

Pastoral Staff:

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

Office & Property:

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Do Whatever He Tells You

From an Angelus Address by Pope Francis; January 20, 2019

Last Sunday, with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, we began the journey in the liturgical time called “Ordinary”; the time to follow Jesus in his public life, in the mission for which the Father sent him into the world. In today’s Gospel (cf. Jn 2:1-11) we find the narrative of Jesus’ first miracle in the village of Cana, in Galilee, during a marriage celebration. It is not by chance that there is a wedding at the beginning of Jesus’ public life, because in him, God espoused humanity: this is the Good News, even though those who invited him do not yet know that the Son of God is seated at their table and that he is the true bridegroom. Indeed all the mystery of the sign of Cana is based on the presence of this divine bridegroom, Jesus, who begins to reveal himself. Jesus manifests himself as the bridegroom of the People of God, announced by the prophets, and he reveals to us the depth of the relationship which unites us to him: it is a New Covenant of love.

In the context of the Covenant, the symbol of wine, which is at the heart of this miracle, is fully understood. Just as the feast is culminating, the wine runs out. Our Lady notices this and says to Jesus: “They have no wine” (v. 3). Because it would have been bad to continue the feast with water! An embarrassment for those people. Our Lady notices and, as she is a mother, she immediately turns to Jesus. The Scriptures, especially Prophets, point to wine as a typical element of the messianic banquet (Am 9:13-14; Joel 2:24; Is 25:6). Water is necessary to live but wine expresses the abundance of the banquet and the joy of the celebration. A feast without wine? I don’t know.... By transforming into wine the water from the stone jars used “for the Jewish rites of purification” (v. 6) — it was customary: to purify oneself before entering a home — Jesus effects an eloquent sign. He transforms the Law of Moses into Gospel, bearer of joy.

And then, let us turn to Mary. The words that Mary addresses to the servants crown the spousal picture of Cana: “Do whatever he tells you” (Jn 2:6). Today too, Our Lady tells all of us to “Do whatever he tells you”. These words are a precious legacy that our Mother left us. And indeed, the servants in Cana obey Jesus. Truly, a New Covenant is pledged at this wedding. And a new mission is entrusted to the servants of the Lord, namely, the entire Church: “Do whatever he tells you”. To serve the Lord means to listen and to put his Word into practice. It is the simple, essential recommendation of Jesus’ Mother. It is the programme for a Christian’s life.

When we are in difficult situations, when problems arise that we do not know how to resolve, when we feel a lot of anxiety and distress, when we lack joy, go to Our Lady and say: “We have no wine. The wine has run out: Look at the state I am in, look at my heart, look at my soul”. Say it to the Mother. And she will go to Jesus to say: Look at this one: he or she has no wine. And then, she will come back to us and say: “Do whatever he tells you”. For each of us, drawing from the jar is tantamount to entrusting ourselves to the Word and to the Sacraments in order to experience God’s grace in our lives so that we can fully open up to Jesus, recognizing in everyday life the signs of his vitalizing presence.

St. John Chrysostom Parish (est.1867)

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

www.saintjohnchrysostom.org

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Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 16, 2022

THREE MANIFESTATIONS OF CHRIST’S DIVINITY: Once woven together into the ancient liturgy of the Epiphany were Christ’s manifestation to the Magi, his baptism in the Jordan, and the wedding feast at Cana. Today, we conclude with Cana and Christ’s performance of his first miracle. Jesus Christ, in whom divinity and humanity are united, is himself the first and greatest sign of that full communion of life and love with God and with one another into which he draws us through the Eucharist. A marriage feast is a fitting context for the revelation of this nuptial mystery, for marriage is a sign of this promised communion.



FAREWELL FOR FR. JOHN: Because of pandemic restrictions and there can be no reception, there will be a simple farewell at the end of the Sunday 9:30 a.m. Mass in the church on January 30th.

A PERSONAL THANK YOU: to everyone for their prayers and support during this past year, and for the generous gifts to us personally this Christmas. May the Lord in His goodness bless you with peace and joy throughout this new year! ~ Fr. John, Fr. Peter, Anda, Deacon Michael and Deacon Chris

Second Week in Ordinary Time

January 19 - 21

- Wednesday 9:00 a.m.** +Art Vox by *Sylvia Vox & Family*
- Thursday 9:00 a.m.** +Kevin Quigley by *Clare Kavanagh*
- Friday 9:00 a.m.** **St. Agnes, virgin, martyr**
+Rosemary MacKinnon by *Bob & Sandy Lee*

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 23, 2022

- Saturday 3:45 p.m.** *Confessions*
- 4:30 p.m.** +Frank Schnob by *Linda Chandler*
- Sunday 9:30 a.m.** Intentions of the People (*Missa pro populo*)

Liturgical Appointments: January 22/23

Next Sunday	4:30 P.M.	9:30 A.M.
Reader	Debbie Valin	Joan Kelly
Ministers of Communion	Priest & Deacon	Priest & Deacon
Greeter/Ushers	Linda Chandler	Carol Marcellus
Music		

IN YOUR PRAYERS, PLEASE REMEMBER:

- the Synod 2021-2022 and the Evangelization Project in the Diocese of Pembroke;
- our parish community and Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Braeside during this time of pastoral transition; Fr. Steve Ballard who arrives as our new pastor on February 1; Fr. John Burchat and the parish communities of St. Lawrence O'Toole (Barry's Bay), Holy Canadian Martyrs (Combermere) and St. Francis de Sales (Latchford Bridge);
- parishioners who are sick; and those who have died, especially: *Agnes Lee*, mother of Bob Lee; Albert Prince, uncle of Fr. John Burchat; *Merle Allan*, mother-in-law of Corrine Thomson; Art Vox, father of Sylvia Vox; and *Frank Schnob*.

PANDEMIC PROTOCOL FOR MASSES AT SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM: Face masks are still mandatory at all times in the church, as per the pandemic regulations of the Renfrew County District Health Unit. Please continue to also observe our protocol for hand sanitizing, social distancing.

SUNDAY OFFERING: January 9: \$3,827.13; To date: Christmas Offering: \$5,320.75; New Year's Offering: \$1,095.00; Initial Offering: \$762.25; Bishop's Evangelization Appeal: \$435.00. Thank you for your continuing commitment during these difficult times!

CHURCH EXTERIOR RESTORATION COLLECTION: The amount of \$8,363.25 from the month of December was recently sent to the Chancery Office in Pembroke.

This monthly appeal uses a special envelope and collection dedicated to the Church Exterior Restoration Debt. With the oversight of the Parish Finance Committee and Mr. John Tammadge as its delegated officer and our Diocesan Finance Administrator, these donations are sent to the Diocese on a monthly basis in order to reduce our debt. Now and in the years to come, these Exterior Restoration Debt Donations will not be permitted to be used for regular operating expenses or minor capital expenditures/repairs. The intention of the donor will be respected and regular updates will be provided. Thank you for your generosity!

THE EVANGELIZATION PROJECT: At the entrance of the church is the current issue of our diocesan newspaper, *Ecclesia*, with articles about the Synodal Process and the Evangelization Project. There are also **prayer cards** for the Evangelization Project, and **collection envelopes** for contributions in support of it.

CWL FOOD BANK PROJECT: Non-perishable goods can be placed in boxes at the church entrance the second weekend of each month. Financial offerings can be dropped in the collection.

CWL THANK YOU: "Well ladies, I want to thank everyone who contributed to a very successful Craft and Bake sale and Raffle. We had an amazing amount of beautiful baked goods to share with our community & the sale allowed a lot of people to stock up on different wonderful goodies for Christmas. The Raffle for the lovely baby quilt and the basket that went with it, was won by Jenna Lesway from Kinburn. The second beautiful basket was won by Francis Smith, one of our members here in Arnprior. As a result of this event, we were able to bring in approximately \$4000.00 for our use in 2022. This is wonderful and will allow us to continue to support the things our members decide are important. I want to thank the ladies who helped with the planning of the raffle, for the sale of tickets, and putting the baskets together. A big thank you particularly to the ladies who came out to help with the setup, then cleanup for the bake sale, and worked to make it such a great success." ~ *Nancy Black, Madame President*