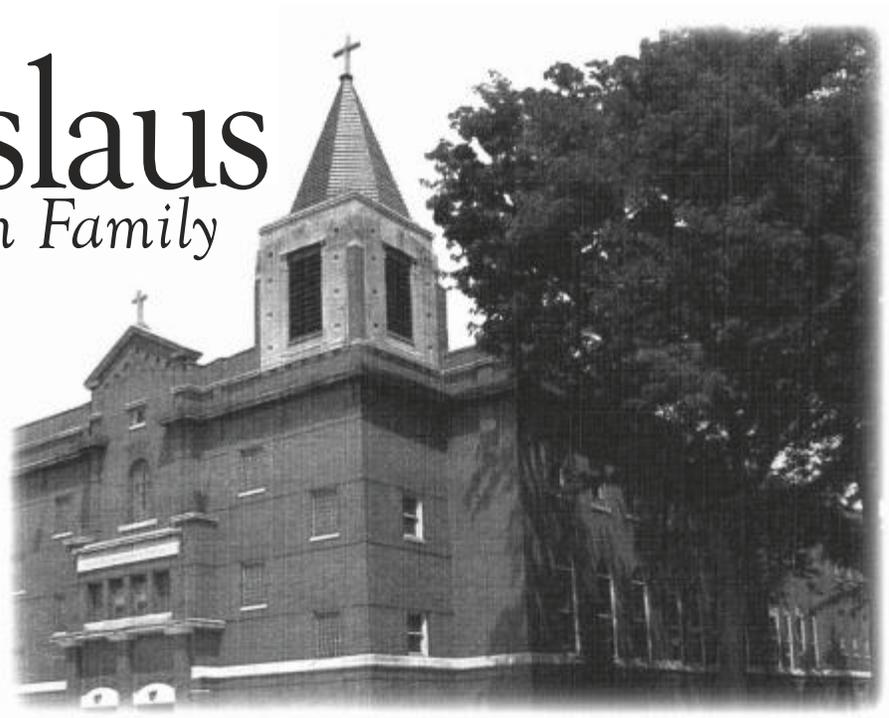


St. Stanislaus

Parish Family

June 13, 2021
11th Sunday in
Ordinary Time



808 W. 150TH STREET · EAST CHICAGO, INDIANA 46312

PARISH STAFF

Msgr. John J. Siekierski, Administrator
Sister Gloria Jean Kozlowski, Director of
Religious Education
Anne J. Ruiz, School Principal
Dora Castellanos, School Secretary
Heladia Rivera, Church Secretary

OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday

9:00 am – 3:00 pm

6:30 pm – 8:30 pm (by appointment)

Office Closed: Wednesday,
Friday, Saturday & Sunday

TELEPHONE

Parish Office/Rectory	398-2341
Convent	397-7059
School	398-1316

MASSES

Saturday 4:30pm

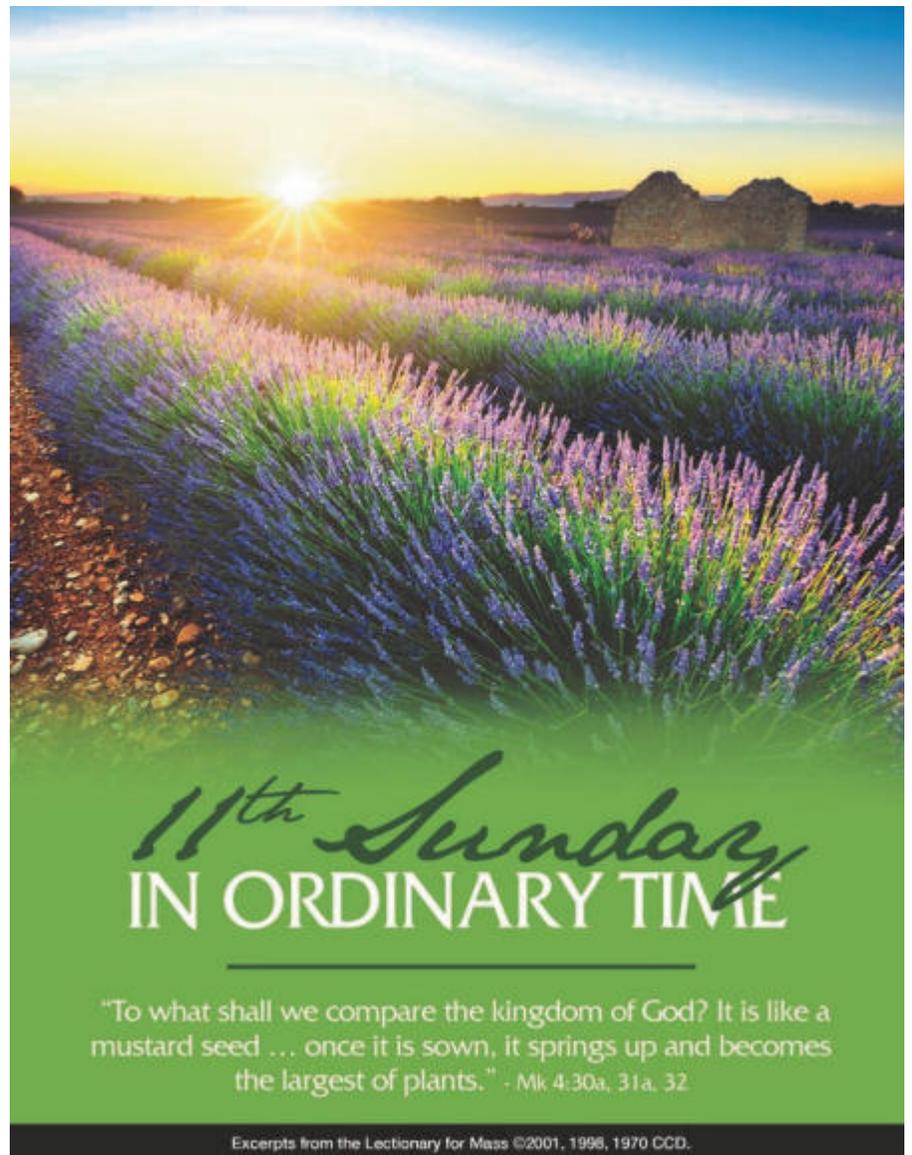
Sunday 8:30am

WEEKDAY MASSES

There are no weekday Masses or Word &
Communion Services at this time.

CONFESSIONS

Confessions by appointment only.



Liturgical Notes for the Week

After the celebration and joy of the Easter Season, capped off with the feasts of the Holy Trinity and the Body and Blood of Christ, this Sunday the 11th in Ordinary Time feels as if we have reached settling. The reality is Ordinary Time began two weeks ago as green vestments made their appearance at the weekday masses. Now green is seen this Sunday and will be the predominant liturgical color until the seasons change with the coming of the “new year” marked by Advent 2021 on November 28. This lengthy stretch of Ordinary Time is indeed a time of praise and thanksgiving when the Church lives its apostolic mission. During this season, we are nourished by the “carousel of sayings and stories, songs and prayers... in which the mysterious ways of God are not merely presented but experienced, not merely perused but lived through” (Mark Searle, “Sunday: The Heart of the Liturgical Year” in *Between Memory and Hope*, ed. Johnson, p.59). For many people, there is a rhythm to this portion of the year. It begins with summer and its long days, time for vacations and time to be outdoors (if the heat and humidity are not unbearable). It continues through the early fall, when the many aspects of modern life structured by the academic calendar begin anew. It progresses through fall and ends with the shortening of days as November winds its way to Thanksgiving and the climatic solemnity of Christ the King of the Universe whose eschatological readings remind us that the Kingdom of the Son of Man is not of this world. Today’s gospel text picks up with the fourth chapter of Mark as the authors of Living Liturgy remind and teach that it is here where Jesus, after proclaiming the good news, healing various ailments throughout Galilee, and having appointed the twelve apostles, pauses to preach to the crowds about the mystery of the kingdom of God through parables. Both of the parables from today’s gospel call to mind an image that would have been very recognizable to Jesus’ audience, that of seeds that are sown.

- It is interesting that Jesus expounds on the kingdom of God, something so mysterious and beyond human understanding, by using such mundane imagery. And yet, perhaps that is the very point. Jesus directs our attention to the mysterious growth and transformation that takes place in secret at all times, all over the world, as seeds sprout and grow, fulfilling their purpose in providing nourishment and shelter for others.

- These parables orient us to Ordinary Time as a season dedicated to our own slow but constant growth and transformation as children of God. We take on the work of sowing the seeds of God’s word in our own lives and the lives of those around us, but we also trust in the action of the Holy Spirit, bringing the kingdom of God to fruition in and around us, we “know not how.” Where do you sense the slow work of the Spirit in our own life and community bringing about renewal and transformation?

Are you part of making the Kingdom of God come? In today’s Gospel, our Lord Jesus will remind you that God can do wonderful things with the smallest of beginnings. Though you may feel small and insignificant, God has chosen each of you for a very specific purpose, to share his love with the world in a way no one else can. This beautiful truth awaits you in Jesus’ words. Go and listen to him.

This week having learned a little about seeds and the growing process, pray the following for all farmers, gardeners and all others who plant and labor in the fields.

Prayer

All-holy Lord and Father, you have commanded us to work the land and cultivate it. Your devoted people now pray that you will grant us an abundant harvest from our fields, vineyards, and orchards. In your goodness protect our lands from wind and hail and let a rich crop grow from the seeds we plant today. We ask this through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Prayer

O God, from the very beginning of time you commanded the earth to bring forth vegetation and fruit of every kind. You provide the sower with seed and give bread to eat. Grant, we pray, that this land, enriched by your bounty and cultivated by human hands, may be fertile with abundant crops. Then your people, enriched by the gifts of your goodness will praise you unceasingly now and for ages unending. We ask this through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*



Scripture Reflection

A favorite motto of St. Teresa of Calcutta was, “do small things with great love.” This is how it works in the kingdom of God. God can do tremendous things with the smallest gesture, especially when it is done in love. We can clearly see that our world is suffering greatly. People are struggling to find peace, navigate through conflicts, earn a sustainable living, find security and enough food to eat, and work through political tensions and conflicts. In the light of the magnitude of the difficulties that exist around us and even within us, we can find ourselves floundering to discover practical, effective solutions. How can something so large be helped by someone as small and seemingly insignificant as me? While whole systems and structures may be out of the league of our personal influence, are we really that helpless in the midst of all of the turmoil, sadness, and suffering? If we believe that God is with us and that God is still working to bring about the glory of God’s kingdom, then the answer is no. We are never helpless or without hope. Armed with a strong life of prayer, we can always flee to God and ask for inspiration, wisdom, and especially love. We are all blessed with unique gifts and talents and it often seems that considering all that the world lacks, love and charity remain at the top of the list. Life can easily become a battleground of hostility. Because life is challenging and difficult, anger is not far away. We see it on people’s faces and hear it in their voices. There is a measure of frustration that permeates all avenues of life. It is even felt in the air. As people of faith, we know that what we see here is not the end but only a part of something far greater to come. We know that God’s kingdom is where we are ultimately meant to be, and the Gospel is the way to get there. If love and charity can prevail in us, then God will be able to do what God does best. God will use us to scatter the seeds of his kingdom. Through our small gestures, those seeds can receive the nurturing attention that is necessary for them to bear great fruit. We cannot fall victim to the strife that is around us. We have to keep ourselves refreshed and focused so that even in small ways, we can become part of the solution, not the problem. Love and charity, which come from God, can help to heal the ills of the world. May we bring these simple gifts to the everyday simple tasks of our lives! Watch how big the plant grows!

Inspiration For The Week

Jesus compares the Kingdom of God to a mustard seed, the tiniest of seeds. When planted, the tiny mustard seed grows into a tremendous tree with large branches. So too in each of our lives small things can have profound effects. God can use one of our more insignificant gestures to radically change another person’s life. It may be the kindness of a smile, our willingness to accommodate someone, listening to someone’s story, helping someone who is hurting, standing up for someone who is right or complimenting someone on something they did. We all have God given gifts and talents. What are some of yours? Our task is to use our talents creatively, consistently, lovingly, and generously. Because we are always guided by the Holy Spirit, things that may be insignificant or unnoticed to us can profoundly change the life of someone else. While we may think we are small and insignificant, God can make us large and magnificent. All we have to do is open ourselves to being used. We trust that God will take care of the rest.

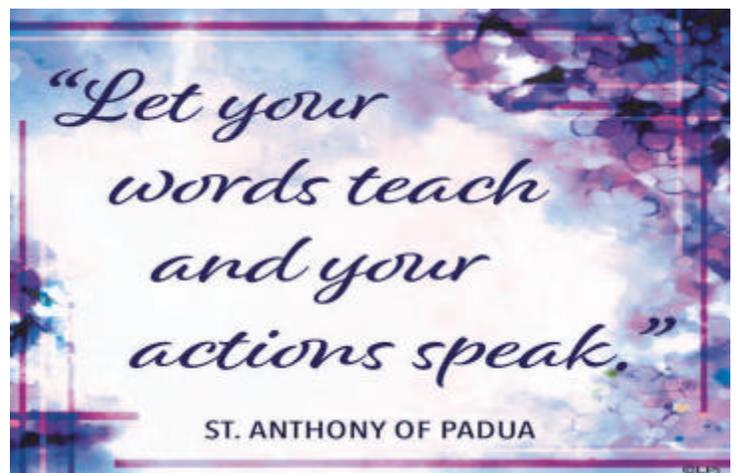
Financial Blessings

YOUR GIFTS TO YOUR PARISH TWO WEEKS IN THE COLLECTION AMOUNTED TO.....\$2,129.00
 Adult envelopes issued.....294 (May, 2021)
 Adult envelopes used.....82/28% (May 30, 2021)
 Food Pantry...\$500.00 from American Legion Allied Post 369.

YOUR GIFTS TO YOUR PARISH LAST WEEK IN THE COLLECTION AMOUNTED TO.....\$3,483.00
 Adult envelopes issued.....294 (June, 2021)
 Adult envelopes used.....112/38% (June 6, 2021)
Thank You for your continued support! May God Bless You!

Everyday Stewardship

“Tony, Tony, come around! Something is lost and it must be found.” Did you learn this one when you were a kid? In my experience there are even a lot of lapsed Catholics — or people who were never Catholic at all — who know that when you lose something, St. Anthony becomes your best friend. Missing keys? Pray to St. Anthony. Can’t find your favorite sweater? St. Anthony. Forget where you parked your car in the mall lot? St. Anth— okay, you get the idea. Whatever it is, large or small, important or trivial, Tony has a reputation for finding the lost things. It’s a devotion that can seem a little like superstition — witchcraft, even? — if you don’t really understand it. Mumble an incantation to a dead guy and you’re guaranteed to find your sunglasses. But as with most traditions that are old, beloved and effective, looking a little closer reveals the truth of the matter. When we lose something really important, what do we do? We make the whole household stop what they’re doing to join the search. Having St. Anthony as a friend means you ask him to stop what he’s doing to help, too. And how he helps is by taking the matter exactly where all matters need to go — straight to the feet of Christ. Here’s the real genius of St Anthony: he takes the most mundane, commonplace occurrence — misplacing socks — into an encounter with the divine and truly all things great and small are gifts from God. He grabs our hand and points to the cross. “That’s what you’re looking for,” he tells us. In the end, Tony doesn’t really find the lost things. He finds the lost people. — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



Monday, June 14 - Flag Day

Tuesday, June 15

Wednesday, June 16

Thursday, June 17

Friday, June 18

Saturday, June 19 - St. Romuald, Abbot

4:30pm †Rolando Iglesias & Ana Rosa Martinez -
Birthdays, Health & God's Blessings to Martha
Rodriguez int. Delli Colli Family
Health & God's Blessings for our Parishioners

Sunday, June 20, 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Father's Day

World Refugee Day

8:30am †Glenn Evans int. Wife & Family
†Casimir Radziwiecki int. Teresa Radziwiecki &
Family

Quote from Pope Francis

The Gospel speaks of a seed
which, once sown, grows by itself,
even as the farmer sleeps.



Why Do We Do That? Catholic Life Explained

Question: Where does the money go that is collected each week at Church?

Answer: This is a good question! Every parish has financial obligations, including the basic operation of the buildings, salaries, maintenance, and improvements. In addition, there are schools to support, programs to run, charities to be funded, and operational expenses like hosts and wine for Mass, music books, vestments, and so on. In some cases, cemeteries and other buildings need attention. Finally, there is the diocesan assessment that each parish pays to help run the diocese and the support services provided to each parish. Most parishes manage to get by with the collection, a few fundraisers and endowments. But contrary to popular opinion, cash flow is also a problem, and many parishes operate in the red. The Finance Committee is responsible for assisting the pastor in fiscal management, and good stewardship is the basis for successful programs.

Question Of The Week

First Reading:

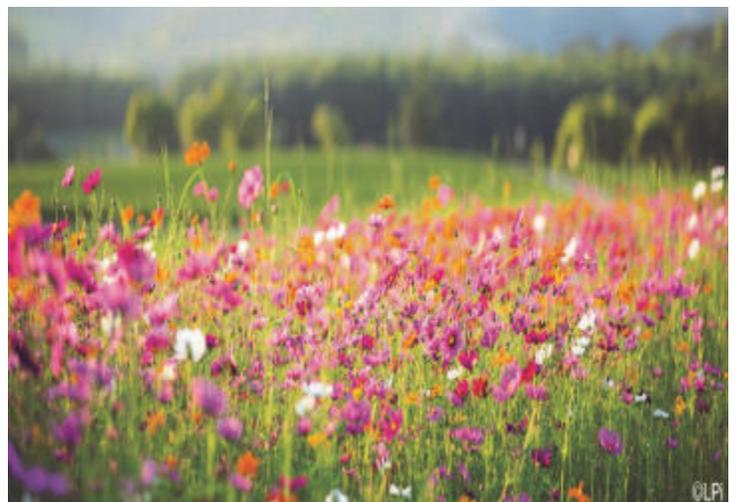
The prophet Ezekiel's image of God growing Israel into a mighty majestic cedar tree bearing fruit, with birds nesting in its branches was intended to be words of comfort for the exiled Israelites in Babylon. How do you find God's comfort in times of distress?

Second Reading:

Paul encourages the believers in Corinth to be courageous in knowing one day all will appear before "the judgment seat of Christ." How confident are you in reflecting on judgment day?

Gospel:

Mark tells us that Jesus often spoke in parables to the crowds about the kingdom of God. Today's parables speak to the often unseen and subtle growth of the kingdom of God in our midst. How might you better observe the kingdom of God at work in your life?



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