

Pastoral Staff:

Fr. John N. Burchat, *Pastor*
Fr. Peter G. Proulx, *Associate Pastor*
Ms. Anda Sprudz
Deacon Michael Doherty
Deacon Christopher Barrett

Office & Property:

Office Admin: Ms. Cheryl Peters
Custodian: Mr. Rob Hicke

Office Hours:

Tues. & Thurs.
9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
613-623-2282
catholicarnprior@gmail.com

Wounds Full of Mercy

From a Homily by Pope Francis; April 12, 2015

On the eighth day Jesus came once again into the Upper Room and showed his wounds to Thomas, so that he could touch them as he had wished to, in order to believe and thus become himself a witness to the Resurrection. To us also, on this Sunday which Saint John Paul II wished to dedicate to Divine Mercy, the Lord shows us, through the Gospel, his wounds. They are wounds of mercy. It is true: the wounds of Jesus are wounds of mercy. "With his wounds we are healed" (Is 53:5).

Jesus invites us to behold these wounds, to touch them as Thomas did, to heal our lack of belief. Above all, he invites us to enter into the mystery of these wounds, which is the mystery of his merciful love. Through these wounds, as in a light-filled opening, we can see the entire mystery of Christ and of God: his Passion, his earthly life – filled with compassion for the weak and the sick – his incarnation in the womb of Mary. And we can retrace the whole history of salvation: the prophecies – especially about the Servant of the Lord, the Psalms, the Law and the Covenant; to the liberation from Egypt, to the first Passover and to the blood of the slaughtered lambs; and again from the Patriarchs to Abraham, and then all the way back to Abel, whose blood cried out from the earth. All of this we can see in the wounds of Jesus, crucified and risen; with Mary, in her Magnificat, we can perceive that, "His mercy extends from generation to generation" (cf. Lk 1:50).

Faced with the tragic events of human history we can feel crushed at times, asking ourselves, "Why?". Humanity's evil can appear in the world like an abyss, a great void: empty of love, empty of goodness, empty of life. And so we ask: how can we fill this abyss? For us it is impossible; only God can fill this emptiness that evil brings to our hearts and to human history. It is Jesus, God made man, who died on the Cross and who fills the abyss of sin with the depth of his mercy. Saint Bernard, in one of his commentaries on the Canticle of Canticles (Sermon 61, 3-5: Opera Omnia, 2, 150-151), reflects precisely on the mystery of the Lord's wounds, using forceful and even bold expressions which we do well to repeat today. He says that "through these sacred wounds we can see the secret of [Christ's] heart, the great mystery of love, the sincerity of his mercy with which he visited us from on high".

The saints teach us that the world is changed beginning with the conversion of one's own heart, and that this happens through the mercy of God. And so, whether faced with my own sins or the great tragedies of the world, "my conscience would be distressed, but it would not be in turmoil, for I would recall the wounds of the Lord: 'he was wounded for our iniquities' (Is 53:5). What sin is there so deadly that it cannot be pardoned by the death of Christ?" (ibid.).

Keeping our gaze on the wounds of the Risen Jesus, we can sing with the Church: "His love endures forever" (Ps 117:2); eternal is his mercy. And with these words impressed on our hearts, let us go forth along the paths of history, led by the hand of our Lord and Saviour, our life and our hope.

St. John Chrysostom Parish (est.1867)

295 Albert St., Arnprior, ON K7S 2M7

Home of the Arnprior & District Food Bank 613-668-4462

www.saintjohnchrysostom.org

www.pembroke-diocese.com

✠ Second Sunday of Easter ✠

~ Sunday of the Divine Mercy ~

April 11, 2021

Divine Mercy Sunday Holy Hour: from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and recitation of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy at 3:00 p.m.

The Paschal Mystery of Christ's Passion, Death and Resurrection is the summit of the revelation of a deeper justice permeated with mercy which springs completely from the love of the Father and the Son which bears fruit in the Spirit of Love. In the Paschal Mystery, eternal love touches the most painful wounds of humanity, showing love to be more powerful than sin. The Father is the source of mercy; the Son, the way of mercy; the Holy Spirit, the life of mercy.



***ADDITIONS: The Decorations for Easter are for the Glory of God and In Memory of our Loved Ones:** Gervase Costello *by Rosemary Costello*; Joe & Lisa Francis & Deceased Family Members *by L. & M. Gallant*; Helen Brown, Barbara Royce & Berna McClure *by Michelle Brown*; Stefen & Valeria Nych & Janice Armstrong Nych *by The Nych Family*; Helen Brown, Agnus & Lionel Barnet *by Theodore & Bernice Brown*

Second Week of Easter

April 14 - 16

Wednesday 9:00 a.m. +Christel Rick *by Linda Chandler & Ian McKay*
Thursday 9:00 a.m. +Genevieve McCallum *by The Knights of Columbus*
Friday 9:00 a.m. +Berncie Farrell *by Mr. & Mrs. Tom Cassidy*

✠ Third Sunday of Easter ✠

April 18

Saturday 3:45 p.m. Confessions
4:30 p.m. +Dan Herrick *by Mary Herrick*
Sunday 9:30 a.m. Intentions of the People (*Missa pro populo*)

IN YOUR PRAYERS, PLEASE REMEMBER:

- that our risen Saviour may transform and fill us with the joy of his glorious and life-giving resurrection;
- for the children and youth of our parish who will be receiving First Holy Communion and Confirmation during the Easter season;
- those who have been affected by the coronavirus: the sick, the dying, their families and care givers; those who struggle with fear, anxiety and depression;
- those who have lost their jobs and are suffering economic hardship;
- parishioners who are sick; and those who have died.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE: "Thank you to all the CWL members who have renewed their membership for 2021. There are a large number of members who have not renewed yet this year, and we are hoping that they will consider doing so. Even though the deadline has passed, we can still add members at this time. The fee is \$22.00 for 2021 and can be placed in an envelope marked CWL in the basket at Church or in the slot at the office door. Some members have done an e-transfer to me, which works very well. Even though 2020 was a disappointing year, we need all our members in order to continue to do the work we still do. If anyone has questions, please call me at 613-623-7211. Thank you." ~ Nancy Black, *Madame President*

~ PARISH STEWARDSHIP ~

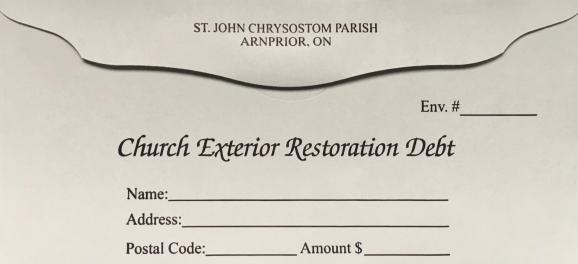
SUNDAY OFFERING: April 4: \$5,783.64; **Lenten Mission** \$4,245.00 ; **Easter Offering:** \$2,074.45; **Easter Flowering Offering:** \$1075.00; **Food Bank Offering:** \$1,055.00

Thank you for your continuing commitment during these difficult times. **Sunday Envelope Offerings can also be put through the mail slot on the parish office door.**

DIRECT DEPOSIT: Why not use direct deposit for the sake of convenience and for the continual support of our parish? Just call the parish office to set it up! We have 53 parishioners who have chosen this option

CHURCH EXTERIOR RESTORATION COLLECTION: The amount of \$5,676.00 from the month of March was recently sent to the Chancery Office in Pembroke.

This monthly appeal continues on the last Sunday of the month using a special envelope and collection dedicated to the Church Exterior Restoration Debt. These envelopes have been inserted into every box of Sunday Collection envelopes and are also available on the racks at the entrance of the church.



ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM PARISH
ARNPRIOR, ON

Env. # _____

Church Exterior Restoration Debt

Name: _____
Address: _____
Postal Code: _____ Amount \$ _____

SUPPORT THE FUTURE OF YOUR CHURCH: Consider a bequest to St. John Chrysostom Exterior Restoration Project through your will and leave an extraordinary legacy gift for the glory of God and to ensure that future generations continue to have a home to celebrate our Christian Faith.



St. John Chrysostom Parish is now using a new communication tool to reach and register people in our parish. The weekly church bulletin is emailed out to parishioners using a new, safe and secure network called **flocknote**. (For those without email, we will continue to print a limited number of bulletins for pick up at the church or parish office.) There is no need for you to log in, create an account, or download anything to get messages from the church: it just works!

This program will allow the parish to build and maintain a central database with contact info for our members keeping all information private and only accessible to parish administration