

# Students air their feelings in letters to God

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Oct. 13, 1991  
Mark 10:17-30

Sometimes people say incredibly beautiful things. This past week I received from a friend a number of letters written by some 15-year-old students who attend a school near Toronto.

The letters were written in class to God. Students spent a few minutes in silence, and then were asked to write their letters. Each student was asked individually if they would allow their letters to be printed. The letters have been edited, but spelling has been kept true to the original.

Dear God,

How are you? I am fine. I think about dying a lot, I'm not scared, but I wonder what it would be like. I wish I would be able to see you or talk to you and get an answer.

I'm starting hockey on Saturday and I can't wait. I have made it through grade nine and now in grade ten and I don't like it.

I would like have a little brother and a pet.

I am also thankful for all the food we have the houses we have and the water. The bees, plants and flowers.

Greg.

Dear God,

Hi! It's me (Melanie). How is everything up there? Everything down here is O.K. On Wednesday



Religion and Reality  
by Jim Ryan

we went on a science trip. I really liked it. Also that night my French teacher called my house because I have in the mid 50's for my mark. I got really mad. I hope I get through it O.K.

Me and my sister get along pretty good. We share things and I don't get into that many fights.

I wish my friend was still here because I didn't want her to move to Calgary. She is the type of person you can talk to. I have talked to her once on the phone and have received five letters. I have to go and write a test.

Melanie.

Dear God,

Hi! How are you? I'm fine. I am writing to you to tell you, wait, to ask you if you can stop the rain because I have to walk home tonight. And I have to tell you that I am thankful for my friend and family. I would also like to thank you for the soccer

championship and first place overall.

Vince.

Dear God,

My Dad desperately needs a good job to get our finance back to normal. We're dying!

Joe.

P.S. Are you a Montreal Canadiens fan?

Dear God,

How's it going? I'm fine. I'm planning on going fishing this Sunday at the Credit River for salmon. I was there last week with three other guys and we had three fish on our lines but they all got off, my line snapped and the other got dehooked.

My family is doing fine and so is my dog.

Well, that's all for now, thanks for listening.

Kenny.

Dear God,

Hi God, it's me Filomena. How are you today? Everything is great today. There aren't any problems in my life, well, except for my brother. Sometimes he really makes me mad. I just want him to be nicer to me. Another thing, my grandmother in Portugal is very sick. My family is scared that she might die. She's getting better thanks to you.

I feel very sorry for the people in the world who are less fortunate than myself. Please help them so they can live better lives. And the last thing is, please let

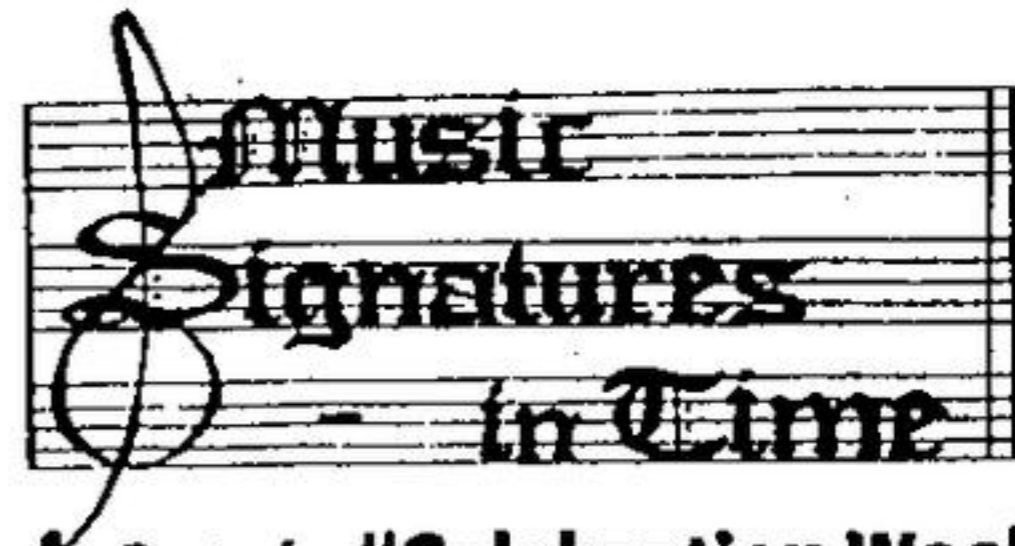
there be peace on earth.

I love you always,

Filomena.

What can you do in the face of such beauty?

In Sunday's Gospel, Jesus is approached by a man with serious questions. Mark writes, "Jesus looked steadily at him and loved him..."



WITH WORKS BY:  
HANDEL,  
BRAHMS,  
LEHAR,  
WEBBER

Part of a "Celebration Weekend" Presented By

St. John's United Church  
of Georgetown & Glen Williams  
11 Guelph Street, Georgetown

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1991**

Sanctuary 8:00 p.m. — Wheelchair Access

Adults \$10, Seniors & Students \$8

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PROCEEDS TO SUPPORT ST. JOHN'S  
RENOVATION & RESTORATION FUND

## Don't get upset by the future

By RICK RUGGLE

St. Paul's Church, Norval

Have you made any pickles or relish, or packed away some squash and potatoes in a cold part of the cellar? Have you laid away some wood for the fireplace this winter? Have you checked that the wind won't find its way through the seals around your windows?

"Take no thought for the morrow," Jesus said, "for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself." One of the newer translations puts it, "do not be anxious about tomorrow." Jesus is simply telling us not to worry about the future; he's not advising us to be careless about it.

I once knew a man who took literally the idea that he shouldn't think about the next day, and he quit his job so that he could study the Bible. That might have been OK if he had only himself to care for, but he had a wife and children to look after as well. It's

one thing to trust in God, and a very different thing to presume that God will do everything for you.

There are lots of places where Jesus warns us to think about the future: the house-builder has to make sure he has a good foundation; the king going to battle has to know he has enough troops.

The only time you can legitimately say, "Have faith. God will provide," is when you have done your share to look after yourself.

The book of Acts tells how some early Christians pooled their goods and their wealth together. Then in Paul's letters we read how he had to warn against idlers: all can eat from the common lot, but only when they've contributed their work. Take care for the future, then trust to God.

Nor should you let your preparations get out of hand. You don't want to be like the greedy

farmer who filled his barns with grain, and then discovered that he was ready to live, but not ready to die. We can't protect ourselves against everything. Despite our efforts, we might be struck by a heart attack, or an accident on the 401 when other drivers lose their sanity during rush hour, and risk their lives and ours to get to their destination five minutes earlier.

Ultimately our trust in God does give a real security. That trust may not enable us to escape the ills of life; but it can give us confidence that in the bad times as well as the good, in death as well as in life, we are in God's hands.

Don't get upset by the future. For which of us by worrying can accomplish anything? So make your prudent preparations, and enjoy your home-made relish this winter, and be confident that at all times you are in God's hands.



### Meeting the new youth worker

Youth group members at St. George's Anglican Church in Georgetown (left to right) Mark Costain, Phillip Elliott and Tim Kingston had a chance Sunday to meet the churches' new youth worker, Keith Nunn (right). Mr. Nunn has just completed a year

long course of study entitled 'The Urban Ministry and Action Programme'. He will be working at St. George's Tuesdays, Fridays and Sundays. (Herald Photo.)

the HERALD  
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St. Alban's Anglican Church, 19 St. Alban's Dr., Acton ..... 853-2711  
Summer Service: Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

St. Alban's The Martyr Anglican Church  
537 Main St., Glen Williams ..... 877-8323  
Service Times: Sunday 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

#### BAPTIST

Acton Baptist Church, 8 Mill St. E., Acton ..... 853-0X90  
Worship 11:00 a.m.; Christian Education 9:45 a.m.

Maple Avenue Baptist Church, 177 Maple Ave., Georgetown... 877-6665  
Worship 11:00 a.m.; Family Bible Hour 9:30 a.m.;  
Coffee Fellowship 10:30 a.m.

Mountainview Baptist Church, 100 Mountainview Rd. S.,  
Georgetown ..... 873-2'84  
Worship 11:00 a.m.; Children's Program 10:00 & 11:00 a.m.  
Location of LOVE IN CHRIST FOODBANK — Open Wed. mornings

#### CHRISTIAN & MISSIONARY ALLIANCE

Georgetown Alliance Church, Main St. S., Georgetown ..... 873-0249  
Service Times: Sunday 11:00 a.m.; Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

#### LUTHERAN

Immanuel Lutheran, Windsor & Carole Sts., Georgetown ..... 877-1172  
Worship 11:00 a.m.; Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

#### UNITED

St. Andrew's United Church, 89 Mountainview Rd. S.  
Georgetown ..... 877-4482  
Worship 9:45 a.m.

St. John's United Church, 11 Guelph St., Georgetown ..... 877-2531  
Worship 11:00 a.m.; Sunday School 11:00 a.m.

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