

## ***Our Lady of Good Hope Roman Catholic Church***

P. O. Box 159 – 671 Water Ave. : Hope, BC V0X 1L0  
Parish phone number: 604 869 5382 - Parish email: [ologhope@telus.net](mailto:ologhope@telus.net)  
Parish website: <http://ologhope.rcav.org/>

Father Gordon A. Cook, OMI  
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### **Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time – September 3, 2017**

#### **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.

Mimi LaBossiere, Ann Vinet, Don Appel, Lew and Dolores Hampton, Marilyn McKay, Galdino Berti, Yunha Kim, Gerard Born, George Stock, Jerzy and Irena Klimczek, Rita Rocan, Theresa Witjes, Dolores Azevedo, Amanda Paller.

#### **Last Sunday Offering**

\$745.00 Envelopes  
\$155.00 Loose  
\$1,657.00 Weekly Anticipated Expenses

Thank you for your generous support of your Parish.

**Project Advance:** We sincerely thank the **32 families** in our Parish who have already **donated \$15,640. There are 57.3% of our Parish families that have not yet participated.** There is still time to donate! Please place an envelope marked “*Project Advance*” into the offertory basket. The donations exceeding the Diocesan commitment of \$5,000 will be put into the *Building Fund Account* to cover future building maintenance costs.

#### **Moving! New phone number? New address? New member of the Parish?**

Please notify Father Gordon @ 778.928.1641 or visit the Office to update your personal information. Thank you so much.

#### **Reflection on Sunday’s Gospel: Matthew 16:21-27**

Today’s Gospel passage follows the one we read last Sunday that recounts the great moment when Peter affirms that Jesus is the Messiah, “the Son of the *living* God.” After naming Peter as His successor to the new Church He has come to establish, Jesus shocks His Apostles when He tells them that He must suffer and die in Jerusalem. They simply could not imagine that Jesus will die. It makes no sense!

In the Gospel, we have the picture of Peter struggling to follow the will of God. Peter finds it difficult to accept that the mission of Jesus will end with the cross and crucifixion. He

does not see why pain and suffering are necessary for discipleship, and he is anxious for Jesus to avoid this course of action. Just as Jesus obeys the will of God, even to death, He expects the same from those who follow Him as His disciples.

Like Peter, we don't want the cross of suffering in our lives. We want to bypass it, but we cannot. Like Peter, many of us may fail to grasp the role of suffering in God's plan. The cross is easily the most difficult stumbling block of our Catholic faith. We have all experienced our share of crosses in the form of sickness, aging, difficulties in marriage, depression, addictions, sin, wayward children or death in our family. Our Lord says that carrying the cross is the way we follow Him. It is how our discipleship becomes real and purified, like gold tried in fire is purified.

The Gospel ends with a challenge from Jesus to *welcome* our crosses and to embrace our pain and personal suffering. We must trust in God's promise that He will help us to endure it. Jesus has assured us that our sufferings for the sake of the Gospel are small compared to the reward that awaits us in heaven.

**The Men's Retreat** is for every man searching for a deeper relationship with God and a fuller understanding of what it means to live as a son of the Father. Get away from the busyness and demands of our schedules to personally encounter God the Father and experience His generous love. Join us Sept. 29 to Oct. 1, at Rockridge Canyon, Princeton, 2000 Willies Ranch Rd. Register today! <http://rcav.org/mensretreat/> (Please see bulletin board for more information)

**Worldwide Marriage Encounter is back!**

We are having a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend in the Lower Mainland again. October 20 to 22, 2017 in Deroche, BC (Just east of Mission).

Worldwide Marriage Encounter is designed to deepen and enrich the joys a couples shares together whether they have been married a short time or many years. Married couples learn how to rekindle the passion in their relationship and how to keep their love growing year after year. The communication skills learned on this weekend of discover can enrich your marriage in ways you never thought possible. Don't wait to invest in your marriage. For more information or to register, contact: Steve and Mary Bohnen – 604.876.7298 or [wwmevancouverbc@gmail.com](mailto:wwmevancouverbc@gmail.com)

**Be Strong**

A strong man may be able to lift a big boulder off the ground, but the boulder is like a tiny pebble compared to what a large moving crane can lift. In a similar way, what we can do for God in our own strength is nothing compared to what God can do through us in His strength.

God wants us to be strong in Him and live each day in the power of His might. It is a good thing for us to discover our weaknesses, because as we do, we are able to turn to God's strength in our times of need.

God's strength means that we can walk through a difficult time instead of running from it; it means that we can do something that would be impossible to do without Him; it means that we can say "no" to temptation instead of yielding to its enticement; it means we can take the place of a servant and be secure in the place God has for us, without striving to get to the top or be above others.

**Check Your Home for Crucifixes.**

- ✓ Do you have a crucifix in your home?
- ✓ Is it big or small?
- ✓ Is it prominently displayed or tucked away in a spare room or desk drawer?
- ✓ Do you spend any time in front of it in prayer?

No further explanation is required. You know what to do.