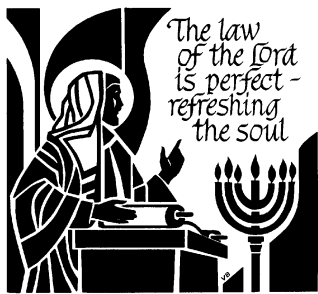


# 3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

# JANUARY 24, 2010

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary time, January 24, 2010 by Father Greg Friedman, O.F.M

Each Sunday at Mass in my parish, I honour the Gospel book by holding it high before the assembly and carrying it slowly to the ambo, the place where I proclaim the Gospel. In our first reading today, we witness a similar scene. Ezra the priest opens the scroll of God's law and holds it high for all to see. The people acclaim God present in the Word of God, as they bow low to the ground. The presence of God in the Word is one of three ways God is present at each Eucharist. We are most familiar with the divine presence in the consecrated bread and wine. God is also present in the gathered assembly. There we're transformed by the Holy Spirit into the Body of Christ, described by Paul in today's second reading. But back to the first reading: Do we pay attention to God's presence in the Word? Would it be easier if we were in that scene in today's Gospel, to hear Jesus himself read the scroll of Isaiah in the synagogue at Nazareth? Perhaps it's tougher to accept God's presence when it's Jim or Mary or Father Bill doing the reading! But our respect for the Gospel book, our attentive listening, our openness to the Spirit are all crucial to full participation in the Eucharist. Let's allow this Sunday's readings to call us to a renewed response.



### SCHEDULE of MASSES

Monday, Jan. 25 <sup>th</sup>	Prescott	8:00 A.M.	Margaret Helen Monk (7 <sup>th</sup> Anniv) +++ Margaret Ann Monk
Tuesday, Jan. 26 <sup>th</sup>	Prescott	8:00 A.M.	Margaret Valcour +++++ Mary Epping
Wednesday, Jan. 27 <sup>th</sup>	Prescott	4:00 - 7:00 P. M. - ADORATION	
	Prescott	7:00 P.M.	Vince Bonneau +++++ Robert & Marion Laton
Thursday, Jan. 28 <sup>th</sup>	Prescott	8:00 A.M.	Pieter Appelman ( 32 <sup>nd</sup> Anniversary )
Friday, Jan. 29 <sup>th</sup>	Cardinal	9:00 A.M.	Jennie Maggio (20 <sup>th</sup> Anniv.) +++++ Mimi Garrah
Saturday, Jan. 30 <sup>th</sup>	Prescott	5:15 P.M.	Yvan Gagnon +++++ Bev & Bernie Currier
Sunday, Jan. 31 <sup>st</sup>	Cardinal	9:00 A.M.	Paul Patterson (10 <sup>th</sup> Anniv.) ++++ Ron & Grace Patterson
	Prescott	11:00 A.M.	Intentions of all St. Mark & Sacred Heart Parishioners

Sunday Offertory : JANUARY 17 - 10

St. Mark - \$1715.51

Sacred Heart - \$ 362.00

Thank you for your Generosity

### PARISH MINISTRIES' SCHEDULE FOR MASSES ON JANUARY 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010 - (5<sup>th</sup> Sunday)



MASS	USHERS	READERS	EUCCHARISTIC	GIFT BEARERS
Sat. 5:15 - Jan. 30 St. Mark	Norm Fortier , Bernie Currier, Patrick O'Keefe	Laura Lee Scott	Kathy Laushway, Thomas O'Keefe	Denise Gauthier & Marie Lambert
Sun. 9:00 -Jan. 31 Cardinal	"To be determined"	Joanne Esson	Christina Edge Joan Toupin (C)	"To be determined"
Sun. 11:00- Jan. 31 St. Mark	Ed MacDonald, Need Volunteers	Larry Sauve	Klaas DeVries, Clayt Paquette, Sue Daigle, (C)	Ushers will Carry Gifts (Need Volunteers)
CHILDREN'S LITURGY - FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME			SUNDAY JANUARY 31 <sup>st</sup> - BECKY MACDONALD	



**ST. MARK PARISH PROPERTY & FINANCE COMMITTEE** will hold its regular monthly meeting on **Tuesday, January 26<sup>th</sup>** at **7:00 PM** in **St. Mark Club**. Members who were not able to receive their agenda package

electronically are asked to contact **Brent Laton, Financial Administrator**.

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**K. Of C. - COUNCIL 5880** will hold its regular monthly meeting on **Monday, January 25<sup>th</sup>** at **7:00 PM** in **St. Mark Parish Centre (Upstairs)**. **All Brothers are invited to attend this meeting.**



### SPAGHETTI DINNER AND SILENT AUCTION\RAFFLE TABLE:

Proceeds go towards **Grade 7 Quebec City Trip - Thursday, February 25<sup>th</sup>**, at **St. Mark Parish**

**Centre** - there will be 2 sittings at **5:00 & 6:00 PM**. **Adults \$8, Seniors \$6, Children 3-10 \$5** .... Take-out dinners available. Call **613-925-5019 (Cheryl)**

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**FAITH ENRICHMENT CLASSES** will continue on **Wednesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>** after the evening Mass.

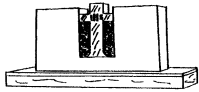
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**An Angel Says** .....

... faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible, and receives the impossible.

**A BI-CENTENNIAL CHOIR** is being assembled to commemorate the **200TH ANNIVERSARY** of Prescott. If you are interested in participating in this choir, the first meeting will be held on **Monday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM** at **St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Prescott**. Performance will be **May 16<sup>th</sup>**. For more information contact **Grace Scott at 925-3556** or **Ann Carr 925-4930**.

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**IN MEMORIAM:** Kindly remember in your prayers the souls of **Father Bernard O'Neill** of Belleville and **Mrs. Lillian Harrison** of Trenton, mother of **Father Tim Harrison of St. John**

**Bosco Parish in Brockville**, who both died this past week. **May they both rest in eternal peace and be rewarded for their faithful ministry and family life.**

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**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:** There will be a Parents meeting for the First Holy Communion Children this **Wednesday January 27<sup>th</sup>** starting at **7:30 p.m.** in the **St. Mark Church** after the evening Mass. **Parents are asked to make every effort to attend this very important meeting in preparation for the celebration of this Sacrament for their children.**

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**MARRIAGE PREPARATION:** All couples intending to be married in our Church are expected to attend this Marriage Preparation Course; it will be held at **St. John Bosco Parish** on **Friday-Saturday March 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>**. **This course is obligatory.** Please, pick up a registration form at St. Mark Rectory, or call **Fr. Appelman at 613-925-2944**.

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**HAITI RELIEF:** from **Archbishop Brendan O'Brien:**

*"I invite you to join with me in responding to the Holy Father's request for support for the Haitian people. The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops and the Canadian Organization for Development and Peace--- which is also officially Caritas Canada---are launching an emergency campaign for Haiti. The Federal Government announced that it will match dollar- for-dollar any donation made to Canadian organizations between January 12 and February 12, 2010".* You may make your contribution to this charitable initiative by placing an **envelope with your name and envelope number on it and marked "Haiti Relief"** in the Sunday collection.

**Please make cheques payable to your respective Parish.** This collection will remain open until **Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup>** in order to meet the deadline for matching funds.

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**CWL Appreciation Lunch** will take place **Sunday, Feb 7<sup>th</sup>**, at **St. Mark Parish Centre** immediately following the **11:00 AM Mass**. All parishioners from both Sacred Heart & St. Mark churches are cordially invited to this **FREE** lunch. Each executive member will have a display table set up outlining their convenorship and activities. Following our theme of the year - **Women of Peace and Hope--In the Footsteps of Mary** we look forward to seeing you there to enjoy lunch and great fellowship.

**Pastor's Message**

**January 24, 2010**

I am just back from the funeral Mass in Belleville for Father Bernard O'Neill who died this past week. I was planning to go, Monday morning, and then I was almost planning not to go, because of the poor weather and road conditions. But I felt a strong sense of solidarity to participate in this final farewell of a good priest of our Archdiocese. In the end the weather and the roads were reasonably good.

Father Bernard O'Neill was one of the five Fathers O'Neill who in past years were all active in our Archdiocese: Andy O'Neill, John O'Neill, Frank O'Neill, Harold O'Neill and Bernard O'Neill. With the death of Father Bernard we have come to the end of the lives of five wonderful priests; I guess that many of you have know some or perhaps all of them. Father Bernard O'Neill had been assistant and pastor in several places around the Diocese, like in Brockville, Gananoque and Belleville. Father Harold O'Neill was his brother who was at one time Rector at St. Augustine's in Toronto and who died just a year ago. Father Bernard was in a sense my own class-mate, since both of us were ordained to the priesthood in the same year of 1959 although in different places. That is why I did not want to be absent at his funeral. Father Bernard also celebrated his 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary last year just after Easter. He retired last year; he died of cancer and now he was 76.

The funeral Mass was very beautiful indeed, celebrated by our Archbishop Brendan O'Brien, and assisted by some 50 priests from across the archdiocese. The Church, holding some 600, was packed with people standing at the back. I am always impressed when a priest of the Diocese is buried; and it is just magnificent to see almost the total presbyterate of the Diocese in attendance; all this is a great source of grace for all the people present and beautiful to see how a good priest was loved by his people and is not forgotten after a life well spent in service to God's people in several parishes. There were also several of our Diocesan Deacons present and Deacon Robert Fencott of Belleville preached the homily. At the end of the Holy Eucharist the gathered priests as always sing like a mighty choir the **SALVE REGINA** (in Latin). This I know has been a tradition for generations. And as was to be expected the funeral Mass was followed by a delicious luncheon for all to enjoy and to share the sadness and joys with family and friends.

Just as a thought: it is good to celebrate your anniversary in the **YEAR OF THE PRIESTS** but also to go to your eternal reward in this same year. As the homilist said at the very end of his sermon: Well done, good and faithful servant; may the Lord in his loving mercy grant you now his eternal reward. May Father Bernard and all other priests whom we have known rest in eternal peace.

*Father J. Appelman, M.F.M., Your Pastor*

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**An Angel Says .....**

**... always hold your head up, but be careful to hold your nose at a friendly level.**

**... every person in this world is a dream of God.**

**PRAYER FOR HAITI:**

Lord, I just want to say **THANK YOU**, because this morning I woke up and knew where my children were.

Because this morning my home was still standing,

Because this morning I am not crying because my husband, my child, my brother or sister needs to be buried out from underneath a pile of concrete,

Because this morning I was able to drink a glass of water,

Because this morning I was able to turn on the light,

Because this morning I was able to take a shower,

Because this morning I was not planning a funeral, but most of all I thank you this morning because I still have life and a voice to cry out for the people of Haiti. Lord I cry out to you, the one that makes the impossible, possible, the one that turns darkness in to light,

I cry out that you give those mothers strength, that you give them peace that surpasses all understanding, that you may open the streets so that help can come,

that you may provide doctors, nurses, food, water, and all that they need in a blink of an eye.

For all those that have lost family members, give them peace, give them hope, give them courage to continue to go on! Protect the children and shield them with your power.

I pray all this in the name of Jesus!!! To all my friends please continue to pray together for the people in Haiti.

***We here are truly blessed!!!! Amen.***

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**Belated Christmas Story (The True Story of Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer)** A great story for these troubled times. **ENJOY**

A man named **Bob May**, depressed and brokenhearted, stared out his drafty apartment window into the chilling December night. His 4-year-old daughter Barbara sat on his lap quietly sobbing.

Bobs wife, Evelyn, was dying of cancer.

Little Barbara couldn't understand why her mommy could never come home. Barbara looked up into her dad's eyes and asked, "**Why isn't Mommy just like everybody else's Mommy?**" Bob's jaw tightened and his eyes welled with tears.

Her question brought waves of grief, but also of anger. It had been the story of Bob's life. Life always had to be different for Bob.

Small when he was a kid, Bob was often bullied by other boys. He was too little at the time to compete in sports. He was often called names he'd rather not remember. From childhood, Bob was different and never seemed to fit in. Bob did complete college, married his loving wife and was grateful to get his job as a copywriter at Montgomery Ward during the Great Depression. Then he was blessed with his

little girl. But it was all short-lived. Evelyn's bout with cancer stripped them of all their savings and now Bob and his daughter were forced to live in a two-room apartment in the Chicago slums. Evelyn died just days before Christmas in 1938.

Bob struggled to give hope to his child, for whom he couldn't even afford to buy a Christmas gift. But if he couldn't buy a gift, he was determined to make one - a storybook! Bob had created a character in his own mind and told the animal's story to little Barbara to give her comfort and hope. Again and again Bob told the story, embellishing it more with each telling.

Who was the character? What was the story all about? The story Bob May created was his own autobiography in fable form. The character he created was a misfit outcast like he was. The name of the character? A little reindeer named Rudolph, with a big shiny nose.

Bob finished the book just in time to give it to his little girl on Christmas Day. But the story doesn't end there.

The general manager of Montgomery Ward caught wind of the little storybook and offered Bob May a nominal fee to purchase the rights to print the book. Wards went on to print, Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer and distribute it to children visiting Santa Claus in their stores. By 1946 Wards had printed and distributed more than six million copies of Rudolph. That same year, a major publisher wanted to purchase the rights from Wards to print an updated version of the book.

In an unprecedented gesture of kindness, the CEO of Wards returned all rights back to Bob May. The book became a best seller. Many toy and marketing deals followed and Bob May, now remarried with a growing family, became wealthy from the story he created to comfort his grieving daughter. But the story doesn't end there either.

Bob's brother-in-law, Johnny Marks, made a song adaptation to Rudolph. Though the song was turned down by such popular vocalists as Bing Crosby and Dinah Shore, it was recorded by the singing cowboy, **Gene Autry**. "**Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer**" was released in 1949 and became a phenomenal success, selling more records than any other Christmas song, with the exception of "**White Christmas**."

***The gift of love that Bob May created for his daughter so long ago kept on returning back to bless him again and again. And Bob May learned the lesson, just like his dear friend Rudolph, that being different isn't so bad. In fact, being different can be a blessing.***

(Contributed by a Parishioner with our Thanks)

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**Creative Puns for Educated Minds**

**I wondered why the baseball kept getting bigger...**

**...Then, it hit me.**

**A small boy swallowed some coins and was taken to a hospital... His grandmother telephoned to ask how he was, a nurse said, "No change yet."**