

**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  
catholicarprior@gmail.com

**From the Beginning . . . the Two Shall Become One**

*From an Angelus Address by Pope Francis; October 7, 2018*

**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](http://www.saintjohnchrysostom.org)

[www.pembrookediocese.com](http://www.pembrookediocese.com)

**Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*October 3, 2021*

**LIFE CHAIN:** will again take place in Arnprior TODAY, Sunday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> for one hour from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. Join other Christians at Madawaska Blvd. and Daniel St. in Arnprior. Life Chain is a prayerful and peaceful witness to the sanctity of human life and the evil of abortion. Participants pray and hold non-graphic signs at hundreds of locations across North America for one hour.



**PARISH HARVEST FESTIVAL APPEAL:** Please use the Harvest Festival envelope that is supplied in our Sunday box of envelopes, or the ones that are at the entrance of the church. We are hoping that with this extraordinary appeal to your generosity, we might be able to offset the loss of \$25,000 that would have normally been raised with the dinner and raffle draw. Thank you in advance for your generosity as we make this appeal to all registered parishioners.

**FIRST COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION:** Parents who desire that their children receive these Sacraments will be responsible for teaching their children at home and will also be assisted by parish catechists. To register, first speak to Fr. Burchat in person after any Saturday/Sunday Mass. Parents must feel that it is “safe” to return to regular attendance of Sunday Mass and commit to do so.

This Sunday’s Gospel reading (cf. Mk 10:2-16) offers us Jesus’ words on marriage. The passage opens with the provocation of the Pharisees who ask Jesus if it is “lawful for a man to divorce his wife”, as the Law of Moses provides (cf. vv. 2-4). Jesus firstly, with the wisdom and authority that come to him from the Father, puts the Mosaic prescription into perspective, saying: “For your hardness of heart he” — that is, the ancient legislator — “wrote you this commandment” (v. 5). Thus it is a concession that is needed to mend the flaws created by our selfishness, but it does not correspond to the Creator’s original intention.

And here, Jesus again takes up the Book of Genesis: “from the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female’. ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one’” (vv. 6-8). And he concludes: “What therefore God has joined together, let not man put asunder” (v. 9). In the Creator’s original plan, it is not that a man marries a woman and, if things do not go well, he repudiates her. No. Rather, the man and the woman are called to recognize each other, to complete each other, to help each other in marriage.

This teaching of Jesus is very clear and defends the dignity of marriage as a union of love which implies fidelity. What allows the spouses to remain united in marriage is a love of mutual giving supported by Christ’s grace. However, if in the spouses, individual interests, one’s own satisfaction prevails, then their union cannot endure.

And the Gospel passage itself reminds us, with great realism, that man and woman, called to experience a relationship of love, may regretfully behave in a way that places it in crisis. Jesus does not admit all that can lead to the failure of the relationship. He does so in order to confirm God’s plan, in which the power and beauty of the human relationship emerge. The Church, on the one hand, does not tire of confirming the beauty of the family as it was consigned to us by Scripture and by Tradition; at the same time, she strives to make her maternal closeness tangibly felt by those who experience relationships that are broken or that continue in a difficult and trying way.

God’s way of acting with his unfaithful people — that is, with us — teaches us that wounded love can be healed by God through mercy and forgiveness. For this reason in these situations, the Church is not asked to express immediately and only condemnation. On the contrary, before so many painful marital failures, she feels called to show love, charity and mercy, in order to lead wounded and lost hearts back to God.

Let us invoke the Virgin Mary, that she help married couples to always live and renew their union, beginning with God’s original Gift.

## Twenty-Seventh Week in Ordinary Time

October 6 - 8

- Wednesday 9:00 a.m.** +Connie Smith by *Her Mother*
- Thursday 9:00 a.m.** **Our Lady of the Rosary**  
+For Deceased Members of the Clouthier Family  
by *Bob & Corrine Thomson*
- Friday 9:00 a.m.** +For Departed Relatives by *Bob & Sandy Lee*

## ✠ Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time ✠

October 10, 2021

- Saturday 3:45 p.m.** *Confessions*  
**4:30 p.m.** +Jacqueline Heath by *Doug & Family*
- Sunday 9:30 a.m.** Intentions of the People (*Missa pro populo*)

### IN YOUR PRAYERS, PLEASE REMEMBER:

- the peoples of our country, legislators and healthcare practitioners: that they would choose life and not death regarding euthanasia, assisted suicide and abortion;
- that as our Country and Church remember the truth of past and present injustices towards First Nations, Métis and Inuit Peoples, may we also recommit to ongoing reparation, reconciliation and the path of friendship;
- parishioners who are sick; and those who have died, especially: *Sylvia Desarmia* and *Jackie Heath*.

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

**PANDEMIC PROTOCOL FOR MASSES AT SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM:** Even as we return to some “normalcy” for our Masses (i.e., limited singing, processions, etc), face masks and social distancing are still mandatory in our church at this time. When necessary for easier breathing, masks can be lowered below the nose but only when you are socially distanced from others and in your own pew. We ask everyone to show charity by complying and when instructing visitors.

**SUNDAY OFFERING:** September 26 - \$3,317.70. 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.**

**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 55 parishioners who have chosen this option.

**CHURCH EXTERIOR RESTORATION COLLECTION:** This monthly appeal uses a special envelope and collection dedicated to the Church Exterior Restoration Debt. The amount of \$6,199.25 from the month of September was recently sent to the Chancery Office in Pembroke.

**WOMEN'S FALL RETREAT:** The 12th Annual Women's Fall Retreat, "Be Encouraged", will be held by Zoom on Saturday, October 23, 2021, from 9am - 3pm. Women of all ages are invited to a day of encouraging talks, inspirational music, breakout sessions, and Mass celebrated by Fr. Brian McNally. Laura O'Reilly, from the Archdiocese of Ottawa-Cornwall, will again be the speaker. For more information and to register, please go to [www.womensfallretreat.com](http://www.womensfallretreat.com). The cost for the day is \$30. Further queries can be directed to Diane Melanson-Howe (613-992-4693)



**Catholic Women's League** Nancy Black, *Madame President*

**Next Meeting:** *Wednesday, October 6 @ 7 p.m. in the Parish Hall*

The First Sunday of the month is Food Back Sunday and any cash donations can be put in the collection in an envelope marked for the Food Bank.



**Knights of Columbus** Bob Lee, *Grand Knight*  
[www.kofc2082.org](http://www.kofc2082.org)

Council 2082  
285 Albert St.  
Arnprior, ON  
613-623-2519

**Business Meeting:** *Monday, October 4 @ 6 p.m.*  
**Executive Meeting:** *Monday, October 25 @ 7 p.m.*