



CATHEDRA

A newsletter of the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King

FROM THE RECTOR ...

As the world is dealing with the COVID 19 viral outbreak, each of us is dealing with it in our own lives. Pope Francis reminds us that we are like the disciples in the boat with Jesus in the middle of the storm. We cry out for the Lord's help. We can be assured that He is with us. Always calming the storms of our lives. The Pope says: "He brings serenity into our storms, because with God life never dies." This present crisis will pass. Our lives will be different, but we will continue our journey with the Lord who desires our faith and who strengthens our hearts. This is an important time for us to reach out others – family, friends, neighbours – albeit in new and creative ways. We reach out to support them, to offer help and prayers. This will be a Lent that we will not soon forget! We are prevented – out of well-founded concern – from gathering as a faith community. But we are still a faith community! The Eucharist continues to be offered within the walls of the Cathedral. Prayers are offered in the homes of our Parish. All of these prayers are the life-blood of our community. As Bishop Crosby has reminded us – *Lift up your hearts!* Words we hear at every Mass – let us turn toward the Lord, who is always turned toward us.

CATHEDRAL OFFICE

Our Parish Office remains closed at this time. Responses to telephone and email messages as needed. Thanks to Parishioners who have dropped off donations or have signed up for pre-authorized giving as a means of supporting the Parish. This newsletter includes the necessary form for automated giving.

MASS INTENTIONS

Requested Masses are being satisfied during this time. Our Parish website has the assigned intention for each day. To request an intention, you may email or telephone the Parish Office.

BAPTISMS & WEDDINGS

At this time, we are not able to celebrate Baptisms or Weddings. Scheduled celebrations will be postponed until we are able to gather as a community once again. Our office has contacted engaged couples and they are working on new dates. We sympathize with the challenge that this poses for couples and families. The renovation work scheduled for this summer has been postponed.

FUNERALS

Funeral celebrations are also impacted by the restrictions on public gatherings. At the present time, Priests may lead the rites of burial at the cemetery. A funeral Mass may be scheduled for a later date once the restrictions are lifted.

Visit us on-line ...

www.ctkbasilica.ca

www.hamiltondiocese.com

Follow Father Dave on Twitter

BasilicaRector@davidwynen

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Due to the restrictions on public gatherings, and out of an abundance of caution in terms of close contact with others, we are not able to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the normal manner. Penitents are reminded that their desire for forgiveness, perfect contrition and an intention to confess their sins (even mortal ones) at the earliest opportunity, obtains the forgiveness of sins.

HOSPITALS AND SENIOR'S CARE HOMES

Various institutions – hospitals and senior care homes – have adopted protocols for visiting their facilities. At the present time, it is not possible to visit at Hamilton Health Sciences sites – even for the Priest. Similarly, it is not possible to visit senior care homes. All of this to protect the patients and residents, as well as the staff.



BELLS FOR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS

The bells of the Cathedral Basilica are ringing often these days! At 9 a.m.; 12 Noon; 3 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. to invite us to pray an “Our Father” for our healthcare providers. When you hear the bells, pray!

TELEVISED MASS

Thanks to Cable 14 Mass with His Excellency, Bishop Crosby, from the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King will be televised each Sunday at 11:00 a.m. on Cable 14. It will repeat at 1:00 p.m. on CHTV. Thanks to both Cable 14 and CHTV for this wonderful opportunity. Broadcasts begin on Palm Sunday – Sunday, April 5, 2020.

HOLY WEEK

Due to the restrictions on public gatherings, this will be a Holy Week like none other! Bishop Crosby, Father Wynen and Monsignor Sheridan will offer Mass on Holy Thursday. On Good Friday we will read the Passion according to John and offer prayer and petition; on Holy Saturday we will pray the *Office of Readings* which include the great passages often proclaimed at the Easter Vigil. We will offer Mass on Easter Sunday during which we will bless the Paschal Candle and Easter water. The celebration of the sacraments for our RCIA elect and candidates will take place later in the Spring or summer when we can gather again.

MASS OF CHRISM

Bishop Crosby celebrated the *Mass of Chrism* on Tuesday, March 24 in the presence of the Episcopal Board of the Diocese. The blessed Oils and Sacred Chrism will be distributed to the Parishes by the Deans at a later date.

ORDINATIONS TO PRIESTHOOD AND DIACONATE

The scheduled ordinations for this Spring will likely be delayed. New tentative dates will be scheduled in the coming weeks. The Ordinations will take place in the Cathedral Basilica. Please keep the candidates in prayer.

APPOINTMENT OF A PASTORAL INTERN

Bishop Crosby has appointed *Patrick Ohl* as a Seminarian Intern at the Cathedral Basilica for the coming year. We look forward to welcoming Patrick back to the Cathedral – he lived here a few summers ago – and anticipate that he will be very involved in the life of our community. Welcome!

PRAYER FOR A SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

All are encouraged to make a “spiritual communion” while we are unable to receive Holy Communion. This prayer is offered to us by Pope Francis –

*My Jesus,
I believe that You are present
in the Most Holy Sacrament of the altar.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart ...
I embrace You
as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.*

You may wish to use this prayer when you watch televised or live-streamed Mass.

May Mary, Health of Christians, enfold us in the mantle of her maternal care and love!

POPE FRANCIS' ADDRESS AT THE URBI ET ORBI

Pope Francis spoke before offering the blessing *urbi et orbi* (to the City and to the World) on March 27th. Here is the text of his reflection:

"When evening had come" (Mk 4:35). The Gospel passage we have just heard begins like this. For weeks now it has been evening. Thick darkness has gathered over our squares, our streets and our cities; it has taken over our lives, filling everything with a deafening silence and a distressing void, that stops everything as it passes by; we feel it in the air, we notice in people's gestures, their glances give them away. We find ourselves afraid and lost. Like the disciples in the Gospel we were caught off guard by an unexpected, turbulent storm. We have realized that we are on the same boat, all of us fragile and disoriented, but at the same time important and needed, all of us called to row together, each of us in need of comforting the other. On this boat... are all of us. Just like those disciples, who spoke anxiously with one voice, saying "We are perishing" (v. 38), so we too have realized that we cannot go on thinking of ourselves, but only together can we do this.

It is easy to recognize ourselves in this story. What is harder to understand is Jesus' attitude. While his disciples are quite naturally alarmed and desperate, he stands in the stern, in the part of the boat that sinks first. And what does he do? In spite of the tempest, he sleeps on soundly, trusting in the Father; this is the only time in the Gospels we see Jesus sleeping. When he wakes up, after calming the wind and the waters, he turns to the disciples in a reproaching voice: "Why are you afraid? Have you no faith?" (v. 40).

Let us try to understand. In what does the lack of the disciples' faith consist, as contrasted with Jesus' trust? They had not stopped believing in him; in fact, they called on him. But we see how they call on him: "Teacher, do you not care if we perish?" (v. 38). *Do you not care*: they think that Jesus is not interested in them, does not care about them. One of the things that hurts us and

our families most when we hear it said is: "Do you not care about me?" It is a phrase that wounds and unleashes storms in our hearts. It would have shaken Jesus too. Because he, more than anyone, cares about us. Indeed, once they have called on him, he saves his disciples from their discouragement.



The storm exposes our vulnerability and uncovers those false and superfluous certainties around which we have constructed our daily schedules, our projects, our habits and priorities. It shows us how we have allowed to become dull and feeble the very things that nourish, sustain and strengthen our lives and our communities. The tempest lays bare all our prepackaged ideas and forgetfulness of what nourishes our people's souls; all those attempts that anesthetize us with ways of thinking and acting that supposedly "save" us, but instead prove incapable of putting us in touch with our roots and keeping alive the memory of those who have gone before us. We deprive ourselves of the antibodies we need to confront adversity.

In this storm, the façade of those stereotypes with which we camouflaged our egos, always worrying about our image, has fallen away, uncovering once more that (blessed) common belonging, of which we cannot be deprived: our belonging as brothers and sisters.

"Why are you afraid? Have you no faith?" Lord, your word this evening strikes us and regards us, all of us. In this world, that you love more than we do, we have gone ahead at breakneck speed, feeling powerful and able to do

anything. Greedy for profit, we let ourselves get caught up in things, and lured away by haste. We did not stop at your reproach to us, we were not shaken awake by wars or injustice across the world, nor did we listen to the cry of the poor or of our ailing planet. We carried on regardless, thinking we would stay healthy in a world that was sick. Now that we are in a stormy sea, we implore you: "Wake up, Lord!"

"Why are you afraid? Have you no faith?" Lord, you are calling to us, calling us to faith. Which is not so much believing that you exist, but coming to you and trusting in you. This Lent your call reverberates urgently: "Be converted!", "Return to me with all your heart" (Joel 2:12). You are calling on us to seize this time of trial as a *time of choosing*. It is not the time of your judgement, but of our judgement: a time to choose what matters and what passes away, a time to separate what is necessary from what is not. It is a time to get our lives back on track with regard to you, Lord, and to others. We can look to so many exemplary companions for the journey, who, even though fearful, have reacted by giving their lives. This is the force of the Spirit poured out and fashioned in courageous and generous self-denial. It is the life in the Spirit that can redeem, value and demonstrate how our lives are woven together and sustained by ordinary people – often forgotten people – who do not appear in newspaper and magazine headlines nor on the grand catwalks of the latest show, but who without any doubt are in these very days writing the decisive events of our time: doctors, nurses, supermarket employees, cleaners, caregivers, providers of transport, law and order forces, volunteers, priests, religious men and women and so very many others who have understood that no one reaches salvation by themselves. In the face of so much suffering, where the authentic development of our peoples is assessed, we experience the priestly prayer of Jesus: "That they may all be one" (Jn 17:21). How many people every day are exercising patience and offering hope, taking care to sow not panic but a shared responsibility. How many fathers, mothers,

grandparents and teachers are showing our children, in small everyday gestures, how to face up to and navigate a crisis by adjusting their routines, lifting their gaze and fostering prayer. How many are praying, offering and interceding for the good of all. Prayer and quiet service: these are our victorious weapons.

"Why are you afraid? Have you no faith"? Faith begins when we realize we are in need of salvation. We are not self-sufficient; by ourselves we flounder: we need the Lord, like ancient navigators needed the stars. Let us invite Jesus into the boats of our lives. Let us hand over our fears to him so that he can conquer them. Like the disciples, we will experience that with him on board there will be no shipwreck. Because this is God's strength: turning to the good everything that happens to us, even the bad things. He brings serenity into our storms, because with God life never dies.

The Lord asks us and, in the midst of our tempest, invites us to reawaken and put into practice that solidarity and hope capable of giving strength, support and meaning to these hours when everything seems to be floundering. The Lord awakens so as to reawaken and revive our Easter faith. We have an anchor: by his cross we have been saved. We have a rudder: by his cross we have been redeemed. We have a hope: by his cross we have been healed and embraced so that nothing and no one can separate us from his redeeming love. In the midst of isolation when we are suffering from a lack of tenderness and chances to meet up, and we experience the loss of so many things, let us once again listen to the proclamation that saves us: he is risen and is living by our side. The Lord asks us from his cross to rediscover the life that awaits us, to look towards those who look to us, to strengthen, recognize and foster the grace that lives within us. Let us not quench the wavering flame (cf. Is 42:3) that never falters, and let us allow hope to be rekindled.

Embracing his cross means finding the courage to embrace all the hardships of the present time, abandoning for a moment our eagerness for power and possessions in order to make room for the creativity that only the Spirit is capable of inspiring. It means finding the courage to create spaces where everyone can recognize that they are called, and to allow new forms of hospitality, fraternity and solidarity. By his cross we have been saved in order to embrace hope and let it strengthen and sustain all measures and all possible avenues for helping us protect ourselves and others. Embracing the Lord in order to embrace hope: that is the strength of faith, which frees us from fear and gives us hope.

“Why are you afraid? Have you no faith?” Dear brothers and sisters, from this place that tells of Peter’s rock-solid faith, I would like this evening to entrust all of you to the Lord, through the intercession of Mary, Health of the People and Star of the stormy Sea. From this colonnade that embraces Rome and the whole world, may God’s blessing come down upon you as a consoling embrace. Lord, may you bless the world, give health to our bodies and comfort our hearts. You ask us not to be afraid. Yet our faith is weak and we are fearful. But you, Lord, will not leave us at the mercy of the storm. Tell us again: “Do not be afraid” (Mt 28:5). And we, together with Peter, “cast all our anxieties onto you, for you care about us” (cf. 1 Pet 5:7).

CATHEDRAL BASILICA OF CHRIST THE KING

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Most Rev. DOUGLAS CROSBY, OMI, DD
Bishop of Hamilton

Very Rev. DAVID WYNEN, VF, Rector
Rev. Msgr. EDWARD SHERIDAN, In Residence
SANDRA GOULD, Pastoral Minister
ROBERT CORSO, Director of Music
LISA TUCK, Secretary
SANDOR KOLLARICH, Maintenance
LUKAS LAMANES, Maintenance
Sister LENA PETRUCCELLI, Sacristan



PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING

What is pre-authorized giving?

To accomplish the mission entrusted to us by Christ, our parish community depends entirely on the generosity of our parishioners. Pre-authorized giving allows you to give to your parish intentionally and faithfully through scheduled monthly transfers from your bank account. Once a month, your account will be debited an amount you specify. These funds are then deposited directly into the parish's account.

How do I enroll?

First, reflect on all that God has given you, and prayerfully decide how much of this you will return to God through your offering to your parish. Then fill out this form and attach a void cheque in the space provided. Place the completed form in a sealed envelope into the offertory collection, mail the completed form to the parish, or drop it off in person.

Why should I participate?

There are various benefits of participating in pre-authorized giving, both for you and for the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King.

Advantages for you:

- The convenience of having your offering automatically contributed to the parish
- Knowing you continue to support the parish even when you are away.

Advantages for the parish:

- Regular, dependable contributions to the parish
- Reduction of paperwork
- The ability to more effectively plan parish programs and activities

How can I cancel payments?

You may stop your pre-authorized giving by simply writing a letter with 30 days' notice to the parish office. If you would prefer to use a standardized cancellation form instead of writing a letter, or for more information on your right to cancel your pre-authorized giving agreement, please contact your financial institution or visit www.cdnpay.ca

You have certain recourse rights if ever any debit to your account does not comply with this agreement. For example, you have the right to receive reimbursement for any debit that is not authorized or is not consistent with this pre-authorized giving agreement. To obtain more information on your recourse rights, contact your financial institution or visit www.cdnpay.ca

Authorization Form

I/we hereby authorize the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King to debit my/our account **each month** as allocated below:

I/we hereby change my/our **monthly** donation as allocated below:

Offering \$

Please note that based on the fees associated with offering pre-authorized giving, a **\$25.00** monthly offering is the minimum that can be processed through this method of giving.

Name: _____ Envelope # _____

Payment start date: _____

Bank/Financial Institution name: _____

Transit # _____ Institution # _____ Account # _____

PLEASE INCLUDE A "VOID" CHEQUE.

Signature: _____