

## Catholic Culture Update for the week beginning September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Quote to carry in your heart this week

**“The Lord God is my help!”** Isaiah 50

**September 16th is the Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary time. Practice of Faith** “Jesus was widely misunderstood in his day, even by his closest followers. For many, he was not the kind of messiah they were expecting. Instead of leading a revolution he actually said, “Take up your cross!” It’s still easy to misread Jesus. ♦ To help ensure you are embracing the authentic Jesus, seek out Scripture. Join a Bible study at your parish led by a trustworthy teacher. ♦ Watch the PBS Frontline Special, *From Jesus to Christ: The First Christians*: <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/religion/watch/>. It may challenge some assumptions, but in the end your faith will be well informed and can deepen on that basis. ♦ An encounter with the Holy Land is an important spiritual experience. If you cannot go to a place like Israel or Jordan, read passages of Scripture using your imagination, picturing Jesus in a particular place and time in history.” [You may be able to visit Israel or Jordan virtually – check out internet] AT HOME with WORD 2018. LTP, page 129

**“Scripture Insights >** “Who do people say that I am?” Jesus poses this question to his disciples on his journey through Caesarea Philippi. It elicits Peter’s acknowledgement that Jesus is the Messiah. For centuries Israel had looked forward to God fulfilling his promise to King David by raising up another great leader to restore Israel’s kingdom (2 Samuel 7). These hopes had become clouded in political and earthly expectations. Peter’s response, in unambiguous terms, “You are the Christ (of the Messiah),” gives Jesus the opportunity to offer a different understanding. Jesus says that he has come not to establish an earthly kingdom in power, but rather a spiritual kingdom in weakness. God’s Kingdom will be established through Jesus’ Death and Resurrection. The First Reading, from the third of Isaiah’s “Servant Songs,” belongs to another tradition pointing to the Messiah’s coming in humiliation and suffering. Jesus draws upon this tradition in referring to his own ministry of suffering and death on behalf of God’s people. Peter fails to take this tradition into account when he tells Jesus not to talk about suffering and death. He is utterly perplexed and alarmed, for Peter believed that the Messiah would come in power and glory. When Jesus says to Peter, “God behind me, Satan,” he is referring to Satan in the Book of Job, where Satan, as the same actually means, is God’s adversary. Jesus reinforces this by saying that Peter’s thoughts are human ways of thinking, not God’s way. A further challenge emerges for Jesus’ followers from his revelation that he is going to suffer and die. His followers’ lives will embrace the same path of suffering, Death, and Resurrection. As true Christians, our lives too will share in Jesus’ redemptive suffering.

- From these readings, how would you explain the meaning of the word “Messiah (Christ)”?
- What would be your answer to Jesus’ question, “Who do you say that I am?”
- Have you experienced the reality of Jesus’ words, “Take up your cross and follow me”?” AT HOME with WORD 2018. LTP, page 129

September 21<sup>st</sup> is the feast day of **St. Matthew**, Apostle and Evangelist. “St. Matthew (first century), referred to as the “tax collector,” is one of the Twelve Apostles and the Evangelist who authored the first of the four accounts of the Gospel. His account has a two-fold purpose: one, to announce that Jesus is the eternal king of all creation; and two, to encourage faith in the face of doubt, especially regarding persecution. We have very little information about him, other than he invited Jesus to his home to dine with societal outcasts (see Matthew 9:9-13), and that he preached the Good News after the Resurrection. Tradition says he began preaching in Judea, then moved on to Ethiopia, Persia, Syria, Macedonia, and possibly Ireland. He is venerated as a martyr, even though history does not tell us how or where he died.” Companion to the Calendar – A guide to the Saints, Seasons, and Holidays of the Year, Second Edition, page 118. *St. Matthew teach us to be humble.* Humility is not a virtue honoured in our society...look around today for a humble person.

September 21<sup>st</sup> is the **International Day of Peace**. There is such a great need of peace in the world. This year we invite our schools, classes and employees to show their commitment to peace by flashing a peace sign, taking a photograph and posting it on social media with the hash tag **#FlashItForPeace**. Last year over ½ million impressions were created worldwide in support of this Peace Works online event, and this year we can make an even BIGGER impact. Join with others all over the planet on this one amazing day and FLASH IT FOR PEACE! Promotional tools you can share are: The CYNTHIA DALE YouTube video – <http://youtu.be/a2HRzhAct.ZA> and the Peace Works website <http://peaceworks.tv>

September 22/23 is the **Autumnal Equinox**. “This celestial event marks the official change of seasons. After today, nights will be longer than days in the Northern Hemisphere. Autumn is beginning. (Of course, in the Southern Hemisphere the opposite is true and the season of spring begins.) The full moon closest to the autumnal equinox is known as “harvest moon.” In the old days, the

light of the full moon helped farmers harvest crops during the night. The next full moon, about a month later, is called “hunter’s moon.” It is a second harvest moon.” Companion to the Calendar – A guide to the Saints, Seasons, and Holidays of the Year, Second Edition, page 118.

### **Living as Joyful Disciples ~ a quote for the week**

“Jesus became one of us – was born like us, was a child like us, grew into an adult like us. Because he stands with us on a stretch of level ground, he understands our pain, suffering, joy, fears. He is with us.” Karen Beattie – 2018 A Book of Grace-filled Days p. 283

**Ontario Catholic Student Graduate Expectations** – In 1998, the first edition of the *Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations* was released within the Catholic education community. The second edition was released in 2011. You will be receiving a booklet soon that contains the OCSGEs as they are.

### **Catholic Character Education and the Virtues + FAITH**

During the month of September we strive to grow in the virtue of faith. A prayer for faith to help inspire you:

God be in my head and in my understanding.

God be in my eyes and in my looking.

God be in my mouth and in my speaking.

God be in my heart and in my caring.

God be at my beginning and in my departing.

Amen+

Adapted from Sarum Primer, 1527

### **Living Our Mission Statement**

**We are called and committed. As members of the HSCDSB, we believe we are called by the Spirit of God to work in this place. Are you committed to do your best work every day?**

**Staff Self-Care Tip of the Week – Be sure to monitor your screen time before going to bed. Reading is a great way to calm yourself but if it is on an e-reader, you may be sending your brain mixed messages.**

### **Relationships – Strategic Direction of the Multi Year Strategic Plan**

“We are called and committed to strengthening relationships with parents, Catholic School Councils (CSCs), parishes, staff and employee groups, agencies, and First Nations, Métis, and Inuit communities to better serve our students. *If we consistently engage in respectful dialogue, work collaboratively with one another, and demonstrate mercy, then by 2020, the H-SCDSB will be known for its positive relationships, both internally and externally.*” Strategic Directions iPad cover

### **Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada 2012 Calls to Action**

“In order to redress the legacy of residential schools and advance the process of Canadian reconciliation, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission makes the following calls to action.

#### **Professional Development and Training for Public Servants**

57. We call upon federal, provincial, territorial, and municipal governments to provide education to public servants on the history of Aboriginal peoples, including the history and legacy of residential schools, the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, Treaties and Aboriginal rights, Indigenous law, and Aboriginal–Crown relations. This will require skills based training in intercultural competency, conflict resolution, human rights, and anti-racism.

Our Board Blanket Exercise team has been asked to offer the experience to public servants in the Ontario Ministry of Mines and Northern Development, Sault Ste. Marie Social Services employees and the Garden River Health Centre. We have also offered the experience to members of the Métis Nation and Batchewana First Nation, as well as many other community partners.

### **Twenty-first Century Learning**

<https://www.godtube.com/watch/?v=YY77WPNX> – I Can Only Imagine by Mercy Me with Trace Adkins – 2.40 min I can’t hear this song too many times. It is a great choice for Psalm 151.

[https://gratefulness.org/blog/gratitudes-flip-side/?mc\\_cid=06341a0dc7&mc\\_eid=175b5e1b63](https://gratefulness.org/blog/gratitudes-flip-side/?mc_cid=06341a0dc7&mc_eid=175b5e1b63) > Gratitude’s Flip Side – a story to be inspired

[https://catechistsjourney.loyolapress.com/2018/09/20-tips-for-catechists-email-series/?utm\\_source](https://catechistsjourney.loyolapress.com/2018/09/20-tips-for-catechists-email-series/?utm_source) – Get 20 tips for religious educators. Join the Catechist’s Journey blog.



4. The Lord's Prayer can be found in \_\_\_\_\_ of the Gospels.

- A. 2                                      B. 3                                      C. 1                                      D. all

5. The last book in the Bible is the Book of \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. Psalms                                      B. Revelation                                      C. Leviticus                                      D. Proverbs

### **Taking Jesus to the Movies** ...A blog by Pat Carter

**Valkyrie** – This summer I watched some absolutely great older movies. This one starred Tom Cruise. It is the story of an attempted to kill Hitler during the Second World War. There were good people who opposed Hilter. Even though I saw this movie many years ago when it was first released (2008), watching it again inspired me to know that history doesn't always tell the whole story. I give this movie ❤️❤️❤️/5 hearts.

### **A Blog for Eclectic Readers** – by Pat Carter csj

**The Hate U Give** by Angie Thomas. This story is written for Intermediate aged young people. It is a powerful narrative about a young black girl who goes to a private school where she is challenged to learn. She lives in a "less than elite" neighbourhood where she struggles to fit in. It would be a good read aloud for students [some editing of language would have to done by teacher.] I have a copy, I would be willing to lend out. I give this book 😊😊😊😊/5 happy faces

### **Trivia for Those Who Read to the end...Just like the credits at the movies.**

"You have approximately 208 bones in your body." Uh Huh!