

MASS SCHEDULE - St. John

Sat. Sept 12 Vigil of the 24th Sunday of Ordinary Time
4:00 p.m. For all parishioners.

Sun. Sept 13 24th Sunday of Ordinary Time
10:30 a.m. + Nick & Cristina Caravaggio from the family.

Mon. Sept 14 The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
12:00 noon Mass at Sacred Heart

Tue. Sept 15 No Mass today

Wed. Sept 16 No Mass today

Thu. Sept 17 No Mass today

Fri. Sept 18 No Mass today

Sat. Sept 19 Vigil of the 25th Sunday of Ordinary Time
4:00 p.m. For all parishioners.

Sun., Sept 20 25th Sunday of Ordinary Time
10:30 a.m. + Thelma O’Brien from the family.

Last Weekend – Sept 6, 2026		
Mass	Attendance	Contributions
4:00 pm Saturday	60	\$ 457
10:30 am Sunday	71	\$ 2019
Online donations:		\$ 193
Total	131	\$ 2,669
Fuel and maintenance \$ 1,219		
Need of the Canadian church \$400		
Thank you for your generosity and support!		

PASTOR’S MESSAGE

Dear parishioners,

The topic for today is forgiveness. In the First Reading we hear: **“Could anyone nourish anger against another and expect healing from the LORD? Could anyone refuse mercy to another like himself, can he seek pardon for his own sins?”** In the Gospel, Peter approaches Jesus and asks whether he should forgive his brother as many as seven times - as if to say, *‘Seven times is a lot.’* But Jesus answers him ‘Not just seven times, but seventy-seven times’ - as if to say, *‘You have fallen short.’* Seventy-seven times means always.

And to explain this, He tells a Parable which illustrates: how God sees forgiveness and how we see forgiveness. He said that the kingdom of heaven is like a king (God the Father) who settle accounts (our judgement) with his servants. A debtor was brought who owed him **“a huge amount”** This sentence is very important. It is compared to the other servant who owed him **“a much smaller amount.”** Why such a difference? Because an offense against God is incomparably greater than any offense committed among human beings. An

offense is measured out by the dignity of the one who is offended. It is not the same to offend a priest, a Bishop, or a Pope. It is not the same to offend a soldier, a captain, or a general. **“Since he had no way of paying it back, his master ordered him to be sold...”** Here there is another very important point: *‘there is no way of paying back to God’* No human effort whatsoever (prayers, sacrifices, fasts, alms...) were able to pay back. Only in Christ we were able to pay back to God for our sins. This is why in the Old Testament no one was able to enter into heaven. The doors of heaven were closed until Jesus came and paid the debt with his blood. **“Moved with compassion the master of that servant let him go and forgave him the loan”** After the servant left the presence of the king, he went out and came across one of his fellow servants who owed him **“a much smaller amount”** and he would not forgive him.

We always have to forgive as Jesus forgave us. The best example is as when Jesus was crucified, He had nails driven through His hands and feet. He was in a lot of pain and yet He said: **“Father, forgive them. They know not what they do.”** 1- When Jesus forgave them, were they forgiven? We don't know. If they repented, yes. If they did not repent, no. But our duty is to offer forgiveness. 2- When Jesus forgave them, did His pain go away? No. And this is very important for us to understand: When we forgive someone, it does not necessarily mean that the pain goes away. Usually, pain can produce anger, resentment, hatred... especially when we are the innocent party. But Jesus accepted the pain without accepting the anger that will come from that pain. This is the work we are called to do when we forgive: accept the pain, reject the anger that will come. Let us ask our Blessed Mother to help us always forgive from the heart. Fr. Gaston Giacinti. IVE.

WEEKLY NEWS

Fr. Gaston on Retreat Please keep Fr. Gaston in your prayers as he makes his Spiritual Exercises from Sept. 14 - 18. During these days, there will be no Masses, except on Mon, Sept 14 at 12:00 noon at Sacred Heart for the Exaltation of the Holy Cross by Fr. Dominic Clovis followed by a potluck. You are encouraged to attend Mass at one of the neighboring parishes.

Blessing of a Special Crucifix On Sunday Sept 13th after the 10:30am Mass we will have the blessing of a especial Crucifix donated by Dan Finnegan. It is a replica of the “Santo Cristo (Cristo Sindónico) in the University of Córdoba” in Spain. It was sculpted by Juan Manuel Miñarro López in 2010. It is also called “Cristo Sindónico” because Juan Manuel Miñarro designed the sculpture using the image and anatomical evidence of

the body of Jesus on the Shroud of Turin as a principal reference. “Sindónico” comes from Síndone, the Spanish word for the Shroud of Turin (Italian: Sindone; Greek: sindón, σινδών, meaning a linen cloth or shroud). You are welcome to come to the sacristy and see it!

Sacramental Preparation 2026–2027
The online pre-registration form for Sacramental Preparation is now available on our website! Classes begin in **October**.

- First Reconciliation & First Communion:** Sat.
- Confirmation:** Thursdays Visit www.stjohnpeterborough.ca to register

RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults This process, through which adults become fully initiated members of our Catholic faith community, will begin again in Oct. If you someone you know, is interested in learning more about the Catholic faith and the possibility of becoming a Catholic, please contact M. Asterone 249 688 0930.

Life Chain Sunday, Oct 4, from 2 - 3 pm. between George and Park Sts. Meet at Sacred Heart Church beginning at 1:30 to pick up signs. Prayers for Life afterwards at Sacred Heart. For info call Elizabeth 705-292-7056 or at www.peterboroughprolife.ca

In depth Study on the Most Holy Eucharist This Fall, St John the Baptist Bible Study Group will be starting a new Journey - an in depth Study on the Most Holy Eucharist ‘The Source & Summit of the Christian life’. The Bread from Heaven, The Last Supper, The Institution of the Eucharist, The Eucharistic Sacrifice, The Epiclesis are some of the topics that will be covered. Classes will be every other Thursday Starting Oct 1st from 7 pm – 8 pm at St John the Baptist Basement . For more details contact Daniel Rozario 647 928 6414 / email - DanielRozario@live.com

Congratulations to the 50/50 Winner:
The lucky number for August 9 is 0292444 for \$90 & 0292358 - \$81 for the June 14th raffle.

DIOCESAN & OTHER NEWS:

Andrew Roelands Ordination to the Transitional Diaconate. Everyone is invited to participate and pray for our seminarian the Ordination Mass will be on Friday Oct. 23, at 7pm at the Cathedral of St. Peter in Chains by Bishop Daniel Miehm.

Kawartha Monuments hosting Open Houses
Its an opportunity for members of the community to visit our showroom, browse our monument displays, learn more about the memorial process, and meet our team in a relaxed, no-pressure setting. Peterborough Showroom on Thursday, September 17th



2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. 69 Aylmer Street North.

Peterborough Campus Ministry exists to accompany students at Trent University and Fleming College. If you are a post-secondary student and are looking to deepen your faith, join a vibrant community of students and young adults, or are simply curious about Catholicism and the Catholic Church, then you belong in our chaplaincy! Visit www.ptbocampusministry.ca, & register to join our contact list.

Men In Black Concert St. Mary’s in Lindsay is hosting a Spaghetti Dinner and *Men In Black concert*. Wed Sept 30. Glenda 705-340-5357 email lindsayCWL27@gmail.com

World Youth Day 2027 - Seoul, South Korea! Join Us! The Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie is inviting all **Catholic young adults aged 18-39** to participate in our Pilgrimage to Seoul, South Korea for World Youth Day 2027 from August 1 - August 13, 2027 led by Fr. Daniele Muscolino. For prices, dates, itinerary, requirements and application, visit: bit.ly/wyd27 **Deadline to Apply is Sept. 25, 2026.**

GOSPEL Matthew 18.21-35

Peter came and said to Jesus, “Lord, how often should I forgive my brother or sister if they sin against me? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but I tell you, seventy-seven times. “For this reason, the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made.

So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”