

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time, July 26, 2026

Intentions: July 26: For the parishioners of St. Gabriel and St. Michael parishes.

Mass Intentions: \$15.00

Offertory Collection:

July 19 - \$ 695.00 Thank You.



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

Reflection: The demand of daily Christian living is to spend our life primarily searching for the kingdom of God. In the Gospel, first the person who finds the buried treasure in a field comes upon it by happenstance; the find just happens without effort; it is pure gift. The role of discipleship is to become aware of the treasure when it is found. Second, the merchant knows his or her business and recognizes the prized pearl when it is found. The role of discipleship here is to be diligent in the search, not become discouraged and give up, seek until the “pearl of great price” is found. *(Living Liturgy, p. 204)*

Vincentian Meditation:
“To be servants of the poor...O Mon Dieu! What a lovely title and what a beautiful description! **Servants of the poor**, that is just the same as to say **Servants of Jesus Christ**, for He regards as done to Himself what is done to them, and they are His members. And what did He do whilst on earth, but serve the poor?”—St. Vincent de Paul *(McKenna, Praying with Vincent, p.42)*





Christ Our Eternal Treasure:
Discover Christ, Choose Christ and have Christ as destiny.

This weekend’s readings invite us to reflect on the Kingdom of God and challenge us to go out of our way to enter it. The Kingdom is the place where God’s will is done. It is already present among us; in the sacrifice of the Mass, in a good deed done quietly for another, in service to the poor — and it is also in the future, when the just will enter into the eternal blessedness of God.

Jesus compares the Kingdom to a treasure of immense value hidden in a field. Many people walk through life without ever discovering it: the Eucharist, Scripture, the Church, the poor, and the small daily acts of love. In the first reading, Solomon discovers wisdom and judges it greater than money, power, or long life. Because he sought God first, God gave him wisdom, and more still gave him riches and honor. Jesus echoes this: "Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you" (Mt 6:33).

We live in a world overflowing with information but often starving for wisdom. Technology teaches us how to do things. Wisdom teaches us whether we should do them. Education can make us intelligent. Only God can form wise hearts. Today many know how to build a career but not a family. Many know how to gain followers online but not how to keep faithful friends. As St. Augustine observed: "It is not the acquisition of many things, but the possession of God, that makes one rich." Our greatest treasure is not what we own, but whom we know and love.

Pope Benedict XVI reminds us that Christianity begins not with rules, but with a relationship. Not with an idea, but with Jesus. I recall a little boy who asked his grandfather, “Grandpa, why do you always kneel before entering your pew?” The old man smiled, “Because before I greet anyone else, I want to greet Jesus.” That child never forgot. His grandfather had discovered the hidden treasure.

The Gospel presents to us two men who find treasures; one by surprise, the other by searching and both sell everything to buy them. Every follower of Jesus comes to that moment. Faith is dynamic. A well-formed faith helps us make daily informed wise choices: truth over convenience, forgiveness over resentment, honesty over shortcuts, family over excessive ambition, prayer over endless distraction. As St. John Paul II told young people: “It is Jesus whom you seek when you dream of happiness.”

The third parable of the net shows the three stages of Christian life: first we discover Christ, then we choose Him, and finally we let Him become our destiny. This is lived out in priesthood, religious life, marriage, and friendship; love proven by remaining faithful. St. Paul assures us that “all things work for good for those who love God” (Rom 8:28), not because life is easy, but because God is faithful. St. Teresa of Calcutta adds: “Be faithful in small things, for it is in them that your strength lies.”

An elderly couple celebrated seventy years of marriage. Someone asked, "How did you stay together so long?" The husband smiled. "We belonged to a generation that repaired things instead of replacing them." The same is true of discipleship. When faith becomes difficult, we repair it through prayer. When relationships break, we repair them through forgiveness. When hope fades, we repair it through trust. That is remaining in Christ.

Dear parishioners, choosing Jesus always pays off. May we, like Solomon, discover our treasure in God. May we, like the merchants, choose Him above all else. And may we, like faithful disciples, keep Him as our eternal destiny. Amen.

Father Anthony

Pope’s Intentions for the Month of July: For respect for human life: Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.

World Youth Day: Registration for the Archdiocesan pilgrimage to **World Youth Day 2027** in Seoul, Korea, is now open. We have **30 spots** reserved for English-speaking pilgrims. For more information and to register, please visit: [**World Youth Day Seoul 2027 - Archdiocese of Ottawa-Cornwall**](#).



There will be a meeting of Catholic disciples Date 2nd August Venue Rev Father’s residence at St Michael, time 5pm. This association is open to young men from 18-30 years only. For more info on this group call kale (613)252-6847.

Cemetery mass: this year’s cemetery mass comes up on September 11th at 5pm. All parishioners are encouraged to attend. Please mark your calendars and also spread the news.

Weekly Eucharist

St. Gabriel's
(Constance Bay)

Sunday 11:00 am Mass

St. Michael's
(Fitzroy Harbour)

Saturday 4:00 pm Mass

Sunday 9:00 am Mass

Wednesday 8:00 am adoration/confession,
9:00 am mass

Thursday 8:30 am confession, 9am mass

Friday 8:30 am confession, 9am mass

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



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

St. Michael's Live streaming link on YouTube
Sunday Mass 9 am
StMStG-Live

Lost and Found

Periodically, please check the lost and found basket at the church entrance for articles you may have left behind.

Suggestion Box

The Suggestion Box at the rear of the church is there for you to give us your observations, comments, suggestions, new fundraising ideas etc. for enrichment of our parish. **Please use it!**

Intentions Book:

You are invited to write your prayer requests in our special intentions book in the back of the church - as many and as often as you like. It is important that we verbalize in some form, our desire before God. You are very welcome to be anonymous.

Pastoral Directory

Baptisms: Fr. Anthony Nwaohiri 623-3419
Financial Council Chair: Janne Campbell 832-4290
Pastoral Council Chair: Martine Messier 808-4573
Intentions & Bulletin: Marilyn Deslauriers 222-3762
Pastoral Care: Fr. Anthony Nwaohiri 623-3419
Advertising Ministry:

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

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Sts Michael and Gabriel helpinghand ministry: Her objective is to serve needy families periodically in a timely and confidential manner. More details will be announced soon. The administrators can be reached at stmichaelshelpinghands@gmail.com or (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**



St. Gabriel's

Roman Catholic Church

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All Welcome



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