

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PASTOR'S CORNER



How do you make the most of your New Year? Let me help you with four keys. I will label them **A, B, C** and **D**:

A - Accept responsibility for your life. This is something that is hard for many people to do. Some people would rather blame someone else for the problems and difficulties in their lives. These are people that go around looking for someone who will accept responsibility for them - someone who will accept responsibility for the way they live their lives and the choices they make. When things do not turn out the way they hope, they have someone they can blame. Accepting responsibility for our lives is not a popular concept in our society, because we live in a culture that embraces a concept called "political correctness". This basically says, "None of your problems are your fault. Everything bad in your life is somebody else's fault. Blame the environment. Blame the educator. Blame your parents. Blame anybody else, but it is not your fault." It is always somebody else's fault. You will never be a success in life, and you will never make your life count, if you have the attitude that it is someone else's fault. St. Paul tells us in his letter to the Galatians, "*Each person must be responsible for himself*" (6:5).

B - Believe that you can change. Stop saying, "I can't" and start saying, "I can". The person that believes that they can change with the help of God *will change*. *Many people never succeed in life because they believe they cannot change. They never enjoy life because life to them is just one big failure after another. They face a new year with regret rather than the joy of knowing that God has given them the opportunity to make a difference in their own lives. St. Paul in his letter to the Philippians tells us, "There is nothing I cannot master with the help of Christ who gives me strength" (4:13).*

C - Clarify what you really want in life. You must decide what is important and what is not important. God has given each of us an incredible gift called the freedom of choice. That is one of the things that makes us like God. In other words, you need to make up your mind what you want out of life, because if you aim at nothing, you are going to hit it. Jesus tells us, "*Let your word 'Yes' be 'Yes' and 'No' be 'No.'*" Anything more than this comes from the evil one" (Matt 5:37).

D - Don't wait to begin. Do it now! These three words can change your life. If you wait for the right situation or the right kind of circumstances, you will miss out on life all together. There will never be an ideal set of circumstances to start out on. To make the most of 2025 and to accomplish the things you want to accomplish, start now, because things may not settle down or get better until you are in the coffin. The Book of Ecclesiastes tells us, "*If you wait for perfect conditions, you will never get anything done*" (11:4).

P.S. Someone wrote, "*I was a revolutionary when I was young and all my prayer to God was this: 'Lord, give me the energy to change the world.'* As I approached middle age and realized that my life was half gone without my changing a single soul, I changed my prayer to, '*Lord, give me the grace to change all those who come into contact with me, just my family and friends, and I shall be satisfied.*' Now that I am an old man and my days are numbered, I have begun to see how foolish I have been. My one prayer now is this: '*Lord, give me the grace to change myself.*' If I had prayed for this right from the start, I would not have wasted my life."

Fr. Slawek

JANUARY 19, 2025

ATTENTION ALL PARISHIONERS

Reception of Holy Communion

It has come to my attention that some people, receiving on the hand, carry the Sacred Host back to their seats. This is forbidden. Please be sure to consume Jesus, truly present in the Sacred Host, right after you receive Him. You must consume the Host in the front of the church, right after receiving. There are people who wish to steal consecrated Hosts for the sake of rituals. If you see anyone walking away without having consumed the Sacred Host please alert one of the Ushers, the Sacristan—Anthony or Fr. Slawek.

Marriage Prep Course St. Barnabas Church—10 Washburn Way

Starting January 23, 2025

7 Consecutive Thursdays/ 7p.m.—9 p.m.

Register online at: <http://form.jotform.com/stbarnabasto/MARPREP2025>

Or go to our website at <https://stbarnabasto.ca>



ARE YOU MOVING? OR HAVE YOU ALREADY MOVED?

Please contact the parish office so your records can be updated. Thank you.

RCIC REGISTRATION—ST. BARNABAS CHURCH 10 Washburn Way

The Rite of Christian Initiation for children (RCIC) is for children in school who have not been baptized, children Grades 4 and up who have missed their First Holy Communion, and youth Grade 9 and up who have missed Confirmation. Registration is now open. Register at St. Barnabas website at <https://stbarnabasto.ca> **Classes begin on Saturday February 15, 2025**



The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul Holy Spirit Conference

Turning concern into action

Faith without charity bears no fruit'.

Pope Emeritus Benedict

As Christians, God's love calls us to serve in faith and with compassion, to serve the lowly, the poor and the needy in our community. Can we be a NEIGHBOUR to our neighbour-in-need?

Thank you for your contributions to the Poor Box after Mass.

YOUR HEALTH

As cold and flu season approaches, to ensure the health of the entire community, parishioners are encouraged to stay home from Mass and parish functions if they are experiencing symptoms of the flu virus, colds, etc. Respect and concern for the common good takes precedence. Thank you for your cooperation! To minimize risks please use the hand sanitizers that are located at each entrance!

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, January 21

9 a.m. Intentions of Ignes Pereira for her birthday.

Wednesday, January 22

9 a.m. Intentions of thanksgiving for Eran Amarasingha.

Thursday, January 23

9 a.m. Private Intentions.

Friday, January 24

9 a.m. Repose of the soul of Gioan Luu Van req. by Kim Luu.

Saturday, January 25

4:30p.m. Repose of the soul of Neil Richen Belsonda req. by Catherine Manlapaz.

Sunday, January 26

9 a.m. Intentions of all Parishioners.

11 a.m. Repose of the soul of Silvestro DeLaurentis req. by the DeLaurentis family.



COFFEE & TEA & SNACKS SOCIAL

Wednesday, January 22, 2025

After the 9 a.m. Mass
in the Parish Basement

SUNDAY MISSAL

Are available for purchase from the parish office.

Cost \$ 6.00

Monday -Thursday

8:30 a.m.—1 p.m.

Limited quantity available

