

April 10, 2016



ST. ANDREW'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
2172 Concession Road 4, P.O. Box 65, Brechin, ON L0K 1B0
705-484-5923 email: standrewschurch@rogers.com
Website: www.standrewsbrechin.com
PASTOR: Father Anthony Gonsalves

TIMES OF MASSES AND MASS INTENTIONS

DATE	TIME	MASS FOR
Saturday, April 9 th	5:00 p.m.	+Ken Windatt
Sunday, April 10 th	8:30 a.m.	+Grace & Harold Donnelly
Sunday, April 10 th	10:30 a.m.	+Mary Ryan & +Nadir Jamal
Monday, April 11 th	NO MASS	
Tuesday, April 12 th	9:00 a.m.	+Dorothy Harrington
Wednesday, April 13 th	10:00 a.m.	Paul & Rose Wright
Thursday, April 14 th	9:00 a.m.	+Jack Detlor & Willi McPollin
Friday, April 15 th	9:00 a.m.	Tom Kelly
Saturday, April 16 th	8:30 a.m.	+Josephine Guiffre
Saturday, April 16 th	5:00 p.m.	+Stan Flynn
Sunday, April 17 th	8:30 a.m.	Bernadette & Calvin Readman
Sunday, April 17 th	10:30 a.m.	+Josephine Guiffre
Monday, April 18 th	6:30 p.m.	+Dorothy Harrington
Tuesday, April 19 th	9:00 a.m.	+Basil Harrington
Wednesday, April 20 th	9:00 a.m.	+Jack Crosbie
Thursday, April 21 st	9:00 a.m.	Kathy & John O'Donnell
Friday, April 22 nd	9:00 a.m.	Bernadette & Calvin Readman
Saturday, April 23 rd	8:30 a.m.	Maria & Carlos Sousa

Masses offered for the deceased (+)

Rosary: 20 minutes prior to weekday and Saturday morning Masses

Reconciliation: Saturday 3:30 p.m. – 3:50 p.m. Sunday 9:30 a.m. – 9:50 a.m.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Daily from 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Bible Study: Every Wednesday 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Prayer Group Meeting: Every Tuesday 9:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Please Pray For: Angela Gonsalves, Maria Sousa, Maria Dias, Antonia Pickarz, Ethan-Nicholas Galdick, Pamela Murray, Mary Dunham, Ivor (Buster) Johnston, Aaron David Martin, Kathleen Scott, Rod Kerr, Kelly Corran

Kindly let us know when the sick are blessed with healing.

Finance Committee

Herb Phillipps 705-484-0547

Liturgy Committee Choir:

Joan Dunbar 705-484-5287
Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors
Joanne Emons 705-484-5537

Catholic Women's League

Donna Page 705-484-0057

Fundraising Committee

Mary Jane Whalen 705-484-0063

Cemetery Board

Ruth Windatt 705-426-7117

Foley Catholic School

705-484-5940
Pat Shannon Principal

Maintenance Committee

Dave McCarthy 705-426-7868

UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

BATTLE OF THE BRAINS: Don't forget the Battle of the Brains on Saturday, April 16th. There's still time to register your team. Tickets are \$100 per team with a max. of 5 members per team. There is a poster at the back of the church with more details. If you are interested in submitting a team, please contact Mary Jane Whalen or Debbie Leroux. Don't have a team? Come out & watch! The bar will be open and food available to purchase.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We are in need of volunteers to clean our Church. If you can spare about an hour once a week to help out, please contact Joanne Emons 705-484-5537.

C.W.L. MEMBERS: Remember The Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel on April 26th. Mass will be held @ 5:00 p.m. followed by dinner @ 6:00 p.m. at Brechin United Church. Cost \$20.00. Spouses are welcome.

NUMBERED ENVELOPE: Would the person(s) using Offertory donation envelope #97 please put your name and mailing address on the next few envelopes you use. Thank you.

FORGIVENESS, THE ONLY WAY TO INNER PEACE

One who pursues revenge should dig two graves. (Chinese Proverb)

People, at times, do wrong things because they do not have sufficient knowledge or freedom. If they are not guilty, what is there to forgive? The tendency to behave in a particular way is so deeply rooted in our nature as a result of childhood and adult experiences. This obviously raises the question of free will. We know that we have free will and that human beings are not totally at the mercy of the past. Yet how much influence free will has on us is a moot question. Human experience is very, very fragile. Though the concept is hard for us to accept, it seems to be well-founded on the Bible and human experience, taken in a wider perspective. True, the evil doer's action is bad or wrong. It hurts us. He/she knows what is being done. Do they know all the implications of their action on themselves or others? Who among can say: I will not be like that even if I had been born and brought up as they were or gone through the experiences they had gone through?

TRUE FORGIVENESS

To realise that there is nothing to forgive is true forgiveness. There is nothing to forgive because they acted out of ignorance. To forgive just because the other apologised or admitted their mistake is not true forgiveness. Forgiveness is an act of love and in love. The interaction has to be on the basis of 'win-win'. When I forgive because the other apologised, it is like saying, 'OK, now that you have realized your mistake or admitted it, I forgive you.' Here obviously I am in a one-up position. On the other hand, when I say, 'oh, what is there to forgive? I probably would have done the same thing if I were in your shoes,' both are winners. True forgiveness is as rare as true greatness. "Unless your justice exceeds that of....you will never enter the kingdom." (Mt. 5:20).

It is in forgiving that we are like God, the Father. Christ tells His disciples, "You, therefore, must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect." This teaching has been very much misunderstood to mean that we are to be perfect like the Father in every virtue – an impossible task. Christ tells His disciples to be perfect like the Father after telling them how God, the Father forgives and loves the wicked. "You have heard that it was said, Love your neighbour and hate your enemy...Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect". (Mt. 5:43-48).

CHRIST'S TEACHING AND PRACTICE

Now we see the reason why Christ and His disciples speak with such force about forgiveness: "Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar.....be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift". (Mt. 5:23-24). "Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors". (Mt. 6:12).

Christ practised what He preached all His life so much so that we can say that the special characteristic of Christ was to forgive the unforgivable. The culmination was in His forgiving those who crucified Him (Luke 23:34). The Talmud has a touching story. An aged man whom Abraham hospitably received in his tent refused to join him in prayer. Learning that he was a fire worshiper, Abraham drove him from his door. That night God appeared to Abraham and said, "I have borne with that man for seventy years; could you not have patiently suffered him one night?"

Truly in Christ,

Fr. Anthony Gonzalez