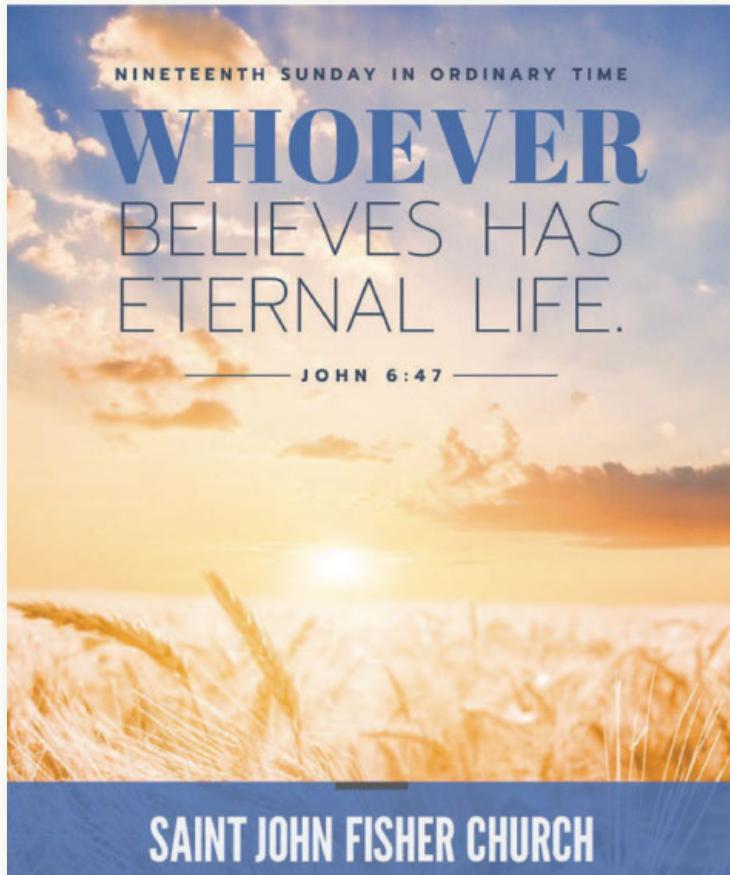




SAINT JOHN FISHER CHURCH

August 11, 2024



Mass Schedule

SATURDAY VIGIL: 4:00 PM

SUNDAY: 8:00, 9:30, 11:30 AM

WEEKDAYS: Monday - Friday, 7:30 AM

HOLY DAYS: Vigil - 7:00 PM; 9:00 AM and 7:00 PM

HOLIDAYS: 9:00 AM

CONFESION: Sat. 3:00-3:45 PM or by appointment

Business Office Hours

Monday - Thursday: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Friday: 8:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Closed weekdays for lunch between Noon and 1:00 PM

Sunday: 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. James Otto (ext. 3)

Permanent Deacon: Rev. Mr. Daniel Bingnear

Weekend Assistant: Rev. Francis X. Devlin, O.S.A.

Business Manager: Mr. Daniel Kinnik (ext. 4)

Director of Religious Education & Music Ministry:

Mrs. Kathleen Aaronson (ext. 5)

PREP Secretary: Mrs. Patricia Donnelly (ext. 8)

Parish Admin. Assistant: Mrs. Regina Robinson (ext. 6)

Communications Secretary: Mrs. Heather Sill (ext. 2)

Maintenance: Mr. Bill Casey (ext. 7)

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. John Sibel

Holy Family Regional Catholic Grade School

3265 Concord Road, Aston www.holyfamilyaston.org

610-494-0147 **Principal:** Mr. Anthony Elia

4225 CHICHESTER AVENUE • BOOTHWYN, PA 19061

Website: stjohnfisherchurch.com Facebook: Saint John Fisher Phone: (610) 485-0441 E-mail: contact@sjf71.org

Calendar of EVENTS

Today is August 11, 2024

This week:

Sunday August 11:

8:00 am, Mass in the Church
9:30 am, Mass in the Church
10:30 am, Legion of Mary in the Chapel
11:30 am, Mass in the Church

Monday August 12:

7:30 am, Daily Mass in the Church
8:00 am, Adoration in the Church until noon Benediction
7:00 pm, Men's Gathering in the Church Meeting Room

Tuesday August 13:

7:30 am, Daily Mass in the Church

Wednesday August 14:

7:30 am, Daily Mass in the Church
7:00 pm, Feast of the Assumption Mass

Thursday August 15:

9:00 am, Feast of the Assumption Mass
7:00 pm, Feast of the Assumption Mass

Friday August 16:

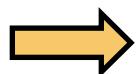
7:30 am, Daily Mass in the Church

Saturday August 17:

3:00 pm - 3:45pm, Confessions in the Church
4:00 pm, Mass in the Church

Masses for The Feast of the Assumption are Wednesday, August 14th at 7:00 pm & Thursday, August 15th at 9:00 am & 7:00 pm. There will be no 7:30 am Mass on Thursday August 15th.

Scan the QR code for the full calendar of events on our website.



Please join us on Thursday, August 15th at the 7:00pm Mass to thank Father McDermott for his 10 years of service to the parish.



FINANCIAL OFFERING: STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Sunday, July 14, 2024

Amount \$ 12,942 #342

Sunday, July 21, 2024

Amount \$ 10, 954.00 #286

Thank you for your generous contributions & financial support!

TODAY is August 11, 2024, The 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

This week we hear Jesus say, "He that believes in me, has eternal life" (John 6:47). These straightforward words, uttered by human lips, sound — how to put this? — insane. Who could possibly say such a thing? Jesus says things that are so high, so demanding, so beyond our capacity to fathom, we hardly know what to do with them and (if you're like me), they usually go in one ear and out the other. So, let us ask: how can believing in him lead to eternal life? To believe in something means not just to acknowledge its existence, but also to orient yourself entirely to it. If a football player believes in his team, it means he puts his life totally at the service of that goal. If a student believes in her dream to become a doctor, she gives everything she has to her studies and preparation for her MCAT test. Belief means to move boldly toward something we love, and trust is possible to attain. What is the highest possible good at which we can aim? It is God himself, the gift of eternal life without end. Jesus has made this "good" possible in and through his human nature. To believe in him means to have him as our ultimate goal. This week let's believe the truth of these words and make practical decisions to orient ourselves toward what we see available in him: eternal life.

— Father John Muir



Readings for the week of August 11, 2024

Sunday: 1 Kgs 19:4-8; Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (9a); Eph 4:30—5:2; Jn 6:41-51

Monday: Ez 1:2-5, 24-28c; Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14; Mt 17:22-27

Tuesday: Ez 2:8—3:4; Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131; Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14

Wednesday: Ez 9:1-7; 10:18-22; Ps 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Mt 18:15-20

Thursday: Vigil: 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2; Ps 132:6-7, 9-10, 13-14; 1 Cor 15:54b-57; Lk 11:27-28 Day: Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Ps 45:10, 11, 12, 16; 1 Cor 15:20-27; Lk 1:39-56

Friday: Ez 16:1-15, 60, 63 or 16:59-63; Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6; Mt 19:3-12

Saturday: Ez 18:1-10, 13b, 30-32; Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19; Mt 19:13-15

Next Sunday: Prv 9:1-6; Ps 34:2-3, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15 (9a); Eph 5:15-20/Jn 6:51-58

Observances for the week of August 11, 2024

Sunday: 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: St. Jane Frances de Chantal, Religious

Tuesday: Sts. Pontian, Pope, and Hippolytus, Priest, Martyrs

Wednesday: St. Maximilian Kolbe, Priest and Martyr

Thursday: The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Friday: St. Stephen of Hungary

Saturday of the 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Next Sunday: 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL



"Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls."



ADULTS & TEENS OVER 15

Are you or someone you know expressed an interest in becoming Catholic, or were baptized Catholic as a child, but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation? **OCIA (formerly RCIA)**, the Order of Christian Initiation for Adults, prepares individuals to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, and/or Confirmation during the Easter season. For more information, please contact: Deacon Dan Bingnear, daniel.bingnear@gmail.com, or leave a message for him at the parish office 610-485-0441, ext. 2. Meetings are at 6:30pm on Wednesdays.

August 10 & 11 is Mission Giving Weekend. Bishop Efren Esmilla will be preaching all Masses here at St. John Fisher.



For online giving or to learn more visit:

Pontifical Mission Societies
The Archdiocese of Philadelphia (phillymissions.org)

RELIGIOUS ED
SIGN-UPS!



2024-2025

PREP Registration

Register online today!

PREP 2024 - 2025 | St. John Fisher Church (stjohnfisherchurch.com)

Contact DRE Kathy Aaronson
kaaronson@sjf71.org with any questions.

Aides are needed for our Prep school of religion starting on Tuesday & Wednesday September 10/11. We would love your help with children in learning our Catholic faith. Contact Director of Faith Formation Kathy Aaronson 610-485-0441 x 5. Commitment is September to May, one day a week.



We would love to have you in our Adult choir. There are no tryouts. Looking for people who love to sing and commitment is a rehearsal once a week mostly on Wednesday nights and singing on Sundays during the 930 am mass and also for special liturgies for holy days and sacraments. Contact Music Director Kathy Aaronson 610-485-0441 x5 if interested! We need YOU!



BACK TO SCHOOL
SUPPLY DRIVE



School Supply Collection will be through the month of August. Please leave donations on the back counter of the Church Hall. Thank you for your support!

PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY

Tour Rome, Assisi, The Vatican, San Giovanni Rotondo and more! Join Evangelists, Christopher West, Jason Clark and Fr. Jim Otto on a life-changing immersion into the treasures of the Church in Italy as seen through the lens of St. John Paul II's Theology of the Body Teachings! Contact Parish Office if interested.

Win A Night At The Phillies ...

As They Take On The Houston Astros !

Tuesday August 27th—6:40PM Section 241

1st Prize: Four (4) tickets to game, Chauffeured Limousine Ride (within 10 mile radius-St. John Fisher) to and from the game plus \$75.00 spending money.

2nd Prize: \$50.00 cash ! **3rd Prize:** \$25.00 cash !

Chances are now on sale after all Masses for a limited time!

Ask any Knight or call Bob Curl 610.322.4802—Harry Stechak 267.240.5418

Chances are \$5 each or 5 Chances for \$20

Drawing will be Sunday, August 25th at 12:30 PM. Need not be present to win!

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August 2024

St. John Fisher Parish

Rev. James Otto, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

St. John Vianney

Difficulties with his studies almost cost St.



John Vianney the priest.

Ordained

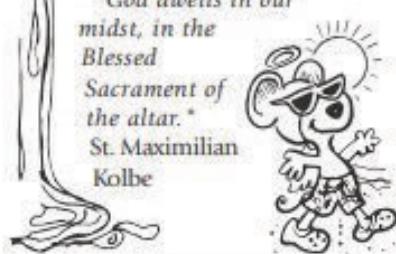
because of his goodness, he had a gift for reading souls. As the Curé (pastor) of Ars, France, he was confronted with people who were indifferent to Christ and comfortable in their lifestyles. To remedy this, he spent many hours fasting and praying. He spent as many as sixteen hours a day hearing confessions. His spiritual insight and good example reclaimed thousands of lapsed Catholics.

Don't avoid the fight

The ongoing battle for holiness can wear us down. The truth is that even if we fall a thousand times, we fight with Christ by our side. The effort pleases Him more than an easy and comfortable victory. He reminds us: Everyone who wants to be His disciple must take up their cross and follow Him.

"God dwells in our midst, in the Blessed Sacrament of the altar."

St. Maximilian Kolbe



Savor the fullness of Scripture

"To get the full flavor of an herb, it must be pressed between the fingers; so it is the same with the Scriptures. If you want to get the full flavor of the Scriptures, crush them by reading and meditation." St. John Chrysostom. Immerse yourself in God's Word to grow in holiness in this life and be happy in the next. Here's how:

Get a Catholic Bible: Ensure you have a Catholic Bible, which contains all the inspired books. The Revised Standard Version, Catholic Edition (RSVce) is an excellent choice, offering clear translations and helpful footnotes. It's also available online.

Read and listen: The Holy Spirit is



the ultimate guide to understanding Scripture. Pray for His guidance (John 16:13) and pay attention when a verse or word stands out to you. Reflect on these moments as they often serve as conversation starters with God in prayer.

Savor slowly: Praying with Scripture is like enjoying a fine meal. Take it slowly, savoring small portions to fully appreciate its richness. Choose a random or favorite verse and meditate on it deeply.

Keep a record: It's not necessary to journal daily, but keeping a regular prayer journal helps document lessons, thoughts, and Bible verses that strike you from your time in prayer. This "oasis" can be a source of encouragement during tough times.

Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics have seven Sacraments?

Sacraments are "efficacious signs, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church" to convey grace (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*). Grace is a share in God's divine life. Just as food, rest, and medicine maintain our bodies, the Sacraments maintain our



souls. The number of Sacraments was fixed at seven by the Council of Trent on March 3, 1547. These are Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Confession, Holy Orders, Matrimony, and Anointing of the Sick. Each has its roots in the New Testament Scriptures.

Use distractions to reconnect with God

The strain of a busy life can distract us from making holiness our focus. Yet, we have no hope of achieving holiness or true happiness unless God remains our focus. Pope Francis reminds us, "If the events of our life... risk suffocating the gift of prayer within us, it is enough to contemplate a starry sky, a sunset, a flower, to reignite the spark of thanksgiving." Use moments of distraction as opportunities to reconnect with God.

Combat tunnel vision: When confronted with a



problem, it's okay to pause and troubleshoot. If discouragement dominates your thoughts and prayers, step outside yourself. Go for a walk, chat with a friend, read a psalm, or pray for the souls in Purgatory. These actions can help shift your focus and renew your perspective.

Cultivate holy wonder: Appreciating the beauty of creation can be a natural gateway to prayer. Stroll through a park, admire the flowers, or listen to the birds and the wind. Such beauty often reconnects us to God when words fail.

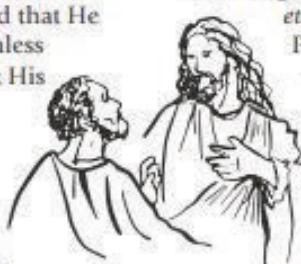
from Scripture

John 6:60-69, Live-giving truth

The sixth chapter of St. John's Gospel is foundational for Catholic understanding of the Eucharist. In this reading, Jesus declared that He is the Bread of Life and unless we eat His flesh and drink His blood, we will not have eternal life.

Jewish dietary laws strictly prohibited the consumption of blood, making Jesus' offer of His own shocking and offensive. His listeners failed to see beyond the graphic interpretation of His words and many abandoned Him.

Even the Apostles were troubled by this teaching. Yet, when Jesus asked if



they too would leave, Peter spoke for the group, saying, "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life" (John 6:68).

Peter recognized the divine truth and life-giving power in Jesus' teachings, despite their challenging nature.

As followers of Christ, we are reminded to echo Peter's words: "Master, you have the words of eternal life."

This chapter not only emphasizes the importance of the Eucharist in Catholic faith but also highlights the need for trust and faith in Jesus' teachings, even when they are hard to understand.

Feasts & Celebrations

August 12 - St. Jane Frances de Chantal (1641). Born wealthy in Dijon, France, Jane married the Baron de Chantal and had four children. Widowed after only seven years, she founded the Order of the Visitation with St. Francis de Sales, for those unable to enter a convent.

August 15 – Solemnity of the Assumption. Declared a dogma of faith in 1950 by Pope Pius XII, this celebrates Mary's being taken up into Heaven body and soul at the end of her life. Today is a holy

day of obligation.

August 19 - St. John Eudes (1680). Born on a farm in Normandy, France, John became a priest and parish missionary. He founded the Congregation of Jesus and Mary (Eudists) in 1643 to promote devotion to the Sacred and Immaculate Hearts.

Aug. 24 – St. Bartholomew the Apostle (1st Century). Bartholomew is thought by some scholars to be the Apostle, Nathanael (John 1:46). After Jesus' Ascension, Nathanael spread Christianity to India and Armenia, where he was martyred.



Q & A

How do saints pray?

What do "holy people's" prayers sound like? We imagine sublime and poetic musings on God's perfection. In fact, the saints, while very holy, are also human and intimate with God. Here's a brief glimpse into some saintly prayers to inspire your own:

"If this is how you treat your friends, no wonder you have so few!" St. Teresa of Avila uttered this humorous phrase after being thrown from her cart into the mud. It reflects her candid and down-to-earth relationship with God.

"Beware of Philip, Lord. He may yet betray you." St. Philip Neri, known for his wisdom, humor, and impulsive nature, knew his own weaknesses. Rather than make excuses for himself, he confessed his errors and asked for increased graces to remain faithful to God.

"Jesus, may I put on a good face!" This prayer was recommended by St. Josemaría Escrivá to someone tasked with an "unpleasant and repulsive" chore. St. Josemaría said that sometimes the hardest cross can be fulfilling our toughest responsibilities with "a good face."

Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

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[Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible]

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UPCOMING MUSIC MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Saturday	8/10	4:00pm	Organ/Cantor
Sunday	8/11	8:00am	Organ
		9:30am	Organ/Cantor
		11:30am	Organ/Cantor



Marriage Convalidation

The Catholic Church believes that marriages entered into by non Catholics in their particular church, or wherever they may take place, are valid. In the eyes of the Church, even two atheists or agnostics who are married civilly before a judge or magistrate enter into a valid marriage.

Catholics, however, are bound to observe a certain form of marriage in order that their marriage be valid. Canon law (the law of the Church) requires that Catholics enter into marriage by free mutual consent that is witnessed in a church by an authorized bishop, priest, or deacon and at least two other witnesses.

Marriages in which one or both parties are Catholic and which are not witnessed by an authorized bishop, priest, or deacon, or which do not receive proper permission to take place in another forum, are considered invalid in the eyes of the Church. When these couples are ready and free to do so, they celebrate what is called a convalidation, from the Latin word meaning "to firm up" or "to strengthen." This is sometimes incorrectly referred to as the blessing of a marriage. It is important to realize that a convalidation is not merely a renewal of promises made previously but is a new act of consent by each spouse. This new act of consent is essential to marriage, and the words that the couple expresses are the outward sign of the gift of self that they exchange.

This convalidation of marriage may be celebrated within Mass or outside of Mass, depending on the particular situation of the couple. If you are interested in learning more about having your marriage convalidated, please contact the church office, 610.485.0441.

MAIN LINE SINGLES DINNER CLUB (AGES 52-68)

Catholic men & women are cordially invited to join the "Main Line Singles Dinner Club" Our next scheduled event is on Sunday, August 18, 2024, @ 5:15 P.M., a restaurant event at "Masami Japanese Hibachi Restaurant" located @ 1260 Township Line Rd., Drexel Hill, PA 19026. More info call Barb (610) 896-6542.

The Sanctuary Candle burns this week
For: Robert Kaut
From: Doris & Joe Venuti



SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: Celebrated on the First, Second and Fourth Sundays of each month at 12:30pm. Pre-Jordan baptismal instruction is held on the Third Sunday at 12:30pm. Please call or visit the Parish Office to arrange baptisms.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturdays, 3:00 - 3:45pm; other times by appointment.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY: One party must be a registered member of Saint John Fisher Parish. Couples must make arrangements with the Pastor at least six months prior to the intended date. Weddings can be held at Saint John Fisher or at Immaculate Conception Church. Couples are required to attend the Archdioceses Sacramental Preparation Program for Marriage (4 sessions) or a Pre-Cana program.

PARISH REGISTRATION: We welcome new members to Saint John Fisher! If you are new to our parish, please call, go online, or visit the Parish Office to register.

LETTERS OF ELIGIBILITY: If you need a Letter of Eligibility from Saint John Fisher Parish to be a sponsor for Baptism or Confirmation, you must be or be in the process of becoming:

- a registered member of the parish, - at least 16 years of age,
- celebrating the Eucharist each week.
- celebrating reconciliation once a year.
- If married, sacramentally.

To request a letter, please speak with Father Otto after any Mass or call the Parish Office at 610-485-0441, ext. 2.

PARISH ON-LINE GIVING: Visit the parish website, www.stjohnfisherchurch.com and click on the '**Give Online with We Share**' icon to sign up for the electronic giving program.

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM (PREP): The PREP program provides religious education for public school children from September through May. Please call the PREP office at 610-485-0441, ext. 5, for more information and to register.

HOLY FAMILY REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL: Grades Pre-K through Eight: St. John Fisher parishioners support Holy Family Regional Catholic School. 610-494-0147 www.holyfamilyaston.org

ACTIVITIES

ADULT CHOIR PRACTICE: Wednesdays at 7:30pm in Church.

RESURRECTION CHOIR: Sing at funeral Masses. No rehearsals.

MEN'S GATHERING: Mon. 7pm in the Church Meeting Room.

FAITH SHARING SUNDAY READINGS: Will resume on Thursday September 5th. 7pm Chapel in Parish Center. 610-724-4121.

ADORATION: Mondays 8am to noon Benediction in the Church.

THE ROSARY AND DIVINE MERCY: Daily after the 7:30am Mass.

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (R.C.I.A.): Wednesdays at 6:30pm in the Parish Center.

PARISH COUNCIL: Meets first Thursday of the month.

FINANCE COUNCIL: Meets second Tuesday of the month.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HOLY SAVIOUR COUNCIL 13710: General membership meeting, third Thurs. of the month at 7pm at Immaculate Conception Hall. Contact, John O'Donnell Grand Knight, at 484-680-4713 for membership information. New members welcome!

RESPECT LIFE GROUP: Meets 4th Thurs. each month.

ST. JOHN'S ON THE HILL SENIORS: Meets the second and fourth Thursday at 12:30 p.m. in the Church Hall.

SCOUT TROOP 225:

Contact: BSA.T225.aston@gmail.com (ages 10-18)
Pack225Aston@gmail.com (K-5th grade)

LEGION OF MARY : Sundays, 10:30am, Chapel.

May They Rest in Peace

Deceased Members of the parish

"Come to me, all of you who are weary and I will give you rest."

Please Pray for Our Sick

Brian Allison, Bill Aaronson, Marie Barker, Shawn Bedwell, JoAnn Bezold, Marjorie Bingnear, Lynn Boyko, Helen Brogley, Patricia Brogley, Amy Calcagno, Connie Carney, Patricia Carr, Lisa Casey, Kim Cassano, Anthony Costa, Lou Ellen Crowley, Ernie Curry, Sally D'Haut, Berrt Lou Davey, Elizabeth Ann DeShullo, Mary Doyle, Verna Ebright, Kevin English, Lizzie English, Anna Fairfield, Katherine Falkowski, John Finn, Kathleen Fischer, Rick Gabarino, Mike Garrity, Carol Gaska, Mary Giambri, Michael Goodnight, Courtney Gross, Allison Guinan, Tim Hamfeldt, Betty Haggerty, Sharon Hildick, Michael Houck, Colleen Hughes, Linda Johnston, Florence Kambies, Mary Kane, Lorraine Karpinski, Melissa Kester, Mark Lane, Rees Litchfield, John Maguire, Karen Marinello, Joe & Joan Mascherino, Baby Braelynn Masci, Gail McCafferty, Frank McCorry, EllieMae McCreight, Linda & Ed McDaniel, Connie McElwee, Michael McGovern, LeeAnne McGough, John McGurk, Joseph McMullen, Mary Dee Merrell, Beth Moyer, Elizabeth Myers, Chip Natrin, Kristine Nolen, John Noonan, Mary Anne Noonan, Steve Nystrom, Mary Jane O'Brien, Tom Oleary, Joyce Pedrick, Susan Peppelman, Matthew Piecara, Benita Quigley, Bonnie & Sherrill Quigley, Jack Reynolds, Dottie Quinn Schaffer, Christine Schweidler, Wally Smith, Bryan Snyder, Larry Stoner, Michael Tart, Carmela Tenaro, Ann Thomas, Anthony Charles Venini, Marta Wajert, Gloria Williamson, Alex Wilson.

MASS INTENTIONS



Saturday	August 10 4:00 PM	Bernard Kravitz
Sunday	August 11 8:00 AM 9:30 AM 11:30 AM	Timoteo Cuadra Michael & Crissy Kane The People of the Parish
Monday	August 12 7:30 AM	Jeanie Sides
Tuesday	August 13 7:30 AM	Bernice Watson
Wednesday	August 14 7:30 AM 7:00 PM	Frances & Esther O'Leary Billy Wood
Thursday	August 15 9:00 AM 7:00 PM	John & Edward McGoldrick George & Velia Brill
Friday	August 16 7:30 AM	John McGinn
Saturday	August 17 4:00 PM	Barbara Rocco and John Flemming
Sunday	August 18 8:00 AM 9:30 AM 11:30 AM	Judith Benvenger Ann Marie McKenna The People of the Parish

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