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Fr. Peter G. Proulx, *Associate Pastor*
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St. John Chrysostom Parish (est.1867)

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

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www.pembrokedioocese.com

✠ **Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time** ✠

July 25, 2021

STEP 3: On Friday, July 16, Ontario moved into Step 3 of reopening. The new regulations permit us to have the number of the people in the church that can maintain social distancing. At Saint John Chrysostom, we will return to 30% capacity for up to 150 people which will safely comply with the new regulations. We have never exceeded this in the past and social distancing has always been maintained. **Our pandemic protocol (physical distancing, face masks, etc.) remains in full effect at Saint John Chrysostom Church.**

PASTORAL APPOINTMENT As part of his seminary formation, Mr. Lukas Casta was appointed by Most Reverend Guy Desrochers C.Ss.R., Bishop of Pembroke, on June 29th, to a Pastoral Year of Formation under the direction of Fr. John Burchat, pastor of St. John Chrysostom Parish, effective September 1, 2021.

REOPENING & RE-ENGAGING – IT’S TIME: Now that vaccinations are quickly rolling out, and restrictions are gradually being lifted, it’s time to start thinking about your return to the celebration of Mass and the reception of the Holy Eucharist. After months of uncertainty, warranted and unwarranted fears, the Mass is precisely the place we can bring those feelings — anxiety, fear and nervousness — and rest, laying them down at the altar with Christ.

CHURCH ACCESS: remains open for personal prayer Monday to Friday from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. However, for security reasons, access is now only by the side door.

“AS MUCH AS THEY WANTED”

From an Angelus Address by Pope Francis; July 27, 2018

Today’s Gospel passage (cf. Jn 6:1-15) recounts the parable of the multiplication of the loaves and the fish. Seeing that a large crowd had followed him to Lake Tiberias, Jesus turned to the Apostle Philip and asked him: “How are we to buy bread, so that these people may eat?” (v. 5). With this Gospel passage, the liturgy inspires us to keep our gaze on Jesus, who, in last Sunday’s Gospel passage according to Mark, upon seeing “a great throng ... had compassion on them” (Mk 6:34). That boy too with the five loaves had understood this compassion and said: “Poor people! I have this...”. His compassion moved him to offer what he had. Indeed today, John shows us again that Jesus is attentive to people’s primary needs. The parable describes a concrete fact: the people were hungry and Jesus engaged his disciples so that this hunger could be satisfied. This is the concrete fact. Jesus did not only offer this to the crowd — he offered his Word, his solace, his salvation, ultimately his life —, but he certainly did this too: he took care of the food for the body. And we, his disciples, cannot ignore this. Only by listening to the peoples’ most simple requests and being close to their practical existential situation can one expect to be listened to when speaking about higher values.

God’s love for a humanity that is hungry for bread, freedom, justice, peace and, above all, his divine grace, never fails. Even today, Jesus continues to feed, to make his presence alive and comforting, and he does so through us. So the Gospel invites us to be available and hard working, like that youth who, realizing he had five loaves, says: “I contribute this, then you will see [to it] ...”. Faced with the cry of hunger — all types of “hunger” — of many brothers and sisters in every part of the world, we cannot be detached and calm spectators. The proclamation of Christ, Bread of eternal life, requires a generous commitment of solidarity toward the poor, the weak, the least ones, the defenceless. This action of closeness and charity is the best test of the quality of our faith, both at the personal level and at the community level.

Then at the end of the story, Jesus, when everyone had eaten their fill, Jesus told the disciples to gather up the leftovers so that nothing would be wasted. And I would like to suggest to you this sentence that Jesus uttered: “Gather the fragments left over, that nothing may be lost” (v. 12). I am thinking about the many hungry people and how much leftover food we throw away.... Let each of us think about this: where does the food that is left over from lunch go, from dinner, where does it go? What is done with the leftover food in my house? Is it thrown away? No. If you have this habit, I will give you some advice: speak to your grandparents who lived through the post war period and ask them what they did with the leftovers. Never throw away leftover food. Either heat it again or give it to someone who can eat it, to someone who needs it. Never throw away leftover food. This is a piece of advice and also an examination of conscience: what do we do with leftovers at home?

Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time

July 28 - 30

- Wednesday 9:00 a.m.** +Sandy Leduc *by Irene Pulcine*
- Thursday 9:00 a.m.** **Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus**
+Bryan, Frances and Teresa Burke *by John & Christine Tammadge*
- Friday 9:00 a.m.** +Laurent Rieux *by Gilles & Therese Rieux*

✠ Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time ✠

August 1, 2021

- Saturday 3:45 p.m.** *Confessions*
4:30 p.m. +Wanda Wagner *by Mike & Sharron Doherty*
- Sunday 9:30 a.m.** Intentions of the People (*Missa pro populo*)

IN YOUR PRAYERS, PLEASE REMEMBER:

- that on this first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, declared by Pope Francis, we may recommit to cherishing them as essential members of the Church and society;
- for all who are suffering from the scourge of drought, wildfires and flooding;
- the needs of the Indigenous Peoples in Canada as they continue to experience the pain and suffering of their past; that all Canadians would courageously fulfill the challenges placed before us in the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission;
- 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, especially *Teresa Burke*, sister of Christine Tammadge; and *Bill Knox*.

~ PARISH STEWARDSHIP ~

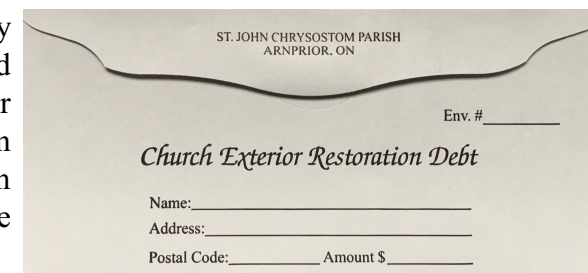
SUNDAY OFFERING: July 17 (total will be in next week's bulletin) Thank you for your continuing commitment during these difficult times of pandemic and testing of faith. **Sunday Envelope Offerings can also be put through the mail slot on the parish office door.**

ENVELOPES FOR SUNDAY OFFERINGS: There are still a number of boxes left at the entrance of the church since many could not pick them up after Christmas because of the 3rd wave pandemic lockdown. If you don't yet use these to support our church there are extra boxes available. Please put your name/address/email/phone# on the envelopes for the first few times you use them so we can properly record your donations for charitable donation receipts for the year.

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 \$8,853.25 from the month of June was recently sent to the Chancery Office in Pembroke. Thank you!

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.

ECCLESIA: There is a survey on the last page of our diocesan newspaper that the editorial committee would appreciate you filling out and returning in the collection basket at any Mass. Deadline for the surveys to be submitted is July 30th. Thank you for your participation in this endeavor. Please note that the May issue of *Ecclesia* can now be found on our website at <https://pembrokediocese.com/ecclesia/>.