**TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY**

 **There is a baptism with which I must be baptized and how great is my anguish until it is accomplished!.........**

 **Mass Schedule and Intentions**

**Saturday, August 13, 5:00 p.m. Mass Mass - For World Peace, the Poor and All Parishioners**

**Sunday, August 14, 9:30 a.m. Mass + For the soul of Sophie Gebherd by Joanne and Martin Elsaesser**

**11:00 a.m. Mass – For world peace, the poor and all parishioners**

**Monday, August 15, No Mass**

**Tuesday, August 16, 7: 00 p.m. (Healing Mass)**

**Wednesday, August 17, 8:30 a.m. Mass**

**Thursday, August 18, 8:30 a.m. Mass**

**Friday, August 19, 8:30 a.m. Mass**

**Saturday, August 20, 5:00 p.m. Mass - For World Peace, the Poor and All Parishioners**

**Sunday, August 21 – Twenty – First Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**9:30 a.m. Mass – For the Soul of Hector Mackenzie by Joanne and Martin Elsaesser**

**11:00 a.m. Mass – For the Soul of Vincent Sutton by Anne and Bob Wilson**

**TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY REFLECTION: The words of Jesus in the gospel can sometimes be quite shocking. How is it possible to believe that Jesus has come to bring not peace, but conflict? The prophet Jesus uses blunt and challenging language. His words convey a profound truth, for the consequence of his preaching will be division, even within families. His uncompromising preaching about God and human life produces opposition and division, which both Jesus and his followers have to face. Fire is nevertheless a disturbing image. It is used in the Jewish Scriptures to symbolise punishment and destruction. Jesus is using the strong language common among his contemporaries to speak of the judgement of God in stark terms. He speaks also of his coming baptism. In Christian baptism we undergo a kind of dying in order to reach new life. Baptism for Jesus is the baptism of the cross, his death leading to resurrection. Jesus is anxious to continue his journey to Jerusalem and to complete his mission. Jesus explicitly says he has not come to bring peace. These words speak of the inevitable consequence of his message. Divisions are foreseen, and divisions and conflicts have been a constant reality because the Christian gospel makes great demands. The challenge is to continue to speak the truth with love in spite of opposition. The reading about the prophet Jeremiah which accompanies this gospel illustrates the persecution often faced by the prophets. Jeremiah's intentions are misrepresented: he 'does not have the welfare of this people at heart'. He is thrown into a well and sinks into the mud. He is eventually rescued by someone who is willing to stand with him and risk persecution himself. As the Letter to the Hebrews says, we are supported by 'a great cloud of witnesses' as we continue the race of faith which we have begun. Aare we willing to speak the truth even when it might cause unpleasantness? Are we prepared to suffer for our faith? We pray for those who preach the good news despite opposition and persecution. We pray for peace in the Church and in the world.**

**Ministry Help Wanted: CHOIR MEMBERS NEEDED: Now that the Covid restrictions have been lifted we are starting up our choir again and are in need of members. Anyone interested in getting involved can contact the parish office. Anyone ages 12 and up and no musical experience necessary but a love to sing. LECTORS & EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS ALSO NEEDED: We are now ready to welcome back our lectors and Eucharistic Ministers. Please contact the Parish Office or by e-mail.**

**STATEMENT OF THANKS FROM CCCB:** **The Bishops of Canada are thankful for Pope Francis’ historic visit to our country. He came in fulfillment of his promise to manifest, by his very presence, his closeness to the Indigenous peoples of this land. This visit represents a significant milestone on the path of healing and reconciliation. The Holy Father called on us to continue to assist survivors and families in healing from the traumas they have suffered. Read the complete media release CCCB webpage.**

**LECTOR MINISTRY:** **The Lectors ministry is made up of lay persons who read the Word of God at Mass. Those who have the privilege and honour of being a lector are thankful for having the opportunity to do so. The lector team’s membership is constantly changing as people move in and out of the Parish. As a result the ministry is always looking for dedicated new members who wish to give of their talents to the Parish as a whole. So, please do join us! Please contact the Parish Office for more details.**

 **ATTENTION VACATIONERS!!! If you’re away on vacation this summer, please remember that our Parish expenses never take a holiday. Our Parish can only function if its bills are paid, so we require your ongoing help. You may give ‘Post-dated Cheques’ payable to St. Peter’s Parish before you leave or Pre – Authorized Debit.. Thank you so much for your support in keeping our Church operating and beautiful!**

**NO POLITICS OR RELIGION DISCUSSED HERE**: **Political elections can bring out the best and worst in people. Despite a growing cynicism, polls show that our individual opinions are still deeply held and strongly defended. Many of our political allegiances are formed early in life, by ethical, moral and religious codes. As we mature we may find ourselves on the opposite political side from spouses, children or friends. In fact, the combustible subject of politics has been banned from many dinner tables for fear it will permanently sever otherwise peaceful relationships. If politics divides our households, how can the gospel do less? Jesus’ message evokes powerful responses, whether positive or negative. What we feel depends on where we stand… for Him or against Him. As today’s gospel says, He has come to draw the battle lines and each of us much choose. It won’t always be easy to stand with Him. We may be the only one holding up His banner in our family. We may find ourselves estranged from people we love and respect for His sake. But He offers us this comfort: He is standing beside us, arms open waiting for them too.**

**ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY:** **August 15, 2022 In celebrating the Feast of Mary’s Assumption into heaven, we have a tendency at times to feel that this particular mystery puts her on an entirely different plane of life than the one we ordinary human beings enjoy. We focus on her uniqueness and forget what she shared with us: the common struggle of being human in a harsh reality. The truest blessings from this Feast come when we reflect on both sides of Mary. It is only when we remember that she was a human as we are, yet she triumphed, that her example becomes truly inspirational. Each of us is a unique creation of God bestowed with body, soul and gifts, just as Mary was, and if we will become wholly obedient to God as she was, we can fulfil our own place in His eternal plan. Mary’s Assumption is a wonderful time to remember that we have work to do, a place to fill, an example to set.**

**FALL RETREAT:** [**T**](https://www.basilica.ca/pastoral-council)**he Legion of Mary is sponsoring a silent retreat with Father Martin Farrell at Le Centre de l'Amour in Plantagenet (47 minutes rom downtown Ottawa) from Friday, September 16, 7:30 p.m. to Sunday, September 18, 2022, 1:00 p.m. Info: Angela Beimers at 613-829-0320**

**Covid-19 Measures At St. Peter’s**: Please note that as of March 21st you are no longer required to wear a mask at the Parish. Social distancing measures are also no longer in effect. That said, let us be respectful of those who are more prudent at this time.