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2025

#96 Our Lady of Sierra, Oakhurst

Our Lady of the Sierra Parish

Our Lady of the Sierra Church | St Dominic Mission | St. Joseph Mission

Sunday, August 24 2025, Vol. 232

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Is 66.18-21; Heb12.5-7, 11-13
Lk 13.22-30 – The Narrow Door

Focus: The Narrow Path

“Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough.” This teaching of Jesus is a hard one to wrestle with in a world that is consumed with comfort and luxury. People don't want to hear about sacrifice, denial of self, and teachings that are uncomfortable to preach. Many would rather be able to live their life the way they see fit, while at the same time reaping the rewards that await in heaven.

This form of 'Christianity' where everyone is saved and no work is needed to be done in bringing the Gospel to the ends of the world is a fantasy, and contrary to the Gospel. As much as we may wish for this to be the case, the readings today remind us that following Jesus is about taking up our cross and following him. To be authentic disciples and stewards, we must heed the words of St. Paul to the Hebrews and be willing to subject ourselves to the discipline of the Lord. We must like Jesus be humble, and gladly take up our cross and follow him.

Let us not walk the path that is broad and smooth, with many comforts and luxuries along the way, for this is the

path that leads to destruction. Rather, let us strive to be like the saints and walk the narrow path, which is hard and difficult but leads to life everlasting with the Lord. As stewards, we are called to give of ourselves and to be willing to travel this narrow path. One way to do this is through sacrifice and fasting. Let us take up the practice this week of offering some comfort up to the Lord, to help ourselves better orient to walking the narrow path of life.

Summary

In a world consumed with comfort, no one wants to hear the Gospel message of the narrow path, a path full of sacrifice, self-denial, and carrying one's cross. However, this is the life that God calls his disciples to live, to travel the hard and narrow path following our Lord who waits for us at the end. As we take up practices of self-denial and sacrifice, we become more like Jesus and are better suited to travel the narrow path, rather than the broad and easy path of destruction. (Archdiocese of Toronto)

Self-Examination

Whom do you struggle to see as included in God's kingdom? How might God be inviting you to reach out to that particular person or group?

Living the WORD

The project of entering the narrow gate is an exercise in humility, moving us away from obsessing over what we should do or should not do and fixing our attention on what Jesus is doing within us.

Humility is not something we accomplish for ourselves. It is a gift for those who strive to enter the narrow gate.

Vision Statement: Journeying together in our quest for holiness.

Mission Statement: To become intentional disciples of Jesus Christ, nurtured by the Blessed Virgin Mary, our Patron, and accompanied by the shepherds, coordinators and people of our Church

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LECTORS and COMMENTATORS

Who is a Lector - The person(s) who proclaims the Word of God at Mass and liturgical celebrations. They will be scheduled to proclaim at Mass twice a month.



Who is a Commentator - The person who welcomes, leads and motivates the assembly of people towards a faith-filled worship of God. They also lead the Prayers of the Faithful.

Requirements - This ministry requires a person who is of excellent character, serious about the practice of their faith, believes and respects that Sacred Scripture is the Word of God. Be willing to complete a parish formation process and attend workshops and days of prayer.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS of HOLY COMMUNION

Who is an - Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion (EMHC). The person(s) who assist the priest with distributing Holy Communion during Mass. They may also bring Communion to the sick and homebound and give viaticum to the dying.



Requirements - To be an EMHC: Have received the sacrament of Confirmation, be of good moral standing, fully participate in the life of the parish, receive sufficient preparation and instruction.

A gathering for all current
Lectors/Commentators/EMs and those interested
in joining this ministry will be held in September.

SACRISTAN MINISTRY

Who is a Sacristan - The Sacristan prepares and oversees the completion of tasks that are necessary for the celebration of the liturgy. Set-up: the books, vestments, vessels, the bread and the wine; assist during the liturgy; clean-up, put away and lock-up. The work is done "behind the scenes" before the liturgy begins and after it ends.



Requirements - Is an adult member of the parish, fully initiated into the Catholic faith, mindful of the presence of God and our call to serve, ability to prepare for the liturgy in a timely way and bring order to the celebration. There will be initial training and ongoing formation.

LATEST

Let us Celebrate
*The Nativity Of
The Blessed
Virgin Mary*
Monday, | September 8, 2025
8:30 AM Devotions | 9:00 AM

We Love You! !



I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2025

WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY



FEFF, or *Family Evangelization and Faith Formation*, is Our Lady of the Sierra's faith formation program for students Grade K to 12 and their parents. Classes begin on September 7, 2025. Parents are encouraged to register their children by August 31, 2025. Best way to sign up is online at www.ols-oakhurst.org. Or pick up application forms from the foyer of the OLS church, or the parish office.

MASS INTENTIONS

26 Tue	SI—Mark Chapin By Deborah Graham	30 Sat 4 PM	RM—Pablo Ingal By Grace Schultz
27 Wed	RM—Bernard & Fren Cohn by R. Dittman	31 Sun 8 AM	Pro Populo
28 Thu	SI—Mark Chapin By Deborah Graham	9:30 AM	SI—Donald Cohn By Regina Dittman
29 Fri	RM—Abert Deshaies By Regina Dittman	11:30 AM	RM — Jorge Gonzales By Rosa Gonzales

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CALENDAR AND SCHEDULES

WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE

25 Mon	Office Closed
26 Tue	8:00 AM Rosary & Mass
27 Wed	8:00 AM Rosary & Mass 9:00 Devotion to St. Joseph 10-12 Music Min. , Practice & Meeting 12:30 Buildings & Grounds Meeting
28 Thu	8:00AM Divine Mercy & Mass
29 Fri	8:00AM Rosary & Mass 9:00 to 12 Noon Sacred Heart ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT 19:00 AM Funeral, Catherine Massey
30 Sat	3:00 PM Confessions 4:00 PM Mass 9:00 Baptism, Chantland 11:00 Wedding & Baptism Wes & Reina Stanley
31 Sun	8:00 AM Mass-St Joseph 9:30 AM Mass-St Dominic 11:30 AM Mass-OLS

LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS

25 Mon	Mon. 21st Week in OT (M) Sts. Louis; Joseph Calasanz, Pr 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10/Mt 23:13-22
26 Tue	Tue, 21st Week in OT
27 Wed	(M) St. Monica
28 Thu	(M) St. Augustine, Bishop & Doc
29 Fri	(M) Passion of St. John the Baptist
30 Sat	Sat, 21st Week in OT
31 Sun	22nd SUNDAY IN OT Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29/Heb 12:18-19,

SECOND COLLECTIONS

24-Aug	Maintenance Fund (P)
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