**TWENTY – THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY**

**I, Paul, an old man and now also a prisoner for Christ Jesus, urge you on behalf of my child Onesimus…..**

 **Mass Schedule and Intentions**

**Saturday, September 3, 5:00 p.m. Mass Mass + For the Soul of Deacon Bob Birch by Juanita Peat**

**Sunday, September 4, 9:30 a.m. Mass + For the Soul of Hazel Teodosio by Mercy and Family**

**11:00 a.m. Mass - - For World Peace, the Poor and All Parishioners**

Monday, September 5, No Mass

**Tuesday, September 6, 7: 00 p.m. (Healing Mass)**

**Wednesday, September 7, 8:30 a.m. Mass + For the Soul of Ervin Gaw chua**

**Thursday, September 8, 8:30 a.m. Mass – Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

**Friday, September 9, 8:30 a.m. Mass**

**Saturday, September 10, 5:00 p.m. Mass - For World Peace, the Poor and All Parishioners**

**Sunday, September 11 – Twenty – Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**9:30 a.m. Mass For the Soul of Deacon Bob Birch by Paula Smith and Family**

**11:00 a.m. Mass - For World Peace, the Poor and All Parishioners**

**TWENTY – THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME REFLECTION: The start of this weekend gospel reading should remind us that Jesus is on his way to Jerusalem. Luke tells us that many people were willing to follow him. His journey from Galilee to Jerusalem began in chapter 9. It is a journey to face the cross and is filled with teaching for those who are willing to take up their crosses as disciples of Jesus. Once again Jesus uses the stark language of the prophets. To hate one's closest relatives should not be interpreted literally, but in the sense of preferring nothing and nobody to following Jesus. The second section of the gospel concerns prudence. Jesus tells two short parables, about the man building the tower, and another about a king going to war. Discipleship involves both the heart and the mind. We need to count the cost of discipleship. There is an apparent contradiction here for the passage ends with another radical statement of Jesus: 'None of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions.' Each person must calculate the cost and give what God inspires through heart and mind. God does not demand what is impossible for a person to give. Detachment is the key. The first reading praises the gift of Wisdom, which comes from God. Jesus is this true Wisdom, who guides, inspires and challenges us on the road to the fullness of life. Do we manage to put God above all else in our life? Do we use our intelligence to make decisions about discipleship? Let us pray for the gift of the Holy Spirit to guide our detachment to generosity. Let us pray for courage in following Jesus to Jerusalem, to the cross and to new life.**

 **Ministry Help Wanted: CHOIR MEMBERS NEEDED: Anyone interested in getting involved can contact the parish office or sign up this weekend at all masses. 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.**

**CATCH THE ACE LOTTERY: The Ottawa Central Council (OCC) of the Society of St Vincent de Paul is pleased to announce the return of the Catch the Ace lottery. The first draw will take place on July 12 and every Tuesday after that until the Ace of Spades is drawn again. Tickets are $10 each, purchase online only, and they are good for the draw on the Tuesday after the purchase.**

**WHAT’S IT GONNA COST???**  **You’ve been offered your dream life: the perfect house, millions to spend, wonderful clothes, gourmet foods. All you have to do is move in empty-handed. Leave everything behind, absolutely everything and step into a guaranteed paradise. Wouldn’t you do it? Today’s gospel has an even better offer. As Christians we’re offered heaven, eternal peace and joy in God’s presence. But like all precious things, it comes with a price tag. Not a large figure, just one small word: Everything. Heaven is ours. The cost: Every single item we possess, every cent in the bank, our stock certificates, retirement funds, property, vehicles, residences. A pretty high price for some of us, when you calculate by currency. But really, the price is just one word: Trust. Jesus says the first step for believers is trusting Him to provide for all our needs. He will be our security here on earth and in His kingdom to come. It’s a scary bargain, but worth every penny**

**A NOTE ON PASTORAL LETTERS:** **People ask for pastoral references for various purposes. A pastoral letter is an affirmation of your active commitment to the parish on various levels. It obviously means that you are a registered parishioner supporting the parish in its sacramental and communitarian faith journey and the pastor of the parish affirms it.**

**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**

 **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!**

**BIRTH OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY September 08:**  **The feast of Our Lady’s birth originated in Syria or Palestine at the beginning of the 6th Century, becoming a formal feast some 100 years later. Mary’s birthday has been described as “the hope of the entire world and the dawn of salvation.” St. Alphonsus de Liguori in the Glories of Mary wrote: “Having been destined to become the Mother of the Eternal word, this child was enriched with so great a grace that, even at the moment of Her Immaculate Conception, she exceeded all the Saints and Angels in sanctity, for she was given a higher order of grace, which corresponded to her dignity as Mother of God.” A great saint even at her birth, this feast day celebrates the gift of Mary, which prepared the way for God’s greatest gift, our Lord Jesus Christ.**

**HIGHER EDUCATION:** **“If for any reason whatsoever a child is taught only one lesson… let that lesson be faith in God. For that one step towards an education is of more permanent value than all other learning put together.” Wishing all our students & teachers a happy & healthy new school year!**

**LABOUR DAY! Our Father’s Business God is a kind father. He sets us all in the places where He wishes us to be employed and that employment is truly “our Father’s business.” He chooses work for every creature which will be delightful to them, if they do it simply and humbly. He gives us always strength enough and sense enough, for what He wants us to do; if we either tire ourselves or frustrate ourselves, it is our own fault, and we may always be sure, whatever we are doing, that our hands and hearts will be given the strength to do what He commands.**