

September 22nd, 2019

Twenty-Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time

With the recent popularity of those big jackpot lotteries, we've seen some people become rather wealthy overnight. Those of us who've never won the lottery often speculate about what we'd do if we won. How would our lives change? Would becoming rich alter our values? Would we act differently if we suddenly had all the money we could want?

Strangely enough, such questions seem to be behind the puzzling story in today's *Gospel*, where Jesus appears to praise an unjust steward who squanders his master's money, then proceeds with more shady dealings to insure his own security.

Scripture scholars are not exactly sure what this story is meant to show, but one explanation may be that Jesus wanted us to have our priorities straight about the use of wealth. Those who would be disciples may have to use money for the sake of the Kingdom, but they must never be controlled by it. Detachment is the key. The Kingdom must be our priority.

Even if we never win the lottery, most of us are challenged in our use of money. We need it to insure security for ourselves and our families. We need it to further the ministries of our parishes and our Christian efforts at evangelization and education. Nevertheless, our priorities must be clear. The Kingdom calls us to be just stewards, always wary of being distracted by wealth and the need to acquire it.

Father Greg Friedman, O. F. M.



Whatever troubles may be before you, accept them bravely, remembering whom you are trying to follow. Do not be afraid. Love one another; bear with one another; and let charity guide you all your life. God will reward you as only he can. St. Mary MacKillop

Sacraments for Children

Children who are not registered in a Catholic School and wish to receive the sacraments of ***Reconciliation, First Holy Communion (Grade 2) & Confirmation (Grade 6)***. The city wide **Family Faith Formation**, at St. Mary's, begins today, **Sunday**, at **2:30 pm**. Registration fee is \$32/child and registration takes place on the first Sunday. If you are taking this program please email Fr. Chris at clynch@pgdiocese.ca.

RCIA – Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Are you or anyone you know interested in the Catholic Faith? The RCIA is a journey of faith for Unbaptised Adults, Baptised Adults from another Christian Faith, and Baptised Adults from the Catholic Christian Faith who have not received their First Holy Communion and/or Confirmation. St. Mary's will be hosting RCIA sessions on **Thursday** evenings from **7 pm – 8:30 pm** starting on **October 10th** in the St. Mary's Eugene Room. Those who belong or wish to belong to Immaculate Conception Church need to contact Fr. Chris at 250-964-4898 or clynch@pgdiocese.ca.

ST. MARY'S YOUTH GROUP RETURNS!

All youth in grades 7-12 are welcome to attend the St. Mary's Youth Group kick off on **Wednesday, September 25th** from **6:30-8:30 pm** at St. Mary's in the school gym.

Support Our Sponsors

Please support our sponsors who advertise in the back of the bulletin.

Wills

Please remember Immaculate Church and School in your will. Thank you.

Diocesan Convocation

October 3rd – 4th at the Diocesan Pastoral Centre. Founder of Catholic Christian Outreach Andre Regniér, will be the presenter. All members of the diocese are invited and welcome to attend. To register go to: <https://www.pgdiocese.bc.ca/2019-diocesan-convocation/> Registration deadline is Mon. Sept. 23rd.

Diocesan Annual Appeal – “Called Together”

“Called Together – Giving, Sharing, and Serving which supports the mission of our local Church across our diocese.

Our Parish Goal is: \$39,599

Please make cheques payable to:

RCEC – Diocesan Appeal

Diocesan Goal: \$400,000

Thank you for your generosity.

Our Refugee Family

The Semmu family have been in Canada just over two years now. The youngest son, Malik, has severe scoliosis and his lungs were being compromised. This summer he had two surgeries at Children's Hospital and now has a rod in his spine keeping it straight - nothing short of a miracle! Also, Malik had almost no hearing - now he has a special device that helps him to hear - another miracle for him. We want to celebrate these blessings on

Sunday Sept. 29th at St. Mary's from 2 pm to 6:30 pm. The outdoor sports and games start at 2 pm. Please bring your running shoes/cleats (if you have them) and lawn chairs.

The Pot luck Dinners starts at 4:30 pm. Please bring your favourite dish to share.

RSVP by Sept. 20th to Eva Gillis at 778-349-7001 or plionheart@shaw.ca

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

The Society of St Vincent de Paul, Prince George, will hold their Annual General Meeting [AGM] on **Wednesday, September 25th**. Fr John Garden will celebrate **Mass at 5:30 pm** at the Domano Chapel, 6500 Southridge Ave. A light supper and the AGM will follow at approximately 6:15 pm in Bethany House on the Domano Renewal Centre grounds. Everyone is welcome!

Good Neighbour Food Drive

The downturn in forestry industry has caused hardship for many across the province. The community of Mackenzie has been hit particularly hard by mill shut downs and curtailments. A Good Neighbour Food Drive is being organized to respond to this crisis and to help the parishioners of St. Peter's Parish and their community food bank St. Peter's Pantry.

Our Brown Bag Thanksgiving Offering will go to support this drive.

THEOLOGY OF THE BODY YOUNG ADULT

FALL RETREAT

September 27th -29th

All Young Adults ages 18-35 are invited to attend.

Guest speaker Fr. Derrick Cameron (Diocese of Kamloops) will provide a deeper insight into St. John Paul II's integrated vision of the human person **Friday, September 27th** (start at **6:00 pm**) to **Sunday, September 29th** end at 1:00 pm at the Domano Renewal Centre. The cost of the retreat is \$50/person. **REGISTER:** Email Lisa at lvfarrell@pgdiocese.bc.ca

MONDAY NOON HOUR REFLECTIONS RETURNS!

Two Series by Bishop Robert Barron will be offered this fall facilitated by Sisters Irene and Dot in the St. Eugene Room at **St. Mary's** from **Noon to 1:30 pm**. Coffee and refreshments will be provided along with good conversation and good company.

Mystery of God: Who God is and why He Matters

Monday September 23rd to October 7th – This is a three part Series presenting the ***Mystery of God: Who God is and why He Matters*** by Bishop Robert Barron, using the insights of St. Augustine, St. Thomas Aquinas and Pope Benedict XVI.

40 Days for Life Fall Campaign

The **40 Days for Life Fall Campaign** is taking place from **September 25th to November 3rd**. We will be standing in peaceful prayer in front of the University Hospital of Northern British Columbia from **7am to 7pm**. To sign up go to 40daysforlife.com and select Prince George. For more information contact Angelica LeFebvre at 250-301-8135 or 40dayspgbc@gmail.com

Annual Life Chain: It's more important than ever to pray for an end to abortion. On **Sunday, October 6th** from **2 - 3:30pm** there will be a pro-life prayer chain on 15th Avenue in front of the University Hospital of Northern British Columbia. Signs will be provided and those who cannot stand for the whole hour are welcome to bring a folding chair. For more information contact Angelica at 250-301-8135 or 40dayspgbc@gmail.com

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat Oct. 18th-20th

For a psychological & spiritual journey for healing after abortion. If you or someone else you know is suffering from an abortion experience, please call 250-762-2273 or email info@rachelsvineyardkelowna.com