

TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ SEPTEMBER 3, 2023

**STAR OF THE SEA, CANSO
ST. AGNES, LITTLE DOVER
ST. JOSEPH, PORT FELIX
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**

**PASTOR: FR. JONATHAN NNAJIOFOR 902-366-2927
CONGREGATION OF NOTRE DAME 902-358-2346**

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Donna Jackson, Janet Delorey, Cynthia Creamer,
Calvin Harnish, Agnes Casey, Corrine Munroe,
Gerry Parker, Gelly Parker, Paul Horne,
Sr. Alma, Marie Parker, Fr. Jonathan

*The complete text of this bulletin is also available on the parish's website at
www.cansoparishes.org*

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday, September 9 - 4:30 p.m. - St. Vincent de Paul - ♥*For the Faithful*
- 6:00 p.m. - St. Joseph - ♥*For the Faithful*

Sunday, September 10 - 9:30 a.m. - St. Agnes Hall - †*Louise Harnish*
- 11:00 a.m. - Star of the Sea - †*Rita (Cphoon) Brackenridge*

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Thursday, September 7 - 6:00 p.m. - St. Anthony's Chapel - ♥*For the Faithful*

COMMUNION CALLS - If you know of someone who is unable to get out to Mass and would like to receive Holy Communion, please call the parish office to have their name added to the list.

REFLECTION ON TODAY'S READINGS - *The Price of Eternal Life*

"What will it profit a person, if he/she gains the whole world and forfeits his/her life?" These words of Jesus changed the lives of many great people, like St. Ignatius of Loyola and St. Francis Xavier. There is a proverb that says "To gain something we have to lose something." Our early missionaries who brought the Christian faith to many parts of the world had to forgo many of the comforts and luxuries of life in order to spread and share the faith. Blessed Mother Theresa left her job as a teacher of Mathematics in order to take care of the poor, the needy and the marginalized. This won her the title, "Saint of the Gutters". What am I losing and what am I gaining? Am I willing to sacrifice something in order to gain what is lasting and eternal?

STAR OF THE SEA NEWS

Property/Finance Committee - We desperately need new members!! Next meeting is Tuesday, September 12 at 6:15 p.m.

Ministries Schedule, September 10

Lector - Edmund LeBlanc

Cleaners - September 10 - 16 - Harry Delorey

We are inviting parishioners to serve as Sacristans, Ushers and Altar Servers for Funeral. Please contact Fr. Jonathan for more information.

UPCOMING EVENTS STAR OF THE SEA

Regatta Prize Bingo - profit was \$1,626.00

Cake Booth - profit was 1,384.00

Chowder Luncheon - profit was 4891.00

Just splendid! Special thanks for your ongoing support for these events.

Trivia Night - Saturday, September 23, 7:00 p.m. - Canso Hazel Hill Fire Hall. Pre-register by September 21, teams of 4

ST. AGNES NEWS

Bingo - will resume in September.

Upcoming Fund-raiser -

donations/prizes are needed and would be greatly appreciated! Date of draw will be announced later.

ST JOSEPH NEWS

Weekly Bingo - Saturdays at 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

Star of the Sea

August 20 (18) 315.00

August 27 (21) 336.00

Loose 86.00

Winter Fuel (2) 40.00

St. Agnes

August 20 (13) 180.00

August 27 (11) 190.00

Loose 10.00

St. Vincent de Paul

August 20 (6) 120.00

August 27 (3) 20.00

Loose 35.00

St. Joseph,

August 27 (12) 145.00

NOTES

The Mother of Sorrows Pioneer

Shrine - Annual Celebration at the Shrine - Sunday, September 10th, a Continuous Rosary will start at 1:00 pm at the Shrine and will continue until 3:30, just in time for Feast Day Mass at St. Mary's Church.

Following Mass there will be

refreshments at the Mabou Hall.

Compliments of our CWL. The gift shop is open, 10:00 am until 4:00 pm, everyday including Sundays and Holidays. The Shrine is always open.

Milestone Anniversaries - We offer prayers and congratulations to: Holy Guardian Angels Parish in L'Ardoise

continues celebrating its 200th Anniversary on Sunday, September 3 with Mass at 3 p.m.

Divine Mercy Chaplet - St. Ann's Parish Church, Guysborough, Sept. 27, 6 pm Join in celebrating the Divine Mercy Chaplet followed by Benediction.

Prayer Intention - For all students and teachers who are beginning a new academic year: that all may grow in wisdom, knowledge, and delight in new opportunities for successful learning, We Pray o The Lord.

Feast of St. Ninian - Saturday, September 16. St. Ninian is the Patron Saint of the Diocese of Antigonish. This year, St. Ninian Cathedral, Antigonish, is launching the celebration of its 150th anniversary in 2024 with a Mass and supper on the feast day. St. Ninian, pray for us.

Losing but Gaining Life

This Week's Readings at Mass ▶

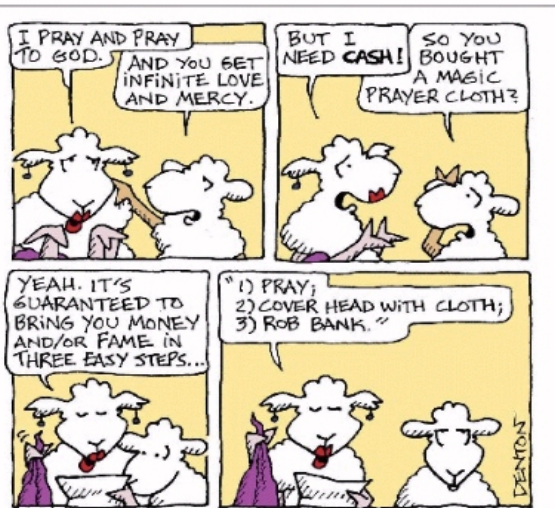
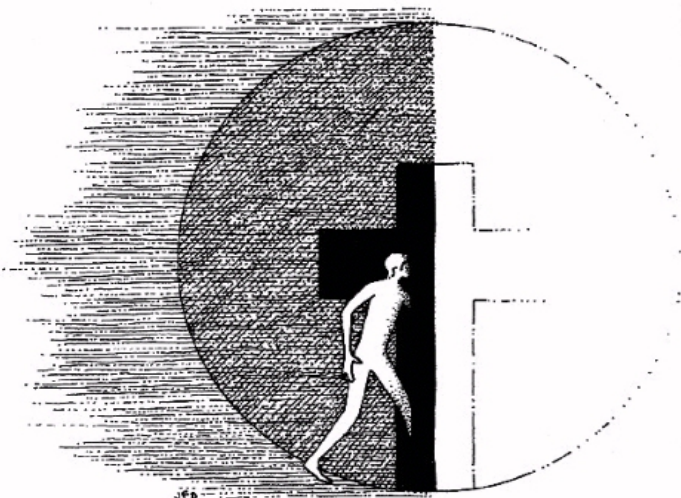
Jeremiah 20:7-9 - Jeremiah's conflict ▶ Romans

12:1-2 - A living sacrifice

▶ Matthew 16:21-27 - "Get behind me Satan"

One of the reasons that so many Jews of Jesus' day had trouble accepting him as their Messiah is that they were waiting for a Messiah who would liberate their country from their Roman occupiers with military strength. Not only did Jesus not train an army against the current empire, but he also taught non-violent resistance against the Romans. He showed his willingness to suffer at the hands of the religious leaders rather than retaliate. Many people couldn't wrap their minds around such a leader. (The Newbery Medal book, *The Bronze Bow*, by Elizabeth George Speare, depicts this well.) In this passage, we see Peter resist this idea too.

Peter was one of Jesus' closest friends. Who can fault him for not wanting to see Jesus suffer and die? Who among us would have wanted to see Mahatma Gandhi or Martin Luther King, Jr. or Oscar Romero suffer and die because of their unwavering commitment to justice and love for all peoples? It is a natural human response to instinctively want to save our lives and save the lives of our loved ones. Yet Jesus (and Gandhi, King, and Romero) was guided by something higher than an instinct for self-preservation. He un-



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"Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God."

Sheepish Question:

How do some "easy steps" to attaining worldly desires lead me astray from following Jesus?

derstood that something even greater could come out of suffering and death—new life. Jesus' resurrection unleashed a force of love that has forever changed history because Jesus was willing to die rather than have God overpower human free will and save him from the cross.

We can try to avoid suffering, preserve our life as we know it, and "gain the whole world" in riches and security, but ultimately that will kill our souls. Jesus doesn't teach that the point is to suffer for the sake of suffering, but that when pain comes to us, as it inevitably will, we can face it head-on rather than run from it. Then, in losing our lives, we will eventually discover that we have found new life.

Questions of the Week

- ① Share about a time when you saw or experienced new life come out of someone's suffering.
- ② How might God be inviting you to deny yourself or take up your cross now so that you can gain new life?

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