

Lac Ste Anne Parish

October 2019



Lac Ste Anne Parish

Comp33, Site 114, RR 1

Alberta Beach, Alberta

TOE-0A1 780-924-3550

Pastor Fr. Les Kwiatkowski OMI

Parish Council: Mary Lutz: 780-924-8324

Hall Rental/Columbarium: John Harvard 780-892-2089

Website/Bulletin Parish Office: Veronica: 780-924-3550 or 780-953-5448

Parish email: lacsteanne@caedm.ca

Parish website: lacsteanne.caedm.ca

Oblate website: omilacombe.ca

Enoch Parish 780-470-3021

Assist. Pastor Fr. Gerry LeStrat OMI

Regular Mass Times

Lac Ste Anne

Sunday 10:00

Tuesday 7:00 pm

Wednesdays 9:00 am

COFFEE SUNDAY October 6

Alexis

Sunday 12:00

Pastoral Care to the sick or shut-in's is available in LSA Parish. If you are unable to attend Mass and **wish Communion brought to your home**, or if you wish to **add your name to the Bulletin List** for prayers please contact Mary Lutz at (780) 924-8324 or Veronica at the parish office 780-924-3550

October 2019

Fr Les Little Reflection

October month of the rosary – why should we pray rosary?

Many great popes, saints, and Christian leaders have exhorted us to pray the rosary. It's a powerful prayer, they say, one that can change your life, strengthen the family, bring peace to the world, convert entire nations, and win the salvation of souls.

But does the average person experience the rosary this way? Many Catholics, unfortunately, have the impression that the rosary is not relevant for them. It might be a sacred prayer for very religious people—priests, religious sisters, and exceptional Catholics—but not for “an ordinary lay person like us.” Some have questions about the rosary: Does all this attention to Mary distract us from a relationship with God? Why do we repeat the same prayers over and over? Are we supposed to concentrate on the prayers, the mysteries, or both? Still others think the rosary is just plain boring—a monotonous, dry, mechanical way of talking to God, not as personal and meaningful as other forms of prayer. Others wonder if all the repetition has any meaning. “I know the rosary is important, but it just seems like rote prayer,” one young adult said. “It's like saying magical words and something good is supposed to happen. What's the point? Is simply saying these words actually doing anything for me spiritually?”

Lets think of the rosary as being like the ocean: There's something in it for everyone, whether you consider yourself a veteran mystic longing to go deeper in prayer with our Lord, a novice struggling to learn how to pray, or someone seeking the Lord's help, right now, with something going on in your life. The deep-sea explorer and the child making sand castles on the beach can fully enjoy the same ocean while playing at different levels. And this is true with the rosary. If the rosary is not a part of your regular prayer life right now, it's easy to get your feet wet with this devotion. Here are five key things you need to know to get started. First, *we don't have to pray the rosary all at once*. Sure, some people might sit down and quietly pray a whole rosary in one sitting. But we can also choose to divide it up, saying just a decade or two at a time at different points throughout the day: on the way to work, while folding laundry or doing dishes. Many holy men and women and even popes have prayed the rosary this way and have found it manageable and fruitful for their busy lives.

Second, *we can pray it anywhere!* The rosary is like a portable chapel we can keep in our pocket and pull out anytime, anyplace. Whether we have a sudden, urgent situation to present to God in prayer or we just want to fill some of our day with thoughts of God, all we need to do is pull out our beads and turn to the Lord in this prayer. Indeed, the rosary is always accessible. We might pray it in a church, in our room.



Third, *we can pray the rosary in different ways*, customizing it to fit the needs of the moment. Sometimes we might focus on the words of the prayers, thinking, for example, of Gabriel’s greeting to Our Lady as we slowly say with great devotion, “Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.” At other times, we might reflect on the mysteries of Christ’s life, prayerfully contemplating scenes such as his birth in Bethlehem.

Fourth, *it’s easy to fit the rosary into your schedule.* If I need a quick pause in my busy life—just a two-and-a-half-minute break—I can pull out my beads and pray a decade in order to regroup with the Lord and be nourished spiritually.

Fifth, *even if I’m not able to give the rosary my full attention, it’s still worth praying.* I might not always be able to completely unplug mentally from the concerns of the day. I might be exhausted, too tired to pray well. But still, the words themselves are biblical and holy. Offering God a decade or two in the midst of my daily life gives him something beautiful.

We as human persons are made with infinite desires that only God can fulfill. But because we’re fallen, we tend to live at the level of our superficial desires—desires for comfort, fun, fame, wealth, pleasure, success. These desires are not bad, but the rosary helps us be more aware of the soul’s deepest desires, which are for God. As St. Catherine of Siena taught, the greatest gift we can give to God in prayer is not the finite work of saying the words but our “infinitely desirous love” for God that is expressed in those words and that is being drawn out of our souls in prayer.

'Hear the Word of God and Do It'

Living in the Word —As we open our hearts to the Word of God, and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to us how we may more faithfully put it into practice, we encounter these challenging questions, posed by St. Paul: "What do you have that you did not receive? And if you received it, why do you boast as if it were not a gift?" (1Corinthians 4:7) All is God's gift. Everything good that we have and are comes from God. Sacred Scripture also makes known the purpose for which God bestows gifts on his children: "Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received." (1Peter 4:10).

(Archbishop Smith, *Pastoral Letter*, September 14, 2017)

Hurricane Dorian in the Bahamas

The Category 5 Hurricane Dorian hit the Bahamas on September 1, causing extensive damage to the islands of Abaco and Grand Bahama. Torrential rains swept away houses, buildings, and roads. More than 75,000 people were severely affected and at least 51 died. With rescuers continuing to search for survivors, and 1,300 people still missing, the number of victims is likely to increase in the coming days. Development and Peace is collaborating with its Caritas network partners to assess the considerable immediate needs on the devastated islands. Among the priorities identified are the affected families of unskilled workers, whom we will support with money to meet basic needs and with the provision of psychosocial support. The following additional emergency relief will be provided in the coming days:

- Food assistance
- Emergency shelters, including tarpaulins, rope and nails
- Blankets, sleeping mats, kitchen items and utensils
- Sanitary articles, soap, buckets and water cans

For more information or to donate to Bahamas relief efforts, visit devp.org or call 1-888-664-3387.

Carmelite Spirituality Center

Everyone is invited to our one-day retreat, "Mary, Queen of Heaven," on **Saturday, October 12**. Talks will be given by Father Mario Fernandes, Director of the Centre.

Important Note: Please bring your lunch. For more information visit

mountcarmeledmonton.ca or call 780-963-0896.

The AED is located in the kitchen area