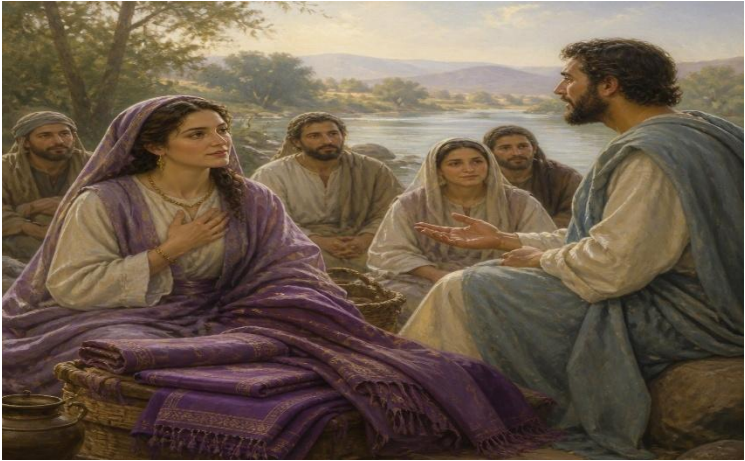


Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Parish Update: September 20th, 2026



“Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son.” (Acts 16.14)

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK
SEPTEMBER 21ST TO SEPTEMBER 27TH

- Monday, 21st *St. Matthew, Apostle – Feast*
Office Closed No Mass
- Tuesday, 22nd *Ferial*
9:00 a.m. Renata Miketic (A&T Miketic)
9:30 a.m. Devotion – Our Mother of Perpetual Help Litany
- Wednesday, 23rd *St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest – Memorial*
9:00 a.m. +Luigino Minicucci (M Minicucci)
9:30-10:00 a.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- Thursday, 24th *Ferial*
9:00 a.m. Holy Souls (N Vendittelli)
+Joseph Vendittelli (N Vendittelli)
- Friday, 25th *Ferial*
9:00 a.m. +Renata Miketic (A&T Miketic)
9:30-10:00 a.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- Saturday, 26th
3:30-4:30 p.m. Confession
5:00 p.m. Liv. & Dec. Members of the Paroyan, Prokopich, Artinian & DiMaurizio Families (M Paroyan)
+Hank Vanderlee (H Vanderlee)
- Sunday, 27th *26th Sunday in Ordinary Time*
9:00 am. +Lawrence Redman (J&V Hawkes)
Sp. Int. of Zorah Polich (L Selimovich)
11:00 a.m. +Dn. Ed West (Dn M&F Prindiville)
Liv. & Dec. Members of Star of the Sea

From the Pastors Desk

Dear Friends: In the midst of the struggles we face, individually in our personal lives, within our nation and the world, I have always found that it is vital to keep our eyes open to the encouraging developments that we are never

without. One of these is the renewal we are perceiving within the life of the Church. There is a growing interest in Christianity, Catholicism in particular. In Europe and our own continent, conversions to the Faith are on the rise, following decades of decline. Naturally, we are working on the parish and diocesan levels to facilitate this, but, there are very real limits to what can be done about the problem of the widespread loss of faith, and it is evident that the action of God Himself is required to bring about any significant change. And, He seems to be doing just that!

For the past few years, in dioceses around the world, there has been a marked increase in the number of converts entering the Church at the Easter Vigil Liturgy. We here at Star of the Sea, have seen only one or two converts per year for the past 3 years. As a result of this, we have not offered the OCIA (formerly RCIA) as the path of discernment and faith formation for these few individuals. Rather, private instruction by the priest was the route we went. However, this year, there are six (and counting!), who have come forward to share in this process.

What is OCIA and why did the “R” change to an “O?” OCIA stands for Order of Christian Initiation of Adults. The process had been long referred to as “Rite.” Even the instruction manual put forth by our Canadian bishops has “Rite” in its title. There are, indeed “rites” included in the process, such as “The Rite of Acceptance” which is found at the beginning of the process. There is then “The Rite of Election” which takes place at the start of the Lenten Season. These rites taken together make up the overall Order of the process of Inquiry, Catechesis, Conversion and Initiation. Hence the change in nomenclature.

There are two categories of converts which the process serves: Catechumens (those who have never been Baptized) and Candidates (those whose baptism in another Christian denomination is recognized as valid in the Catholic Church.) These latter individuals come into the process as Christians, with the goal to eventually profess the Catholic Faith, receive Eucharist and Confirmation, and live out their faith journey in the Catholic Church.

We will begin the OCIA in early October, journeying together over the next several months to the Easter Vigil, at which time, those who are ready, will be fully initiated. The night of the Vigil is a truly joyful and solemn event for the newly initiated and the whole parish family. If you know someone who has been expressing an interest in the Catholic faith, please invite them to contact our parish office to see about sharing in this year’s OCIA. And, never stop praying for more Christian disciples, making sure to be as convincing a witness to Christ as you can be! *Fr. Richard*

Pope’s 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.

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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Please join us for a Mass of Thanksgiving to God for the 106 years of service by the Carmelite Sisters D.C.J. and Mount Carmel Home

Thursday October 1st
at the Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria
3 Lyman Street,
St. Catharines, Ontario

Mass at 2:00pm
Reception to follow



“Could you not watch one hour with me?” Matthew 26:40

Life Chain Event Sunday, October 4th, 2026 2:30 PM to 3:30 PM Lake St. and Carlton St. On Sunday, October 4th, 2026 Canadians will gather at 375+ locations nationwide to peacefully raise awareness about the truth of abortion during Life Chain, now in its 35th year in Canada. Upon arrival, you will be greeted by the organizer and given signs to hold with messages such as “Adoption: A Loving Option.” Please spread out along the sidewalk and spend time in quiet prayer. This is a unique, family-friendly event advocating for innocent pre-born children. As Christ reminds us in Matthew 25:40: “As you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.”

Dead Man Walking — October 16–18 Jesus Youth invites youth and young adults ages 16–20 to Dead Man Walking, a three-day residential retreat at the Valley of the Mother of God (Mono / Orangeville). Speakers include Jason Evert; music by Steadfast Worship. Registration: <http://dmw.jesusyouth.ca/register> Info: <http://dmw.jesusyouth.ca>

2nd Annual Bishop's Fundraising Gala — Save the date! This year's Light the Way Gala is taking place Friday, November 27 at the Niagara Falls Convention Centre. Join us for an evening celebrating Bishop Bergie's vision for dynamic parishes, with proceeds supporting faith formation for the laity and the education of our seminarians. Enjoy a live and silent auction, wonderful food and company, entertainment, and a word from Bishop Bergie himself. Tickets are available through the diocesan website — scan the QR code to purchase yours!



PRAYER ANGELS Our ministry is set up to pray for the parish’s intentions. Please send by email or phone your concerns or cares and they will be passed on to the members of this group who will daily offer up your intentions to the Lord. Prayer is powerful. Let us help ease your troubles or shower the Lord with praises. Please call or email Marg 289-214-6679 mgmartin113@gmail.com

‘He who prays most receives most.’
St. Alphonsus Maria de Liguori



CWL CORNER
(Catholic Women's League)
“Blessed are the Poor”



E-transfer payments for CWL may be made to cwlstarofthesea@gmail.com. Please remember to indicate which event in the subject line.

This year is a **CWL election year**. This is an opportunity for any CWL member to consider sharing her time and talents as a member of the executive team. Nomination forms will soon be available. Will you answer the call?

Tickets for our **Trivia Night** will be on sale next weekend after before and after all Masses. Don’t forget to gather up your friends and family for this fun event! Please bring cash or cheque, made payable to CWL Star of the Sea. Tickets are \$25 each or \$175 for a table of 8. For more information contact Jayne.evans98@gmail.com.

Autumn Prayer

God of all seasons, we thank you for Autumn. We thank you for the touch of coolness in the air that gives us a new burst of energy, for the coloring of trees that shows the creativity of the Divine Artist, for the falling leaves that reveal the strength of the branches, for the hues of fields that bring peace to our souls, for the smiles on pumpkins that bring joy to children, for the fall harvest which that brings us gratitude for the bounty of our land, for this change of seasons that reveals the circle of life. God of all seasons, as you transform the earth, transform us by your Spirit. Amen
— Rev. Doug Leonhardt, S.J.



Sept. 26 / 27	5 P.M.	9 A.M.	11 A.M.
Ministers of Holy Communion	Dn. Maurice	Dn. Maurice	Dn. Maurice
Lector	T Cheslea	K Zacharchuk	G LaRoche
Hospitality Ministers	P&J Merritt M Ford	C DeLuca R Dzugan W Riddle	Bott Family

WEEKLY COLLECTION CONTRIBUTIONS:

September 6th & September 13th, 2026

	Sept. 6 th	Sept. 13 th
Parishioner Envelopes	\$4,620.00	\$3,308.00
Loose Collection CAD	\$ 366.00	\$ 234.00
USD	\$ 20.00	\$ 0.00
Needs of Canadian Church	\$1,000.00	
Indigenous Reconciliation		\$ 295.00
Total Offertory	\$6,006.00	\$3,837.00
August E-Transfers	\$1,190.00	
Sept. AFT Contribution		\$1,035.00
Our Special Needs	\$ 420.00	\$ 210.00

Thank you
MAY GOD BLESS YOU