

# Returning Thanks: Scott Hahn Reflects on the 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday Bible Reflections by Dr. Scott Hahn  
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2 Kings 5:14-17; Psalm 98:1-4; 2 Timothy 2:8-13; Luke 17:11-19



A foreign leper is cleansed and in thanksgiving returns to offer homage to the God of Israel. We hear this same story in both the First Reading and Gospel today.

There were many lepers in Israel in Elisha's time, but only Naaman the Syrian trusted in God's Word and was cleansed (see Luke 5:12-14). Today's Gospel likewise implies that most of the ten lepers healed by Jesus were Israelites—but only a foreigner, the Samaritan, returned.

In a dramatic way, we're being shown today how faith has been made the way to salvation, the road by which all nations will join themselves to the Lord, becoming His servants, gathered with the Israelites into one chosen people of God, the Church (see Isaiah 56:3-8).

Today's Psalm also looks forward to the day when all peoples will see what Naaman sees—that there is no God in all the earth except the God of Israel.

We see this day arriving in today's Gospel. The Samaritan leper is the only person in the New Testament who personally thanks Jesus. The Greek word used to describe his "giving thanks" is the word we translate as "Eucharist."

And these lepers today reveal to us the inner dimensions of the Eucharist and sacramental life.

We, too have been healed by our faith in Jesus. As Naaman's flesh is made again like that of a little child, our souls have been cleansed of sin in the waters of Baptism. We experience this cleansing again and again in the Sacrament of Penance—as we repent our sins and beg and receive mercy from our Master, Jesus.

We return to glorify God in each Mass, to offer ourselves in sacrifice—falling on our knees before our Lord, giving thanks for our salvation.

In this Eucharist, we remember "Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David," Israel's covenant king. And we pray, as Paul does in today's Epistle, to persevere in this faith—that we too may live and reign with Him in eternal glory.

**ANNOUNCED MASSES**  
**October 8<sup>th</sup> – October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

<b>Sat. Oct. 8<sup>th</sup></b> 4:30 p.m.	<b>Weekday</b> McCollin and Freddy – RIP – by their nieces
<b>Sun. Oct. 9<sup>th</sup></b> 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	<b>28<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Angela Rosa and Giuseppe Mignacca – RIP – by the family Feliks Rewers – RIP – by Wanda
<b>Mon. Oct. 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>NO MASS</b>
<b>Tues. Oct. 11<sup>th</sup></b> 7:00 p.m.	<b>Saint John XXIII</b> Claude Dorman – RIP – by William Moran
<b>Wed. Oct. 12<sup>th</sup></b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Weekday</b> June Ann Burgess – RIP – by Janet Prasad
<b>Thurs. Oct. 13<sup>th</sup></b> 9:00 a.m.  <b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Weekday</b> Madelein Brown – RIP – by Maria Ponte  <b>CONSECRATION OF THE CHURCH</b>
<b>Fri. Oct. 14<sup>th</sup></b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Saint Callistus I</b> Morris Guthertz – RIP – by his friends
<b>Sat. Oct. 15<sup>th</sup></b> 4:30 p.m.	<b>Saint Teresa of Jesus</b> Giovanni and Palmarosa Salvatore – RIP – by Antonietta
<b>Sun. Oct. 16<sup>th</sup></b> 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	<b>29<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Laura Branco Farias and Maria Do Carmo Branco Bento – RIP – by Maria Ponte Teresita Manzo Manzanal – RIP – by Jerry and Ofelia Roy

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***Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.  
May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed  
through the mercy of God rest in peace.***

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**Collection:**  
October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016 - **\$3,141.00**  
**...Thank you for your generosity.**

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**THANKSGIVING PRAYER**

God, whose gifts are countless and whose goodness is without limit,  
teach us, we pray, to use wisely the rich blessing of land and sea,  
to be attentive to the needs of others, and to give as freely as we  
have received, that we may, in the joy of your house,  
delight one day in eternal rewards.  
Through our Lord, Amen.

### **PARISH CONSECRATION: October 13th (7pm)**

This Thursday our parish will be consecrated. Bishop Alain Faubert with Bishop Tom Dowd will be presiding a special ceremony to consecrate the parish. This is a very important and grace filled moment in the life of our parish community. All are invited to be present for this blessed celebration!

### **INTERCULTURAL DAY: October 16<sup>th</sup> following the 11am mass**

You are invited to an intercultural day to celebrate the consecration of our parish! Our parish is blessed to consist of many different cultural backgrounds and ancestry, shaping who we are as one church united in Jesus Christ. You are encouraged to share your culture with the community by bringing some artwork and crafts, traditional costumes (or you may wear them too at the event), a dance, music, and other ways you can think of to showcase your culture. We will provide tables to display your items. And most importantly, what better way to share your culture with others than by bringing traditional food from your country. Please contact the event planners to coordinate your cultural contribution to our celebration. Contact person: **Irah Tirona** - (514) 336-4892

Thank you to those who have filled out the cultural survey sheet that the parish had sent out before. We will contact you shortly.

### **BE MY DISCIPLES NEWS**

**"Thank you!"** for your dedication and love to our catechists and assistants who are not with us this year, but who have served our children and our Parish for many years – Josee Natasha Crodua, Maricel Del Campo, Gabriela Simonka, Joaquin Tirona, Natalie Dinolfo, Premala Gobalakrishnan, Fabian Sebastiampillai, Dominic Sebastiampillai, Maggie Del Degan and Walter Pin. May God bless you and all your endeavours.

**Catechetical Sunday** will be celebrated at Our Lady of Fatima **next Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup>**. Thank you to all catechists in the Be My Disciples Program, as well as all other catechetical programs in our parish.

**CHRISTMAS BOXES** - As part of our Junior High youth group activities to increase our children's Christian awareness, we will once again participate in Operation Christmas Child in conjunction with Samaritan's Purse. This is a project where every Christmas, millions of shoeboxes filled with gifts are hand delivered to millions of needy children around the world who would otherwise not know God's love for them through His gift of His Son, Jesus Christ. Our youth will be filling the shoeboxes with toys, school supplies, hygiene products (no liquids or toothpaste), and other small gifts such as biblical books, socks, t-shirts, etc. Basically anything that could be useful for a needy child and that will fit in a shoebox, small backpack, duffle bag etc., but nothing battery powered. No guns, knives or anything portraying violence. Please check the pamphlets available for specific information. Choose if the gift is for a **boy** or a **girl** and the **age group**. Please donate \$7.00 per box for shipping costs.

**The shoeboxes are available at the office.** For information please contact Frank - 514-333-0791; Connie - 514-747-9347, or the office – 514-747-4226. **DEADLINE** for returning the filled boxes is **Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup>**. **Thank you** to ALL parishioners for your great generosity.