

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time - October 29, 2017

Intentions - Today's mass is for the repose of the soul of **Virginia Salares**, requested by her sister Divina Welch.

Intentions are \$15.00

Offertory Collection

October 22 - \$ 624.70 Evangelizations of the Nations **\$ 98.60**

Thank You



October 29

St. Narcissus: Bishop of Jerusalem, Second Century. St. Narcissus was born towards the close of the first century, and was almost fourscore years old when he was placed at the head of the church of Jerusalem, being the thirtieth bishop of that see. In 195, he and Theophilus, bishop of Caesarea in Palestine, presided in a council of the bishops of Palestine held at Caesarea, about the time of celebrating Easter; in which it was decreed that this feast is to be kept always on a Sunday, and not with the Jewish passover. Eusebius assures us, that the Christians of Jerusalem preserved in his time the remembrance of several miracles which God had wrought by this holy bishop; one of which he relates as follows. One year on Easter-eve the deacons were unprovided with oil for the lamps in the church, necessary at the solemn divine office that day. Narcissus ordered those who had care of the lamps to bring him some water from the neighboring wells. This being done, he pronounced a devout prayer over the water; then bade them pour it into the lamps; which they did, and it was immediately converted into oil, to the great surprise of the faithful. Some of this miraculous oil was kept there as a memorial at the time when Eusebius wrote his history. The veneration of all good men for this holy bishop could not shelter him from the malice of the wicked. Three incorrigible sinners, fearing his inflexible severity in the observance of ecclesiastical discipline, laid to his charge a detestable crime, which Eusebius does not specify. They confirmed their atrocious calumny by dreadful oaths and imprecations; one wishing he might perish by fire, another, that he might be struck with a leprosy, and the third, that he might lose his sight, if what they alleged was not the truth. Notwithstanding these protestations, their accusation did not find credit; and, some time after, the divine vengeance pursued the calumniators. The first was burnt in his house, with his whole family, by an accidental fire in the night; the second was struck with a universal leprosy; and the third, terrified by these examples, confessed the conspiracy and

slander, and by the abundance of tears which he continually shed for his sins, lost his sight before his death. Narcissus, notwithstanding the slander had made no impression on the people to his disadvantage, could not stand the shock of the bold calumny, or rather made it an excuse for leaving Jerusalem, and spending some time in solitude, which had long been his wish. He spent several years undiscovered in his retreat, where he enjoyed all the happiness and advantage which a close conversation with God can bestow. That his church might not remain destitute of a pastor, the neighboring bishops of the province, after some time, placed in it Pius, and after him Germanion, who, dying in a short time, was succeeded by Gordius. While this last held the see, Narcissus appeared again like one from the dead. The whole body of the faithful, transported at the recovery of their holy pastor, whose innocence had been most authentically vindicated, conjured him to reassume the administration of the diocese. He acquiesced; but afterwards, bending under the weight of extreme old age, made St. Alexander his coadjutor. This primitive example authorizes the practice of coadjutorships; which, nevertheless, are not allowable by the canons except in cases of the perpetual inability of a bishop through age, incurable infirmity, or other impediment as Marianus Victorius observes in his notes upon St. Jerome. St. Narcissus continued to serve his flock, and even other churches, by his assiduous prayers and his earnest exhortations to unity and concord, as St. Alexander testifies in his letter to the Arsinoites in Egypt, where he says that Narcissus was at that time about one hundred and sixteen years old. The Roman Martyrology honors his memory on the 29th of October.

Today's Gospel Reflection: The love of God is central to our lives: love with all one's heart, soul, and mind. If the second commandment to love neighbor as self is like the first, then we might surmise that we must love our neighbor *in the same way* as we love God. Loving God isn't merely a matter of fervor in our hearts; it is expressed in doing good for the sake of others. (Living Liturgy, p.260)



Walk with your feet on earth, but in your heart be in heaven.

- Saint John Bosco



West Carleton Food Access Centre: When you grocery shop this week, please remember the West Carleton Food Access Centre. They are in need of canned salmon, canned flakes of ham or chicken, canned fruit and canned pasta noodles. They are in need of nut free lunch box items. Please check the expiry dates, as the Food Bank cannot accept expired cans.

New in West Carleton – Soup for Seniors : If you or those you support are in need and would like some homemade soup, please register your name with Suzanne Lee (832-8063) or Linda Cassidy (832-2403) and we will happily make arrangements to give you frozen soup in two cup containers prepared by the church ladies of the Anglican, Roman Catholic and United churches.

Sacraments of Reconciliation, and First Communion 2017-2018:

This is an announcement for Parents of children who are in Grade 2 (or older) and wish to celebrate the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion. The parent-parish-school meeting takes place on: Wednesday, November 8, 2017 at St. Michael School in the school library from 7:00 til 8:15 pm.

In order to arrange for the sacraments for your child, please bring a photocopy of your child's Baptismal certificate, or bring the original and we will photocopy it that evening.

Parents whose children do not attend St. Michael School are invited to attend this meeting and to contact Josie Morrison (at 613-623-3463) to find out more about catechesis for their child. The meeting again is being held Wednesday, November 8, at 7:00 pm at St. Michael School, in Fitzroy Harbour. For Further Information or questions please contact Fr. Michael Ruddick: 613-623-3419



Prayers for the Sick. Please pray for the sick among our families and friends, especially Gerry Borris, Patricia Cassidy, Christine Fraser, Justin Hossack, Mary Jardine, Joanne Langford and Dianne Pelland. *The names will remain on the list until we are otherwise advised.*

Urgent Need

**St. Gabriel's Parish is in need of a new choir director
Please speak with Martine Messier
(613) 832-4415.**