

# Second Sunday in Ordinary Time – January 16, 2022

**“Do whatever he tells you” (Jn 2:5)**

Saturday, Jan. 15	5:00 pm	St. Carthage’s	Members of the Parish
Sunday, Jan. 16 <i>(2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time)</i>	9:00 am 11:00 am	St. Edmund’s St. Carthage’s	Leo Whalen Michael Treacy
Monday, Jan. 17	9:00 am	St. Carthage’s	Gail Guio
Tuesday, Jan. 18	9:00 am	St. Carthage’s	Catherine & William Vance
Wednesday, Jan. 19	9:00 am	St. Carthage’s	No Intention
Thursday, Jan. 20			<i>No Mass</i>
Friday, Jan. 21			<i>No Mass</i>
Saturday, Jan. 22	5:00 pm	St. Carthage’s	Michael Gannon
Sunday, Jan. 23 <i>(3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time)</i>	9:00 am 11:00 am	St. Edmund’s St. Carthage’s	Kara Winchester Members of the Parish

**Please Remember in Your Prayers:** All those who are sick, including: F. Boomhour, Neive Alderson, Norene Ruffilli, Amanda Lake, Ginger Kehoe, Margaret Dupuis-Ives, Terry Horrigan, Catherine Liggon, Debbie LaCroix, Presley Noble, Rob Montgomery, Margaret-Rose Wood, Jack Tweedy, Michelle Fobert, Ben Paul, Carrie Young, Jeanette Prevost, Dale McTaggart, David Gohl, Susan Horrigan, Barb Greene, Roy Lamb, Doug Lessard, Carl Kehoe, Barry Tebo, Philip Rashotte, Carolyn Saunders, Bill Cassidy, and Sarah Knill.

*Please let us know at the office if you would like to add to or remove a name from the list of the sick.*

**Offertory Collections:**

St. Carthage’s	January 8 & 9	Regular Sunday Building & Reserve	\$760 \$10
St. Edmund’s	January 9	Regular Sunday Building & Reserve	\$622 \$120

***THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS OFFERING TO OUR CHURCHES***

	<b><u>LECTOR</u></b>	<b><u>HOLY COMMUNION</u></b>	<b><u>USHERS</u></b>
<b>St. Carthage’s</b>			
Saturday, Jan. 22	Karen LaVallée	Carol Genereaux	Greg Donohue Arthur Allore
Sunday, Jan. 23	Shirley Kehoe	Joan McTaggart	Dan Dafoe George Scott
<b>St. Edmund’s</b>	<b><u>LECTOR</u></b>	<b><u>ORGANIST</u></b>	<b><u>USHERS</u></b>
<i>Sunday, Jan. 23</i>	<i>Beth Power</i>	<i>Donna Broek</i>	<i>Bill &amp; Marian Nash Marian Dolan Pat Rush</i>

**Letter to Faithful of the Archdiocese – From Archbishop Michael Mulhall**

My Dear Faithful:

Our Christmas season has recently come to an end, and we now begin the weekly rhythm of Ordinary Time. The New Year also marks the beginning of the second phase of the Synod on Synodality, convoked by the Holy Father, Pope Francis. Unfortunately, in this New Year we continue to struggle through the pandemic with another new variant and another new wave. Each task, it seems, now takes extra time and effort. Let us continue to support one another, as we persevere through this time of uncertainty.

With this letter, I invite you to reflect and pray about the reduced number of priests serving our parishes and missions. As my brother priests know, and, as many of you are already aware, the average age of our priests has risen significantly over the years. Without the precious ministry of our internationally born priests, our numbers would be much lower. Unfortunately, travel and immigration restrictions due to Covid-19 have delayed the arrival of priests from abroad who were coming to serve in the

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You will recall that on **Jan. 2**, we celebrated the Epiphany of the Lord by the light of a star, to the Gentile world, represented by the three wise men from the East. This weekend takes us to the wedding in Cana where Mary gives us a maternal exhortation: “Do whatever he tells you.” Surely, this advice can enable us stand up to any situation we may run into in life. Like the Epiphany of the Lord and the Baptism of the Lord, the transformation of water into wine at the wedding feast in Cana was another epiphany, a “sign” of God’s manifestation through Jesus. In Scripture, the wedding was an image of God’s covenant relationship with Israel (Is 42:6). The abundance of wine suggested the beginning of the Messianic age (Is 25:6). In Jesus’ day, wedding feasts typically lasted several days. Guests had to travel many miles to distant villages, and the hosts had to provide adequate food and drink for them. Mary and Jesus, along with his disciples, were invited to a wedding at Cana, some nine miles northeast of Nazareth. Jesus’ Mother noticed that the young couple had run out of wine! Out of concern for the couple and the gathering, Mary interceded with Jesus on their behalf. Jesus addressed his Mother by the unconventional title “woman.” But it goes to point out that Mary was the New Eve whose offspring, Jesus, would crush the head of the ancient serpent, Satan (Gen 3:15), through his death and resurrection. Mary’s intercession was significant. It initiated her Son’s power to do miracles, even though the time for him to reveal his glory had not yet come. The people were enthralled at the new wine poured out from the water jars (used for ritual purification). Mary is the New Eve whose obedience to God brought about salvation. She knows the Savior through and through. That is why she exhorts us: “Do whatever he tells you.” Consequently, when the “water jar” of life is empty, we need to turn to Christ and do whatever he tells us.

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**...continued: Letter to Faithful of the Archdiocese – From Archbishop Michael Mulhall**

Archdiocese. We have been greatly blessed with the vocations of young men studying for the priesthood; however, it will be a number of years before these men are ordained and fully prepared to serve as pastors and administrators in the Archdiocese.

These conditions prompt us to consider alternative arrangements that will ensure that the faithful of the Archdiocese can be served by the smaller number of priests available. In the future, our priests will still need to live a balanced, joyful life, allowing time for prayer and rest as well as work; the task we put before this smaller number of priests must not become so great and difficult to fulfil that it threatens this balance and their well-being. It will require clear discernment about how they will provide pastoral care to the faithful, prudently using their available time and energy. It will present all of us with the challenge of distinguishing what can be maintained and what needs to change in the pastoral ministry of the Archdiocese.

The changing circumstances that we already face are significant, as are the changes that they force upon us. The trend of church attendance has had a significant impact on the number of faithful in our parishes, particularly in rural communities. Some parishes have already lost a resident pastor, weekday Masses and even their regular Sunday Mass. The losses are very difficult to experience and demand sensitivity; it is one thing to speak of them in the abstract, but it is quite another to actually experience the effects of these changes. This too demands of us all prudence, sensitivity and care.

With the assistance of the Council of Priests and the Personnel Board, we will continue to reflect upon, and plan for, the pastoral care of the faithful of the Archdiocese. In the meantime, I have decided to take some preliminary measures, facilitating pastoral service in the coming months. I will inform the Archdiocese, particularly the parishes most affected, of these provisions when matters are ready to be put in place. These provisions will allow me to continue acquainting myself with the parishes of the Archdiocese, give us the time that we will need to study our situation more fully and bridge the period in which we await a more promising visa situation for international priests.

I have laid out before you the task of discernment that we face as an Archdiocese, and I encourage you to join me in praying for wisdom, prudence and sensitivity, as we go about it. Our future is in the hands of the Lord, as it has always been. I trust and am confident that the Lord will provide for the priests necessary for our proper care in the future. However, the changes that seem inevitable will require from us patience and flexibility. I wish, above all, to leave with you a sense of vocation. Today, the Lord is calling each one of us to serve in the place where we live, in the present realities of the Archdiocese of Kingston. In the same way, the Lord previously called the people of the Archdiocese to address the unique concerns of their own time. As in the past, He will never fail to provide the grace, leadership, sacrifice, and the Catholic joy necessary for us to pass on the faith—in its integrity—to the next generation. So that they, in turn, may answer the Lord’s call to serve Him and the Church in their own time and circumstances.

With prayerful best wishes and blessings,

+Michael Mulhall  
Archbishop of Kingston