

**SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ JULY 30, 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](http://www.cansoparishes.org)*

+++++

**WEEKEND MASS TIMES**

**Saturday, August 5** - 4:30 p.m. - St. Vincent de Paul - ♥*For the Faithful*  
- 6:00 p.m. - St. Joseph - †*Eugene Avery*

**Sunday, August 6** - 9:30 a.m. - St. Agnes Hall - †*William 'Junior' Peitzsche*  
- 11:00 a.m. - Star of the Sea - †*Maxine Feltmate*

**WEEKDAY MASS TIMES**

**Thursday, August 3** - 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** -

*All things work for good for them that love God* - We as children of God are given various responsibilities in this world. To fulfil them the way God wants, we all need the wisdom of God. We need to have an understanding mind to discern the will of God on every occasion and make our life fruitful. As we see in the first reading, King Solomon understood this and that is why he, instead of asking God for riches or victory over his enemies, asked God to grant him an understanding mind. And God was very pleased with him for this and gave him not only a wise and discerning mind but also wealth and fame. If we are led by such wisdom we shall, as the Gospel shows, give up or risk everything in order to possess the kingdom of heaven. In the second reading, St Paul tells us that in everything God works for the good of those who love him. That means everything that happens in our life has a purpose and God permits it and it is for our good. Although many would find it difficult to understand it – without the help of the Holy Spirit no one will understand it – the experience of many and our own experience will tell us that this is the truth. True, at times it can be too painful, but we can be sure that whatever he allows to happen in our lives is for our own good. It is like the bitter

pill that we may have to swallow in times of sickness, but we know that it is for our good. But how often we behave differently in trying moments, questioning how a loving God can allow us to suffer in this way and then feel quite safe trusting him! Let us learn to trust in him more fully and unconditionally in his goodness and love. Let us pray for the assistance of the Holy Spirit and then always submit our life's plans to God's great design for us, believing that in everything God works for the good of those who love Him.

### **SUNDAY COLLECTIONS**

<b>Star of the Sea, (20)</b>	450.00
Loose	90.00
Winter Fuel (2)	40.00
<b>St. Agnes, (19)</b>	290.00
Loose	10.00
<b>St. Vincent de Paul, (5)</b>	85.00
Loose	40.00
<b>St. Joseph</b>	N/A

### **Saturday, August 19 - Chowder**

#### **Luncheon at the Shamrock Club.**

**Food items will be needed for this event. ST. AGNES NEWS**

Bingo - will resume in September.

Club 100 Draw - August 6 is the draw date, tickets are available now.

### **ST JOSEPH NEWS**

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

### **NOTES**

### **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, August 6**

Lector - Martha Rhynold  
Cleaners - August 6 - 12 - Theresa & Eileen

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

#### **Summer Fun Ticket Draw** -

Congratulations to the winners - Pizza Oven - Trevor Delorey; Barbecue - Laura Oliver and Patio Set - Anna Feltmate! We wish to thank those who donated the prizes, East Coast Hydraulics, Canso Coop and Anonymous Donors. A very special thank you to all for your support and to ticket sellers, without you it would not happen. Profit was an amazing \$3,665.00!! WOW!!

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **Sunday, August 13 - Regatta Prize**

Bingo, Canso Hazel Hill Fire Hall.

Donations are requested and can be dropped off at the church

*The Mother of Sorrows Pioneer Shrine* - The gift shop is open for the season, 10:00 am until 4:00 pm, everyday including Sundays and Holidays. The Shrine is always open. *Mass For Shut-Ins* - Masses from our 60th season may be viewed on our Diocese of Antigonish YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPYevnyrNU6zIWHDh8KJ71w> and on our website: <https://www.antigonishdiocese.com/mass-for-shut-ins>

July 30, 2023 • 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time • Year A

## The Wisdom of the 'Finders'

*This Week's Readings at Mass*

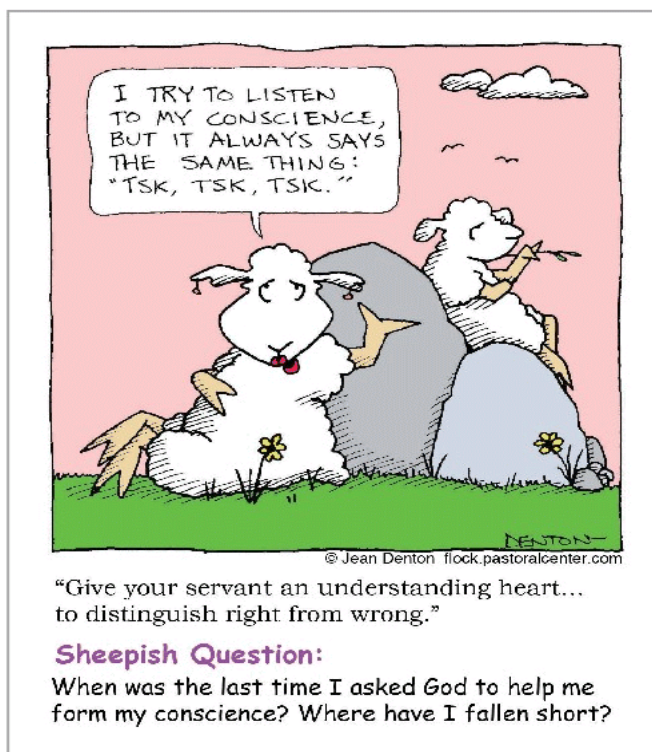
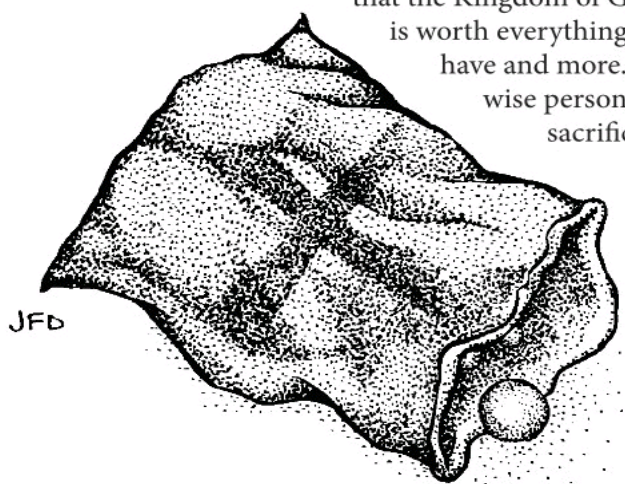
- ▶ 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12 - Wisdom of Solomon
- ▶ Romans 8:28-30 - God's love for all
- ▶ Matthew 13:44-46 - The treasure and the pearl

Today's Gospel reading is a continuation of Jesus' teachings about the Kingdom of God, described through several parables. When we first hear the parable of the man who buys a field with a hidden treasure, we may wonder about his ethics. Isn't he, in effect, stealing the wealth from the previous owner? In Palestine, during this period, it was common for people to bury their valuables to protect them, especially in times of war. If they weren't able to recover them later, others would benefit from them. Rabbis debated who was entitled to the treasure when it was found. The parable here assumes the finder, rather than the field's previous owner, is entitled to it.

In the second parable, "the pearl of great price," the finder was actively seeking something valuable rather than stumbling upon it like the person who found the treasure in the field. Finally, in the third parable, the fishermen are looking for what is good and throwing away what doesn't serve them.

All three parables emphasize the value of what is found and the focused response of the "finders," whether the person was actively seeking a treasure or stumbled upon it.

The point Jesus is making is that the Kingdom of God is worth everything we have and more. A wise person will sacrifice any-



thing and everything to acquire the Kingdom. What we receive in return will far surpass what we have to give up or renounce.

The passage ends with Jesus pointing out to the disciples that there is treasure in both old and new teachings. The old teachings are the Hebrew Scriptures (aka the Old Testament), and the new teachings are from Jesus' life. Jesus doesn't surpass the old, but he upholds the wisdom found there, even while he re-interprets some of the Jewish laws.

### Questions of the Week

- ① When have you sold/given up something valuable so that you could attain something more worthwhile? (This could be a possession, a job, a relationship, etc.)
- ② Think of some "old" treasure of faith (perhaps a Bible verse, a scripture story, some wisdom from a parent or elder) that you still hang onto. Think of some new wisdom or insight that helps you in your faith life now. Please share these old and new treasures.