

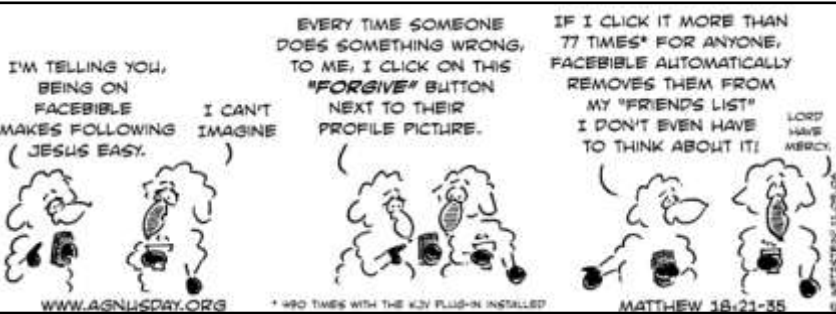
24th Sunday in Ordinary Time, September 13, 2026

Intentions: September 13: For the parishioners of St. Gabriel and St. Michael parishes.
Mass Intentions: \$15.00

Offertory Collection:
06 September - \$691.00 Thank You.

Gospel Reflection: Forgiving another-not focusing on our hurt or the other’s transgression but on the lovable-ness of the other-is so difficult! The challenge of this gospel is to forget how others have behaved toward us and look to God’s way of loving and forgiving us. Our focus must be on God. Without God’s example we probably couldn’t forgive very well. The challenge is to forget about ourselves so we can reach out to the other. (*Living Liturgy*, p. 236)

Vincentian Meditation: “Because Jesus took our misery upon Himself, it is only reasonable that we should follow and imitate His holy, human life....Filled with consolation and happiness at the thought of being accepted by Him to live my entire life as His follower, I resolved that in everything, particularly in uncertain or questionable circumstances, I would consider what Jesus would have done...All the actions and the entire life of the Son of God are only for our example and instruction...”- St. Louise de Marillac (*Gibson and Kneaves, Praying with Louise*, p. 55)



Pope’s Intentions for the Month of September: For the care of water: Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.



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.*

Administrator's Corner

FORGIVEN TO FORGIVE
Receive mercy, release resentment, restore relationships.



"Forgiveness is the oxygen that purifies the air of hatred." — Pope Francis

One of the hardest things in Christian life is also one of the most important: forgiveness. It is easy to forgive when the offence is small. But what happens when the wound is deep? When someone betrays our trust, damages our reputation, or breaks a family relationship?

The unforgiving servant in this weekend’s Gospel represents every one of us. Before God, we are people who have received mercy. We have

failed, sinned, said things we regretted, and hurt others knowingly and unknowingly. And yet God continues to say: "I forgive you. Begin again." St John Chrysostom, reflecting on this Gospel, says the master's generosity was intended to teach the servant to be generous himself. That is the foundation of Christian forgiveness.

We enter the confessional carrying our sins and we come out relieved that the burden weighing heavily on our conscience has been erased. Therefore, the first question is not "Why should I forgive that person?" It is "How much has God forgiven me?" Sometimes forgiveness begins simply with: "I am ready to begin again."

The first servant was released from a great debt but immediately became a prisoner of resentment by refusing to forgive his fellow servant who owed him little. We sometimes do the same. Someone hurt us and we replay the incident again and again. We say "I have forgiven," while secretly keeping the evidence carefully filed in our memory. St John Chrysostom says powerfully: "When we forgive not others, we forgive not ourselves." Resentment keeps us tied to the person who hurt us; forgiveness breaks the chain.

Corrie ten Boom knew this. After surviving a Nazi concentration camp, she met one of her former guards in a church in Germany. He had become a Christian and asked her: "Will you forgive me?" She later wrote that she did not feel forgiveness. She had to pray for the grace to obey Christ. And eventually, she took his hand. What a lesson — forgiveness is a decision, not a feeling. As Pope Francis teaches, "When you forgive, you do not calculate. It is good to forgive everything and always." St Pope John Paul II taught that forgiveness is not opposed to justice; rather, forgiveness and justice together are necessary for genuine healing.

Forgiveness is not simply about getting rid of anger. It creates the possibility of reconciliation. Sometimes it happens quickly. Sometimes it takes years. Sometimes the other person refuses to participate. And sometimes a relationship cannot safely return to what it once was. But even then, we can choose not to hate. We can pray for the person. We can stop seeking revenge and place the matter in God's hands. We can say: "I refuse to allow what happened to determine who I become." As St Pope John Paul II summarized: "No peace without justice, no justice without forgiveness." That applies to nations, marriages, families, friendships, and our parish community.

Finally, dear friends, Jesus asks us three questions this weekend: Who do I need to forgive? What resentment do I need to release? What relationship might God be inviting me to restore?

As Pope Francis reminds us: "We must never tire of asking God's forgiveness, because only when we are forgiven can we learn to forgive." And if the wound is very deep, pray: "Lord, I want to forgive, but I cannot do it by my own strength. Give me the grace to forgive as you have forgiven me."

Fr. Anthony

September 14

Exaltation of the Holy Cross: This liturgical feast has been celebrated since early times. In the 4th century, two churches in Jerusalem were dedicated to the cross on this day and the occasion was commemorated annually. Adopted by the Church in Rome during the 7th century, the feast commemorates both the dedication of the original Church of the Holy Sepulchre in 335 and Christ’s victory over death.



September 15

Our Lady of Sorrows: Formerly known as the “Seven Sorrows of Mary,” this feast was instituted in 1668 by the Servite Friars. In 1814 Pius VII extended the feast to the whole Western Church in commemoration of the sufferings he had endured during his captivity in France. The seven sorrows are Simeon’s prophecy at the presentation of Jesus in the temple, the flight into Egypt, the disappearance of the by Jesus in Jerusalem, the road to Calvary, the crucifixion, the removal from the cross and the entombment.

NOTE: The funeral mass of Sundance is on Friday 18th Sept. At 11am at St. Michael church. Please pray for his repose and God’s consolation to the family.

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:	Richard Stone	832-3635

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

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

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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Deacon James Kubina jgkubina@gmail.com

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