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Tony Sacheli
Rosi Vandenberg
Jan Sirek
Fr. Paul Hogan

Office Administrator—office@stmaryshuntsville.ca
Lay Pastoral Assistant (LPA) - rsidowney@gmail.com
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Our Parish Schools

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The Parable of the Treasure Hidden in a Field / Matthew 13:44

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field."

Let me first reiterate that Jesus' use of parables were not specifically meant to illustrate a moral lesson but more importantly an insight as to who God is and how God wishes to teach us and be in relationship with us. Through the use of a simple story, that the people could relate to, Jesus would draw the listener into a time of interior reflection. On the surface, a simple lesson could be appreciated, but it was not the superficial meaning Jesus was interested in. It is the deeper lesson He wants us to grasp, which is not so easily discerned. What was required is that the listener begins to ask himself or herself: what is it I am suppose to learn from it, and what is the impact to be in my life? If the one listening to the parable is prepared to do the work, then the parable has succeeded in its purpose, which is to educate and to illuminate. With Jesus, all of his parables are about what the Kingdom of God is like.

This parable is wonderfully curious, in that on the surface some of the actions taken by both the one who has hidden the treasure and the one who finds it, are odd. Jesus begins by saying that 'the kingdom of heaven (God) is like treasure hidden in a field.' The question that comes to mind is this: if this is treasure, why would anyone bury it, in a field no less? Isn't treasure to be used? But what follows is even more curious. It says that the one who has found this treasure, turns around and hides it, presumably in the same field, but most likely not in the same spot. So, if the one who had first buried this treasure attempts to collect it, they are no longer able to find it, because the one who has discovered it, has moved it. But here is where it becomes even more confusing. The one who has found this treasure and has hid it, goes now and 'sells all that he has and buys that field'. Anyone listening to this parable would say to themselves: why not keep what you already have, and simply 'take the treasure' that you have found, and 'move it' to your own field. This is a win/win situation. You are able to increase your wealth, all the while keeping what you already have, and no one is the wiser. On the surface, this parable does not make sense, so what may be Jesus inviting us to discern, on a deeper level?

When He said that the kingdom of heaven is like treasure, Jesus wants us to know that it has real and true value not only comparable to but greater than anything you can imagine in this world. But it is something that requires us to go looking for - to find the kingdom of heaven (God's will) we have to work at finding it. It is for this reason that it is hidden, and not simply lying around or given away.

The field itself is our interior life. It is our truest self, our Soul, where we are best able to commune with God, and God with us. God has placed then this treasure within us, hoping that we may one day find it and realize the value of this gift that is within us all. Upon realizing what is within, we respectfully and gratefully preserve it (hide it) within ourselves (the field) this life that has been given to us. We are not hiding the gift from others, but realize that it is not something that we boast about, out of pride. Rather, we allow this treasure to teach us and direct us through humility, what it is that has been gifted to us. We need to take time to discern, with intentionality what is this treasure, the kingdom of God, and how, with God's direction and assistance, are we to reveal it in the world.

We do so with 'great joy', realizing that everything else in this life, though beautiful and wonderful, must be seen for what it is: always passing. If it all slips through our fingers, we will not be broken, but know that we have within us the greatest treasure of all. And it is this treasure that gives meaning to everything else in our lives. It is not about looking outside of us for meaning and value, but within. Here is where life begins and is opened up.

SVPD SOCIETY
12 Centre Street N., Huntsville, ON **Hotline: 705.789.0008**

The members of the St. Vincent de Paul group here in our parish, thank you for your continued **Food Pantry Donations** ! The monthly collection totalled **\$1,948.85** and in June we answered **35 calls**. We are presently in need of **Cereal, Mushroom Soup, Fruit Cups & Juice**. Your generosity helps us to help our neighbours live with dignity. Thank you!

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time - July 12, 2020

“so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.”

Isaiah 55:11



“All life demands struggle. Those who have everything given to them become lazy, selfish, and insensitive to the real values of life. The very striving and hard work that we so constantly try to avoid is the major building block in the person we are today.”

Pope Paul IV

YOUR STORY / OUR STORIES - Living in a COVID-19 World

What truly makes a family or a community for that matter, is that we intentionally take the time to create opportunities where we can share our stories, reflect on our common experiences, and express our highs and lows with one another, in a setting where it is all received through respect and honour.

Over the past number of months we have collectively experienced something quite unfamiliar to us all. Though not of our choosing, and not entirely of our making, we were asked to radically change our style of living. What was imposed upon us was not something we would have readily chosen. For that reason, many, if not most of us, were ill prepared to change and to adapt to a new way of living. But we did, we have, and to a certain extent, we still are.

What I invite you to do is this: please send me a short reflection as to what you, your family or someone else you care for, experienced during the COVID-19 reshaping of your world. I am not looking for how you think things will be in the future or a commentary on the political/economic fallout. Rather, I am interested in what you experienced during this time, and how it made you feel. There may be some similarity in our stories, or they can be radically different. There will be some stories that will make us cry, and others help us to laugh. How you coped, or how it took the stuffing out of you. When we share our stories we are not alone, but are now stronger and better for it.

If you would prefer to remain anonymous, please indicate so. I ask that you keep your reflection to 275 words, more or less. Depending upon the response, I would like to run these stories in our bulletin to the end of this year. We are in this together, let us help one another. You may send your reflection to: Frpaulhogan@peterboroughdiocese.org. THANK YOU AND PEACE.

Ministry Schedule - Weekend of July 18th/19th

	Sat. 4pm	Sun. 9:00am	Sun 11am (B)
Readers	Laila Etherington	Tony Sacheli	
Ushers	Walter Grys Lou Luvison Marguerite Goodfellow Ben Boivin Jim Tremblay	Al Cormier Gisele Neigel Doug Neigel Helmy Aben / Natasha P. Mike Pearson	John MacInnis Jean MacInnis Hugh Knox
Sanitizers	Schedule Provided	Schedule Provided	Schedule Provided
Tuesday July 14th	Counters: Wanda Roberts & Mary Kudryk		

We Remember our Faithful Departed, &

We join our prayers with those who are ill at this time ...

Rebecca Muzzi, Ian Bruce, Joe Hanrath, Pamela Festing, David Phillips, Connie Gregory, John Schreurs, Kristina Lenart, Robert Foley, Steven Knox, Jim Tremblay Jr., Claudette Mainville, Michael Brown, Brian Dittmar, Ruth Anne Foley, Bianca Laurie de Hernandez & Patricia Quinn

Desiderata / Max Ehrmann, - 1927

Go Placidly amid the noise and the haste, and remember what peace there may be in silence.

As far as possible, without surrender, be on good terms with all persons. *Speak your truth quietly and clearly; and listen to others, even to the dull and the ignorant, they too have their story.*

Avoid loud and aggressive persons; they are vexatious to the spirit. If you compare yourself with others, you may become vain or bitter, for always there will be greater and lesser persons than yourself.

Enjoy your achievements as well as your plans. Keep interested in your own career, however humble, it is a real possession in the changing fortunes of time.

Exercise caution in your business affairs, for the world is full of trickery. But let this not blind you to what virtue there is; many persons strive for high ideals, and everywhere life is full of heroism.

Be yourself. Especially do not feign affection. Neither be cynical about love; for in the face of all aridity and disenchantment, it is as perennial as the grass.

Take kindly the counsel of the years, gracefully surrendering the things of youth. *Nurture strength of spirit to shield you in sudden misfortune.* But do not distress yourself with dark imaginings. Many fears are born of fatigue and loneliness.

Beyond a wholesome discipline, be gentle with yourself.

You are a child of the universe no less that the trees and the stars; *you have a right to be here.* And whether or not it is clear to you, *no doubt the universe is unfolding as it should.*

Therefore be at peace with God, whatever you conceive Him to be. And whatever your labors and aspirations, in the noisy confusion of life, *keep peace in your soul.* With all its sham, drudgery and broken dreams, it is still a beautiful world.

Be cheerful.

Strive to be happy.

Next Sunday July 19, 2020 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Fear is the lengthened shadow of ignorance.” Arnold Glasow

When we Reflect for a minute, we begin a Change in our day, which can lead to a Change in our life. Take the time today, be still, be silent, reflect ...

“What do you want your life history to reflect - hate and violence or compassion and kindness? The leaders you support are a reflection and extension of you.

Your history isn't just written when you take action, it's also influenced by those you support to take action on your behalf.” *Zero Dean*

“When we practice loving kindness and compassion we are the first ones to profit.” Rumi

“The real essentials of life - compassion, kindness, good will, forgiveness - are what is fundamental to living as a true human being.” Eknath Easwaran

“Reverence for life affords me my fundamental principle of morality, namely that good consists in maintaining, assisting, and enhancing life, and that to destroy, to harm, or to hinder life is evil.” Albert Schweitzer

“See, I have God for my help.
The Lord sustains my soul.
I will sacrifice to you with willing heart,
and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.”

Psalm 53: 6,8

A Huge Note of Thanks to ...

many of our women in the CWL who have been busy making face masks, for months now. They have been providing such masks to our greater community which is a wonderful sign of their genuine love for neighbor. It has come at an out of pocket expense to them, so if you can donate to their cause, it would be much appreciated.

AS WELL ...

in keeping with the CWL's 100th Anniversary in Canada, and the Huntsville League since 1956, they have provided our parish with a beautiful *Sugar Maple* that now adorns your Parish front lawn. In time it will provide wonderful shade to many, and become a lasting reminder of the love and service of the women in this parish, now and into the future. Peace and Good Will and thank you!

July 4th/5th

**Weekend Offertory \$6,371.00
Bishop's Appeal \$605.00**

Thank you for your continued kindness and participation in your parish church, through time, talent and treasure.

Píng'ān yǔ nǐ tóng zài