

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time, February 16, 2025

Intentions:

Feb 16 - In loving memory of **Lily & Stan Kubina**, requested by Deacon James Kubina.

Mass Intentions: \$15.00

Offertory Collection

Feb - 09 \$567.60 Thank You

Social Sunday: Today is **Coffee Sunday**, so please join us after mass for light refreshments and fellowship.

February 17

Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order: One of the earliest orders of mendicants — religious communities who rely solely on charity for support — The Order of Servites was founded in 1240. Between 1225 and 1227, seven young men from the city of Florence joined the Confraternity of the Blessed Virgin, whose members were popularly known as the Praisers. Inspired by visions of Our Lady, they decided to dedicate themselves to lives of prayer and service. In time, they attracted so many visitors that they decided to withdraw to a deserted mountain, where they built a church and hermitage, living a life of extreme austerity. Their bishop prevailed upon them to adopt a rule and accept recruits. This was followed by another vision of Our Lady on April 13, 1240, and a change of name to Servants of Mary, or Servites. The new order grew quickly. One of the early recruits was Peregrine Laziosi, now patron saint of persons with serious illnesses. Of the original seven, all but one became priests. Only the lay brother, who lived to be 110, saw the order fully recognized in 1304.

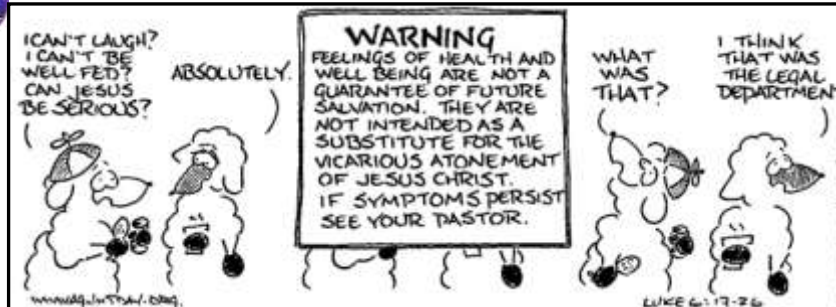
Volunteer Corner

Looking for the following Ingredient donations for the pancake Dinner on March 4th. Baking Powder, 2% Milk, Flour, Corn Oil, Sugar, Decaf ground coffee, and \$\$\$\$. Please see Martine.

Please pick up your 2024 income tax receipts available at the rear of the church.

There will be a parish council meeting on Tuesday, the 25th February at 2 pm in the sacristy.

Gospel Reflection: The blessing *is Jesus* who stands on level ground with the poor, hungry, weeping outcasts. Jesus is an epiphany of God's presence among all those who had been excluded. The gospel also indicates the decisiveness of choice: blessing or woe. There are two paths in life one can follow, and either one is with Jesus or against Jesus. The lure is to be consoled *now*, have our fill *now*, laugh *now*, be respected *now*. Jesus is showing another way: our condition now doesn't matter so long as we trust and hope in the Lord *now*. Blessedness isn't a matter of social status, satisfaction, possessions, respect, etc; it is a matter of keeping our own eyes glued on Jesus. (Living Liturgy, p.58)



Prayers for the Sick. Please pray for the sick among our families and friends, especially Fran Bernard, Roy Campbell, Patricia Cassidy, Bridget Floysvik, Chris Kelly, Suzanne Lafontaine, Priscilla Rowley, and Lorraine Stafford. *The names will remain on the list until we are otherwise advised.*

Pope's Intentions for the Month of February:

For vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.



Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament held at St. Michael's Parish only: You are most welcome to join us Wednesday mornings, with exposition at 8:00 am and Mass at 9:00 am

Administrator's Corner

Celebrating Authentic Love

The month of February is associated with Love, popularly known as lover's month. The 14th of the month which falls this weekend, feast of St Valentine gives February its prominence in the life of humans.

As we celebrate Valentine's Day, we are reminded that love is at the heart of our humanity. We are created in love, redeemed in love, and commissioned to live our lives in love. St. Valentine, a priest who lived in the third century, embodied this love. He defied Emperor Claudius II's ban on marriage for soldiers, secretly performing weddings for young couples. His actions were motivated by his passion for true love and his commitment to upholding God's plan for marriage.

As we reflect on St. Valentine's story, we are reminded that love involves sacrifice. Valentine's actions ultimately led to his imprisonment and death, yet he remained committed to his values. Similarly, the soldiers who sought to marry despite the emperor's ban demonstrated their willingness to sacrifice for the sake of love.

In today's world, Valentine's Day has become commercialized, with businesses encouraging us to spend money on gifts for our loved ones. However, the true meaning of love and sacrifice that St. Valentine embodied is often lost in the noise.

Pope Francis reminds us that love is not just an emotion, but a relationship that requires effort and commitment to build. "We build a house together, not alone!" he exclaimed. "Let us build our family, church, community, friendship together all to the glory of God."

Saint John Paul II in his apostolic exhortation Familiaris Consortio also reminds us that God loved us from the beginning. "God created man in His own image and likeness: calling him to existence through love, He called him at the same time for love. God is love and in Himself He lives a mystery of personal loving communion... Love is therefore the fundamental and innate vocation of every human being."

Love is inscribed in our very being, and our only possible response is to love God in return and participate in his ongoing mission of love and mercy.

As we celebrate Valentine's Day, let us put ourselves at the service of the Church and prepare ourselves to be sent out to make God's compassionate love present in the world. Let us remember that true love is not just a feeling, but a choice. It is a choice to put others before ourselves, to sacrifice for one another, and to trust in God's plan for our lives.


Blessings, Father Anthony.

Pastoral Directory

Baptisms: Father Anthony Nwaohiri 623-3419
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 Pastoral Council Chair: Martine Messier 808-4573
 Mass Intentions & Bulletin: Marilyn Deslauriers 222-3762
 Pastoral Care: Suzanne Lee 832-8063
 Advertising Ministry: Lorraine Brisson 832-3351
 Deacon James Kubina
 Cover Photo: Mark Brisson

EMERGENCY: anwaohiri@gmail.com For emergencies, email this address with EMERGENCY in the subject or call the church office at 613-623-3419.

West Carleton Food Access Centre: (WCFAC) Please remember our local Food Bank each week by donating items to St. Gabriel's grocery cart. Cash donations of \$20.00 and over will receive a tax receipt. Please include your name and address on the envelope. See Suzanne Lee if you have any questions. Thank you for your support.




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All Welcome



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Weekly Eucharist

St. Gabriel's (Constance Bay) **St. Michael's** (Fitzroy Harbour)

Sunday 11:00 am Mass Saturday 4:00 pm Mass
Sunday 9:00 am Mass

live streaming link on YouTube St. Michael's Mass at 9 am Sunday

StMStG-Live

Confessions and Sacrament Of the Sick are also available by request.
Please contact Fr. Anthony directly to book an appointment.

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