

Our Lady of Good Hope Roman Catholic Church

P. O. Box 159, 671 Water Ave., Hope, BC V0X 1L0
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Father Gordon A. Cook, OMI
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Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – January 27, 2019

Weekday Masses

Tuesday to Saturday 9:00 AM

Sunday Masses

Saturday – 4:30 PM (anticipated Mass)
Sunday – 9:00 AM

Confessions

Weekdays Tuesday to Saturday – 8:30 AM to 8:45 AM
Saturday - 3:30 PM to 4:00 PM
Always available upon request.

Please pray for our sick and shut in parishioners.

May Our Lord sustain, comfort and heal them through their faith.
Don Appel, Dolores Hampton, Marilyn McKay, Galdino Berti, Yunha Kim, George Stock, Jerzy and Irena Klimczek, Theresa Witjes, Dolores Azevedo, David De Beer, Brian Lloyd, Jackie Belair

Last Sunday Offering

\$ Envelopes Number of envelopes:
\$ Loose
\$ Weekly Anticipated Expenses

Thank you for your generous support of your Parish.

First Friday Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

February 1, 2019 – 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM

Everyone is invited to spend an hour with Our Lord

On the weekend of February 8 – 10, there will be a Vocation Live-In for boys or young men interested in the priesthood or the consecrated life, at the Seminary of Christ the King, Mission, BC. For more information call 604.826.8715

Blessings of throats after the 9:00 AM Saturday Mass - February 2

On **February 2** people may have their throats blessed as a prayer for protection against throat ailments and other evils. St. Blasé, Feast day February 3rd, is the patron Saint of throats.

St. Blasé

We know more about the devotion to St. Blasé by Catholics around the world than we know about the saint himself. His feast is observed as a holy day in some Eastern Churches. The Council of Oxford, in 1222, prohibited servile labour in England on Blaise's feast day. The Germans and Slavs hold him in special honor and for decades many Catholics have sought the annual St. Blasé blessing for their throats.

We know that Bishop Blasé was martyred in his Episcopal City of Sebastea, Armenia, in 316. The legendary *Acts of St. Blasé* was written 400 years later. According to them Blasé was a good bishop, working hard to encourage the spiritual and physical health of his people. Although the

Edict of Toleration (311), granting freedom of worship in the Roman Empire, was already five years old, persecution still raged in Armenia. Blasé was apparently forced to flee to the backcountry. There he lived as a hermit in solitude and prayer, but he made friends with the wild animals. One day a group of hunters seeking wild animals for the amphitheater stumbled upon Blaise's cave. They were first surprised and then frightened. The bishop was kneeling in prayer surrounded by patiently waiting wolves, lions and bears.

As the hunters hauled Blasé off to prison, the legend has it, a mother came with her young son who had a fish bone lodged in his throat. At Blaise's command the child was able to cough up the bone.

Since the founding of the Catholic Church by Jesus Christ Himself, ordinary people, through their love for God and their desire to be holy, have become extraordinary in the eyes of the Church and of God. Spend your **Ordinary Time** with the saints and learn how they continue to light the way for us., allowing us to come closer to our Lord Jesus through their prayers and wisdom.

Reflections on Sunday's Gospel: Luke 4:14-21

1. **Telling the Story:** The Gospels tell us the truth about Jesus Christ: His life, teachings, death and resurrection. In Jesus Christ, God has personally become involved in human history. He has come to make a path to eternal union with the Father. We can thank Our Lord for becoming man and strengthening the relationship between God and humanity. We should read the Gospels with reverence and take seriously Christ's invitation to become His followers.

2. **Glad Tidings to the Poor:** All of us are poor in God's eyes. We all need His grace, friendship and mercy. Our spiritual neediness is a source of blessings. Christ has come to enrich each of us with the presence of His love, the love of the Father for His children. When we are in need, we can turn with confidence to Christ. We can learn from Him how to make our life fruitful. Do I turn to Him in confidence in my needs? Do I allow the greatness of His presence in my heart to fill me with joy?

3. **A Year Acceptable to the Lord:** For three short years Jesus walked among the people of Palestine. How many people really discovered Him for who He was? We, too, have only a short time to come to know our Lord. Our human existence is short. Jesus gives us many ways to come into contact with Him: His Word in Scripture, the Holy Eucharist, the Sacrifice of the Holy Mass, the Sacraments, prayer, the good example of other Catholics, the providential circumstances of our life, etc. Christ is present for the asking. Do I attempt to discover Jesus more deeply each day?

Conversation with Christ: Lord, thank you for singling me out. I know that You give me many ways to discover You. Help me to look for You more this day through the eyes of faith. I want to commit to following You.

<p>When did Christ institute the Sacrament of Reconciliation? The Risen Lord instituted this Sacrament on the evening of Easter when He showed Himself to His Apostles and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained" (John 20:22-23). (Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church)</p>
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The Baby in Church

We have all heard the baby crying in Church when the priest was giving his homily. "There are two of us preaching in this church at once," said Father, "and I don't know which of us is giving the better sermon. **When a baby cries in church he or she is telling us two things: First, that there are babies in the family, and second, that the mother has come to Mass with her baby. On the whole, I think the baby is preaching the better sermon and I'll let him or her go on with it.**"