**FIFTHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

 **Mass Schedule and Intentions**

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

**Sunday, February 6, 9:30 a.m. Mass – For World Peace, the Poor and the Parishioners of St. Peter's**

**10:45 a.m. Mass – Intentions of the Sick of the Parish Community**

**Monday, February 7, No Mass**

**Tuesday, February 8, No Mass**

**Wednesday, February 9, 8:00 a.m. Mass**

**Thursday, February 10, 8:00 a.m. Mass – Memorial of St. Scholastica, Virgin**

**Friday, February 11, 8:00 a.m. Mass – World Day of the Sick**

**Saturday, February 12, 5:15 p.m. Mass - For World Peace, the Poor and the Parishioners of St. Peter's**

**Sunday, February 13, – Sixth 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**

**WORLD DAY OF THE SICK – Feb. 11th: Creator of Goodness and love, hear our prayers for the sick members of our community and for all who are in need. Amid mental and physical suffering may they find consolation in your healing presence. Show your mercy as you close wounds, cure illness, make broken bodies whole, and free downcast spirits. May these special people find lasting health and deliverance, and join us in thanking you for all your gifts. We ask this through the Lord Jesus who healed those who believed. Amen.**

**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.**

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH:** **Every February, Canada celebrates Black History Month to honour the legacies of Black Canadians and Black people living in Canada. The 2022 theme for Black History Month is: “February and Forever: Celebrating Black History today and every day,” which focuses on recognizing the daily contributions that Black Canadians make to Canada. No matter where you live, we invite all Canadians to learn more about these communities, and how they continue to help shape the story of Canada**

**ASH WEDNESDAY 2022: Ash Wednesday is Wednesday, March 2, 2022 and marks the start of Lent. A special Mass with the distribution of Ashes for the parish community will be held 7:00 pm here at St. Peter’s. All are invited to attend. Please note that there will be No 8:00 a.m. Mass celebrated on that morning.**

**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 this weekend. We thank you for your generosity and support of the parish.**

**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.**

**A LITTLE EMBARRASSING Christianity asks a lot: From the start we are taught that faith can bring sorrow and persecution. Following Jesus means a sacrificial, challenging life. We’re prepared by sermons and scripture for the dangers of Christian life. Why doesn’t anybody warn us about the embarrassment? What embarrassment? Think of Noah’s boat in the desert or Moses talking to a bush. Deep, devoted faith calls believers to act in ways that seem foolish or even half-crazy. If you rely on pure faith, the skeptical world is going to point and stare. When Jesus asked Simon to cast out the nets again, after a night without a sing catch, you can bet the crowds on the shore were snickering. You could probably hear the laughter clear across the lake. Embarrassing? You bet. But when Jesus said “trust me”, it was the beginning of a miracle. Simon and his partners acted the fool so that God’s hand could be shown and the catch was miraculous, both in fish and souls. It’s the same today when faith makes us stand out in a crowd. We hear the whispers and see the pointed fingers. But if we willingly step out in faith and trust Him, the miracles will begin again. Isn’t that worth a little embarrassment?**

**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.**