

iRev. Chad Grennan, Pastor
 Email: frchadgrennan@gmail.com
 Rev. Deacon Jim McLaughlin
 (phone office for appointment)
 Liliana Haynes
 Office Administrator



**The Diocese of St. Catharines
 60th Anniversary—1958-2018**
*“Put out into the deep water and let down your
 nets.” (Lk 5:4)*
Sunday, August 12th, 2018
Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

*“I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna
 in the desert, but they died; this is the bread that
 comes down from heaven so that one may eat
 it and not die.” — Jn 6:48-50*

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

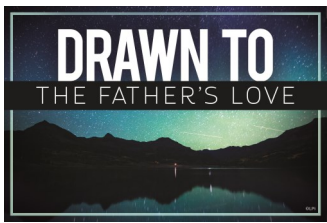
Sat. Aug 11	9-10am	Reconciliation
	4-4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation
	5:00pm	✠ Mary Atkins (Wendy Atkins)
Sun. Aug 12	10:00am	Missa Pro Populo
Mon. Aug 13	9:30am	✠ David Green (Voogt & Green Families)
	7-8pm	Holy Hour & Reconciliation
Tues. Aug 14	9:30am	Jeremy Quaile
Wed. Aug 15	9:30am	✠ Andy Jankovich (Karen Kennedy & Michael Wilson)
Thurs. Aug 16	9:30am	✠ Hugh Amero (Voogt & Green Families)
Fri. Aug 17	9:30am	✠ Virginia Baptista (Maria Baptista)
Sat. Aug 18	9-10am	Reconciliation
	4-4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation
	5:00pm	Missa Pro Populo
Sun. Aug 19	10:00am	✠ Mary Voogt (Voogt & Green Families)

Reconciliation from 9-9:20am before all weekday Masses.
Offertory July 29th & 30th, 2018

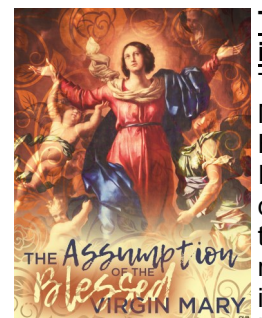
60 Envelopes	\$1,460.00
Loose Collection	\$ 49.00
Total Offertory	\$1,509.00

World Youth Day 2019: Panama City, Panama Jan. 18 – 26, 2019 OR Jan. 22 – 28, 2019 : Calling all young adults, 18-30 years of age! Come learn more about the pilgrimage to WYD 2019 in Panama. Those interested are asked to attend an Information Session at 7:00 pm at the Catholic Centre, 3400 Merrittville, Thorold on **Friday, August 17, 2018** Questions? Contact Raoul Masseur (wydpanama2019saintcd@gmail.com) or Terri Pauco, Family and Youth Office at 905-684-0154, or familyandyouth@saintcd.com .

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 Have you ever approached a hushed group and were certain they were talking about you? It's an uncomfortable feeling to catch people murmuring about what you did, said, or didn't do. It breeds division and exclusion. In today's Gospel, Jesus invites us to just the opposite.
 The reading opens with the crowds "murmuring" their doubts about Jesus after he has proclaimed himself the Bread of Life. "Is this not Jesus, the son of Joseph ... how can he say 'I have come down from heaven'?" In his response, Jesus brings up the Israelites and the manna God brought them in the desert. If you turn back to the story in Exodus, you'll see another similar word: *murmuring*. As the going got tough, the Israelites doubted Moses and God's plan to protect and care for them as a chosen people. Here, Jesus proposes a difficult theological concept. Jesus himself is "the living bread" and "flesh for the life of the world."



This is not an exclusive concept. "Everyone who listens to my Father and learns from him comes to me." Why? Because "the Father who sent me draw[s] him." The next time you're at Mass, take a few moments to watch the communion line. Young and old, families and singles, diverse races and cultures and stories ... we are all drawn to the Eucharistic table. Catholic doctrine requires Catholic faith, but it is a faith possible for anyone who seeks truth. Christianity does not hide behind locked doors in an exclusive clubhouse, whispering behind the backs of nonbelievers. Jesus compels us to share the love of God the Father for his children, that we one day be joined with Him and "live forever."



The Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary is celebrated every year on August 15th.
 This feast commemorates the Blessed Virgin Mary's Assumption, body and soul, into Heaven. The Assumption, along with the Immaculate Conception, are two Marian dogmas that have been infallibly defined by the Church. The Assumption proclaims the reality that Mary was taken up body and soul into heaven. This was God's special gift to her in response to her total giving of self to God's plan and will.
 The Church knows and teaches that Mary was immaculately conceived, that is, conceived without original sin. This led the Church to teach that she did not suffer one of the key consequences of original sin, corruption.
 What significance does this feast have for our lives as Christians today? This feast is above all an assurance and hope of our continued life with God. Modeling ourselves on Jesus and living the Christian life molded by Jesus' teachings is certainly the sure path to God. As a result, God will not leave us orphaned or alone to suffer the emptiness of death. Rather, we believe that death is merely a transformation of our present state into an even more glorious and eternal relationship with God.

This is the hope and assurance that Mary's Assumption celebrates. She is one of us, providing a model of what God has in store for all who love and give of themselves to God: eternal life with him in Heaven.

Prayer: Almighty and eternal God, who has taken up into the glory of Heaven, with body and soul, the immaculate Virgin Mary, Mother of your Son: grant us, we pray, that we may always strive after heavenly things and thus merit to share in Her glory. Amen.

Sunday, August 19th, 2018
Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him. Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me.” — Jn 6:56-57

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Mon. Aug 20	9:30am	✠ Massimo Giuditta (Ferrara Family)
	7-8pm	Holy Hour & Reconciliation
Tues. Aug 21	9:30am	✠ José Baptista (Maria Baptista)
Wed. Aug 22	9:30am	✠ David Green (Voogt & Green Families)
Thurs. Aug 23	9:30am	✠ Andy Jankovich (Karen Kennedy & Michael Wilson)
Fri. Aug 24	9:30am	✠ Isabel Ely (Pat Loiselle)
Sat. Aug 25	9-10am	Reconciliation
	4-4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation
	5:00pm	✠ Graham Dakin (Wendy Atkins)
Sun. Aug 26	10:00am	Missa Pro Populo

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

In this Sunday's Gospel, the conflict escalates in the Bread of Life Discourse. Confusion is mounting in the crowd. "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" Their minds were thinking literally, not mystically. Jesus doesn't seem to help, however, and only drives his point home with more emphasis. "Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you." Jesus would later institute the Eucharist at the Last Supper. There he would definitively establish the sacramental reality in which bread and wine become really, truly and substantially his own Body and Blood. We celebrate this sacrament in the Mass.



Perhaps we do not always understand what we receive. "My flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink." What is the essence of food and drink? Food nourishes our bodies, providing essential calories for our survival. Water is used throughout the body to cushion joints, regulate body temperature, and protect sensitive tissues like the brain. When we receive the Eucharist, we receive the spiritual equivalent of these essential elements. Like water, the Eucharist strengthens the sanctifying grace moving through us. "Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him." The Eucharist connects us intimately to Jesus and confirms our union with him. That is why we abstain from the Eucharist while in a state of mortal sin. It would be a contradiction and deep disrespect to these words of Jesus. To receive the Body and Blood of Jesus is not a right but a gift we receive with deep humility.

Parish Calendar
August
 Aug 11/12..... Special Collection—Catholic Missions Canada
 Aug 13-17..... Vacation Bible School
Children's Liturgy Volunteer
 Children's liturgy is designed to introduce our parish children to the Word and allow them to participate fully in the liturgy. On a rotating schedule, the Children's Liturgy volunteer leads the children in an age-appropriate liturgy of the Word downstairs in the church hall during the Sunday 9:30 Mass. Using the materials supplied by the program, and their own creativity, they provide age-appropriate liturgical readings and activities with the children from approximately age 3 until after the child's First Communion. The Children's Liturgy Volunteer accompanies the children downstairs to the church hall after the presiding priest has addressed them. The lesson takes place until after the Creed has been recited. The children then bring up the gifts and collection before returning to their families. This is a very creative, but skillful position. Since there is involvement with children, a police background and vulnerable sector screen are necessary, and these forms are supplied by the church. Orientation is provided prior to inclusion on the schedule. Please consider being part of our ministry.



Special Collection August 11/12. Catholic Missions In Canada seeks to sustain and extend the Catholic Faith in isolated, poor and hard-to-reach mission areas in Canada. These

are communities where diocesan resources are insufficient to keep the Church alive. Catholic Missions promotes national awareness of the needs of our Canadian missions and raises funds to sustain the work of evangelization. **This collection will benefit Catholic Missions Canada and the Diocese of St. Catharines' Mission Partner, the Diocese of Churchill-Hudson Bay in Nunavut.** With your help, we hope to allocate more than \$4 million each year to assist missionaries working in 25 Mission Diocese in Canada: support of missionaries (\$2.5 million); religious education (\$900,000); repair and maintenance of churches (\$600,000). **Envelopes are in your offertory boxes or you may use a plain envelope with your name and offertory number included. Thank you for your support!**

St. Ann Vacation Bible School: Vacation Bible School runs from Monday, August 13th to Friday, August 17th. If your child is participating, here are a few items to remember: Camp begins each morning at 9:00 am and concludes at 12:00 Noon. Campers should be signed in by their parents each morning and signed out when they are picked up. Snacks and drinks will be provided each day. Campers are welcome to bring a water bottle to stay hydrated on these hot days! On Friday, August 17th, we will be hosting our closing ceremonies from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm. Parents and families are invited to come and see our little ones perform the music they have learned! Free will donations will be collected on Friday, August 17th. **ADULT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED. If you can help, please phone Genevieve 289-219-4233**
Let us pray for the success of our Vacation Bible School—for the workers and volunteers preparing for this event and the children participating.

BINGO CALLERS NEEDED! Your commitment would be every 4-6 weeks or if you can only help once or twice, that would be appreciated. Please phone the office if you can assist. This parish fundraiser provides us with extra funds to pay for elevator inspections/repairs, fire inspections, church enhancement projects (small and large projects over the years). It is run weekly by a dedicated group of volunteers and attended by parishioners and members of our community. **Bingo will resume on Thursday, September 13th.** All are welcome to attend.

