



St. John's Parish
Roman Catholic Church

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A LOVE THAT SAVES

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - JULY 5, 2026

Today the Gospel contains a very beautiful prayer of Jesus, who addresses the Father, saying, "I thank thee, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that thou hast hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to babes" (Mt 11:25). But what things is Jesus talking about? And then, who are these "babes" to whom such things are revealed? Let us reflect on this: on the things for which Jesus praises his Father and on the "babes" who know how to welcome them.

The things for which Jesus praises the Father. Just before this, the Lord had recalled some of his works — "the blind receive their sight [...], lepers are cleansed [...], the poor have good news preached to them" (Mt 11:5) — and revealed their meaning, saying that these are the signs that God is at work in the world. The message, then, is clear: God reveals himself by liberating and healing the human person. Let us not forget this: God reveals himself by liberating and healing the human person, and he does this with a gratuitous love, a love that saves. This is why Jesus praises his father, because his greatness consists in love and he never works outside of love. But this greatness in love is not understood by those who presume to be great and who fabricate a god in their own image — powerful, inflexible, vindictive. In other words, those who are presumptuous are not able to accept God as Father; those who are full of themselves, proud, concerned only about their own interests — these are the presumptuous ones — convinced they do not need anyone. In this regard, Jesus names the inhabitants of three rich cities of his time: Chorazin, Bethsaida, Capernaum, where he had accomplished many healings, but whose inhabitants remained indifferent to his preaching. For them, his miracles were only spectacular events, useful for making news and feeding gossip. Once passing interest in them was over, they archived them, maybe in order to occupy themselves with other novelties of the moment. They did not know how to welcome the great things of God.

The little children, instead, know how to welcome them, and Jesus praises the Father for them: "I bless you," he says, because you have revealed the Kingdom of Heaven to the little ones. Jesus praises him for the simple people whose hearts are free from presumption and self-love. The little ones are those who, like children, feel their need and are not self-sufficient. They are open to God and allow themselves to be amazed at his works. They know how to read his signs, to marvel at the miracles of his love! I ask all of you, and even myself, do we know how to marvel at the things of God or do we take them for passing things?

Brothers and sisters, if we think about it, our lives are filled with miracles. They are filled with deeds of love, signs of God's goodness. Before these, however, even our hearts can remain indifferent and become habitual, curious but not capable of being amazed, of allowing themselves to be "impressed". A closed heart, an armoured heart, is incapable of being amazed. To impress is a beautiful verb that brings to mind photographic film. This is the correct behaviour to have before God's works: to take a photograph of his works in our minds so that they may be impressed in our hearts, and then developed in our lives through many good deeds, so that this "photograph" of God, who is love, becomes ever brighter in us and through us.

And now, let us all ask ourselves: In the deluge of news that overwhelms us, do I, as Jesus shows us today, know how to stop before the great things of God, those that God accomplishes? Do I allow myself to marvel like a child at the good that silently changes the world? Or have I lost the ability to be amazed? And do I bless the Father each day for his works? May Mary, who exulted in the Lord, make us capable of being amazed by his love and of praising him with simplicity.

POPE FRANCIS — July 9, 2023

ENGLISH SCHEDULE

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

<u>Saturday, July 4</u>	5:00 PM
<u>Sunday, July 5</u>	9:00 AM
For All Parishioners Living & Deceased	
<u>Tuesday, July 7</u>	11:00 AM
+Alma Gutiérrez and Deceased members of the Balkowski's family	
<u>Wednesday, July 8</u>	11:00 AM
+David Ference	
<u>Thursday, July 9</u>	11:00 AM
For the intentions of Nick & Valeria Jenne	
<u>Friday, July 10</u>	11:00 AM

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

<u>Saturday, July 11</u>	5:00 PM
+Wally Polischuk	
<u>Sunday, July 12</u>	9:00 AM
For All Parishioners Living & Deceased	

HORARIOS EN ESPAÑOL

XIV Domingo Ordinario

<u>Sabado 4 de julio</u>	7:00 PM
+Brenda Surós +Marvin Castillo Courtade	
<u>Domingo 5 de julio</u>	11:00 AM & 1:00 PM
Por la Comunidad Parroquial	
<u>Martes 7 de julio</u>	12:00 PM
<u>Miércoles 8 de julio</u>	12:00 PM
<u>Jueves 9 de julio</u>	12:00 PM
<u>Viernes 10 de julio</u>	12:00 PM

XV Domingo Ordinario

<u>Sabado 11 de julio</u>	7:00 PM
+Pedro Antonio Molina	
<u>Domingo 12 de julio</u>	11:00 AM & 1:00 PM
Por la Comunidad Parroquial	

GUELPH WALKING PILGRIMAGE TO MIDLAND

AUG 1st-8th: Those who walk the Guelph-to-Midland pilgrimage find it to be a unique and grace-filled experience. For eight days pilgrims pray, sing, laugh, and share stories with others as they journey. Join us, as we cast off routine for eight days and acquiesce to a community of higher purpose. **Participate for 1 day, a weekend or the full 8 days!** Cost \$400 for 8 days or \$75 per day. We carry your gear, provide 3 meals and snacks daily, and cover entry and camping fees. You bring your tent, chair and personal gear/clothing in a duffle bag. To register or for more information go to www.ignatiusguelph.ca (under programs - Guelph Walking Pilgrimage)

WYD 2027 The Diocese of Hamilton is blessed to have 82 young pilgrims preparing to travel to Seoul, South Korea next summer as a part of the 45th International Celebration of World Youth Day. To learn more about this pilgrimage of faith and how you can support the young people of our Diocese, visit us at: wyd.hamiltondiocese.com.

MARRIAGE TIP: Couples are so busy today with their jobs, taking care of children and sometimes looking after elderly parents that time is very precious. Often what gets put on the back burner is time to focus on their marriage. All these responsibilities are much better managed with a healthy relationship, so taking time together has a positive impact all around. Schedule time for a coffee, a short or long walk, a chat at the end of the day, prayer, or dinner for two, anything that is just for the two of you. Your marriage matters — don't let making it a priority take a backseat to everything else on the to-do list!

Parish Office Summer Hours

For the months of July and August, the Parish Office will be open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 8:30 am to 12:00 p.m.

Horario de oficina de Verano

Durante los meses de julio y agosto, la oficina estará abierta los martes, miércoles y jueves de 8:30 a.m. a 12:00 p.m.