



# SAINT DOMINIC PARISH

November 19, 2023

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Issue 47 | Volume 04

## 33<sup>RD</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Deacon Terry Murphy

*“From those that have nothing, even what they have will be taken away.” (Mt 25:29b)*

Tough words!

Today’s readings touch on this matter of “win/lose” situations. Joanne and I have begun spending some cold Saturday mornings watching our grandsons play hockey. We often hear the coach say something like: “It’s not whether you win or lose but how you play the game. Do your best and have fun!” That’s great advice – unless our grandsons end up playing for the Toronto Maple Leafs!

In today’s gospel, Jesus is quite blunt in his advice, use your talents or else! I think that we all recognize that hindsight is a wonderful gift. If only I knew then what I know now, how different life would be. When Xerox first announced its marvelous new technique for copying documents instead of asking “what’s wrong with carbon paper?” I wish I had bought into the company or IBM or Microsoft! But that’s life for the most of us. We are constantly closing the door after the horse has bolted. And if we ask why this is, it would seem that it is either because we have become disillusioned about our ability to pick winners or we simply hold off, waiting for a favorable time to make a move. Either way we neglect to live in the here and now.

Inside each of us there exist two different characters: the would-be gambler and the fence sitter, and most of us are caught between these two characters. We take very few chances and often miscalculate when we do. But if we are to avoid total stagnation, we must learn to take some risks. The authentically human life is one that maintains a balance between the gambler and the fence-sitter.

That is the challenge that Jesus is laying down in today’s Gospel.

The religious leaders of the time – the scribes and Pharisees – had become obsessively cautious. Any change, any development, any alteration, anything new was impossible. Their approach had induced a religious paralysis, which Christ was determined to

challenge.

For Christ, there is no place for the closed mind in religious thinking. His statement is that to each has been given different abilities which will contribute to the growth of the kingdom – to one is given five, another two, and another one. Although people are not equal in talent, it is expected that each will work to the best of one’s ability. The person who does not even make an effort is in serious trouble. Christ makes no bones about it: use it or lose it.

So why is it that people hold back from doing their best to use their God-given talents? For some it’s the ‘if only syndrome’ – “If only I’d known” – “If only I had listened” – “If only I had studied harder”. For others it’s the ‘but’ word, “I hear what you are saying but...”, “I could have done that but...”

Others hold back for fear of being criticized – usually by those who are doing nothing. All such excuses stifle the present moment, and the possibilities that are at hand are lost. An ancient Persian sage commented, “Four things come not back: The spoken word, the sped arrow, time past, and the neglected opportunity.” Fortunately, with Christ there are second chances.

The big question is: in what areas of life is it important to show this constant growth? Essentially, it is in our spiritual development where it is expected that our faith in, and acceptance of Christ will continue to grow. Consequently, as we grow stronger in our faith, our sense of hope in the promises given by Christ becomes more real. As these two basic virtues strengthen and grow, the virtue of love grows, until love motivates us rather than fear. Such an attitude will impact our everyday lives and relationships. It is at that point that we have a better understanding of the opportunities that come our way to use our talents. Faith leads to hope; together they lead to love.

We are all given a lifetime of opportunity; for some it’s longer than others, but short or long, what is given is time enough for God’s purpose. All that is required of us is that we use the opportunities that come our way.

Trust that God has blessed you with the gifts you need and use them! –

## PARISH LITURGIES

—33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—

*November 19 – November 26*

**Tuesday, November 21 - *The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary***

8:30 am Int. Angela Camardo

**Wednesday, November 22 - *St. Cecilia***

8:30 am + Santa Luigia Pestrin

**Thursday, November 23 - *St. Clement I & St. Columban***

8:30 am + Mario Angeloni

**Friday, November 24 - *St. Andrew Dung Lac***

8:30 am + Eric Theriault

—FEAST OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE—

**Saturday, November 25 - *St. Catherine of Alexandria***

4:00 – 4:30 pm **Reconciliation**

5:00 pm **For:**

+ Scaria & Rose Kurian, + Manuel & Anna Paikeday, + Jim Milburn, + Pat Collins, + Danato & Josephine Ciaccia, + Lidieta Vielma

**Sunday, November 26**

9:00 am For our

11:00 am Parish



### RECONCILIATION IN ADVENT

There will be an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Advent, on Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm in the Church. Please partake in this beautiful gift of forgiveness and healing in preparation for Christmas. There will be multiple priests to choose.



### CWL ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR Saturday, November 25<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

We could use your help in making our baking table great again, while helping us to raise money for the assorted charities we support.

The drop off time for the Bake Table is Friday November 24th, between 2:00 pm and 5:00 pm, or at 9:00 am on the day of the bazaar.

If you are willing to contribute your baked goods but are unable to drop off at these times, please give Gail Fleet a call at 905-815-5427.

Not all bake sale items need to be sweet, small lasagnas, sausage rolls, or cabbage rolls are all savoury baking. We appreciate your involvement to make our day successful.



### Mass Intentions

Mass Intentions are a great treasure of the Church and have a spiritual weight that is incalculable. As Pope Paul VI said, “The Mass is the perfect form of prayer!” One single Mass has more value than all the good works of men, because the Eucharistic Celebration is the work of God himself. If you would like to purchase a Mass intention for someone (living or deceased) please contact the parish office. The cost is \$10.00 per intention.

*“You have been trustworthy in a few things.  
I will put you in charge of many things.”*

### SANCTUARY LAMP



***Our Sanctuary lamp will be lit this week  
In Memory of Georgina Bourke***

*Parishioners are invited to sponsor the Sanctuary Lamp that hangs above the tabernacle. This candle burns 24 hours a day, seven days a week, as a sign of honour to Our Lord. If you wish to sponsor the Sanctuary Lamp for a special intention during a specific week, please contact the parish office. The cost is a \$10 donation per week. Your intention will be noted in our weekly bulletin.*

*“The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.”*



### SAINT DOMINIC PARISH 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DAY FAMILY MASS & PAGEANT

**Children in Grade 4 and up are invited to participate in our parish Christmas Family Mass as actors and readers!** With Christmas

fast-approaching we have limited time so your children must attend the following rehearsals if they wish to participate. (High school students will receive volunteer hours):

Friday December 01 – 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm (to assign parts)

Friday December 08 – 4:00 to 6:00 pm

Friday December 16 – 4:00 to 6:30 pm

Monday December 25 – 10:00 am sharp. We meet at church in the meeting room to get prepared for the 11:00 am Christmas Day Mass

Please contact Mrs. Colleen Gamble at:

[colleengamble123@gmail.com](mailto:colleengamble123@gmail.com)

(905-330-9237) OR

Mr. Michael Aguiar:

[michael@saintdominic.ca](mailto:michael@saintdominic.ca) at the parish office (905-827-2373)



## SOCIAL COMMITTEE EVENTS

Mark your calendar and join us for these upcoming Social Committee events...

On the evening of Friday, December 08, we are hosting an Advent Celebration starting at 7:00 pm with Mass that will be followed by a short Meditation on the Imitation of the Virgin Mother by Peter Swirzon, PhD. Afterwards, join us for a social with light refreshments in the parish centre. While this event is FREE to all from our Saint Dominic Parish Community, we invite those who are able to bring along canned goods for the Good Shepherd Centre. Please make plans to join us for our Advent Celebration, mix and mingle with your Saint Dominic friends and family. All are welcome!

The first Social Committee event of 2024 will be a live concert by Fiddlestix – a local community 5-piece band on Saturday, February 03. More details to follow.

On Tuesday February 13 we will be having our Traditional Pancake Supper. If you would like to pitch in and help, to plan and host this event, you are invited to join the pancake supper volunteer committee at their scheduled meeting on Wednesday November 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the parish centre. We appreciate the support that our wonderful Saint Dominic parishioners give to all social committee initiatives and we look forward to a FUN and event-filled 2024.

## OAKVILLE PRAYER BREAKFAST

Join us for the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Oakville Prayer Breakfast on Wednesday December 06, 2023. We are excited to have Gary O'Neil, Executive Director of Kerr Street Missions come and share his story and God's goodness and work there. Many of you are familiar with the ministry work done at Kerr Street Mission. This event will be held at the Oakville Convention Centre, 2515 Wycroft Road, Oakville at 6:30 am. Register today for your table of 10, or by purchasing individual tickets at [oakvilleprayerbreakfast.com](http://oakvilleprayerbreakfast.com)

## HAMILTON DIOCESE PRAYER CALENDAR

Monday, November 20	Catholic Youth
Tuesday, November 21	Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Wednesday, November 22	Deceased Consecrated Brothers and Sisters
Thursday, November 23	Rev. Feliz Nwatu
Friday, November 24	Rev. Vincent Kim Van Toan
Saturday, November 25	Rev. Robert Bulbrook

## WORLD DAY OF THE POOR – November 19

In 2017, Pope Francis instituted the World Day of the Poor so that "throughout the world Christian communities can become an ever greater sign of Christ's charity for the least and those in most need."

Join Us for Our  
**COME HOME**  
for Christmas  
**FESTIVAL**



**FREE!**

**Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 | 1:00-4:00pm**

Mount Mary Immaculate Retreat Centre  
437 Wilson St. E., Ancaster, ON, L9G 3K4

### Fun Includes:

Music, Hot Cocoa, Cookie Decorating, Magic Show, Face Painting, Balloon Animals, Local Artisans (cash only), Santa and Crock-A-Doodle Christmas Ornament Painting!

COME HOME  
for Christmas



*If you are able, cash or non-perishables accepted  
benefiting The Bishop's Charities.*

## SAINT DOMINIC PARISH

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[rdsa@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:rdsa@hamiltondiocese.com)

Pastoral Associate/Youth Minister: Michael Aguiar  
[michael@saintdominic.ca](mailto:michael@saintdominic.ca)

Deacon: Reverend Mr. Terry Murphy  
Parish Accountant: Brian Thornton  
Secretary: Mary Evans  
Sacristan: Judi Kingry  
Custodian: Peter Coffey

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday – 9:00 am to 4:00 pm  
(Closed from noon to 1:00 pm).

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**Instagram:** @saintdominicym



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