**FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**Jesus began speaking in the synagogue, saying: “Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing.” And all spoke highly of him…….**

 **Mass Schedule and Intentions**

**Saturday, January 29, 5:15 Mass - For World Peace, the Poor and the Parishioners of St. Peter's**

**Sunday, January 30, 9:30 a.m. Mass – For World Peace, the Poor and the Parishioners of St. Peter's**

**10:45 a.m. Mass**

**Nigerian Community Mass 1:30 p.m. Livestream**

**Monday, January 31, No Mass**

**Tuesday, February 1, No Mass**

**Wednesday, February 2, 8:00 a.m. Mass – Feast of the Presentation of the Lord**

**(World Day for Consecrated Life)**

**Thursday, February 3, 8:00 a.m. Mass**

**First Friday, February 4, 8:00 a.m. Mass**

**Holy Hour Eucharistic Adoration, 8:30 a.m.**

**Saturday, February 5, 5:15 p.m. Mass - For World Peace, the Poor and the Parishioners of St. Peter's**

**Sunday, February 6, – Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**9:30 a.m. Mass - For World Peace, the Poor and the Parishioners of St. Peter's**

**10:45 a.m. Mass - For World Peace, the Poor and the Parishioners of St. Peter's**

**FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME REFLECTION: The story of Jesus’ visit to Nazareth, which we began reading last week, is placed by Luke at the very start of Jesus’ ministry. The people are delighted by the ‘gracious words’, literally ‘the words of grace’, which he spoke. Quite suddenly, the atmosphere changes, and Jesus challenges the people’s expectations. He knows that their approval is superficial. Prophets are generally rejected by their own. Jesus illustrates this by referring to the two Old Testament prophets, Elijah and Elisha. Elijah encountered persecution in Israel and both prophets performed mighty works for those who were not Jews. Jesus stresses that the healing mercy of God is for all. The people of Nazareth react in annoyance, reject their own prophet and threaten physical violence. Luke anticipates here the different reactions to the preaching of Jesus found in the rest of the gospel. Acceptance, rejection and violence will all be present.**

**What is our reaction to the preaching of Jesus? Have we ever experienced being ‘a prophet rejected by our own people’? We here at St. Peter’s ask that Jesus’ words of grace will heal all bitterness and resentment. We ask that we ourselves may be ‘good news’ to the stranger.**

**SIMPLE LOVE IN DIFFICULT TIMES:** **How should a Christian handle hurt and rejection? The answer is both simple and difficult. Simple, because the answer is always “respond with love”. Difficult because loving the hurtful or hateful we encounter, goes against our basic human nature. We want to hit back, hurt back, and we forgot the blessings God has promise for those who love instead. And while He knows our sinful struggles with hate, God still expects an obedient attempt. It doesn’t have to be grandiose. Try the simpler solutions. When someone scowls, smile in return. When they curse, whisper a prayer for them. When they push you away, slip an arm under theirs and pull them into a hug. It’s a matter of trying simple love in difficult times, and letting God do the rest.**

**Receipts for Income Tax Purposes – 2021**: **2021 December 31 is the last day on which you may make donations that will be counted for your 2021 receipt. Donations received after that date will be eligible for 2022 receipts. Receipts for 2021 are available for picked up next weekend. We thank you for your generosity and support of the parish.**

**First Friday of the Month – “Mary’s Way of the Cross”: With Sylvie Rollin, Mike Budge and Alexandre Grenier. Fri., Feb. 4, 6:40 p.m. Sponsored by the Committee of the Annual Pilgrimage to Ste-Anne-de-Beaupré and Cap-de-la-Madeleine from pilgrims of the Dioceses of Ottawa-Cornwall, Gatineau, Pembroke, Mont-Laurier, St-Jérôme and Kingston. Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83071077405?pwd=UnhZbnZvTjMzK3c4aUoveWRpUXltZz09; passcode 330035.**

**ATTENDANCE AT MASSES IS ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SEATED BASIS NO PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. In accordance with the provincial government guidelines, attendance is restricted to 50% capacity while maintaining the 2 meter physical distancing.  Masks are still required and you must sign in at the door. Seating is on a first come first seated basis. Doors will open 45 minutes before Mass time.  Come early in order to ensure a seat.**

**By My Side 2022 - A Virtual Program of Spiritual Friendship and Support for Separated and Divorced: Catholics: Six week sessions for women (9:00-11:00am) and men (12:00-2:00pm) begin on Sat., Mar. 26 and are offered over Zoom. The program, led from a Catholic faith exploration perspective, is designed to help participants find reconciliation, peace and healing by taking positive steps in their daily spiritual life. Further info & registration: www.bymyside.ca; facebook.com/by mysideott or Mary Jane Manley (613-294-1308). Cost: $40, to help cover resources and promotion.**

**THE RIGHT PLACE AT THE RIGHT TIME:** **Success is often a matter of being in the right place at the right time. So we work very hard at building contacts, to be seen in powerful circles. It takes serious time and effort, but we make sure we get where we need to be. But what happens when the right place for faith conflicts with our career or life plans? When Jesus returned to Nazareth, He went straight to the synagogue. The building was filled with faithful seekers, longing for the Messiah, praying and waiting. Through long years of suffering they stayed close to God’s power, clinging to the “right places”. And now these loyal believers were there to hear and witness the fulfillment of prophecy. What a day of celebration! And what sorrow for those whose business or activities were more important. A powerful reminder for us today. We too wait for our Saviour. He has taught us the signs and the prophecy, so that we can faithfully watch and wait.**

**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED: As per the Government of Ontario’s guidelines most of the staff of St. Peter’s will be working from home and the Parish Office is closed to visitors. Email and phone messages will be monitored. In case of an emergency call the Parish Office 613- 733.1553 and leave a message that includes a contact phone number.**