

**January 17th 2021**

**Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**MASSES THIS WEEK**

***Father MacEachen will continue to privately celebrate daily Mass , including Announced Masses for requested intentions.***

***Saturday, January 16th***

4:30 Pauline and Family Members by T. Doyle

***Sunday, January 17th***

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

10:30 George Frédéric Rochon by Joseph Blain

***Monday, January 18th***

9:00 Fr. Yves Normandin by Joseph Blain

***Tuesday, January 19th***

9:00 Pauline and Guy Benoit by a friend

***Wednesday, January 20th***

St. Fabian, St. Sebastian

9:00 George Frédéric Rochon by Joseph Blain

***Thursday, January 21st No Mass***

St. Agnes

***Friday, January 22nd***

St. Vincent

9:00 Pauline and Guy Benoit by a friend

***Saturday, January 23rd***

4:30 Alex and Roy Myronick by Ron and Maureen Blizchuk

*This week the Sanctuary lamp*

*will burn in memory of*

***Teresita Lopa***

*by the Family*

## REFLECTION

"Who's in control?"

It was a phone conversation similar to conversations that happen on a regular basis in today's culture. A father was talking about his twenty-year-old son. The son was home because COVID closed his college dorms. Could the son now live in the house as an adult, making up his own schedule, not worrying about rules, being his own man? This is often the way our culture has young people putting things: how can they be themselves instead of someone else's person?

"Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?" These words today from Paul's letter to the Corinthians cut us modern people very sharply. What can Paul mean when he says that "you are not your own"? Being our own is what makes us who we are, right?

All the readings we have today say that is not correct. They all show us that there are far more voices in our heads than just our own. They show that we are connected to each other and that, ultimately, all our connections are made real in God. The Gospel from John is a fascinating study of human connections, how people open up to each other, and how we are shaped by the relationships we have with others and God.

We have John the Baptist with a group of followers; he sees Jesus and calls him "the Lamb of God." Two of John's disciples get curious about Jesus. Jesus says, "Come hang out with me." Then they go to people they know, inviting them to get to know Jesus. And, in the end, Simon Peter ends up with a relationship with Jesus that would unfold in different ways for the rest of his life. There are many voices in our heads, and these voices show who we belong to. Ask anyone who has come to love another... the beloved's voice cannot be quieted.

Samuel is a powerful example of the power of voice. In his dreaming he hears his name called. What is that voice calling out to me? He doesn't know what to make of it. Three times he awakens the old priest, Eli. At first Eli doesn't know what to make of it either; but eventually he ends up teaching Samuel how to listen for the voice of God.

Our culture tells us to be our own persons, that we have to be self-sufficient and in control. But the last thing we have felt for the past year, and especially these past weeks, is "in control." Our illusion of control can not only cut us off from the people and resources we actually need to live; it can cut us off from being able to hear the voice of God calling our name, affirming our relationship with God, and opening up the best paths for our journey.

What, then, is the Lord revealing to us? How is the Lord inviting us to see all of our life as something sacred because the Holy Spirit dwells in us and guides? How is Jesus saying to us, this day, "Come and see. Come and spend some time with me"? How is the Lord helping us see that we are most ourselves not when we are our own people but when we find ourselves connected to, loving, and serving each other?

*Questions to ponder:*

*We often make checklists and to-do lists to help us feel in control. While these can be helpful, how often do we think about how God is really in control? Are we open to God's plans?*

*How can I make room in my schedule to spend time with Jesus and listen to his plans for me?  
We are most ourselves when we are connected to others. Who is a friend or family member  
who might need a loving word I can connect with this week?*

***The Sunday Homily | Paulist Evangelization Ministries***  
<https://www.pemdc.org/the-sunday-homily/>

---

### **Weekly Donation Envelope Boxes**

Parishioners who use the envelope system for their parish contribution will find the 2021 boxes available at the main entrance of the church. Please be sure to pick up only the box that has your name and number on it. Boxes are in alphabetical order. If you are currently not able to attend Mass in person or if you don't have a donation envelope box—but would like to make your weekly donations to the parish using this method, or if you have any questions please contact the parish office. Thank you for your faithful generosity.

### **Sunday Missals 2021**

The Living with Christ Sunday Mass books are still available for sale at the back of the church. The cost is \$5 each. The supply is limited so you are encouraged to purchase your copy as soon as possible & write your name in your book. If you are currently not able to attend Mass in person, but would like a Missal, please contact the parish to make arrangements to obtain one.

### **Closure of Churches: Measures tightened to curb spread of COVID-19**

The Archdiocese of Montreal has advised all Montreal parishes, missions, and religious communities to close all places of worship, suspending gatherings for the celebration of Mass effective Saturday, January 9, 2021 through to February 8, 2021. Funerals will be permitted, but limited to a maximum of 25 people in attendance. Online Masses are permitted exclusively. For more details on how the new measures will affect other areas of parish and sacramental life, ministries and services, you may consult the diocesan website for updates via this link:  
<https://diocesemontreal.org/en/covid-19>

---

### **Celebrating 2021 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in Canada**

Every year, Christians around the world are invited to celebrate a Week of Prayer for the unity of all Christians, to reflect on scripture together, to participate in jointly-organized ecumenical services, and to share fellowship. The international resources for 2021 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity have been prepared by the Monastic Community of Grandchamp in Switzerland, a group of religious sisters from different church traditions brought together by a common vocation of prayer, community life and hospitality and by their commitment to Christian unity. The 2021 theme – Abide in my love and you shall bear much fruit (John 15:5-9) – calls us to pray and to work for reconciliation and unity in the church, with our human family, and with all of creation. Drawing on the Gospel image of vine and branches, it invites us to nourish unity

with God and with one another through contemplative silence, prayer, and common action.

**Sunday, January 24, 2021**, 3:00 p.m. the Canadian Centre for Ecumenism calls for a moment of prayer to be held on Zoom or YouTube. In order to participate, kindly register here to get the link: <http://www.oikoumene.ca/events/prayer-for-christian-unity-2021/>

***Sunday of the Word of God. January 24, 2021***

Pope Francis' Apostolic Letter, Motu proprio "Aperuit Illis", published on September 30, 2019 established that, "the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time is to be devoted to the celebration, study and dissemination of the Word of God". To access online resources designed for and individuals, religious communities, discussion groups and families desiring to meditate and understand, to celebrate and bear witness to the mercy of God, visit the websites of the Canadian Bible Society: <https://biblesociety.ca/sunday-word-of-god/>