

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

6 September 2026 | Sunday



If two of you on earth agree
about anything they ask for...

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today's Gospel reading is taken from a chapter of Matthew's Gospel, which is sometimes called the "discourse on the Church" or the "church order" discourse. In this part of Matthew's Gospel, Jesus speaks more directly about matters of Church discipline and order. In today's reading we find one of only three instances in which Jesus uses the word church in Matthew's Gospel. In Matthew's record of Jesus' teaching, we can hear echoes of the kinds of issues faced by the early Christian community.

In the first part of the "discourse on the Church" (Matthew 18:1-14), Matthew addresses the Christian community's concerns about rank. Jesus responds to the disciples' question about who is greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Jesus indicates that those who wish to enter the kingdom of heaven must be like children, and he cautions those leaders who might lead these "little ones" astray. He also responds with the parable of the lost sheep, indicating how God will seek out and bring back those "little ones" who have strayed.

In today's Gospel reading, Matthew 18:15-20, Jesus addresses a common occurrence in the Christian community: a dispute between two members of the Church. Jesus outlines a procedure for settling such matters fairly. The victim should privately address the offender and attempt to resolve the dispute without outside involvement. If that fails, then the victim should bring two or three witnesses and confront the offender again. If the dispute is still unresolved, the matter should be brought to the attention of the entire community. If the offender refuses to adhere to the reparations prescribed by the community,

As we gather, let us remember and pray for . . .

Monday, September 7

(8:25 a.m. rosary)

9:00 a.m. † Francesco Cirillo

LABOUR DAY

Tuesday, September 8

Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary

(8:25 a.m. rosary)

9:00 a.m. ♦ Special Intention Colette Brownrigg

Wednesday, September 9

St. Peter Claver

(8:25 a.m. rosary)

9:00 a.m. † Joe Monteleone

Thursday, September 10

(8:25 a.m. rosary)

9:00 a.m. † Mariantonia Ozzana

Friday, September 11

(8:25 a.m. rosary)

9:00 a.m. † Margret Young

Saturday, September 12

Holy Name of the Blessed Virgin Mary

4:30 p.m. † Michael Rotundo, Nicola Mignelli

♦ Special Intention Rich O'Connell

Sunday, September 13 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 a.m. ♦ People of the parish

11:00 a.m. † Philip Pitney

5:00 p.m. † Carlos A Betalac

**DIOCESAN SPECIAL
COLLECTIONS**

September 13
Indigenous Healing &
Reconciliation Fund

then Jesus suggests that the offender may be expelled from the Church.

Jesus does not discourage disagreement within the community of the Church; he acknowledges the reality of conflict and error and offers his disciples a means for addressing such matters. It is in the conclusion to this teaching that the message of hope is found: Jesus is present with the community and will guide the community in its relations. If decisions are taken in prayer, then the community can be assured of God's assistance.

PARKING LOT SAFETY

For the safety of our children, parishioners, and all who use our parking lot, **please drive slowly and carefully at all times.** Children may be walking to and from school, and parishioners may be walking to and from the Church. **Please be alert, watch for pedestrians, and help us keep everyone safe. Thank you for your cooperation!**

Prayer Intention for the Month of September:

For the care of water

Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

REMINDER PLEASE NOTE: Banks no longer accept corrections or alterations on cheques. We kindly ask that all cheques be written carefully with no mistakes or changes. There are several cheques at the office that cannot be deposited. For all Special Diocesan Collections and any other donations, **please make cheques payable to St. Thomas More Church.** Thank you for your cooperation and support.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY
Will resume on Sunday,
September 13,
at the 11:00 a.m. Mass.



CWL MISSION STATEMENT:

The Catholic Women's League of Canada calls its members to grow in faith, and to witness to the love of God through ministry and service. The Objects of the League shall be to unite Catholic women of Canada:

- to achieve individual and collective spiritual development; and
- to promote the teachings of the Catholic Church.



Please join us for our **CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE** meeting on Tuesday, September 15th, beginning with the Rosary at 6:30pm. All women of the parish are most welcome to attend. For more information, please email - Sharon Angotti - sharon.angotti.cwl@gmail.com.



TRILLIUM RECOGNITION

St. Thomas More Church Gardens has once again received a City of Niagara Falls Trillium Award. Many thanks to the gardening team for the dedication in keeping our grounds beautiful.



MAY GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFUL STEWARDSHIP!

Sunday Collection

August 2	\$5,182	Repairs	\$832
August 9	\$6,742	Cdn Mission	\$1,038
August 16	\$6,117	African Mission	\$2,910
August 23	\$5,048		
August 30	\$5,048		

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

Sunday September 12/13 after all Masses Ministries will hosts a family Coffee social in the Parish Hall.
All are welcome!



NEW BEGINNINGS

As we turn the page to September, we enter a season of fresh start return to school, the close of summer vacations, and the renewal of many parish activities. It's a time filled with hope, energy, and possibility. We ask for God's blessing on the new school year and on all the endeavors that lie ahead in our parish family. It's also a perfect moment to pause and reflect: How might you become more involved in parish life this year? There are many meaningful ways to serve: as a Lector, Eucharistic Minister, Choir Member, Sacristan, Altar Server, Greeter, Usher, RCIA Team Member, Committee Volunteer, or even by lending a hand with Bingo nights and other parish events. Your unique gifts and talents are always needed and deeply appreciated. To all who already give so generously of their time and energy: thank you. Your service is a blessing to our community.
May St. Thomas More continue to inspire.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Live the gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with Love, Respect, Justice and Joy
In need of assistance?
Groceries - Clothing- Rent
Call the Helpline: 905 374-7070



SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL & THE SOUP KITCHEN

Your food donation will help provide nutritious meals to people in need within Niagara. Your generosity makes a meaningful difference in the lives of individuals and families facing hardship in our community.
Greatest Needs:
Soups, pastas, granola bars, dried beans, canned tomatoes, and sauce.
Thank you for your kindness and continued support!



BINGO! BINGO! BINGO!

Please come out and support St. Thomas More Bingo **September 2 October 7 November 11 December 2.** Delta Monte Carlo Bingo Hall 4735 Drummond Rd.
Your support is greatly appreciated!
THANK YOU!



A MASS OF PENANCE AND HEALING will be celebrated on Monday, September 14, 2026, at 7:00pm, at the Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria (3 Lyman Street, St. Catharines).

"Children learn more by the eye than by the ear. Let your life be their book". -St. Francis de Sales