

FIFTEEN SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME YEAR A ~ JULY 16, 2023

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

PASTOR: FR. JONATHAN OBINNA NNAJIOFOR, 366-2927
CONGREGATION OF NOTRE DAME 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 MASSES -

Saturday, July 22, 2023 - 4:30 p.m. St. Vincent de Paul Church, Queensport - ♥*For the Faithful*

Saturday, July 22, 2023 - 6:00 p.m. St. Joseph's Church, Port Felix - †*Violet Bellefontaine*

Sunday, July 23, 2023 - 9:30 a.m. St. Agnes Church Hall, Little Dover - †*Percy George*

Sunday, July 23, 2023 - 11:00 a.m. Star of the Sea Church, Canso - †*Vadie Thornhill*

WEEKDAY MASSES -

Thursday, July 20, 2023 - 6:00 p.m. St. Anthony's Chapel, Canso - ♥*For the Faithful*

COMMUNION CALLS – If you know of someone unable to get out to Mass and would like to receive the Holy Communion, please call the Parish Office to have their name added to the list.

REFLECTION ON TODAY'S READINGS

The Power of the Word of God!!! Jesus uses parables which are very special kinds of stories; they are fictitious stories describing real-life situations. Every parable, therefore, invites the listener to pass judgement on the situation described in the story, which is in fact his or her own situation. Thus, in the parable of the sower, Jesus invites us to look into our life and see how we accept the seed, God's Word, each day of our life and how much fruit we produce. If our hearts are open and if we treasure it in our hearts and are willing to do everything required for his Word to transform us then our life will bear fruits, fruits of love and goodness, and we can be sure to be in His kingdom for ever. The seed grows where there is openness to the word (faith), trust in its power (hope) and a readiness to go out of oneself (love). Are we open to God's Word that has the power to transform us? Do we treasure it in our hearts and are our actions always guided by the Word of God?

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS – 8th/9th July, 2023

Star of the Sea	Not Available
St. Agnes	Not Available
St. Joseph	Not Available

STAR OF THE SEA NEWS

We are inviting parishioners to serve as Sacristans, Ushers, and Altar Servers for Funerals. Please contact Fr. Jonathan for more information if you are interested in helping out.

Property/Finance Committee – We desperately need new members!! The next meeting is Tuesday, September 12th 2023 at 6:15 p.m.

Summer Fun Ticket Draw – There will be three draws for a **Patio Set**, a **Barbecue Package**, and an **Outdoor Pizza Oven**. Anyone wishing to buy or sell tickets should please contact **Flo Flemming** or any member of the committee. The draw date will be on **July 18, 2023**.

Ministries Schedule, July 23, 2023

Lector	- Paul Smith
Usher	- Rene Leblanc
Sacristan	- Flo Flemming

Cleaners – July 23 - 29 - “Baker” Girls

ST. JOSEPH NEWS:

Weekly Bingo – Saturdays at 7:30 p.m.

Annual Parish Picnic – Proceeds will be published next week. Thank you for your support! And a special thank you to the organizers and donors. Much appreciated.

ST. AGNES NEWS: Prize Bingo – A very special thank you to those who donated and to those who helped out in any way. It is much appreciated. **The profit was \$1042.00**

Elderly

Pope Francis inaugurated this World Day to be celebrated by the universal Church each July, either on or near the liturgical Memorial of Saints Joachim and Anne, grandparents of Jesus, to help “treasure the spiritual and human wealth that has been handed down from generation to generation.” This year’s theme is “His mercy is from age to age” (Lk 1:50), raising the relational interconnection between the old and the young. <https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2023/06/15/230615a.html>

Retreat **Weekend** **with** **Fr.** **Mark** **Cherry**
July **21-23,** **2023**
Our **of** **Grace** **Monastery**
Theme: **Lady** **Us** **Your** **Face,** **Lord**
 Show **of** **Grace** **Face,** **Lord**

God is moving very powerfully this year, pouring out His Spirit abundantly on all who are thirsty. If you are seeking a fresh touch from the Lord upon your life, healing, and wisdom for these times, along with sound Catholic teaching and anointed praise and worship, then this Conference is for you. Come expecting great things as we gather in the name of our wonderful Lord Jesus. Doors open at 5 pm on Friday, July 21. Accommodations are available. **For conference options and registration:** <https://ourladyofgracemonastery.ca/conference-weekend/>

Seasonal Hours for Gift Shop

Mother of Sorrows Pioneer Shrine, Mabou

The gift shop at the Shrine is now open for the season, 10 am until 4 pm every day including Sundays and holidays. The Shrine is always open. For inquiries call **902-945-2221**

Milestone Anniversaries In Our Parishes

We offer prayers and congratulations to:

St. Joseph Church in Glencoe Mills

celebrating its 150th Anniversary on Saturday, July 29 with Mass at 5 p.m.

St. Lawrence Catholic Women’s League in Mulgrave

celebrating its 100th Anniversary on Saturday, August 26 with Mass at 4 p.m.

Holy Guardian Angels Parish in L'Ardoise

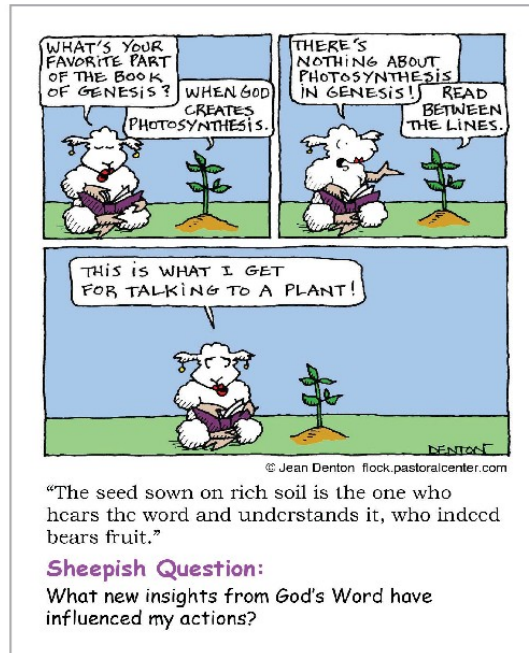
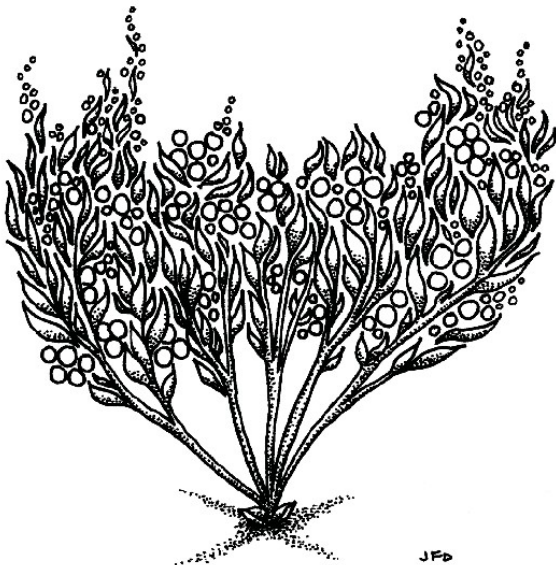
continues celebrating its 200th Anniversary on Sunday, September 3 with Mass at 3 p.m.

Open or Closed?

This Week's Readings at Mass ▶ Isaiah 55:
10-11 - Triumph of God's word ▶ Romans 8:18-23 -
Destiny of glory ▶ Matthew 13:1-23 - Parable of the
seed

This is one of Jesus' more famous parables, commonly called "The Parable of the Sower" or "The Parable of the Seed." It briefly describes a scenario that makes sense to most listeners. Of course, seeds sown on a path, on rocky ground, and among thorns wouldn't produce much, if any, harvest. And, of course, seed sown in fertile soil should produce a very good harvest. Anyone who knows anything about seeds and plants would understand this, so what is the point Jesus is trying to make? Knowing Jesus, the disciples immediately realize that a seemingly straightforward parable has a deeper meaning than what we understand on the surface. They also recognize that not everyone will read a more profound message into a simple parable, so they ask Jesus why he teaches like this.

This Gospel passage comes after Jesus has just clashed with the scribes and Pharisees, the ones who think they "know-it-all" when it comes to God and religion. He had been healing people and casting out



demons, and many people in the crowds received him with humility and gratitude. The scribes and the Pharisees, on the other hand, wouldn't accept the good work he was doing at face value, and they accused him of working for Satan. Jesus points out to his disciples that those religious leaders are just like their ancestors who refused to listen to the prophets of old. As the saying goes, "You can lead a horse to water, but you can't force it to drink." The Pharisees and scribes could see the good and miraculous things Jesus was doing, but they willfully closed their ears and eyes to how God was acting in and through Jesus. At the same time, many people in the crowd were proving to be "good soil," hearing and seeing how God was acting in the world.

Questions of the Week

- 1 Share about a time when you have witnessed someone open to experience God's amazing or miraculous growth.
- 2 At this point in your life, what kind of soil would you say you are?

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