

Father Oliver’s Weekend Reflection: 21st Sunday Psalm 138

The response to this week's responsorial psalm is, "Your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands." This powerful verse expresses the psalmist's gratitude to God for listening to his cries, remaining unwavering in His faithfulness, and offering strength in times of struggle. It inspires us to remember that, even in our most challenging moments, we can confidently place our trust in the Lord's enduring love and support.

The psalm begins with an important statement: "I give you thanks, O Lord, with all my heart." Thanksgiving is more than just something we do when things go smoothly. Sometimes we pray and do not receive an immediate response. We can even doubt whether God is listening. Therefore, the psalmist instructs us to appreciate God's goodness in all circumstances. Looking closely at our lives, we can find many reasons to thank God: life, family, faith, opportunities, protection, forgiveness, etc. Another significant message is found in the words: "When I called, you answered, and you strengthened my soul." God may not always eliminate our issues quickly, but He does provide us with the strength to overcome them. There are times when we need a stronger heart and deeper faith than a change in life. When we are weak or discouraged, God's presence allows us to persevere.

Moreover, there may be times when we feel disappointed, unappreciated, or unclear about the future. Psalm 138 affirms that God has not abandoned us. He strengthens the weak, hears those who call out to Him, and lovingly guides those who put their faith in Him. Let us keep trusting the Lord and thanking Him always.

Liturgy and Sacraments:
Baptism & Instruction in the Catholic Faith: The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on Sundays as needed. Parent preparation is required.
Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) Those wishing to join the Catholic Church please call the office (613-543-2544). Classes starting soon!
Marriage: 9–12-month notice is needed for the celebration of the Sacrament of Matrimony. Each couple is required to participate in a Marriage Preparation course.
Reconciliation: Confessions heard half hour before Mass or by appointment.
Anointing of the Sick: The Sacrament of Anointing is given on request, especially before going to the hospital, or at the hospital or at home.
Sick List: Please call the office if anyone needs prayers, a visit or is seriously ill. If you are unable to attend Mass for an extended period of time, please contact St. Mary’s. Arrangements can be made for reception of the Holy Eucharist in the home.

ST. MARY’S – ST. CECILIA’S PARISH



31, Meikle Street, P.O. Box 612
Morrisburg, On, K0C 1X0
T 613-543-2544 F 613-543-2800



Office Hours: Mon, Wed, Fri, 9-12
Email: StMary.Morrisburg@archkingston.ca
Web page: stmary-stcecilia-parish.ca

Civic Address: St. Mary, 31 Meikle Street, Morrisburg
Civic Address: St. Cecilia, 3 College Street, Iroquois

Father Oliver Wekesa, Administrator
Mrs. Nancy Richer, Parish Secretary

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ August 23, 2026

Sun.	23 Aug	9:00 am	Clara Pepers (Pepers Family)
Tue.	25 Aug	6:00 pm	Connolly, McGahey, Sullivan Families (Catherine Dwyre)
Wed.	26 Aug	9:00 am	The Boulerville Sisters (Fred & Sandy Diegel)
Sun.	30 Aug	9:00 am	Dec mbrs of Watson Family (Marilyn & Jim Boissonneault)
Tue.	01 Sep	9:00 am	Souls in Purgatory (Linda Fleury)
Wed.	02 Sep	9:00 am	Nolda Byvelds (Tony & Corrie Byvelds)
Fri.	03 Sep	4:00 pm	Peter & Regina Fridgen and Family (Estate of Bill Fridgen)
		3:00 – 4:00 pm	Exposition & Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

2nd notice of Clergy Appointments ~ Please see the bulletin board

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Etransfers Available: We have set up the ability to send etransfer to the Church, please use StMary.Morrisburg@archkingston.ca in the remarks area please give your name and what you wish the money to be used for eg. Roof, Regular Collection etc.

Collection: 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time: \$1,576.00 (2025: \$1,440.00)
Repairs & Maintenance: \$355.00; Roof Repair: \$410.00
20th Sunday in Ordinary Time: \$1,494.00 (2025: \$1,607.00)
Repairs & Maintenance: \$200.00; Roof Repair: \$100.00
Roof Collected to date: \$27,015.00; (Total cost \$120,000) 23% of our goal!

Meetings:

KNIGHTS - Mon 14 Sept, 7 pm St. Mary's Meeting Room

CWL - Mon 21 Sept, 7 pm St. Mary's Meeting Room

Bible/Faith Study: 2nd and 4th Tuesdays after the 6 pm Mass in St. Mary's Mtg Room

Rosary Group: 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 5:30 pm before the 6 pm Mass

Parish Activities:

Choirs: St. Mary's: Jim Boissonneault (543-3435) new members are welcome!

AA Meeting: Wednesday, 8:00 pm,

Coffee Social: 13 Sept Marg Zambon (613-652-4741)



Pray for those who are sick in our families and parish especially:
Ann Ramsey, Nancy Pomerleau, Fr. Sebastian Amato, Lola Kennedy, Tony Byvelds, John Ricci, Alice McNairn, and Noella Kirkwood.

Pray for the repose of the soul of Nolda Byvelds, Erna Jakel, Florence McManus, Bill McSheffrey, Robert Miller, Julie Watters (nee Durivage), Margaret Lortie; Jim Kelly, Juliet Gremli, Catherine Lortie, Tina Serviss, and Beat Schraner.

Free Will Offering for Missals and Word Among Us if you are able, please consider helping with the cost of these items, the box is located at the back of the church. Thank you for your continued support of our Parish.

August 23, 2026

Spiritual Speakers Series: To honour the Archdiocese's 200th Anniversary, a special speakers' Series has been planned for Aug 13–15th at different parishes. All are welcome to attend! See the poster at the back of the Church for more details.

Fundraising: We have a committee! If you have ideas for fundraising please reach out to the office by email and they will be forward to the committee for consideration. Thank you for those who have volunteered.

17th Annual Women's Fall Retreat: Sat., Oct. 24, 2026, 9:00 am to 3:30 pm, at St. Michael's Catholic High School in Kemptville. Guest speaker Melanie Rabishaw reflects on the 200th anniversary theme of the Archdiocese of Kingston: "To know Christ and the power of His resurrection". Join us for Holy Mass, inspiring reflections, worship, personal prayer and fellowship. Registration (\$50) is limited to 100 participants: romancatholic.kingston.on.ca/womens-fall-retreat.

Harvest Spaghetti Supper Sun Oct 4 at Our Lady of Grace, Ingleside. Sittings at 4 pm; 5:10 pm and 6:10 pm. Dine-in or pre-order take out. Advance tickets required. Cost: Adults \$18; Seniors \$16; Children 6-12 \$10; under 5 free; Family pass (2 adults & 3 or more kids under 18) \$50. Info Deborah 613-363-3471 or email at debbievdh55@gmail.com.

Cemetery Masses:

September 4th at 3:00 pm St. Cecilia's, Iroquois then blessing of graves.

September 23rd at 9:00 am St. Mary's, Morrisburg then proceed to the cemetery for rosary and blessing of the graves.

Charity Raffle: The Knights of Columbus presents its Ontario Charities Raffle (License #RAF1526797) in support of the Birthright, St. Vincent de Paul, Special Olympics and local projects. Open only to Ontario residents 18 or over; 50:50 grand prize Aug 31. Tickets are 10 for \$10, 40 for \$20, 125 for \$50 and 300 for \$100, contact Grand Knight Graham Darling 613-214-1968 or online at <https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/k-of-c-ont/295>.