

# **Вітаємо Всі до Нашої Парафії! Welcome All to Our Parish!** **A Place of Prayer, Family, and Community for More than 50 years**



*Epistle ~ 1 Corinthians 8: 8 - 9: 2*

*Gospel ~ Matthew 25: 31-46*

Troparia and special texts are included in today's insert

## **Epistle Readers**

Saturday (5 p.m.): Evelyn Poleschuk  
Sunday (10 a.m.): Walter Warywoda

## **Eucharist Ministers**

Saturday (5 p.m.): Christopher Tennant  
Sunday (10 a.m.): Murray Salomon

In the Gospel account of divine judgement, we can, again, take away three important points: **1) People matter** — the sick, the poor, those who hunger and thirst, the needy, the imprisoned, in fact, everyone in this world matters; **2) Faith works** — true faith is faith in action. “*Good deeds are the fruit of your salvation, not the root of your salvation.*” We help others because we love Jesus and that's what He did — part of His personality is wearing off on us; **3) Christ judges** — we will all be held accountable for our actions of which there is no escape. He is our King, our Lord, our Saviour, and also our Friend, and He will reward our faithful obedience in surprisingly wonderful ways as we follow Him and do His will, with a heart for those in need and with God's unlimited and unconditional love.



*condensed from a sermon by Kerry Haynes*

## **Your Return Gift to God**

*Let us strive to live as Christian stewards, receive God's gifts gratefully, cultivate them responsibly, share them generously and lovingly with others, and return them with increase to the Lord.*

### **Collection for January 27/28**

Regular Envelopes: \$1,171.<sup>00</sup>  
Mission Fund: \$82.<sup>80</sup>  
Initial Offering: \$25.<sup>00</sup>  
Andrew's Pence: \$10.<sup>00</sup>  
Special Projects: \$15.<sup>00</sup>



**Щиро Вам дякуємо ~ Thank you for your generosity!**

The Mission Collection for January totalled \$241.<sup>60</sup> which will be sent to **The Catholic Family Development Centre**.



February's Mission Collection is designated for **Northern Hearts**, a registered charitable organization that provides local programs and promotes research relating to the high incidence of heart disease in Northwestern Ontario.

Your **2017 Donation Income Tax Receipts** are now available for pick-up in the narthex. If there are any issues or discrepancies, please call our bookkeeper, Michele Tanguay, at the Parish Office on Monday evenings between 6 p.m.

Online donations are an easy way for parishioners to donate, especially for those who cannot make it to church each week due to various reasons and circumstances, but allow the church to reap the benefits on a continuous basis.

On our parish website ([www.holycrosstbay.com](http://www.holycrosstbay.com)) you can click on the **DONATE** button and through PayPal® you can choose to make a one-time donation or to donate weekly — which means you are supporting **YOUR** church even when you cannot attend. If you have any questions feel free to contact Andrea Warywoda at 629-6818, or call Michele at the Parish Office (she is usually in on Monday evenings). ☺

## **LITURGICAL SERVICES FOR THIS WEEK**

### **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10**

5:00 p.m. ~ **Cheesefare (Forgiveness) Sunday**

Epistle Reader: Brett Glena

Eucharistic Minister: Frances Puchalski

### **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11**

10:00 a.m. ~ **Cheesefare (Forgiveness) Sunday**

Epistle Reader: Mary Ann Lysak

Eucharistic Minister: Mary Ann Lysak

**Note to all parishioners:** A Lenten Mission, led by Msgr. Pat Stilla, will take place March 6, 7 & 8 at 6:30 p.m. at Holy Cross.

## **PARISH NEWS & EVENTS**

Many thanks to all who attended and helped with last Sunday's Pancake Breakfast, and to those who donated prizes for the mini-penny auction. We received some good comments, feedback, and suggestions that will be considered for future breakfasts. Let's keep the spirit of cooperation alive and well!

We extend our congratulations and best wishes to **Walter Wowk** on the occasion of his 95<sup>th</sup> birthday on January 30, and **Emily Swiderski** on the occasion of her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday on February 1. May the Lord continue to bless them with good health, happiness, and many more happy years ~ Многая літа!

It's **Super Bowl Sunday**, and St. George's Society would like to extend an open invitation to **all men** of the parish to join them for some food and fun. Our regular monthly meeting will begin at 4:30 p.m. (for about an hour) followed by a supper and social, and watching the game on the big screen TV.

**An important reminder to all who order pyrohy:** The list of orders for the March 12 making is quickly filling up. Therefore, you are strongly advised to call Walter at 475-3757, send him an e-mail at [warywodaw@gmail.com](mailto:warywodaw@gmail.com) or sign the order sheet in the narthex — the latter which may be removed from the table there if the maximum is reached (for both cooked and frozen) — before the middle of February, which looks like a distinct possibility. So, don't be disappointed and place your order at your earliest possible convenience. *Thank you!* ☺

## More Parish News and Events...

**Nominations to Parish Council:** It is important that we, as parishioners, take turns on the Parish Council so that a wide range of ideas, experience, and insight is shared amongst each other. All parishioners 18 years and older are strongly encouraged to let their names stand if approached. For more information, you may speak with any current PC member. The Annual General Parish Meeting will take place after Liturgy on **Sunday, February 25** with lunch to follow. Please attend and let your voice be heard.



Also, due to recent resignations, we need to replace two members of the **Holy Cross Villa Board**. If you are interested and willing to let your name stand, please speak with Villa Board Chair, Gloria (Opaski) Sherban. If a number of individuals wish to fill those positions, a secret ballot will take place at the Parish AGM if necessary. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

## **HOLY CROSS GOLDEN AGERS**

Welcome back! Regular Thursday afternoon activities will now resume on **February 8** at the usual time (doors are open at 12:30 p.m.) when new members are welcome to join. Membership is just \$10 per year and well worth it. Come check us out this Thursday or speak with any current Golden Agers member!

Are you feeling lucky? The next bus to Grand Portage will leave the church parking lot @ 3:45 p.m. and returning @ 10 p.m. on **Wednesday, February 21**. To book your seat, please contact Ann Kozlowski (622-3006) or Ann Opaski (577-2805) as soon as possible. This is a **free** service. Non-members (18 years and older) **with valid passports** are invited also. The more, the merrier, so come join us for the ride and recreation!

## *True Words of Wisdom*

*"Do not wait for the Last Judgment.  
It happens every day."*

~ Albert Camus

## **EVENTS IN OUR COMMUNITY**

**Souvlaki Dinner** - Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Parish, 651 Beverly St. (at Balmoral), 3:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on the following Thursdays: **February 15, March 1 & 15** featuring souvlaki, tzatziki sauce, Mediterranean rice, Greek salad, and pita. **Takeout/Pick-up only**. Check out the poster in the narthex, and pick up a copy of their 'a la carte' menu there. Opa!

**Valentine's Dinner and Dance** - Sponsored by the Gentlemen of Harmony, **Saturday, February 10** at the Columbus Centre. Symposium: 5:30 p.m.; Dinner: 6:30 p.m. Dance Music by Quest. Tickets: \$45/person and available from members of Gentlemen of Harmony, and at Columbus Centre Office, Finnish Bookstore, ICS Electronics, or Music World Academy, or call Rod Johnson (632-5411), Myles Fucile (628-9653), or Albert Potvin (475-3817).

**Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper** - Our Lady of Loretto R.C. Parish invites everyone to its Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on **February 13** at 6:00 p.m. in the parish hall featuring pancakes, sausages, dessert, and good company. A monetary donation of your choice will be gratefully appreciated and accepted at the door. Proceeds are in support of Our Lady of Loretto Elevator Fund. Everyone welcome ~ bring a friend!

**Catholic Schools Information Nights** - High School (St. Ignatius & St. Patrick) **Thursday, February 15** at 7:00 p.m.; Senior Elementary (Bishop Gallagher, E.Q. Jennings & Pope John Paul II) **Thursday, February 28** at 7:00 p.m. Join us at our schools!

## **Readings for Cheesefare Sunday (February 11)** (to help prepare for the nourishment of the Word of God at Liturgy)



**Epistle: Romans 13: 11 - 14: 4**  
**Gospel: Matthew 6: 14-21**

As you read each passage, ask yourself these questions,  
"What thoughts, ideas, words or images come to mind?"  
and "What are the connections between them?"

This will help make them easier to follow and understand.



## **ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY**

Our first gathering of the new year will be our annual 'Super Bowl' meeting on **Sunday, February 4** starting at **4:30 p.m.** with dinner and social to follow.

We were not given a bingo in February, however, there will be a training session at Superior Shores on **Sunday, February 18** from 4 to 5 p.m. at which we need more members (and parishioners) to attend. Remember: funds raised are being used to cover the cost of the A/C unit that was installed in our parish kitchen last spring. Your assistance is gratefully appreciated in this matter.

**Sunday Smile**

## **Church Mice**



Copyright Karl A. Zorowski





# Unto the Least of These

**HAVE YOU EVER HEARD** someone say, "Wait just a minute?" Well, sometimes a minute can seem like a long time. Other times, a minute seems to fly by. In some board games, when you have to do things very quickly, a timer is included that looks like a 'mini hourglass.' (Your mom or dad can show you one.) When you turn that timer over, it takes one minute for the sand to trickle down from one end of the timer to the other. Now, imagine for one minute how many things you can think of that you like to eat. Are you ready? Okay -- ready, set, go!

Did you think of a lot of good things to eat? There's fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, hamburgers, hot dogs, pizza, cake, cookies, ice cream, candy, and a lot more. Now, here's an interesting question: Have you ever been hungry? Not a little bit hungry, but really hungry with no hope that you would get anything to eat today... or tomorrow...or the next day? Sometimes we forget that

not everyone in the world has plenty of food to eat. In that one minute while you and I were thinking about all the good things we like to eat, about twelve children in the world died because of hunger-related illness.

One day, Jesus was speaking to a group of people and He said to them, "I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat...I was thirsty and you gave Me a drink." "When did we do that?" they asked. Jesus answered them, "If you did it for one of the least of My children, you did it for Me."

We have a lot to be thankful for, don't we? The question is: Are we willing to share it with those who are not so fortunate? Will you share what you have with those who are in need? Remember, it is the same as doing it for Jesus!

Heavenly Father, You have given us so much. May we be willing to share it with those in need. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Source: [www.sermons4kids.com](http://www.sermons4kids.com)

## The Final Judgment: Matt. 25:31-46

**EVERY PERSON** will stand judgment before God for his/her life in this world. Each person will be judged according to his/her words and his/her works. The judge will be Christ Himself, for He is the One Who, by His suffering and death, has received the power to judge. It is the Crucified One Who will call all mankind to account at the end of the ages. He has won this right as a man through the perfection of His human life.

Christ will judge all exclusively on the basis of how they have served Him by serving all others — the least of the brethren. And all spiritual life is fulfilled in Christ's Parable of the Sheep and Goats, for the heart of it is love, both for God and man.

In commenting on this teaching about the final judgment, Saint Augustine has said that Christ Himself is truly the One Who is found in all of these conditions, just as He is the One Who is the Saviour in each of them.

He Himself was hungry; Who is the "bread of life," which if a man eats of it, he will never hunger again (John 6.35).

He Himself was thirsty, crying out "I thirst!" (Jn 19.28); Who gives the "living water," which, if a man drinks of it, he will never thirst again (Jn 4.13, 6.35, 7.37).

He Himself was a stranger with "no place to lay His head" (Mt 8.20, Lk 9.58), Who "came to His own home, and His own people received Him not" (Jn 1.11); Who brings all mankind home to the heavenly house of the Father (Jn 14.1-2).

He Himself was naked, in the manger in Bethlehem, in the streams of the Jordan, and on the cross of Golgotha; Who clothes all mankind with Himself (Gal 3.27), and with the "robes of salvation" (Is 61.10, Rev 6.11).

He Himself was sick, "wounded for our transgressions" and "bruised for our iniquities," left alone hanging on the cross (Is 53.5, Mt 26.56); Who Himself heals all the wounds of men, for "with His wounds we are healed" (Is 53.5).

He Himself was in prison, arrested as a criminal and thrown into jail, forsaken by His disciples (Mt 26.56, 27); Who Himself proclaims "liberty to the captives" (Is 61.1, Lk 4.18), setting men free from everything that binds them, and forgiving their crimes.

Since Christ has identified Himself wholly with every man, in every one of His sad and most sorrowful states, the person who "does it to the least of his brethren" does it to Christ Himself — not "as if" to Christ, but to Christ in reality, for Christ is most truly within every one, and every one is the bearer of Christ, the "image of the invisible God" (Col 1.15).



Source: [www.oca.org](http://www.oca.org)