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Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday from 9:30 am – 2:00 pm
Pastor: Fr. Eduardo da Silva Santos
Office Assistant: Rosa Moniz Demchuk



September 8th, 2024 – 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekend Masses: Saturday 5:00 pm in English
Sunday 11:00 am in Portuguese
12:30 pm in Spanish

Weekday Masses: 9:00 am – Tuesday to Friday

Confessions: Saturdays, 4:00 pm

Adoration: Thursdays, 6:00 pm

Baptisms and Weddings: Please contact the office

Anointing: Hospital Chaplain: 250-889-3761

Weekly Cost and Collection Amounts

Sept 1st, 2024

Church costs: \$3,663

Our collection: \$3,040

Shortage: - \$. 623

Tues, Sept 10 9:00 am	
Wed, Sept 11 9:00 am	
Thur, Sept 12 9:00am	
Fri, Sept 13 9:00 am	† Angel Perez Maciel (Susana Perez Hernandez)
Sat, Sept 14 5:00 pm	† Pais e sogros de Maria José Furtado † Manuel Furtado Carreiro (Rita Carreiro)
Sun, Sept 15 11:00 am	† Jaime Ribeiro e David Sayers (Edna Ribeiro) † Famílias de Adelino e Maria do Carmo Correia
12:30 pm	



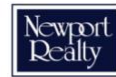
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Saturday Sept 14th at 5PM
Readers: Raad Nashmi Carmen Perez
Euc Min: Raad Nashmi
Sunday Sept 15th at 11AM
Readers: Julieta da Costa Marlinda Cabral
Euc Min: Douglas Lima
Sunday Sept 15th at 12:30PM
Readers: Noelia Rivera Olga Andino
Euc Min: Leticia Cortez

Cleaning: Oscar and Claudia Andrade Pamela
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**REPORT SEXUAL ABUSE TO AN
INDEPENDENT REPORTING AGENCY**

To report sexual abuse by a clergy member, religious, employee, or volunteer, call 1-800-968-3146

To report sexual abuse or cover-up by a Bishop, [click here](#) or call 1-866-892-3737

Parish Office

The Parish Office will be closed on Thursday, September 12th.

Secretaria Paroquial

A Secretaria Paroquial estará encerrada na quinta-feira, dia 12 de setembro.

Announcements / Avisos

News From the Diocese

1) The Diocese of Victoria Health Care Committee is offering its next series of online Pastoral Care Outreach Training sessions starting this month. These free sessions will be held via Zoom on Saturday mornings from 9:30 – noon, starting on September 28 and running until November 30, 2024 (with no session on October 12 for Thanksgiving). This training will allow participants to learn more about deep listening and visiting the lonely, sick, injured, elderly, and dying – in hospitals, seniors’ residences, extended health care facilities, and at their homes. The sessions are also offered for those who wish to learn how to accompany and care for their loved ones, friends, and neighbours, or as a personal undertaking. Please register through your parish by September 17, 2024.

2) The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults is the process by which non-Catholics enter the Catholic Faith. If you're eager to enter the Faith, or just curious about Catholicism, RCIA may be the journey you're called to this Fall. Join us to explore what the Holy Spirit has in store for you! To learn more, start by contacting the pastor of your local Catholic church. People in the Victoria area should then register with Carmelle & Chris Whiteley for the initial evening on September 19th by calling 250-886-2987 or emailing carmelle.whiteley@gmail.com.

3) The 7th annual Beloved Catholic Women's Retreat will be Nov 15-17 2024 at Camp Homewood, Quadra Island. Registration is full but waitlist spots are available. For more information and to add your name to the waitlist, please visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/beloved-catholic-womens-retreat-registration-984148222827>

4) Rachel's Vineyard will be hosting a retreat on Vancouver Island from October 24 – 27, 2024. This ministry is a safe place for people to renew, rebuild, and redeem hearts broken by abortion. Weekend retreats offer a supportive, confidential and non-judgmental environment where women and men can express, release and reconcile painful post-abortive emotions to begin the process of restoration, renewal, and healing. For more information and to register, please contact Nicola at rachelsvineyardvancouverisland@gmail.com or 250-514-3973.



Homily
23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

We know that the human capacity to speak depends on the ability to hear. Before children start talking, they must develop their ability to listen. It is for this reason that those who are born deaf also remain silent, or at least, find it very difficult to speak. This dependent relationship also occurs on a higher plane, in terms of real communication between people. For this reason, we know that a person who only listens lessens his ability to understand others and thus limits the ability to truly relate to other people. Refusing to hear what is spoken, not intent on listening, inexorably blocks any desire or capability to change.

It seems clear that the root of the problem that prevents human communication is the selfishness that imprisons people in the realm of their own interests. A person living this way becomes a slave of his own selfishness, and does not have the capability to initiate or maintain an authentic dialogue. However, and unfortunately, this person who is a slave to selfishness can still give orders, issue statements, and even spread propaganda.

In the Holy Gospel of today's liturgy, we hear the story of how Jesus heals a deaf person. Firstly, Jesus opens the man's ears, then he loosens his tongue. Jesus, the Word of God places the person in a position to hear and, therefore, in a position of responsibility. Through opened communication with God in Jesus Christ, this person is now also open to other people. Those who can hear the word of God, can and should listen to the words of others as well. This is the Church's mission in today's world: to denounce the selfishness that makes us unable to hear, but rather able to proclaim the love that makes us children of God and brothers and sisters to each other.

Those who have been baptized must remain open to the word of God that heals the failure to hear within our soul. And so, listening, we proclaim the Gospel by our lives living as children of God. In the Second Reading, the Apostle James tells us to remember that in Christ we are brothers and sisters. This is the truth that we should proclaim very loudly so that everyone can hear and thereby exorcise the power of the devil, which hampers our human ability to speak and relate to others. Only then will the word of God be truly effective: when we live together in love ready to confront any selfish interest.