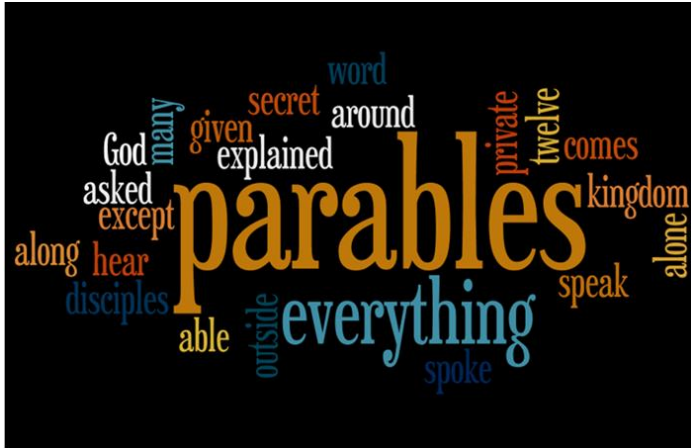


July 26th, 2020
Seventeenth Sunday of Ordinary Time



Are you a collector? I've collected stamps from childhood, although I've never had enough money to do it seriously. And I love books and have a few small collections of titles by certain authors or on certain subjects. My Franciscan vow of poverty makes it difficult to have the kind of intense zeal for either of those two kinds of collecting—or any other—that matches the kind of intensity described by Jesus in today's *Gospel*.

There our Lord gives us two parables of the Kingdom: Someone who finds a treasure in a field and sells all that he has to obtain the field and the treasure; and a merchant searching for fine pearls who finds the legendary pearl of great price, and like the first discoverer sells all that he has to buy the pearl.

I must confess that it isn't lack of money that usually keeps me from being as intense about the Kingdom of God as Jesus proposes. Rather, it's my humanness—sin, fear, self-doubt, laziness, distraction by other goals and treasures of a lesser value—all the substitutes I allow to preoccupy my efforts when I should be as intense about the kingdom as the two characters in today's *Gospel* parables.

How about you? What's distracting you from the Kingdom? Let's pray together for the conversion we need to give it our all!

Father Greg Friedman, O.F. M.

To the Immaculate Conception Church & School Community

Thank you for allowing me to serve you as Administrative Assistant. I have enjoyed the challenge of working for you. I pray every day for God's guidance, direction, and for all the parishioners. I also have called upon St. Anthony & St. Jude for help when needed.

Thank you for the many gifts you have given me and for your prayers. May God Bless all of you!
Jean Hopley

Jean Hopley's Retirement

Jean Hopley, our Administrative Assistant for the last 23 years, will be retiring in a few weeks. August 7th will be her last day on the job. We thank Jean most sincerely for her dedication and commitment to this parish in serving all our parishioners and surviving 6 pastors.

We wish Jean all God's Blessings in her retirement. She will continue to be an active member of the Parish.

We welcome, Martha Primus, as our new Administrative Assistant and Pastoral Assistant. Martha comes to us with many gifts. She was Pastoral Life Director at St. Peter's Parish in McKenzie for 10 years and provided sacramental preparation, music ministry and a variety of parish ministries. Martha is currently Vice Chancellor of the Diocese. We look forward to having Martha as part of our Parish team.

Sunday Masses

Please continue to go online or phone the office to register for Sunday Masses at regular times, 9am, 11am and 7pm. We are trying to keep the number at 50 max according to Provincial Health guidelines.

Daily Mass continues as regular Monday to Saturday at 9am.

Truth suffers, but never dies.
St. Teresa of Avila



Bake sale follow-up from Joel Matte

Dear IC Parishioners,

I'm very grateful for the gift of you as my family in Christ and for your great support in joining me to evangelize youth across Canada through your prayers and financial support! Thank you to all who donated baked goods for my bake sale! There would not have been any goodies to sell without you! And thanks to everyone who bought the baked goods! Together we were able to raise a total of \$1,659.30 after all the Masses on Sunday, June 28. I will keep you in my prayers, please keep me in yours as well!

My fundraising goal is \$8,800 for my missionary year with NET.

God bless,

Joel Matte

Pre-authorized Debit

We are offering pre-authorized debit as a way to simplify your Mass donation on a bi-weekly or monthly basis. If you are interested, please pick up a pre-authorized form from the Church foyer (wall) and hand it in to the parish office with a **void cheque**.

Please make cheques payable to RCEC IC Parish or RCEC Immaculate Conception Church.

Children's Collection

A big thank you to the children who donated money to the Children's Collection on Sundays, which amounted to **\$637.88** from January to June 2020. We distributed those donations to the Holy Childhood Association, Missionary Association of Mary Immaculate for the children of Peru, and the Northern Uganda Development Foundation.

Monthly Adoration

Emmanuel Hermitage invites you to silent adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on **Tuesday, August 11th** at the Domano Chapel. Mass will be celebrated at **7:30 am** and the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed from **8 am-8 pm**.

St. Vincent de Paul Soup/Sandwich Preparation at Immaculate Conception Church

Tuesday, August 18th at 9:40 am preparing sandwich and soup ingredients and **Wednesday, August 19th at 9:40 am** making soup and sandwiches in the Church hall.

Wanted

We are collecting stamps with 1/2" border and postcards. The proceeds from the sale of these items are used to provide cancer dressings to those patients in need, free of charge. Please place your items in the small black basket on the table in the Church foyer.

A father was approached by his small son who told him proudly, "I know what the Bible means!" His father smiled and replied, "What do you mean, you 'know' what the Bible means?"

The son replied, "I do know!"

"Okay," said the father. "What does the Bible mean?"

"That's easy, Daddy" the young boy replied excitedly, "It stands for 'Basic Information Before Leaving Earth.'"

Take, Lord, and receive all my liberty, my memory, my understanding, and my entire will, all I have and call my own. You have given all to me. To you, Lord, I return it. Everything is yours; do with it what you will. Give me only your love and your grace; that is enough for me.

St. Ignatius of Loyola

