

## Our Prayers

Let us pray for our church in this season of renewal that our hearts  
will be opened to Spirit's voice  
we pray to the Lord

Let us pray for those we meet along the road that we will take time to  
listen to their story  
we pray to the Lord

Let us pray for those countries still torn by war and hunger that we  
will reassess our priorities against their needs  
we pray to the Lord

Let us pray for the sick and those isolated by age or chronic weakness  
that they will be blessed by company  
we pray to the Lord

Let us offer our own prayers to the Father...  
for these blessings we pray to the Lord

Next gathering Monday February 19 at 10:15

*"The real Presence outside the church"*

Monday, January 22, 2024

A warm welcome to everybody!

# ENLARGE THE TENT

"Removing our sandals before  
the Sacred Ground of the Other"

The Art of Accompaniment Part Two with Fr. Tim Boyle.  
Sessions will be livestreamed at 10:30 am, followed by  
Mass at 11:15 am. Third Monday of the month.

ST. MARTHA'S, LETBRIDGE  
● LIVE AT [STMARTHASPARISH.CA](http://STMARTHASPARISH.CA)

**MONDAY,  
JAN 22 AT  
10:30 AM**

**MONDAY,  
FEB 19 AT  
10:30 AM**

*Zacchaeus the first seeker...*

*The real Presence outside the church*



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## Who are these seekers and why they don't want to change...

### *Checking in...*

Have you been invited to a wedding in a non-church setting?

Have you found yourself frustrated talking to your kids or grandkids over their lack of logic when it comes to matters of faith?

Do you sometimes wish your kids would put their phones away?

### *Opening prayer...*

#### **How did we get here?**

Shift from porous world to a buffered world.

Shift from receiving world to achieving world.

A new pluralistic world... church lost her monopoly...

Seekers don't feel free to express themselves...

Skeptics... of some people's assurance... of ready-made answers... of false fronts...

Millennials 30x45 largest group...

reject binary approach to life... r vs l... m vs f... true vs false...

Priority of experience over theory

Open to transcendence

Live with doubt and conflicted ideas

Identity is not received but created

Hanging out is identity formation

Authenticity must be earned

Not bringing in the sheep but walking with...

God is not our property

We need to shift from possessor of truth to fellow traveller

Acknowledge our doubts

Relationships must come first and not be used as a tool

Zacchaeus is model... far from destination...

Curious but not ready to join

Doubt and faith are sisters

Become storytellers again.

*Thee alone do I love; Thee alone do I follow; Thee alone do I seek; Thee alone am I ready to serve, for Thou alone hast just dominion; under Thy sway do I long to be.*

*Order, I beg Thee, and command what Thou wilt, but heal and open my ears, so that with them I may hear Thy words.*

*Heal and open my eyes so that with them I may perceive Thy wishes.*

*Banish from me my senselessness, so that I may know Thee.*

*Look, I beseech Thee, upon Thy prodigal, O Lord, kindest Father; already have I been punished enough; long enough have I served Thine enemies whom Thou hast beneath Thy feet; long enough have I been the plaything of deceits. Receive me Thy servant as I flee from them, for they took me in a stranger when I was fleeing from Thee.*

*I realize I must return to Thee. Let Thy door be open to my knocking. Teach me how to come to Thee. Nothing else do I have but willingness. Naught else do I know save that fleeting and perishable things are to be spurned, certain and eternal things to be sought after.*

*This I do, O Father, because this is all I know, but how I am to reach Thee I know not.*

*Do Thou inspire me, show me, give me what I need for my journey. If it is by faith that they find Thee who have recourse to Thee, give me faith; if it is through virtue, give me virtue; if it is by knowledge, give knowledge to me. Grant me increase of faith, of hope, and of charity.*

*O how marvelous and extraordinary is Thy goodness.*

St Augustine, *Soliloquies*