



Parish of St. Mary



Worship Schedule

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:00 pm (Lee) 5:30 pm (Otis)
 Sunday Mass: 8 & 11 am (Lee) & 9:30 am (Stockbridge)
 Weekday Mass: (Lee) - 7:00 AM
 Holy Days of Obligation (please see inside)

Parish Offices

40 Academy Street / Lee, MA 01238
 Hours: Tues, Wed, Thurs 9am-12pm or by appt
 Telephone (413)243-0275 Fax: (413)243-1926
 Rectory Email: lcsmchurch@gmail.com
 Cemeteries Email: cemeteries101@gmail.com
 Faith Formation Email: stmaryleccd@gmail.com
 Website: www.stmarylos.com
 Prayer Line (413)243-1523 (Vicki)

Parish Pastoral Staff

Fr. Brian F. McGrath - *Pastor*
 Fr. Matt Barone - *Parochial Vicar*
 Deacon Jim McElroy - *Deacon Emeritus*
 Deacon Bob Digan - *Deacon Emeritus*
 Miss Marya Makuc - *Parish Secretary/Youth Ministry*
 Mrs. Karen T. Vidoli - *Cemeteries Manager*
 Mr. Jeffrey Simmons - *Maintenance*
 Mr. Lewis Brooks - *Maintenance*
 Mrs. Holly Cusack - *Bookkeeper*
 Ms. Sandy Cummings - *Music Director (Lee)*
 Ms. Susan Aery - *Music Director (Otis)*
 Mr. Art DeVyllder - *Music Director (Stockbridge)*
 - - - - and Volunteers - - - -
 Mrs. Colleen Free - *Youth Ministry*
 Mr. Charles Houff - *Pastoral Council*
 Mr. Richard Brittain - *Administration & Finance*
 Mrs. Brenda Bianco - *Safe Environment Coordinator*

Pastoral Council

Charles Houff,
 chair
 Laura Sexton
 Lewis Brooks
 Chad Klapes
 Lori Koperek
 Richard Lacey
 Carol Lombardo
 Kate Murray
 Lynda Newton
 Erin Pollard
 Trish Santos

Finance Council

Richard Brittain,
 chair
 Bob Gutmann
 Bob Kelly
 Richard Lacey
 John Masten
 Cathie Sparks
 Thom Swift
 Holly Cusack



St. Mary, Mother of the Church
 140 Main Street
 Lee

St. Mary of the Lakes
 72 North Main Road
 Otis

St. Joseph Church
 11 Elm Street
 Stockbridge

One parish serving God and Neighbor in three worship sites.



18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"But God said to him, 'You fool, this night your life will be demanded of you; and the things you have prepared, to whom will they belong?' Thus will it be for all who store up treasure for themselves but are not rich in what matters to God." - Lk 12:20-21

St. Mary's School Est. 1885

Celebrating 137 years of Catholic education!

115 Orchard Street — Lee, MA 01238

Telephone (413) 243-1079 | Fax 243-1022

www.StMarysLee.org

Miss. Cara Maiorano | *Principal*

Mrs. Linda Winters | *School Secretary*

Parish of St Mary

Please pray for the men and women who have been activated to serve our nation, all our police officers, firefighters, first responders, health care workers, research scientists and essential services workers.

Let us also pray for our departed brothers and sisters, especially those who have died due to the pandemic, anyone who has passed away recently, for those we miss so much.

**John Hughes, Michael Isika,
Patrick Boyne**

May they rest in the loving arms of God in heaven. AMEN.

If you would like to add a name of a deceased loved one, please call the rectory.



The Candles this Week

Sanctuary: People of the Parish

Grotto Lamps: People of the Parish

Oratory Lamp: Peter Tonazzi

Candles may be reserved
by calling the rectory at 243-0275

Weekly Parishioner Contributions

	7/17/22	7/24/22
<u>Mail:</u>	\$1,720.00	\$1,298.00
<u>Online:</u>	\$803.90	\$1,143.90
<u>Lee:</u>	\$3,872.00	\$6,139.00
<u>Stockbridge:</u>	\$1,021.00	\$856.00
<u>Otis:</u>	\$561.00	\$408.00
<u>One Time Gift:</u>	\$0.00	\$0.00

Thanks for your generosity.

Mass Intentions for This Week

Sat. 7/30	4:00 pm	† Richard Dupras, <i>by his family</i>
	Otis 5:30 pm	† Deirdre Daily, <i>by William Duffly</i>
Sun. 7/31	8:00 am	† Tina Porrini, <i>by the Brunells</i>
	Stockbridge 9:30 am	♥ Micki Cook (Healing and Health), <i>by her friends</i>
	11:00 am	† Bill Morrissey, <i>by his wife, Mary Margaret</i>
	12:00 pm	♥ Seamus Culver & Cara Mairorano Wedding
Mon. 8/1	7:00 am	† Edwin Fein (1st Anniversary), <i>by the Sparks Family</i>
Tue. 8/2	7:00 am	† Souls in Purgatory
Wed. 8/3	7:00 am	† Charan Leeman Peeples, <i>by Ed & Laurie Forfa</i>
Thu. 8/4	7:00 am	† Mayme Peltier, <i>by Bill & Becky Brunell</i>
		† Tom Finnegan, <i>by Eleanor</i>
Fri. 8/5	7:00 am	† Jaqueline Abbott (Birthday Remembrance), <i>by the Family</i>
	Laurel L NH 10:30 am	† Deceased Members of our Parish Family
	Sandisfield NH 1:30 pm	† Deceased Veterans and First Responders
Sat. 8/6	4:00 pm	† Richard Dupras, <i>by his family</i>
	Otis 5:30 pm	† Lawrence & Dorothy Rybacki, <i>by their son-in-law, John Muglia</i>
Sun. 8/7	8:00 am	† Tina Porrini, <i>by the Brunells</i>
	Stockbridge 9:30 am	†
	11:00 am	† Bill Morrissey, <i>by his wife, Mary Margaret</i>

MASS INTENTIONS: Contact the rectory (243-0275) to book a Mass.



Ministers on the Altar next Weekend

Sat. 8/6	3:00 pm (Confessions):	Fr. Brian
	4:00 pm (Lee):	Fr. Brian A.S.: John Williams Lector: Mary Ann Saunders
		E.M.: Tom Rollinger, Maureen Wellspeak
	5:30 pm (Otis):	Fr. Matt A.S.: Dylan and Logan Fedor
		E.M.: Carol Lombardo Lectors: Dylan and Logan Fedor
Sun. 8/7	8:00 am (Lee):	Fr. Brian A.S.: John Williams Lector: Verna Houff
		E.M.: Charles & Verna Houff, Roger Scheurer
	9:30 am (Stockbridge):	Fr. Matt Lector: Sue Barenski
	11:00 am (Lee):	Fr. Brian A.S.: Charlotte Lector: Marlene Morris
		E.M.: Holly Baccoli, Chris Bzduch & John Williams

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 31st, 2022

18 th Sunday in Ordinary Time:	Eccl 1:2; 2:21-23/Ps 90/Col 3:1-5, 9-11/Lk 12:13-21
Mon., <i>St. Alphonsus Liguori:</i>	Jer 28:1-17/Ps 119/Mt 14:13-21
Tue., <i>St. Eusebius of Vercelli; St. Peter Julian Eymard:</i>	Jer 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22/Ps 102/ Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14
Wed.:	Jer 31:1-7/Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13/Mt 15:21-28
Thu., <i>St. John Vianney:</i>	Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51/Mt 16:13-23
Fri., <i>Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major:</i>	Na 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7/Dt 32/Mt 16:24-28
Sat., <i>The Transfiguration of the Lord:</i>	Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/Ps 97/2 Pt 1:16-19/Lk 9:28b-36
19 th Sunday in Ordinary Time:	Wis 18:6-9/Ps 33/Heb 11:1-2, 8-19/Lk 12:32-48



"THIS IS MY
BELOVED SON.
LISTEN TO HIM."
MARK 9:7

From the Pastor

Next weekend will be John Williams' last full weekend with us at the parish. I am sure he will be back to visit, but it is sad to see him go. He has been such a great presence in our community this summer.

It has been an honor to host him. He got to see the school and the many end-of-year activities. He was part of the Faith Formation gathering in June and witnessed the planning for next year. He has been very helpful around the buildings and grounds, always lending a helping hand. He began a new ministry for Funeral Servers called the Aramathean Ministry. He visited nursing homes and homebound and families. He served at Masses and funerals and weddings. He has done so much.

I think my favorite moment was his reflection at the Memorial Day Mass at the cemetery. As a Marine Corps veteran he knows the sacrifice and service of our men and women in uniform. His reflection that day was moving and hopeful and inspiring.

He will be traveling to the wedding of one of his nephews. I am sure it will be a great time to gather with his very large family. Then he has only a couple days to get ready for his next academic year. He will be entering Second Theology at Pope St. John XXIII in Weston. God willing he will be ordained in 2025.

Let's continue to pray for John and for many more holy vocations. In this Year of the Eucharist, may God grant us a renewal in service and sacrifice in the Church.

pax. Fr. b.

P.S. I have been contacted by another parish to go on a trip to the Holy Land in April 2023. Would you be interested? I'll get more information soon.

Answer to Catholic Trivia on p. 7: **Aramaic**

JOHN WILLIAMS pastoral summer here at our parish is drawing to a close. His last official weekend here at the parish will be next weekend, August 6 & 7. He will be around the following week as he begins to move back to seminary and get ready for the Quo Vadis vocations day at Camp Holy Cross. John will be in Second Theology at Pope St. John XXIII seminary in Weston. We thank him for his time with us and wish him well. May God bless him with the grace to become a priest and great joy in the journey.

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Greed is more present and powerful in our lives than we care to admit. We like our "stuff" and are hesitant to part with it. What we convince ourselves that we really need, we really do not. If everything we own is taken away from us tomorrow, life will continue. We will find happiness again. How many relationships are ruined because of inheritance issues? Our possessions cannot come with us when we die. Why do we foolishly think that we cannot live without them here? Wealth and happiness do not have physical origins. True wealth and happiness are gifts of God's kingdom and matters of heart and soul. We are much more than what we possess, and greed is more real and operative than we think. Let us begin our journey to detachment with an honest admission. We often place more importance on things than on people and God. Ask God to accept our conflicted hearts and give us the courage to do things differently.

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ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

**SMC = St. Mary, Mother of the Church, Lee
STJ = St. Joseph's, Stockbridge**

SML = St. Mary of the Lakes, Otis | SMS = St. Mary's School, Lee

We are live-streaming the Weekend Masses from St. Mary's Church on our Facebook page (St Mary Lee, Otis, Stockbridge).

You can keep updated on the diocesan (diospringfield.org) parish (stmarylos.com) and school websites (stmaryslee.org) as well on Facebook & MyParish App.

Sun 7/31 12:00 pm **Seamus Culver & Cara Maiarano Wedding** SMC

Mon 8/1

Tue 8/2 6:30 pm **Book Club** SMS

Wed 8/3 6:00 pm **Knights of Columbus - SMS**

Thu 8/4

Fri 8/5

FIRST FRIDAY

7:00 am **Morning Mass & Devotion**

10:30 am **Mass at Laurel Landing NH**

1:30 pm **Mass at Sandisfield NH**

Sat 8/6 10:30 am **Sr. Bernadette's 1st Profession** — Visitation Monastery, Tyngham

MISSION APPEAL WEEKEND
(Marist Missionaries)

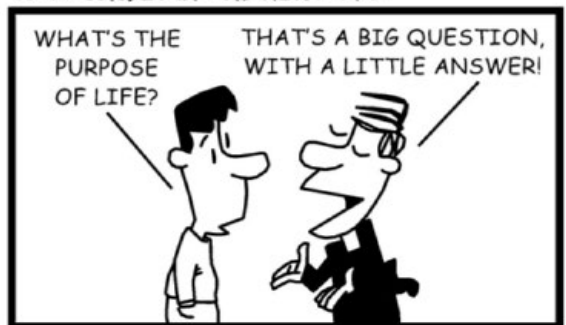
JOHN WILLIAMS LAST WEEKEND AT THE PARISH

Sun 8/7 5:00 pm **Ubi Caritas Concert - STJ**

Upcoming 8/21 Parish Picnic; 8/29 First Day of School; 9/5 Labor Day; 9/9 St. Mary's School Mum Sale; 9/10 KoC Rosary at St. Mary's Cemetery; 9/16 Founders Weekend; 9/18 Catechetical Sunday (Faith Formation begins);

www.stmarylos.com

18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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July 31st, 2022 - Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

We are a Eucharistic community, finding strength in Jesus and His Church by living both Word and Sacrament. We minister to the needs of the People of God through Worship and living out the Gospel and the Teachings of the Roman Catholic Church.

Rectory Office Hours are Tue., Wed. and Thu. from 9:00 am to Noon.

Registration: We welcome all new members to our parish family. To formally join the parish, please fill in the Parish Census form. Our parish census helps us keep track of who is a member of the parish. It is how we send parishioners the Catholic Mirror and parish mailings. If you want to be registered with us, simply fill in the Census Form (found at the entrances of the church or on our website) or stop by the rectory.

Baptisms take place at the request of the family. In preparation, parents are asked to complete one class. Contact the rectory for additional information

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place in the Oratory
Mon. - Fri. 8 am - 11 pm
Sat. & Sun. 9 am - 11 pm

The Sacrament of Reconciliation & The Anointing of the Sick is offered every Saturday from 3:00-3:30 in **St. Mary's Church, Lee**. These sacraments may be received any time by appointment.

Sick or Homebound: Kindly inform the Rectory if you or someone you know would like a visit at home, hospital or nursing home.

Marriage: Congratulations to our newly engaged. Please contact the rectory to begin the preparations. The process can take up to a year. God's grace lasts all the days of your life.

Holy Orders: If you feel the call to religious life or a vocation to the diaconate or priesthood; contact Fr. Brian or Fr. Matt at the rectory or the diocesan Vocations Director, Fr. Jon Reardon: 413-739-0456, ext. 4

email: vocations@diospringfield.org

New Direction Crisis Pregnancy Center: Has a help line available 24/7. Call: 413-347-8005

Visit →
Our →
Parish →
Website →

www.stmarylos.com



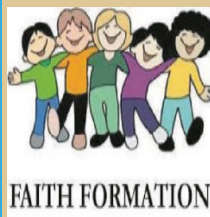
BOOK CLUB: has started and it is not too late to join. We are reading Laurence C. Lovasik's book: *The Hidden Power of Kindness, A Practical Handbook for Souls Who Dare to Transform the World, One Deed at a Time.*: Let's grow together in small daily acts and expressions of kindness! "they will know we are Christians by our love." Tuesday Evening July 12-August 16 6:30-7:30 pm, St. Mary's School Library. If the cost of the book is a concern please allow us to gift you a copy. To sign-up or for more information contact Laura Sexton lhsexton1971@verizon.net (413)429-1148

MISSION APPEAL WEEKEND: We are honored to be visited by one of the Marist fathers for our upcoming Mission Appeal Weekend, August 6 & 7. Since it's official recognition by the Church in 1836, the Society of Mary (Marist Fathers and Brothers) has committed itself to the missions in the southwestern Pacific. Since that time, the Marists have expanding into areas in Africa, Asia and South America. Today there are nearly 230 priests and brothers working in "bush stations", teaching in schools and seminaries, ministering in training institutions, providing direct service to the poor, oppressed and marginalized and contributing to the development of people for a better society and a strong local church. Contributions to the Marists will help them in their mission of witness to the Gospel, service to the needy and helping the local church to build a strong base for its promising future. Thank you for whatever you can do to help them in their lifelong commitment and work.

OTIS LAUNDRY COLLECTION: One of the simple, but important needs we hope to help with is quarters for laundry. Conations are deeply appreciated as we reach out to local families to help them do their laundry. Mark your donation "Otis Laundry Collection". Thanks

PARISH PICNIC will take place on Sunday, 8/21, following the 11 am Mass, at St. Mary's School, Lee. No admission fee /free will offering box. Live Music with Mary Verdi & The Flight Band sponsored by the K of C Council #314 Please join us for family fun and good food. **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

UPDATE ON SOME SUMMER PROJECTS: 1) VanZandt Plumbing installed a new sewer connection the bathroom to the street at St. Mary's in Lee. New technology made it so we did not have to dig a new line, but simply insert a new line through the existing. Between snaking/cutting out the roots and inserting the new line it cost about \$5,000. 2) We have signed a contract for replacing the roof over the Library-side entrance at St. Mary's Church in Lee. Work should begin soon. Then we can repair & repaint the damaged ceiling. 3) Fr. Brian will be working with a family from our school to build a new Christmas Creche for St. Joseph's Church. We have the wood, it's time to build. 4) Richard Brittain is building a vegetable stand for the Community Garden. 5) We look forward to repaving the back parking lot at St. Mary's Church. As part of the project a water line will be installed from the rain cisterns up at the rectory down to the Community Garden, and a fiber optic line will be run from the rectory to the church (saving over \$130 a month for internet at the Church). 6) We are lining up a lot of tree work at the cemetery ... it's very expensive but we've lost a lot of trees last winter and with the ash bores. 7) We are building simple enclosure up at St. Mary's cemetery for the truck and all the stuff stored outside by the garage. 8) A generous person will be repairing the fence in front of St. Joseph's Church. The granite posts have been broken for years. || And all this while completely clean the school and maintain the grounds at our churches and cemeteries. Thank you to Jeff and our maintenance crew!



FAITH FORMATION NEWS

VOLUNTEERS FOR FAMILY FAITH FORMATION: We are still looking for help with hospitality, hall monitors, and lots more. Meetings are Sunday mornings, about twice a month. If you can help us out, please send an email to stmaryleccd@gmail.com or call me at the rectory (413) 243-0275.

REGISTRATION FOR FAMILY FAITH FORMATION has begun! Families with children, empty nesters, singles, couples, young adults, seniors -- all of God's children -- are invited. The First Communion class will attend Family Faith Formation events and five additional classes throughout the year. The Confirmation class will meet regularly on Sunday evenings. Registration forms are now available on the parish website as well as in every church. More information can be found at stmarylos.com.
AMDG, Marya

One Parish Serving through Three Churches, Two Cemeteries and Our School

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN

The Diocese of Springfield provides VIRTUS® in-person and Zoom awareness training for adults to help identify and prevent child sexual abuse.

The Protecting God's Children® Program for Adults teaches clergy, diocesan / parish / school / agency employees, volunteers, parents and other caring adults to recognize the warning signs of sexual abuse and to respond appropriately.

Effective July 11, 2022 in-person training sessions are offered weekly at the Pastoral Center in Springfield, Massachusetts on the following days and times:

9:00 AM – First and Third Monday of Each Month

1:00 PM – Second and Fourth Thursday of Each Month

6:00 PM – Second Thursday of Each Month

Training sessions are three-hours in length. Given the sensitive nature of material presented, attendance at these three-hour training session is restricted to adults. Please note that a ZOOM option is available for those unable to attend in-person.

In addition to the adult trainings listed above, trainings will be held at various locations throughout the Diocese of Springfield during the year. For a list of available training sessions, please register for a VIRTUS® Online account or log into your current account at www.virtusonline.org.

TO ATTEND A TRAINING YOU MUST PRE-REGISTER THROUGH VIRTUS® ONLINE. To register to attend a three-hour awareness session, please go online to www.virtusonline.org and select "Registration" for the "Springfield Diocese," then follow the prompts.

Please call your parish or school Safe Environment Coordinator if you have any questions. Your Safe Environment Coordinator's contact information is provided when you register. You may also contact Paula Denno from the diocesan Office of Safe Environment and Victim Assistance at 413-452-0662 with any questions.

All participants must arrive on time. Those arriving late will need to register for an alternate training. Child-care is not provided.

From the Area and the Diocese

YEAR OF THE EUCHARIST: Check out our website, it contains resources and materials, articles and videos for you to take deeper dive into the mystery of this glorious sacrament:

www.yearoftheeucharist.net

**“Thus the Lord unites us with Himself through the Eucharist
- Sacrament and Sacrifice -
and He unites us with Himself and with one another
by a bond stronger than any natural union.”**

– Pope St. John Paul II

VOCATIONS: “Spend your life growing rich in the sight of God. That's what counts. How will you do this? (Luke 12:13-21 If you think God is calling you, please email vocations@diospringfield.org. Website: www.myvocation.com

PRO-LIFE: In February of this year, Problem Pregnancy of Worcester had a special reason to thank God: they celebrated **40 years** of saving babies & helping mothers. Director Rod Murphy conservatively estimated that during that time they were able to save **over 4,000 babies** & their mothers from the horror of abortion. Think about that! Their wonderful volunteer counselors saved more babies than the entire population of Princeton, MA (pop. 3,900). None of this would have been possible without the financial contributions of those who value LIFE. For more information on this wonderful crisis pregnancy center, you can visit their website or call them at: 888-310-7217. God bless you!

CONGRATULATIONS SR. BERNADETTE RAYMER. She will be making her First Profession of Vows at the Visitation Monastery in Tyringham on Saturday, August 6th at 10:30 am. Please lift her up in prayer and continue to pray for more vocations to religious life.

CONCERT AT ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH: We are so honored to host Berkshire Lyric in an amazing concert. Ubi Caritas. Don't miss this amazing moment of beautiful music in benefit of the local food pantry. Free admission, we will take up a free-will offering to help those less fortunate. Sunday, August 7th, 5 pm at St. Joseph's Church, Stockbridge.

QUO VADIS DAY FOR YOUNG MEN will take place on Saturday, August 13th: "Quo Vadis" is Latin for, "Where Are You Going?" Young men of the parish are invited to a day of reflection on the vocation to Catholic priesthood on 8/13 at Camp Holy Cross in Goshen. Join Bishop Byrne, priests of the diocese, and other young men from Western Massachusetts for a day of prayer and camaraderie. See flyer for details and to RSVP; you may also contact our seminarian, John Williams, with questions by calling the office or email: jwilliams@psjs.edu.

10TH ANNUAL FAITH ON FIRE CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RALLY will be held on Friday, 8/26 at 6pm (rain or shine) on the grounds of Sacred Heart Parish at 1065 Springfield Street in Feeding Hills, MA. Our evening will consist of Praise and Worship music by Jack Yourous from Our Lady of the Lake Parish in Southwick, Psalm 33 with Tom Fucci from Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Parish in Westfield and Saint Cecilia's Youth Band with Carolee McGrath from Saint Cecilia Parish in Wilbraham, a Eucharistic Procession at dusk in candlelight, Reconciliation, an opportunity for extra prayer under the Prayer Tent with Prayer Teams and prayers for Healing with Laying of the Hands during Adoration. Our main speaker is the Most Rev. William Byrne along with Fr. Paul Norman, Fr. Ryan Sliwa and lay witness speakers from our area communities to inspire you. The Faith on Fire Committee, Saint Martha's Guild and the Agawam Knights of Columbus council 5585 will provide food for purchase at a reasonable price (food tent opens at 5:30pm). Please bring a lawn chair and/or blankets for comfortable seating. God promised that "for where two or more are gathered I am there among you". Please contact Deb Briancesco RN Faith on Fire Coordinator/Pastoral Ministry at 413-786-8200



**PRAYER HELPERS OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD
MONTHLY PRAYER FOR PRIESTS
IN THE DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD, MA**

Blessed Virgin Mary, we fervently believe in your triumphant Assumption into heaven where you are acclaimed as Queen by the angels and saints. We unite with them to praise the Lord who has exalted you above all other creatures and to offer you our devotion and love. We also pray for [Name] today. Support him in his struggles and weaknesses; smile upon his joys and victories.

Mary Immaculate, gaze down mercifully upon our priests. Like the beloved disciple John, may clergymen confidently call upon you as their Mother, taking you as the guide, strength, and consolation of their priestly life. When their earthly journey has ended, may each one of them hear the voice of Jesus saying to you: "Woman, behold your son." Amen.

August 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Rev. Duy Le	2 Rev. Paolo Bagattini, CSS	3 Rev. Richard Bondi	4 Rev. Bassam Saade	5 Rev. John Gawienowski	6 Rev. Kingsley Ihejirika
7 Very Rev. John Lessard (Healing)	8 Bishop Emeritus Timothy McDonnell	9 Rev. John Connors	10 Rev. Daniel Cymmer	11 Rev. Frank Furman	12 Rev. Chris Fedoryshyn	13 Rev. Charles Kuzmeski
14 Rev. Michael Bernier (Healing)	15 Pope Francis	16 Rev. Matthew Barone	17 Rev. David Smith, MIC	18 Rev. Stanislaus Achu	19 Rev. Michael Goodreau	20 Rev. Matthew Guidi
21 Fr. Jude Surowiec, OFM Conv. (Healing)	22 Rev. Mark Miller	23 Rev. Francis Kennedy	24 Most Rev. William Byrne	25 Rev. Msgr. John Myslinski	26 Rev. Ryan Rooney	27 Rev. Vitor Oliveira
28 Rev. David Aufiero	29 Rev. Michael Wood	30 Rev. Ryan Sliwa	31 Fr. Stanley Sobiech, OFM Conv.	Jesus, Good Shepherd, out of Your tender love for us, raise up compassionate seminarians to serve Your Church. Amen.		

"The end for which God has instituted the priesthood has been to appoint on earth public persons to watch over the honor of His divine majesty and to procure the salvation of souls."

—St. Alphonsus Liguori

www.prayerhelpersofthepreciousblood.org



For more copies, contact:

Mrs. Anna Maria Dias, O.P.B.
P.O. Box 346, Ludlow, MA 01056
(413) 530-3198; faithfirst@1791.com

**EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP
What We Store in the Barn**

I once knew a godly woman who had truly tasted the bitterness of this earthly life. This woman knew pain. She knew sacrifice. She knew hard labor and loss, including the death of a cherished child. She worked each day at a low-paying job, waiting patiently for her 65th birthday, when she could retire and devote herself full-time to her grandchildren. She crossed off the dwindling days on her calendar like a first grader waiting for Christmas.

Ninety-eight days before she was set to retire, she died suddenly. Her name was erased from the schedule at work and penciled over with that of her replacement hire.

All things are vanity.

I think we all know someone like this, don't we? If the details aren't exactly the same, the outline of the story is: someone labors "with wisdom and knowledge and skill," in the words of Ecclesiastes. And what profit comes to him? Sorrow and grief all his days. The proverbial barn filled with harvest and left to rot.

But I'll let you in on a secret: this isn't a sad story. I've only told you part of it.

This woman heard, daily, the voice of God, and against it she never hardened her heart, whatever news it brought her. This woman loved as hard as she worked. Every action was a form of evangelization. To talk to her was to feel the embrace of Christ.

As much as she waited for that retirement that never came, it was never the harvest in her barn.

This is what it means to be a true steward: to seek what is above. — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LP

GOSPEL MEDITATION - JULY 31ST, 2022 - 18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

What makes us feel secure? Many people look to tangible forms of security that will safeguard their livelihood and prepare for their future. We tend to associate security with things: the accumulation of goods and possessions, retirement funds, savings accounts, and substantial incomes. While acquiring these promises a life with less anxiety and worry, we actually find ourselves more preoccupied and consumed with their growth and preservation. We worry more! We can easily become quasi-hoarders, consumed with obtaining more tangible crutches. Our minds and hearts are always restless, and we never seem to be at peace.

Why do we so easily give our self-worth, value, and sense of security over to things? God certainly does not deny us the pursuit of a productive and enjoyable life but where do we draw the line? A sense of well-being and happiness can easily get deferred to sometime "in the future" while we continue to wrestle with the toils of today. There is no guarantee that there will be an earthly tomorrow and all of the frenzy we bring to securing our state in life will be for naught. When we are called from this world, will we even know where to begin to look for the tranquility and repose our souls so desperately need?

We cannot be hoarders, pursuers of vanity, or greedy. They just don't work as they are too dependent on things that can fall apart. Rather than always feeling the need for more, we need to learn how to be grateful for what we have. By learning to look inward we can learn how to live lives of faithful service to others. "Happiness can only be achieved by looking inward and learning to enjoy whatever life has, and this requires transforming greed into gratitude (St. John Chrysostom)." We all need to be good stewards of what has been entrusted to our care. Grateful hearts recognize the true source of what we have and realize that our true treasure lies not in what matters to us but to God.

©LP

July 31st, 2022



SUMMER HOURS: Over the summer, the school office will be open **Tuesday - Thursday from 9 -2:**

Miss Maiorano - Tuesdays and Thursdays 9 - 2

Mrs. Winters - Tuesdays and Wednesdays 9 - 2

Mrs. Holly Cusack - Tuesdays and Thursdays 9 -2

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL IS AUGUST 29TH! We continue to pray for all our students, families and teachers as the summer draws to a close. May it be restful and renewing. See you soon at School.

ENROLL FOR NEXT YEAR: We have spots in most grades for this Fall. Contact the school to find out more information or to schedule a day for your child to shadow one of our students. Financial Aide is available. Talk to us to find out what all the buzz is about. (413)243-1079

**THANK YOU
FOR ALL YOU DO
FOR OUR SCHOOL!**

YEAR OF THE EUCHARIST PRAYER

Jesus, I believe that you are truly present Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Eucharist. In you I place my whole family. Heal our wounds and renew us in heart and mind with a greater reverence, devotion and love for you in the Holy Eucharist.

Our Lady, first tabernacle of the Word made flesh, intercede on our behalf to your Son, especially for the Diocese of Springfield and our priests. Through their love for the priesthood and the Eucharist, may they inspire young men to the priesthood that the Mass may continue to be offered so that we may be nourished with your Son's Body and Blood. Guide especially our youth to your Church so they may thrive by knowing the truth that only comes from Jesus.

Most Holy Trinity,

I adore you!

My God, I love you
in the Most Blessed
Sacrament. AMEN.



CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Question: What language did Jesus and the apostles probably speak?

(answer on page 3)

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