

**17TH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
27 JULY 2014**

“What would cause you to sell all that you had in order to purchase something of great importance? What would you fear/hope?”

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: 7:30 a.m.**

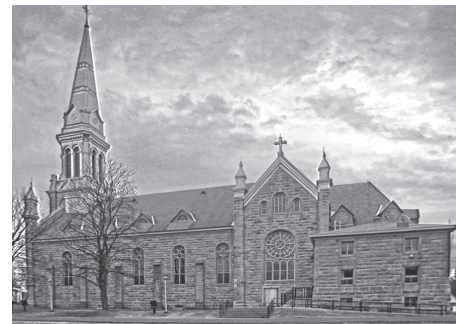
Today's Readings:

1 Kings 3:5, 7-12
Psalm 119
Romans 8:28-30
Matthew 13:44-52

“Give Your servant an understanding mind ... able to discern between good and evil ... it pleased the Lord that Solomon asked this.”

Further Reflection from the Catechism:

CCC: 543, 671, 763, 2816
CCCC: 107-108
YOUCAT: 89, 110, 122, 520



SCRIPTURE BACKGROUND

In the first reading from the Old Testament, God appears to Solomon in a dream. Solomon hears God say, “Ask something of Me and I will give it to you.” Although he could have asked for anything, Solomon does not ask for riches, long life, or revenge against his enemies. Instead, Solomon asks God for an understanding mind so he can be a good and wise king for God’s people. Solomon’s request is very pleasing to God. God grants Solomon many blessings.

In today’s Gospel, Jesus continues to teach about the Kingdom of God with parables. Each of the three stories in today’s passage reveals something about God’s kingdom. The man who finds the buried treasure must be willing to risk everything he has. The parable of the pearl is similar, but it is not a poor man but a rich man who seeks the treasure. This shows that God’s kingdom is available to all, rich and poor alike. The first two parables teach that the kingdom of God is so valuable that one must risk everything for it. The result is complete joy in finding what is most valuable in life.

In the final story of the fishermen hauling in the net, we once again find the presence of those who seem unfit for the kingdom. This parable teaches that God’s reign is open to rich and poor, good and bad; but at the end there will be a sorting out of those who are worthless and those who are just.

A KEY THEME:

The Kingdom of God is the image used in the bible to describe all people and creation living in communion with God. Jesus used parables to teach about the Kingdom of God. Jesus announces, as He works a healing miracle, that the Kingdom of God “has come upon you” (Matthew 12:28 and Luke 11:20).

THINKING ABOUT IT

The Church understands that Jesus’ life and ministry witnessed God’s saving love to the world. Although Jesus brought about the Kingdom of God and the kingdom is here now among us, it is not fully realized. It will come about in full when Christ comes again at the end of time. The way we live our lives here on earth can contribute to the coming of God’s kingdom. When we spread God’s love by working for peace, and helping the poor and needy, we prepare for God’s kingdom.

- What do you imagine heaven to be like?
- How can our words and actions help to build God’s kingdom on Earth?
- How can you prepare for the coming of the Kingdom of God?

THE GOSPEL IN LIFE

How can you take a risk this week and stand up for what is right?

Jesus is the pivotal point of history. Everything from the beginning of time leads to Him and everything after His time on Earth is preparation for the Reign of God for all eternity.

*Excerpted from
RCL Benziger
Lectionary Resources*

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Mrs. Kelly Poitras

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Mon. to Thurs. 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@alexandria-cornwall.ca

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**FOR TIMELY PUBLICATION, PLEASE
E-MAIL BULLETIN NOTICES TO
stcolumbanbulletin@sympatico.ca
BY 4 P.M. FRIDAY
(ONE WEEK PRIOR TO REQUIRED
WEEKEND PUBLICATION)**

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

Saturday, July 26th

3:00 – 4:00 p.m. Confessions
 6:15 – 6:45 p.m. Confessions
 7:00 p.m. George, Margaret & Morris Lalonde
 by Shirley Cholette

Sunday, July 27th

7:30 a.m. Intentions of the parishioners
 9:30 a.m. Reynald Desjardins by Raymonde Desjardins
 11 a.m. Eileen Mondoux by her niece Marie Sauve

Monday, July 28th

7:30 a.m. Cyril Dumond by his wife Viola & family

Tuesday, July 29th

7:30 a.m. Marguerite Wood by Hugh & Barbara Ann Wood

Wednesday, July 30th

7:30 a.m. Adeline Simser by Rod & Ann Martel

Thursday, July 31st

7:30 a.m. Francis Campbell by Doug & Jane Anderson

First Friday, August 1st

7:30 a.m. Special Intention by a parishioner
 8 - 9 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration
 4:00 p.m. Wedding: Adam Altieri & Kayla Maillet

First Saturday, August 2nd

8:00 a.m. Rita Antoine by St. Columban's CWL
 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. Confessions
 6:15 – 6:45 p.m. Confessions
 7:00 p.m. Zita Andrews by Yolande Robinson

Sunday, August 3rd

7:30 a.m. Intentions of the Parishioners
 9:30 a.m. Eric Surgeson by Janet, Stefanie and Louisa
 11 a.m. Ray Langlois by wife Christine, Monica & girls

Monday, August 4th

7:30 a.m. Anne McDonald by Bea Tardif

FR. JEROME

HAS CHOSEN MONDAYS AS HIS DAY OFF.

Father Halle will celebrate the 7:30 a.m. Mass on Mondays so that Father Jerome can enjoy his day of rest.

HOME BOUND PARISHIONERS:

If you have a family member who is home bound and would like to receive the Holy Eucharist, please notify the parish.

ST. COLUMBAN'S CHURCH KEY CHAINS,

are available on the book table
 located at the 4th Street entrance to the Church
JUST \$2. EACH. (PLEASE PUT MONEY IN CASH BOX ON WALL).

IN OUR PARISH

COLLECTION – 13 JULY – THANK YOU

Sunday	\$4,077.00	Votive Candles	\$ 171.50
Loose	575.43	Book Store	18.75
Total	\$4,652.43		

INCOME COMPARATIVE STATEMENT – JUNE 2014

	YTD 2014	YTD 2013	Difference
REVENUE			
Sunday	\$134,746.	\$135,163.	- 417.
Other	22,198.	\$ 25,623.	-3,425.
TOTAL REVENUE	\$156,944.	\$160,786.	-3,842.
			LESS
EXPENSES	\$166,363.	\$168,535.	-2,172.
			LESS

NEW CHURCH ROOF

Have you glanced upward lately and noticed the new roof which was recently installed on our beautiful church. It is a metal roof with a 50 year warranty and cost \$106,300. + HST

Thanks to donations of \$75,000. from "The Patrons of St. Columban Foundation", the roof is paid for. Our Parish still has a loan of \$75,000 with the Diocese for repairs to the steeple and hopefully, with your continued financial support of the Foundation and our Parish, this will be paid within the next few years.

Thanks to the efforts of The Property Committee, The Patrons of St. Columban Foundation and The Finance Council, our Church is in good condition.

Anne Gauthier, Finance Council

FIRST FRIDAY HOLY HOUR, 8 A.M., 1 AUGUST

After the 7:30 a.m. Mass, the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed and a time of adoration, prayer, Scripture & meditation will follow. The hour closes with Benediction.



FIRST SATURDAY – 2 AUGUST

Rosary prayed at 7:30 a.m.
 Confessions 7 to 7:25 a.m.
 Mass at 8 a.m.
 All are welcome to come and pray.



POPE FRANCIS'S PRAYER INTENTIONS JULY

Sports. That sports may always be occasions of human fraternity and growth.

Lay Missionaries. That the Holy Spirit may support the work of the laity who proclaim the Gospel in the poorest countries.

AUGUST

Refugees. That refugees, forced by violence to abandon their homes, may find a generous welcome and the protection of their rights.

Oceania. That Christians in Oceania may joyfully announce the faith to all the people of that region.

VATICAN RADIO

Pope Francis prays for peace in the Middle East



Pope Francis expressed his concern for the plight of Christian communities in the Iraqi town of Mosul and in other parts of the Middle East.

Speaking after the Angelus in St. Peter's Square, the Pope turned his thoughts to those Christians who are now persecuted in the lands they have lived since the beginning of Christianity, offering - he said - a precious contribution to the good of society.

"Today our brothers are persecuted" - the Pope said - "they are banished from their homes and forced to flee without even being able to take their belongings!" And, assured them of his closeness and constant prayer he said: "My dear brothers and sisters who are persecuted, I know how much you suffer; I know that you are deprived of all. I am with you in faith in He who conquered evil". The Pope then appealed to all - to those present in the Square and far beyond - to persevere in praying for peace in all situations of tension and conflict in the world, and he especially mentioned the Middle East and Ukraine. "May the God of peace" - Francis said - "arouse in all an authentic desire for dialogue & reconciliation. Violence cannot be overcome with violence. Violence is overcome with peace." The Pope reflected on the parable that tells of the man who sowed good seed in his field while his enemy sowed weeds. But when the man's servants offer to pull up the weeds, the man stopped them saying "if you pull up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along with them". This parable - Pope Francis explained - speaks to us of the problem of evil in the world and it highlights God's patience. The devil - he said - plants evil where there is good, trying to divide people, families and nations.

But God - he continued - knows how to wait. He looks into the 'field' of each person with patience and mercy: He sees the dirt and the evil much better than we do, but He also sees the seeds of good and patiently awaits their germination. God - Pope Francis said - is a patient father who waits with an open heart to welcome us and to forgive us. But - he pointed out - His patience does not mean He is indifferent to evil. One must not confuse good and evil. And at the end, at the time of the harvest, Jesus will judge us all separating those who have sown good seed from those who have sown weeds. And - Francis said - we will be judged with the same meter with which we judged others; we will be shown the same mercy we showed towards others.

Let us ask Our Lady - Pope Francis concluded - to help us grow in patience and in mercy.

DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

ST. RAPHAEL'S PARISH - GALARAMA - 27 JULY
Gates open at Noon. (1 to 7 p.m.). Entertainment and fundraising activities for all ages. Admission \$8 adults, \$4 students, free to children 12 & under.

Fr. Louis Groetelaars & the parishioners of St. Anthony's & St. Michael's invite all former parishioners and friends to attend **CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION MASS - SUNDAY, 3 AUG. 2 P.M., - ST. ANTHONY'S CHURCH, APPLE HILL.**
And join us after Mass for refreshments and reminiscing.

ST. JULIAN'S CHAPEL (24 HOUR ADORATION)
(located at St. Peter's Church)
Please prayerfully consider spending an hour a week in front of the Blessed Sacrament. To volunteer or for more information, please call Florence at 613-932-8936.

MARVELOUS MYSTERY - THE MASS COMES ALIVE
ST. ANTHONY'S PARISH, 9 TO NOON, 4 TO 8 AUGUST
The Catholic Church of Alexandria-Cornwall is offering a great Vacation Bible School. Ages 4 to 12, join Moses the Cat & learn about the wonder & magnificence of the Mass & deepen your love for Jesus in the Eucharist through faith teachings, skits, catchy music, fun games, crafts & snacks. \$25/child or \$65/family. Call Johanna at 613-933-1138 Ext. 31

BILINGUAL OUTDOOR MASSES AT CALVARY
Calvary is an outdoor Way of the Cross located behind Ste-Marie de l'Assomption Church in Green Valley.
MASSES 7 P.M., 13 AUGUST & 10:30 A.M., 6 SEPTEMBER

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY - STARTS 17 SEPTEMBER
This 10 week course will be offered on the Book of James. Cost is \$40. with a \$20 deposit when you register. Course will be held in the St. Columban's Parish Centre (upstairs in the Agape Building - Room 102). For more info. or to register, contact Marilynn 613-537-2021 (marilynn.light@gmail.com) or Heidi 613-347-756 (michaelkrol@xplornet.com)

CATHOLIC INFORMATION CENTRE
CATHOLIC BOOK AND GIFT STORE
Please note that the Catholic Information Centre at 146 Chevrier Ave. will be closed Saturdays in July and August. Open Mon. to Fri. at regular hours. For info. call 613-933-5099

OTHER

C.C.S.O. BREAD OF LIFE DAY OF RENEWAL
"STEP INTO THE RIVER OF GRACE"
8:30 a.m. to 5:45 p.m., Saturday, 20 September
St. Thomas Aquinas High School, 124 Dorval Dr., Oakville
Speakers: Fr. Peter Coughlin, Vernon Robertson, Jim Ruta,
Bishop Daniel Miehm, Miriam Wright.
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