

## June 26, 2020-Reflections for Ordinary Time

In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Dear God, we acknowledge that the land on which we gather is part of the Treaty Lands and Territory of the Mississauga's of the Credit. We are grateful for the Mississauga's of the Credit First Nation of the Anishinaabek Peoples who continue to share their ancestral lands with us.



### *A reading from the Gospel of Matthew*

*“When Jesus had come down from the mountain, great crowds followed him; and there was a leper who came to him and knelt before him, saying, ‘Lord, if you choose, you can make me clean.’ He stretched out his hand and touched him, saying, ‘I do choose. Be made clean!’ Immediately his leprosy was cleansed. Then Jesus said to him, ‘See that you say nothing to anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.’” (Matthew 8:1-4)*

As we close another school year, let us take the time to reflect and think about how different the world is now then when we started. All of us have had to learn new ways to teach and communicate with each other. Some of us have taken the time to self reflect and discover things about ourselves that need change or refinement. Others have looked at their life and realized that God has blessed them while others have acknowledged how they have taken people for granted. I hope that you have realized how important God is in your life and how it forms and cultivates your relationship with others.

For me, this time has allowed me to take a break from music ministry. During this time, I can focus on the words and movements of mass without the distraction of music. I realized that what I missed most was celebrating the Sacrament of Eucharist. Although the televised mass helped to focus my thoughts and heart on God's word nothing compares to being in the presence of God. An experience which is more than a feeling but a certainty to know that what lies ahead is an opportunity for us to remember our humanity. A humanity that needs God to see what is just and right and the courage to make tough decisions and have those tough conversations with others.

I pray you have a restful summer and remember that feeling of how everything is not the same is a good feeling. It reminds us to dig deeper into our heart, to hear what the Holy Spirit is saying and using our reason to discern what is true and false in this world. To help you in the days and weeks ahead, here are three video links to inspire or add some much-needed humour in your life.

- Inspiration to Remember God is with you-Because He Lives by Matt Maher -<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-LwBqG7uXbY>
- Light Humour to look at our lives in a humorous way: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zeVOvazKJtI&t=245s>
- Prayer for Tomorrow: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4QELTPwVNzg> (instrumental with the great Oscar Peterson) or <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YTAzDaAOtmI> (with vocals)

May we see each other soon. Let us pray for all our students to have a safe and healthy break. May we never forget this experience, but remember every lesson God has wants us to learn. Our future may be

uncertain, but God is not. Let us pray for Karolina and her three children. May they rest in peace. May the Ciasullo's family know God is with them in this tragic uncertainty. For all you love remain in God's grace and remember to show it to others in how you socially distance from others or make those sacrifices so others may have opportunities you have been given in abundance. Never be afraid what lies ahead, but always ask for the Holy Spirit's assistance. May the Mother of God keep you in her heart and pray for you. May Christ's words take hold of our hearts to, "Remember I am with you always till the end of days." Amen. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.