

# LIVING FAITH

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



ROMAN CATHOLIC  
ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. JOHN'S



## THE GOSPEL FOR TODAY

Matthew 22:1-14

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, "Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet." But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, maltreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, "The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet." Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

'But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, "Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?" And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'

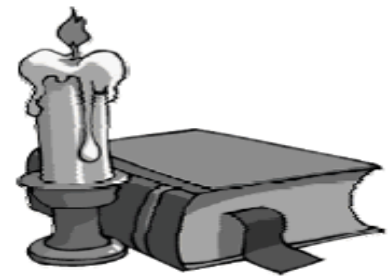
## REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL

Jesus teaches in parables in order to give us glimpses of what God is like. The king in this parable is meant to be our picture of God. In this parable, God (the king) surprises us, a couple of times! First, God surprises us by going out to the highways and by-ways, and inviting the people of the streets to the banquet. What's the key to this story? Perhaps it is that God's message is for everybody, not just the chosen few. Then, what's the point of all the stuff at the end, about the man not wearing a wedding garment? This part of the story reminds us that God is generous, that God is a God of surprises, and the Good News is for everybody... but we must also do our part, and be open and ready to hear and welcome the Good News.

# The Wedding Banquet

So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, both good and bad, and the wedding hall was filled with guests. Matthew 22:10

Based on Matthew 22:1-14 (NIV)



R U D N Q C O R N E R S E L C  
Z N E I K P M P G U E S T S V  
N X D O N O A E Z G T P N Z S  
O Q P N D N L R C B J D E P E  
B P Z G W T E T A O X V B U R  
X A N R T I E R U B M S A G V  
H I N A R E B W I K L E M R A  
K R C Q R C A E N J C E T Q N  
H Z U T U Z H D V L Q G S G T  
E F S G T E W D I C Q M B F S  
A T F L N S T I T S I Y M I T  
V K L E L K L N E B E D R L P  
E Z R K P S O G D X S R S L I  
N D U T R E F U S E D Q L E J  
N W A U D V I Z T N P J G D L

|          |         |         |         |
|----------|---------|---------|---------|
| PARABLES | STREET  | INVITED | BANQUET |
| GUESTS   | HEAVEN  | KINGDOM | CORNERS |
| SERVANTS | CATTLE  | COME    | OXEN    |
| FILLED   | REFUSED | WEDDING | DINNER  |

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## Thanksgiving Family Prayer: Blessings of Gratitude

*May our tongues be blessed with the honey of gratitude, gentleness and encouragement.*

*May we understand the enormous power of words that can deal life or death to another, that can lift up or knock down, be a means of reaching out or shutting out and can spread positive well-being or negativity through our world.*

*Bless us with the grace to utter only words that help others to experience love.  
Amen.*

## World Mission Month 2026



This year we celebrate the 100th anniversary of World Mission Sunday and the 800th anniversary of the entrance into heaven of St. Francis of Assisi. The theme chosen for this year is: “One in Christ, United in Mission”.

World Mission Sunday is the Holy Father’s worldwide celebration of prayer, solidarity and support for the Church’s missionary work. The 100th anniversary, which was established by Pope Pius XI in 1926, is meant to encourage universal support for mission territories and the growth of the Church globally.

World Mission Sunday reminds us that we are all Missionary Disciples. We pray for the missions and spreading God’s Word especially in our homes, schools, neighborhoods and places of work. And as we know in far away lands money is always needed for educating Catechists, renovating Churches, building Medical Clinics and providing for Seminaries. Please support the Missions by donating on World Mission Sunday, October 18, 2026.

Read Pope Leo’s message about Missionaries [here](#).

***Next Sunday is World Mission Sunday with its theme  
“One in Christ, United in Mission”.***

***Your prayers and donations will assist churches,  
hospitals, schools, the training of priests and  
supporting all missionaries who are spreading the  
Word of God in developing countries. Help our sister  
Churches to be self-sufficient and continue to flourish.***

# SAINTS OF CANADA

## ST. MARGUERITE BOURGEOYS



**We pray:**

*Dear Saint Marguerite, you and your companions taught catechism and basics of literature, as well as virtue, etiquette and the love of work. You wrote, "It is true that what I have always wanted most, and most ardently desire, is for the great teaching of the love of God above all things and the love of one's neighbour as one would be loved, to be engraved on all hearts." Intercede for us, so that all Canadian citizens may be good neighbours to all nations.*  
*Amen.*

Marguerite Bourgeoys was the sixth of 12 children, born on April 17, 1620 at Troyes in Champagne, France. Her father was a master candle-maker and a coiner in the mint at Troyes, and her mother was Guillemette Garnier.

In 1640, at the age of 20, she joined the external congregation of the Congregation of Notre Dame in Troyes. The director of formation was Mother Louise de Chomedey de Sainte-Marie, sister of Paul de CHOMEDEY de Maisonneuve, the governor of Ville-Marie (Montreal). Through her, Marguerite heard about Canada, and then was introduced to Maisonneuve. Marguerite offered to go to Montreal, and Maisonneuve accepted her. On September 22, 1653 she arrived in Montreal.

In 1658, she opened her first school in a stable given to her for that purpose by de Maisonneuve. She went to France to recruit helpers for her mission, and thus was soon to be in a position to receive the *filles du roi*, the young orphan girls sent by Louis XIV to New France "to start families." At the request of the noble and bourgeois families who had previously sent their daughters to Quebec, Marguerite Bourgeoys opened a boarding-school at Ville-Marie, in 1676. For girls of less financial means, she set up the first domestic training school in the country. She established a number of small schools. Marguerite's schools always welcomed the aboriginal children. At the request of the parish priest of Quebec and to Marguerite's delight, the sisters of the *Congrégation* opened a school for little girls from the poor families of the Lower Town. Marguerite consistently trained her sisters in the most advanced teaching skills, and her schools enjoyed the excellent reputations.

Marguerite died on January 12, 1700 at Montreal. She was beatified by Pope Pius XII on November 12, 1950 and canonized by Pope

John Paul II on October, 1982.