto

Sacred Heart Parish ~ Oxford Junction
Ss Philip & James Parish ~ Grand Mound



August 25, 2019 – Enter Through The Narrow Gate

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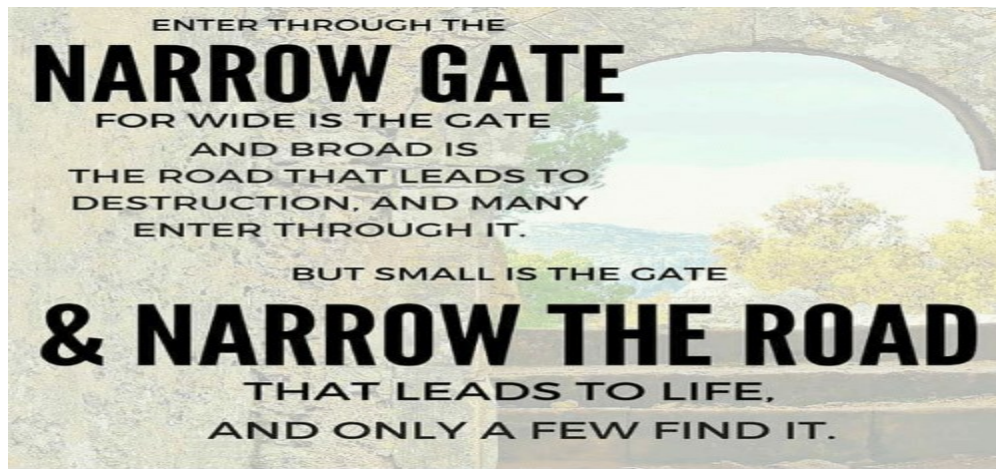
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21st Sunday
IN ORDINARY TIME

[Jesus] answered them, "Strive to enter through the narrow gate for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough." - Lk 13:24



Entering Through The Narrow Gate: We can all agree that today's world is filled with a multitude of enticing distractions where everything is available to us in the form of megamalls, megaplexes, massive sports venues, super centers and endless cable TV channels that can easily occupy every moment of the day. The world is only as far away as our fingertips via the internet and social media has brought us to another level of communication that can occupy unhealthy amounts of our time. Materialism, secularism, humanism and relativism are ever present and vying for our attention and hopeful submission. The world offers a wide path for us filled with endless entertainment venues, indulgences of every kind, and abundant frivolity while ignoring God's laws in favor of its own.

As Catholics, we are called by Christ to travel a different route, joining him on the road less traveled. Jesus clearly stated this when he said, "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and those who find it are few" (Matthew 7:13-14).

Jesus was and is fully aware that the narrow gate and rocky road of which he speaks is by no means an easy one - but it is the sure and steady path which leads to his kingdom. It is often a fraught with suffering, thorns and thickets. It is a road upon which we may stumble and fall from time to time or perhaps even stray from, only to find that the path the world has laid out for us has led to a dead end cul-de-sac which ultimately fails *to satisfy*.

Saint Faustina Kowalska (1905-1938), a Polish nun who received divine revelations from Our Lord Jesus Christ recorded a vision she had regarding two roads she saw before her in her diary known as Divine Mercy in My Soul. She writes: "I saw two roads. One was broad, covered with sand and flowers, full of joy, music and all sorts of pleasures. People walked along it, dancing and enjoying themselves. They reached the end without realizing it. And at the end of the road there was a horrible precipice; that is, the abyss of hell. The souls fell blindly into it; as they walked, so they fell. And their number was so great that it was impossible to count them.

And I saw the other road, or rather, a path, for it was narrow and strewn with thorns and rocks; and the people who walked along it had tears in their eyes, and all kinds of suffering befell them. Some fell upon the rocks, but stood up immediately and went on. At the end of the road there was a magnificent garden filled with all sorts of happiness and all these souls entered with love. By his example, we too are called to follow him in lovingly carrying crosses that are uniquely our own." St. Teresa of Avila also spoke of the link between following Christ and suffering saying, "We always find that those who walked closest to Christ were those who had to bear the greatest trials."

We embark on the road knowing it is not going to be easy and from time to time it will involve suffering - but it is the sure path for believers in the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. It's bumpy, rough, and full of blind spots. However, if the believer is ever vigilant in looking out for pitfalls and snares, they will arrive at the end of their travels victorious. There may be road blocks to be dealt with, but at the end of the road the final destination of heaven awaits.

During these times we must pay attention to where we are going. Which road are you on? It is often during times of trial, when the rubber meets the road that we might be tempted to veer off and go our own way. Therefore, with all of today's distractions, distortions and difficulties, let's pray for Our Lord's help in remaining on the narrow thoroughfare of this life so that we may be with him in the life to come.

Judy Keane - Catholic Exchange

HOLY FAMILY CLUSTER INFORMATION

Colleen Burke: thank you so much for the wonderful job in publishing our cluster bulletin. You are a special, helpful, and professional person that inspires confidence, compassion, and kindness in our organization. We're so fortunate to have you. Please forward all bulletin information to Diana Scott @drscott@gmtel.net.

SS Philip & James Church Grand Mound

Golden Jubilee—Honoring Our Faith & Church Journey

As we celebrate our 50th church anniversary at SS Philip & James Church in Grand Mound, we stand at a place where we look to our history – the history of God's people, of the Catholic Church, of this congregation – remembering who we are, where we have been, and where we came from.

Today in our church, we are blessed with special guests who have come to grace this occasion. Let us welcome Bishop Thomas Zinkula, Father Bob Harness, Father Bill Kneemiller, Father Brownfield, and Father Jim Vrba. With God's grace let us show our gratitude for the many years they blessed us with their devotion to our parishes, God and the Catholic Church.

Our faith is born and nurtured in a historical experience, in what God has done for us in the past, and always leads us into the future. As a church today, our anniversary celebration turns our thoughts back on our history. It is important that we let that history be part of our movement into the future for our children.

We have a responsibility to our young people, to prepare them for what they will face in life. We have a responsibility to our elderly people, to help meet their needs in a changing world. We have a responsibility to the community around us, to proclaim the good news of salvation and to be examples of Christ's love.

Let the stories of faith, commitment, and service that are told today as we recite the history of this congregation strengthen you, prepare you, and propel you into the next century of your ministry in this place.

It is important for us to look at the future, remembering what we have been put here on earth to do. We all have a mission. Our history is always leading us somewhere; our glory as God's children is always yet to come.

Please Note: Sign-up sheets for ushers, lectors, and Eucharistic Ministers for the last quarter of the year plus all of next year will be available on September 8th and 15th. We will be returning to doing these ministries on a monthly basis, please be aware that you can split the month with someone if that works better for you. A reminder will be mailed to Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors.

September Landscaping Committee

- Wayne & Marcia Whitman
- AJ & Courtney McNeil



**2019-2020
Religious Ed
Family Kick-Off!**

Wednesday, Sept. 4

Registration 5:30(4 years old thru 8th Grade)
Family Gathering & Pizza 6:00
Meet the teachers/Parent meeting 6:30

\$25 per child
\$50 maximum per family

Questions?
Contact Maureen Schrader at 563.370.9545

RE News

Wed,8/28 Catechist Meeting 6:30pm
Wed,9/04 RE Kick-Off 5:30-7:00pm
Wed,9/05 Catechist Diocesan
In-Service/NO CLASS
Wed,9/18 Classes Begin 6-7:00pm

Sacred Heart Oxford Junction

Religious Ed classes are scheduled to begin Wednesday, August 28 at 6:30 pm. Information has been sent to those families involved. If you have questions or comments, please talk with Dena or Stacy.

The September schedule is now posted, and October sign-up sheet will be posted soon. We continue to encourage you to sign up if you have a certain weekend you wish to serve. If slots are not filled, Karen will assign parishioners.

We are honored to welcome Archbishop Jackels to Sacred Heart for our Polka Mass on September 15. We hope to have our church full for our celebration; please invite your friend and neighbors to enjoy Mass with us.

SAVE THE DATES: SEPTEMBER 14 AND 15. Only 3 weeks till our annual chicken/kolach Fall Festival! Letters with information and raffle tickets for you to sell in your mailboxes in the hallway. There are flyers for you to take with you and put up in businesses in your town which advertise the dinner on September 15. We hope you've been thinking about Silent Auction items you might want to assemble. Get your family or friends together, have some fun and come up with an idea—the more items we have, the more fun! We really count on everyone in our church family helping, but if you are unable to help, please let us know. September 14 is kolache baking day for the dozens and dozens of kolaches made for the dinner. There is a sign-up sheet on the wall in the hall for donations of various supplies needed to make the kolaches. The fillings are quite expensive, so we also have a place for cash donations to purchase the five different fillings used. There will also be a sheet posted which will show approximate times of the many phases of making kolaches. We hope that many of you will consider spending part or all of the day helping.

Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Lost Nation / Toronto

Friends of Faith, our Religious Education program for preschool through high school, will begin on Wednesday September 4 at the church hall in Lost Nation. We will continue to meet on the first and third Wednesdays at 5:45-7:20, supper will be served!

We will have a First Communion class this year, with First Communion in Spring 2020. This is for 2nd graders and older.

A confirmation class for 7th/8th graders and older will start this fall to prepare for our cluster confirmation in the spring of 2021.

Please call Bev Brauer or just come on September 4th to register!

OLHR hosted Bingo Tuesday, August 13 at Wheatland Manor. Many Bingo players participated and five helpers; from Friends of Faith in Lost Nation helped. Residents enjoy the kids coming and they were very helpful with residents playing Bingo and helping serve the treats. One of the residents two grandchildren were helping at her table and asked if they could help serve treats. Thank you to everyone who came and helped as it was a very nice afternoon. Our next Bingo will be Tuesday September 10.

PARISH REFLECTIONS 4A



- **Our Lady of Holy Rosary:** Jeanene Cavey, Dick Nodurft, Melvin & Irene Duwa, Richard Vens, Steve Benischek
- **SS Philip & James Church:** Deacon Mike Sheil, Sandy Crosthwaite, Natalie Regan, Elmer Hasenmiller, Grace Kinney, Betty Forret
- **Sacred Heart Church:** Betty Anderson, Rich Kleineck, Brad Manuel, Dennis Koppes, Wendy Larive, Jerica Christensen, Marilyn Stevenson, Rhonda Murphy

SS Philip & James Church Ministries

September 1, 2019

Lector: Barb Morrissey
 E. Min: Roger & Mary Green
 Ushers: Roger Green, Mark Hahn, Joe Dierickx
 Servers: Brian & Megan Forret, Ali Swanton

September 8, 2019

Lector: Tom Kinney
 E. Min: Teresa Grimm & Joyce Barnes
 Ushers: Darrell Warren, Kurt Crosthwaite, and Michael Weih
 Servers: Zachary, Jacob, & Andrew Weih

September 15, 2019

Lector: Maureen Schrader
 E. Min: Mary Ann Schanze & Barb Morrissey
 Ushers: Marty Traver, Dan Donahue and Bill Looney
 Servers: Vivian & Mary Clare Browne, and Mitchell Maher

September 22, 2019

Lector: Diane Skinner
 E. Min: Jean Moffit & Jean Maher
 Ushers: Bob Syslo, Marty Trave, & Doyle Fox
 Servers: Natalie & Nathan Butler, and Isabel Shockey

September 29, 2019

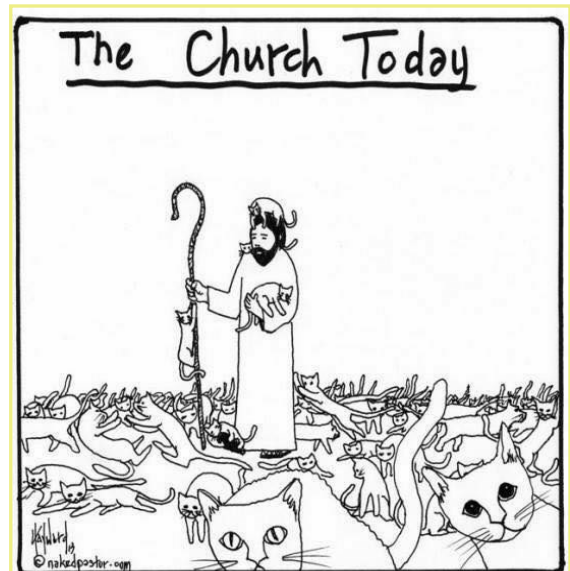
Lector: Jean Maher
 E. Min: Anne Adams & Alyssa Cram
 Ushers: Jake Cram, Greg Adams, Brian Kinney
 Servers: Ellen & Olevia Olson, Ali Swanton

MASS INTENTIONS 4B

Saturday	08/24/19/Toronto
05:00pm	Kathy Van Waes
Sunday	08/25/19
08:00am	Oxford Junction
	Monk & Marguerite Coon
10:00am	Grand Mound/50th Anniversary Mass
	Merwyn & Rhea Hasenmiller
Monday	08/26/19 No Mass
Tuesday	08/27/19 Grand Mound
08:00am	Vince & Regina Hahn
Wednesday	08/28/19
08:00 am	Grand Mound/Harold Green
10:00 am	Wheatland Manor/Residents of Manor
Thursday	08/29/19/Lost Nation
05:30pm	Otto Banischek
Friday	08/30/19/Oxford Junction
08:00am	Rosine Regennitter
Saturday	08/31/19/Lost Nation
05:00pm	Dan Lange
Sunday	09/01/19
08:00am	Grand Mound/John Moffit
09:30am	Toronto/JoAnn Van Waes
10:00am	Oxford Junction/Glen Regennitter

Readings for the week of August 25, 2019

Sunday:	Is 66:18-21/Ps 117:1, 2, [Mk 16:15]/Heb 12:5-7, 11-13/Lk 13:22-30
Monday:	1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 23:13-22
Tuesday:	1 Thes 2:1-8/Ps 139:1-3, 4-6 [1]/Mt 23:23-26
Wed:	1 Thes 2:9-13/Ps 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab [1]/Mt 23:27-32
Thursday:	1 Thes 3:7-13/Ps 90:3-5, 12-14, 17/Mk 6:17-29
Friday:	1 Thes 4:1-8/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12/Mt 25:1-13
Saturday:	1 Thes 4:9-11/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9 [9]/Mt 25:14-30
Sunday:	Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29/Ps 68:4-5, 6-7, 10-11/Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a/Lk 14:1, 7-14



Getting Parishioners Organized & Pointed
 In Right Direction Is Like Herding Cats....