# **3rd Sunday in**

# **ORDINARY TIME**

25 JANUARY, 2015

"The appointed time has grown short ... the present form of this world is passing away."

# St. Columban Parish 36 Fourth St. West, Cornwall, ON K6J 2R6

Masses: Sat Vigil: 7 p.m., Sun: 7:30, 9:30, 11:00 a.m. Weekdays except Tuesdays: 7:30 a.m.

**Today's Readings:** Jonah 3:1-5, 10 Psalm 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 "Come follow Me and I will make you fishers of people."

Further Reflection from the Catechism: CCC: 1691-1695 CCCC: 357 YOUCAT: 279

# Strategies for the new evangelization from the Synod of Bishops

The Synod of Bishops brought the Church a comprehensive strategy for the new evangelization. Even though there were many cautions at the synod about not making evangelization into a program, the overall thrust of the synod discussion pushed toward a very different, and potentially rich, pastoral approach to Catholic life today.

## **Rooted in Faith**

Mark 1:14-20

Undoubtedly the drastic drop in people regularly involved in church in the developed world is a main cause for the call for the new evangelization. In developed countries the diminishment of Catholic participation and fervour's chief named culprit is "secularism" with its many attendant "isms"—individualism, relativism and materialism. This is even true of the lives of believers themselves.

The new evangelization invites modern people to rediscover God through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ in all His dimensions—in the Word, in Sacrament, in community and in the poor.

This all amounts to strategies of conversion—to call Catholics to deeper conversion and to help Catholics know that their lives are filled with experiences of conversion to help Catholics see the forgiveness, healing, renewal and unconditional love that are part of their lived experience. This conversion happens through the experience of the Mass, other Sacraments and daily prayer. This calls for an attitude toward worship quite different from the routine of "getting the Mass done" in 45 or 50 minutes.

Many synod fathers spoke of the need to focus on lay people, both in professional roles as catechists and in their ordinary lives, as witnesses to Christ. The new evangelization is inconceivable without catechists, lay people who instill the Word of God and elaborate it in church teaching—in personal and powerful ways—in the lives of the faithful. Synod participants saw the catechumenal process as one of the great gifts of the Second Vatican Council—a process of conversion and growth that should be a prime instance of the formation that happens in all catechetical processes.

## Family and Community

Many bishops from developing nations insisted that small Christian communities (also called "base communities") have become essential in the growth and maintenance of faith. They spoke of the way Catholics help reinforce the faith of others, become part of a larger support system and bring the experience of conversion into their relationships with neighbours. Parishes in developed countries might well ponder the gain that can accrue from such communities of faith.

In terms of organizing a congregation, small groups can accomplish what parishes, with their sometimes large and anonymous styles, often cannot—putting a personal face on the experience of Catholic life. Further, they can be the first points of outreach beyond the faithful, calling the ever-growing numbers of uninvolved people into some kind of faith relationship. If it is difficult for someone to make it to a parish church, it certainly is much easier for them to make it to a neighbour's house or apartment.

(Article continued inside)



PASTORAL STAFF Rev. Fr. Jerome Pastores, Parochial Administrator Rev. Mr. Marcel Brunet, Deacon Rev. Fr. Claude Halle, Guest Priest

> OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR Mrs. Kelly Poitras

OFFICE HOURS Mon. toThurs. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Evenings by appointment

> **BAPTISMS** By appointment 1 month in advance

MARRIAGES Please give 6 months notice

## CONFESSIONS

Saturday 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. Saturday 6:15 to 6:45 p.m. Also by appointment

**OFFICE PHONE** 613-932-9616

PARISH E-MAIL ADDRESS stcolumban@cogeco.ca

ACCESS PARISH BULLETIN www.parishbulletins.com/bulletins/111

PARISH FOUNDATION www.stcolumbans.com

DIOCESE www.alexandria-cornwall.ca

DIOCESAN VIDEOS www.youtube.com/alexcwldiocese

FOR TIMELY PUBLICATION, PLEASE E-MAIL BULLETIN NOTICES TO stcolumbanbulletin@outlook.com <u>BY 4 P.M. FRIDAY</u> (ONE WEEK PRIOR TO REQUIRED WEEKEND PUBLICATION)

#### **CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES**

Saturday, January 24th 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. Confessions 6:15 - 6:45 p.m. Confessions 7:00 p.m. Charles Adams (4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of death) by Cheryl Adams Sunday, January 25th 7:30 a.m. Intentions of the parishioners 9:30 a.m. Norman Baril by Ethel Bingley 11:00 a.m. Fernand Ouimet by Richard and Carole Pilon Monday, January 26<sup>th</sup> 7:30 a.m. Elizabeth Auger by Ron Welsh Tuesday, January 27th No Mass Wednesday, January 28th 7:30 a.m. Dianna Desrosiers by the family Thursday, January 29<sup>th</sup> 7:30 a.m. Special Intention for Joseph & Carole Harvey Friday, January 30<sup>th</sup> 7:30 a.m. Sonny Herrington by Marie Greffe Saturday, January 31<sup>st</sup> 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. Confessions 6:15 – 6:45 p.m. Confessions 7:00 p.m. CeJay & Grayson Bray by Kevin, Jessica, Maria & family

Sunday, February 1st 7:30 a.m. Intentions of the parishioners 9:30 a.m. Anna Van den Broeck (1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of death) by Herman & family 11:00 a.m. Rita MacRae by St. Columban's C.W.L.

Monday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> 7:30 a.m. For Vocations by St. Columban's C.W.L.

# **FATHER HALLE**

**NEEDS PASTORAL CARE VOLUNTEERS** to assist him in the many nursing homes which he services. For more information, please call Fr. Halle at 613-933-6097.

**KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR SEPTEMBER 2015** Registration for the 2015-2016 school year is underway at Bishop Macdonell and St. Columban's Catholic Schools. We offer a rich, play-based learning program for Kindergarten learners. We also have extended day programs, on-site daycare, and French Immersion at many locations.

Call your local Catholic school for more info, or visit www.cdsbeo.on.ca for a complete list of schools and information on how to register your child.

#### IN OUR PARISH

Collection – 11 January 2015 - Thank You			
Sunday	\$4,415.00	Christmas	\$ 30.00
Loose	331.23	New Year's	140.00
Total	\$ 4,746.23	Books	42.25
Candles	\$112.75	Initial Offering	244.00

#### **READERS - IMPORTANT NOTICE**

There will be a Diocesan meeting of all Readers at the Agora Centre, John Paul II Hall 9:30 A.M. TO 11 A.M., SAT., 31 JANUARY Goals: Reflect on the meaning of this ministry and Revise the way we are doing things. Readers - please confirm your attendance by calling Sue Holland-Lalonde, 613-938-0368 Coordinator of Readers, St. Columban's Parish

St. Columban's Catholic Women's League GENERAL MEETING. 7 P.M., TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3<sup>RD</sup> in the Parish Activity Centre (upstairs Agape Bldg.) New members always welcome

MASS FOR VOCATIONS IN YEAR OF CONSECRATED LIFE 7:30 A.M., MONDAY, 2 FEBRUARY Pope Francis has declared that a Year of Consecrated Life be celebrated throughout the world. The Catholic Women's League of St. Columban's Parish invites all those who can attend this Mass to please come and pray for vocations to consecrated life.

## THANK YOU FROM

THE CHILDREN'S TREATMENT CENTRE Sincere thanks to you, Fr. Pastores and the parishioners of St. Columban's Parish for the Christmas gifts donated to the children who attend the Centre and their siblings. You and the parishioners have provided, as in past years, wonderful gifts that took into consideration the ages of the children and their interests.

It was most uplifting for all of us at the Centre to watch the smiles on the faces of the children when they received their gifts. You have all indeed brought laughter and joy into their lives at Christmas.

We wish you, Fr. Pastores, the parishioners of St. Columban's Parish and all your loved ones, peace, happiness and best of health in the New Year.

> Kind regards. Robert Smith, M.A Executive Director

### **DIOCESAN NOTICES**

Pope Francis has declared that a YEAR OF CONSECRATED LIFE BE CELEBRATED throughout the world. Our Diocese has prepared a series of events, including a Mass at St. Peter's Church – 2 P.M., MONDAY, 2 FEBRUARY

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: 10 WEEK COURSE ON THE PROPHETS bi-weekly STARTING 11 FEBRUARY AT 7 P.M. at St. Columban's Activity Centre (Upstairs, Agape Bldg.). \$40. Discover who the prophets were and how their powerful words speak to us today, shedding light on our faith and our lives. Register: Marilynn 613-537-2021 marilynn.light@gmail.com or Heidi 613-347-7561 michaelkrol@xplornet.com

COME AND SING – 6:30 TO 7:30 P.M., 19 FEBRUARY AS WE PRAISE OUR LORD THROUGH MUSIC. At St. Peter's Church - Open to all who love God & love to sing. God gave us our voices, good and not so good... we give them back to Him with our Praise and Worship music.

SALESIAN YOUTH LEADERSHIP CAMP (GR. 8-12) FRIDAY, MARCH 6 UNTIL SUNDAY, MARCH 8, Building leadership skills useful in family, school, work, social and Church. \$30 per participant. At Camp Tibériade, near St. Jerome, Que. Only 20 places available – Register a.s.a.p. Info: Sr Francine, FMA activ8faith@gmail.com

 LIIFT JESUS HIGHER RALLY: SAT., 7 MAR, 9 A.M. TO 5:30 P.M. Metro Toronto Convention Centre, 255 Front St W
Al Kresta, host of EWTN's Kresta in the Afternoon joined by the Renewal Ministries team of Ralph Martin, Sr. Ann Shields, and Peter Herbeck. Compelling talks and uplifting music, prayer ministry, inspiring personal testimonies, Confession, Divine Mercy celebration and Eucharistic procession.
Simultaneous Youth Rally (13-18 yrs.) in the theatre next door to the Adult Rally. \$10 for the Youth Rally and \$20 for the Adult Rally. Get your ticket. Evangelize by bringing a friend. Info: 416-251-4255, LJHR@rogers.com or www.lift-jesus-higher-rally.org

#### NEW LIFE COURSE

6:30 TO 8:30 P.M. - 8, 9, 10, & 15, 16 MARCH At St. Francis de Sales Church. Open to all who want to experience the fullness of life that Jesus has offered.

#### AN ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS

Renown Catholic speaker, Ralph Martin will preach a MINI RETREAT – 27/28 MARCH – AGORA CENTRE Great Lenten opportunity to grow in faith. Best-selling author, TV host and President of Renewal Ministries, Ralph travels the world bringing the Good News of Salvation far and wide.

NEW EVANGELIZATION SUMMIT – 24 & 25 APRIL This exciting conference will be live-streamed from Ottawa to the Agora Catholic Centre. Over 4,000 people in a dozen different sites will learn from this gathering of 8 top Catholic speakers from across North America. Don't miss it.

#### **CONTINUED FROM FRONT COVER**

These small groups help believers experience the power of the Word through reflection, discussion, personal sharing and common prayer as the Word leads them to fuller awareness and acceptance of God's action in their lives.

## Transforming the Parish

Synod fathers urged the devout and expressive celebration of the Eucharist as a key value in the Catholic experience. They spoke about welcome and inclusion as part of one's experience of the parish. Looking at Catholic life in relational terms, Catholics could see the parish as the main gathering community for the smaller communities of faith (families and small groups) that are part of the new evangelization.

Synod fathers pointed to the works of Mother Theresa and other initiatives to feed the hungry and care for people in need as examples of how the reality of faith is revealed through charity. Jesus coupled His preaching with miracles—deeds of wonder that showed God's liberating power and forgiveness to all, particularly those without much esteem in society.

The synod spoke often of the need to reach out to those who have no faith or who have become "tired" in their faith. No document received more attention than "On Evangelization in the Modern World," an apostolic exhortation of Pope Paul VI, which spoke of evangelization as the essential mission of the church, the reason for its existence. While the new evangelization focuses particularly on those peoples who have already received the faith (rather than those who have not explicitly heard the Gospel), it recognizes that hard-and-fast categories cannot be laid down in a world as mobile as ours, a world where people shift their allegiances so often.

Parishes have some images to fall back on when they think of liturgy and catechesis (much as these images need to be infused with new life); few of them, however, have institutional images of reaching out beyond their own membership to those who have ceased practicing their faith or who might be ready to accept an invitation.

The call to live faith boldly, while dialoguing with modern culture & all believers, hearkened back to the confidence Pope John XXIII engendered when he asked that the ancient windows of the Catholic Church be opened to let in more air.

The synod, then, looks for a renewed Catholic people, this time engaged in faith through their own experience, not just recipients of faith through a Catholic culture. The experience primarily turns on Jesus and the community of faith He began. As Catholics live in the world, they bring to that world the power of these relationships of faith, sharing them freely within their families and inviting others to participate in the joy of faith in Jesus Christ.

Should these goals and directions take root, the primary vision of the Catholic faith, the people of God who have encountered their saviour in Jesus, can transform not only the billion plus who identify as Catholic, but, as importantly, many beyond the community of faith.

Excerpted from an article by Frank DeSiano, C.S.P., in America: The National Catholic Review, 11 Feb 2013 edition





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