

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JUNE 21, 2009

Mark 4-35--41

- Lord, I know no better proof of your health and strength than this scene. You had the gift of sleeping in any situation. You slept on the cushion in the stern while the waves were beating and almost swamping the boat.
- And when you awoke, you brought calm. To voyage with you is to voyage in peace even in a storm.



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 22ND

Wednesday	9:00 a.m.	
Saturday	7:00 p.m.	Harold & Dorothy Blackman by Fran Turner & Family
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Ian McIntyre by Mary Tessier
	11:00 a.m.	Ken Pritchard by Gloria Henderson & Family Stephen Ranger by the Ranger Family

WEEKEND COLLECTIONS: \$ 2197.54 Thank You!

Last Sunday's Outdoor Mass

Many of our parishioners came together last Sunday morning for our annual **Outdoor Mass**. The weather cooperated beautifully, perhaps a little too much sun for some? We may want to think of some parasols and hats for next year. Even the bugs were not too bad.

We had two objectives:

1. Bringing the parish community together in one Mass. Having three Sunday Masses has its advantages, but it also breaks up the parish community. So once a year, bringing our oneness in focus is highly desirable. Many thanks to the many who were able to break their regular Sunday morning routine a bit, while we appreciate the fact that for others this was not possible. Some had other obligations elsewhere.
2. Recognizing those who, in the course, of the year, had been baptized, confirmed and made their First Communion. That was for a part realized. They were all contacted either by mail or by e-mail; and a respectable number responded. Why make this effort? Baptism, confirmation and Eucharist are our sacraments of initiation. Yes, they plunge us into the Mystery of Christ Jesus, but they also make us into members of Christ's Body, the Church. In other words, the bonding with the actual parish community is an integral part of these sacraments of initiation; and, ideally, that is given expression in coming together for Eucharist on Sunday as the Day of the Lord. That is, for a variety of reasons, a tough one to get across today.

And then there was the pot luck lunch after the Eucharist. Many participated in it with delight. It is such a natural to come out of the fellowship we experience in the Eucharist.



Many Thanks to all who made the above work!

Putting together an **Outdoor Mass** (with the twofold focus) involves a lot of people and covers a lot of details. There is the physical set up on Saturday and Sunday morning; some very able volunteers took care of it, but in some ways Wayne's absence was felt. Our music ministers led us so well in the singing, which is so much part of the celebration of the Eucharist. The sound system was professionally looked after. The members of our sacramental preparation teams did their part, as did the Tuesday afternoon crafts ladies who worked on the nametags for those baptized, confirmed

and having made their First Communion. Our hospitality ministers and parking lot attendants cooperated; and the CWG members made sure that the pot luck lunch was well looked after.

What a delight it was with such dedicated volunteers on such an important project. Many thanks to all!

Saint Paul's Church's fire affects us too...

It will take some getting used to not to see Saint Paul's Church anymore. Yes, the Church was of historic significance, but, what a blow it is to Saint Paul's parish community! And, of course, many of our own parishioners used to belong to Saint Paul's before St. Mark's was built. That parish community of Saint Paul is still very much there, and we'll try to be as supportive as we can. That was the rationale for a meeting we had last Monday evening. Some fifteen representatives of our two parishes (members of the Fabriques and of the Pastoral Councils) met to hear of their needs and to see where we can be of help.

There are three sets of needs:

- 1) What to do with weddings, funerals, and baptisms? Most of the weddings and funerals which normally would have been celebrated at Saint Paul's will be held here at St. Mark's. Some of their baptisms are celebrated during Sunday Mass, while others are celebrated on Sunday afternoon. The latter we can have take place here.
- 2) The Sunday Masses. Both of our parishes have two Masses on Sunday morning at pretty much the same time. It is the preference of the Saint Paul's people to maintain that schedule, and they are trying to find a locale in Aylmer for Sunday mornings that would accommodate them for those Sunday Masses.
- 3) Other parish activities of different kinds. They are used to handling most of these at Saint Paul's Rectory and at Saint Médard's. So, they will continue to be held at their respective places.

For now, this arrangement seems to be plausible. Of course, it will take some time to see whether it is workable. Some of it may need to be re-visited. Experience will tell.

It is still far too early to know what Saint Paul's Parish community will do in terms of a church building for the future. There are so many factors to consider. As a result it will be some time before we have a clearer picture on that item.

In the meantime, we hope and pray that the Spirit of Jesus Christ and their patron saint will give them the courage and wisdom they need to come to terms with the challenges they face as a result of their church's fire.

The General Assembly of almost two weeks ago...

There was a fine turnout for this annual event. It provided us with helpful information and clarification on a number of aspects that make up parish life. Thank you to those who participated and to those who put it together.

There was one new item on the agenda that may have some interesting possibilities. It concerns a flyer that is being prepared and that we would like to see publicized and spread around a fair bit. It is an attempt to reach out to many of our contemporaries who have no formal link with a church. Here is the way the flyer puts it:

"It may be that you have never had a formal link with a parish community and that you are searching, wondering whether the Christian faith holds something that you are looking for.

What happens quite frequently today is that people have drifted away from the Christian faith for a variety of reasons. It could be a disconnect between what they concretely experience in life, on the one hand, and what, on the other hand, they understand the Christian faith to hold. Are you trying to re-connect?

Perhaps you may resemble a person in the Gospel who – having stumbled upon Jesus – asked Jesus "Where are you staying? He was not asking for Jesus' address, but what he had to offer. So Jesus said, "Come and see."

Who knows? That elusive Spirit of Jesus may be prodding you. This leaflet is meant as a warm invitation to "come and see" with us, and to search with us."

We'll keep you posted on when the flyer will be finalized.

Let us take advantage of Saint Paul University being so close!

“Me going to University? No way!” some might say. The point is that Saint Paul University has two Summer Institutes, one in Pastoral Liturgy and the other in Religious Education. They are not formal degree programs, but programs that try to assist people in parishes that are involved in their parish’s liturgies (we all are!) or in their parish’s faith formation activities (we all are!). Some more formal formation for these areas of parish life can be so beneficial and is so much needed. And here it is offered in our own backyard. These Summer Institutes run from **July 6 to 17**. Brochures for them can be found at the entrance to the church.

Summer School for Liturgical Musicians: August 23-27 Saint Paul University

Musicians will experience the sort of intense liturgical and musical formation that will benefit the whole parish. This year’s summer school includes special activities for those who work with youth and children’s choirs. Flyer can be found on www.ArchOttawa.ca in the English section under Pastoral Services/Liturgy. Questions: Klara Kinahan 613 829-4908.

Some News about Father John...

Father John has not been around much the last year because of the heavy work load he has carried for the last little while. Both he and I belong to a religious community, The Sacred Heart Fathers (S.C.J.). That means that we do not belong to any particular diocese, such as diocesan priests. We are an international community of religious priests made up of Provinces and Regions representing different countries, and we have – what we call – a General Superior assisted by a General Council who together make up the leadership team for our international community.

Every six years representatives of the different Provinces and Regions come together in Rome for what is called the General Chapter. A meeting of that sort lasts about 4-5 weeks and that is where matters that concern us as an international community get discussed and where a General Superior and a General Council get elected by the membership. Father John is at that General Chapter as the delegate of our Canadian Region.

We have just learned that members of the General Chapter have elected Father John as one of the five General Councillors that assist the General Superior in the leadership of our religious community. That means that for the next six years he will spend most of his time in Rome where he will serve as the contact person and councillor for the English and Dutch speaking Provinces and Regions in our congregation. John has accepted this new ministry. It is not exactly a very exciting task, but one that needs to be done too.

We wish John well in his new ministry. I’ll miss him. *(Bill Marveve)*

FELLOWSHIP FOR YOUNG FAMILIES:

Please join us on the first **Friday of every month** downstairs in the church hall for some dinner, games, music and, most importantly, community for young families here at St. Mark’s. The evening begins with a short family **game at 5:45 pm followed by dinner at 6:00 pm** which is then followed by a variety of fun, family based activities and music. For the purposes of planning food and drinks please RSVP Greg and Andrea Minifie at **819 777-0984**. We would love to see you there!

PARISH BULLETINS ADS: Renewal of advertisements in our Parish Bulletin will be made very soon. To reserve your space, please leave your name at the parish office so that Raymond Michon (the representative of our *Parish Bulletin*) can contact you. **Thanks to the advertisers and welcome to the new ones!**

ATTENTION: A refrigerator in good condition is needed for the basement.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Kindly remember Magdalena Mueller, Hilda Preslawski and their families in your prayers.

Visit our Website: www.stmarkparish.ca

Bulletin design & Website content/design by: *Catherine LeGuerrier*

Need a website or flyer? Visit www.catleg.ca or e-mail: catleg@catleg.ca