

SMP SAINT MICHAEL PARISH
The Roman Catholic Church of Olympia, Washington

JULY 25, 2021 | 17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

1208 11th Ave. SE, Olympia 98501
(360) 754-4667
www.saintmichaelparish.org

OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Thursday: 9AM–5PM Friday: 9AM–1PM

CALVARY CEMETERY (360) 292-7138
3850 Cleveland Ave., Tumwater 98501

ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL (360) 754-5131

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Rent/Utility assistance: (360) 972-0661
General assistance: stmichaelsvdpoly@gmail.com
Office closed until further notice

CLOTHING BANK

Donations only **Sat. 9AM–1PM**

PREGNANCY AID (360) 956-7413

M & F 2–4PM Wed 9AM–12PM

PASTOR:

Fr. Jim Lee

PAROCHIAL VICAR:

Fr. Thomas Tran

DEACONS:

Rob Rensel

John Bergford

MASS TIMES:

DOWNTOWN:

1055 Boundary St. SE

Monday–Thursday: 12Noon (Mondays at 9AM holidays)

Friday & Saturday: 9AM

Saturday: 5PM

Sunday: 7:30AM, 9:30AM, 11:30AM & 5PM

WESTSIDE CHAPEL:

1835 Overhulse Rd. NW
Closed until further notice

RECONCILIATION TIMES (DOWNTOWN):

Thursdays: 11AM–NOON | Saturdays: 3–4:45PM

MISSION

Our mission is to place God first in all things, to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to grow in holiness through prayer, sacraments, and service.



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mass intentions

7.26 MONDAY

12NOON Mass canceled

7.27 TUESDAY

12NOON Fina Pehrson
Rob Pehrson II †

7.28 WEDNESDAY

12NOON Bernie Nolan † Facebook

7.29 THURSDAY (Reconciliation 11AM–NOON)

12NOON Jim O’Sullivan †

7.30 FRIDAY

9AM Josephina Caballero †

7.31 SATURDAY (Reconciliation 3–4:45PM)

9AM Ruel & Lucis de la Cruz

5PM Margaret Feist †

8.1 SUNDAY

7:30AM Barbara Crow

9:30AM Pat Pickett YouTube

11:30AM Bob Linblom †

5PM People of SMP

JOIN US FOR
Wednesday Evening
VESPERS
6PM — Prayer & Music

Please note the change to Saturday reconciliation times and the addition of reconciliation again on Thursdays!

schedule your holy hour!

We now have an online Eucharistic Adoration scheduler. Set up your weekly Holy Hour at <https://smpoly.weadorehim.com>

Cover: Ambrosius Francken, *Multiplication of the Loaves and Fishes*, 1598

"THE SON OF MAN IS LORD OF THE SABBATH." (MATTHEW 12:8)

As we enter into the next five weeks of what is called the "Bread of Life" discourse in St. John's Gospel, I want to share with you a reflection from the monthly periodical, *The Word Among Us*.

"You know the very first thing that's called "holy" in the Bible? It is not a place like a temple or shrine, but a time. It is the Sabbath (Genesis 2:3).

"God made the Sabbath holy so that his people could join him in resting and finding refreshment in the beauty he had created (Exodus 31:17). From the very beginning, the Sabbath has been a gift to God's people: a sign of God's eternal love for them and a celebration of our freedom from oppression. By observing the Sabbath, the Jewish people enter sacred time when they worship God and celebrate their special relationship with him.

"It's no wonder, then, that some Pharisees were ruffled by Jesus' disciples seeming disregard of the Sabbath. The problem was that they didn't recognize Jesus as "Lord of the Sabbath" (Matthew 12:8), so they could not see that just by being with Jesus, the disciples were fulfilling God's command. Every moment they spent with Jesus was sacred time!

"What about us? The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches that we can follow the "rhythm and spirit" of the Sabbath even today (2176). Every Sunday, we can enter into a sacred time when we rest our bodies and ask God to refresh our spirits. Recalling the day when Jesus rose from the dead, we can celebrate our freedom from sin by gathering as God's people and worshipping God. As we set aside this time to be with the Lord and each other, Jesus comes to us and offers us his grace to help us grow in holiness.

"Think about how the disciples became hungry and searched for food (Matthew 12:1 – 8). We also grow spiritually hungry, and crave refreshment and renewal. And in God's goodness, that is exactly what our heavenly Father offers us in his gift of the Eucharist. When we eat this spiritual food, we enter "spiritual time" in a special way.

Sanctified by the bread of life in the chalice of salvation, we join the angels in their own endless hymn of praise to the Lord.

"Sunday is a gift ... How will you set aside this time and make it sacred?"

M.A.S.S.

For a good number of years now, I have used this acronym to help us understand what is at the core of our existence as Roman Catholics—the celebration of the Mass. Sunday is a gift given to us by God to free us from the relentless oppression of work, striving, fruitless activity, meaningless running around, etc.

To make Sunday sacred is not merely a command or an obligation. It is a gift to be freely received as that which nourishes our body, mind and soul. The "obligation" of participating in Mass every Sunday, rather than being a burden, is rightly understood as "freedom." It is this very obligation that frees us to be our deepest and truest selves—human beings, not human doings—thereby helping us to get in touch with our deepest identities as beloved daughters and sons of God who longs to "rest" with us.

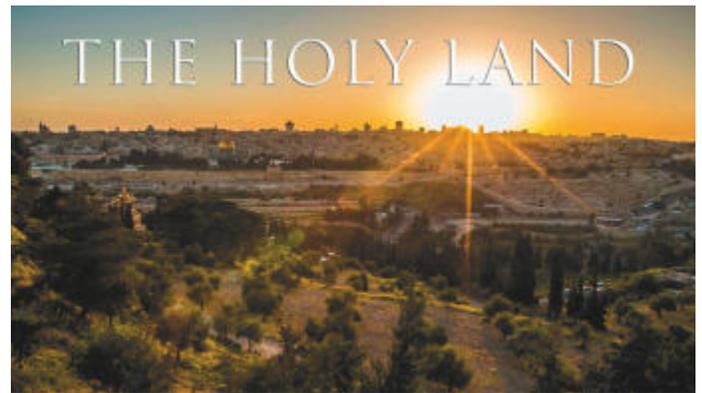
If you are reading this and have not yet begun to attend Mass in person without an important and grave reason such as a serious health issue, compromised immune system, age, physical or emotional disability, etc. and are presently out working, shopping, visiting, eating out, etc., then it is time for you to return. The ministry of our live stream Mass is for those who are in need. It is not a substitute for in person celebration of Mass. Sacraments are physical, outward signs that signify deeper, mystical realities. We are to physically receive the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ in Holy Communion. Nothing can take its place.

Here is a link to a short video by Bishop Barron that you might also find helpful.

<https://youtu.be/Ppdosk38EAU>

See you at Mass. Remember: M.A.S.S.—Make All Sundays Sacred.

Fr. Jim



Rachel's Corner

"I recognized my children as human beings and now I know that they are with Jesus. That is what has bothered me the most until now. Not knowing where they were. Thank you, Project Joseph!" – Testimonial

Are there painful questions you have held inside since your involvement in an abortion decision? Questions you have not shared with anyone? Join the men on *Project Joseph*® and find that they had those questions as well, and now are at peace.

Call for a compassionate, confidential conversation.

English: (206) 920-6413 / Español: (206)-450-7814

Email projectrachel@ccsw.org or visit ccsw.org/projectrachel or [facebook.com/projectrachelww](https://www.facebook.com/projectrachelww).

Project Rachel is a program of Catholic Community Services. *You are loved with an everlasting Love!*

Holy Land Pilgrimage

Walk the footsteps of Jesus

February 14–24, 2022 with Deacon John & Leanne Bergford

\$3,795 per person (double occupancy). Price includes:

- Round-trip airfare
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- All entrance fees as per itinerary

Sign up at holylandtoursllc.com.

Questions? Contact Jiryis Alyateem at (503) 866-5697/holylandtoursllc@gmail.com or Deacon John at jbergford@saintmichaelparish.org

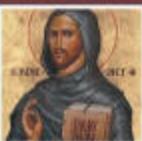
OBLATE COMMUNITY OF ST. MARTIN'S ABBEY PRESENTS:

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OUTDOOR SILENT RETREAT ~ AUGUST 14 ~ 9am-3pm

\$20 SUGGESTED DONATION ~ RSVP BY AUGUST 7th

RSVP/Questions: saintbenedictoblates@gmail.com ~ 360.970.0464



Pray
Reflect
Share



WHAT TO BRING: Note pad/Journal and a pen/pencil ~ Breviary/Prayer Book/Liturgy of the Hours ~ Brown Bag Lunch ~ Chair/Blanket

ST MARTIN'S ABBEY ~ 5000 Abbey Way SE Lacey, WA



Did You Know We Have Prayer After Mass?

Need prayer? Come join us in the Frassati Room after Mass on Sundays so we can pray for your intentions! We also have the prayer jar in the Adoration Chapel where you can drop off your prayers 24/7.



SMP Faith Formation

Registration now open!

Check our website or SMP Connect.
Space is filling up quickly!



The Small Groups Difference

It's summertime, but don't let your faith take a vacation. If your small group is not meeting regularly, why not get together for a family picnic or meet for Mass and lunch? Do a service project together or have a movie night and watch one of the great Catholic movies on FORMED.

Stay connected and keep supporting each other! If you're not in a small group yet, some groups are open to receiving new members at any time.

For information about different service projects available or groups with openings contact Michaela Moreau at mmoreau@saintmichaelparish.org or (360) 292-7104.

Financial Peace University

In today's Gospel, we hear how Jesus multiplies the loaves of bread and fish for the crowd. This transformation allows all to be fed. FPU teaches us to transform our current financial lives to have peace. This peace allows us to use our generosity abundantly.

Our next FPU class begins **Thursday, September 16, 6:30–8:30PM** and runs for nine weeks. All are welcome! Cost is \$50 with materials and resources. Scholarships available for parishioners.

FPU Alumni Meeting: August 28, 10AM–NOON via Zoom. Sign up for alerts in SMP Connect (Group: Financial Peace University).

Resources:

Info at saintmichaelparish.org/financial-peace-university or FPU Core Team: fpu@saintmichaelparish.org. Our SMP ministry team is here—how can we help?

Facebook: Saint Michael Parish, Olympia—FPU Alumni Closed Group

Ministry Positions in Gig Harbor

St. Nicholas Catholic Church in Gig Harbor is currently looking for a full-time Pastoral Assistant for Youth and Young Adult Ministry to support the middle school, high school, and young adults of the St. Nicholas community in their walk with Christ.

They're also looking for a part-time Pastoral Assistant for Communications. This person will create and maintain a cohesive marketing and communication strategy, update the parish website, and maintain social media efforts.

If interested or for more information, email Patrick Sharkey, at parishadmin@stnicholasc.org or call (253) 851-8823.



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Save the Date

SEPTEMBER 25, 9:00-4:00
WOMEN'S RETREAT

“Charity is love received and given.”

– Caritas in Veritate

According to the Washington State Food Security Survey, 30% of Washington households have experienced food insecurity since the beginning of the pandemic. How do we as Catholics respond to this need? More than 100 SMP parishioners give of their time and talents each month to help reduce hunger right here in our own community. As a Community Kitchen volunteer said, “This continues to be a source of real joy as we provide hearty meals to many grateful neighbors.”

There are many ways to help. Will you join us?

The **Thurston County Food Bank** is on a mission to eliminate hunger within our community. In the spirit of neighbor helping neighbor, the Food Bank operates a variety of programs including grocery distribution, home delivery for seniors, the Other Bank, and the ForKids Program which addresses childhood hunger in our community.

We will collect financial donations for the Thurston County Food Bank on the first Sunday of the month.

The **Community Kitchen** serves nutritious meals seven days a week, 365 days a year. The needs vary from month to month, so please contact Peter Epperson if you are interested and he will share current volunteer options. Come help make a difference!

Contact: Peter Epperson at PeterE@ccsww.org

Interfaith Works chefs prepare either a main dish, side dish, or dessert for guests staying at the downtown Interfaith Works shelter. Chefs are asked to prepare enough to feed 12-15 people and drop it off at the SMP upper parking lot between 5 - 5:15PM. Volunteers are currently needed for the first Thursday of the month and the fourth Monday of the month.

If you are interested in being an IW chef, contact: Kellie Patton at kpatton@saintmichaelparish.org or (360) 292-7102

Our **Common Home Farms (OCHF)** is a community agriculture non-profit founded by Saint Martin's University in partnership with Pope John Paul II High School and Catholic Community Services operating out of Pigman's Produce Patch, Sacred Heart Church's garden, and Parsons Family Farm. OCHF works to educate students on sustainable farming and to fight food insecurity, donating more than 9,000 lbs of healthy produce primarily to Community Kitchen and the Thurston County Food Bank in 2020.

If interested in helping out at the farm, contact parishioner Stephen Holland at sholland@popejp2hseagles.org



"Love—caritas—is an extraordinary force which leads people to opt for courageous and generous engagement in the field of justice and peace. It is a force that has its origin in God, Eternal Love and Absolute Truth. Each person finds his good by adherence to God's plan for him, in order to realize it fully: in this plan, he finds his truth, and through adherence to this truth he becomes free" (cf. Jn 8:32). – Pope Benedict XVI, Caritas in Veritate (Charity in Truth)

Singing in prayer. Right now.

By Andrew Goldstein, Steward for Music Ministry

As I write this, we are preparing for the first weekend that congregational singing has been permitted since March 2020. For many, this is a euphoric joy to be able to return to singing at Mass. For some, this comes with fear of the virus. Please be reassured that the governor and archdiocese feel that it's safe at this point to resume singing, which is why they have relaxed the restriction.

That said, I recognize that now is an important time to share some written reflections from behind the piano. Over the next few weeks, I'll be publishing bulletin articles to help unpack (1) Why we need congregational singing; (2) How Catholic music has changed over these last seventeen months, and why; and (3) What the future holds for Catholic music.

For those who are new to the parish, my name is Andrew Goldstein and I'm the Steward for Music Ministries. Along with Erika Peterson and Bob McKenzieSullivan (who you often see with me at the 9:30AM livestream Mass), we guide the music program, selections of music, composition of new music, coordinating of ensembles, etc.

At a recent retreat, a volunteer shared a raw comment with our music team, and it's something that has resonated with me ever since. It will be the topic of this first written reflection...

"I don't much feel like singing in prayer right now."

I think this emotion is one that resonates with many as we navigate out of the COVID-19 lockdowns. Because music is such an emotive way to pray, it's hard to submit to it when there's this lingering emotional numbness from all that's happened in the last year. Personally, I've felt this many times over 17 months. Had I not been scheduled to sing Mass every weekend, I might have stopped singing at some points along the way, too.

Singing is a powerful and personal prayer to God. Since you are fashioned by the Creator, your voice is unique; there's not a single other voice like yours out there. When we sing, we offer praise to God by returning to Him the beauty he first gave us. Moreover, when we sing together we enter into a transcending experience of co-creating beauty and praise with those around us. How profound!

I occasionally hear parishioners say, "Well, my voice just isn't beautiful. I'm a terrible singer!". To that, I say *bah, humbug!* For a moment, close your eyes and picture an orchestra performance. You're seated in the concert hall, the lights go dim, and the concertmaster (the first violin chair) walks onto stage. Before the conductor (hint: the Creator) arrives on stage, the concertmaster (hint: the

Priest) cues the oboist (hint: the Choir) to begin tuning the orchestra (hint: the congregation). The oboist wails out a perfect and precise "A-440", and the other instruments erupt into a beautiful wave of tuning and adjusting. Before long, the Maestro walks on stage and the beauty of a symphony unfolds by his baton.

So it is with our worship: the role of the choir is to give the tune, however it's YOUR voice joining together with the congregation that prepares us for beauty to unfold. Then, as we enter into the experience of the Mass we see the beauty of Christ's sacrifice in our midst. Without your voice in

the symphony of the congregation, we are only an oboist blaring a single pitch.

"But Andrew, what if I don't feel like singing? It just doesn't feel right."

One of the most beautiful gifts of the Church is rote and routine prayer. How many times have you not felt like praying a rosary, but you did it anyway? Didn't you feel transformed afterward? Singing is very similar in this way; it takes our surrendering first. In Mark's Gospel, we read an account of the Last Supper:

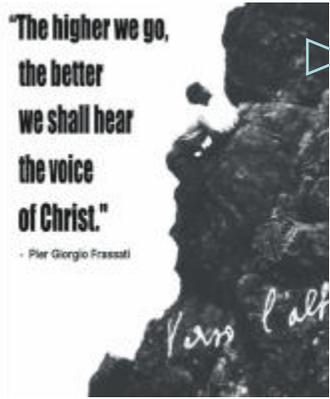
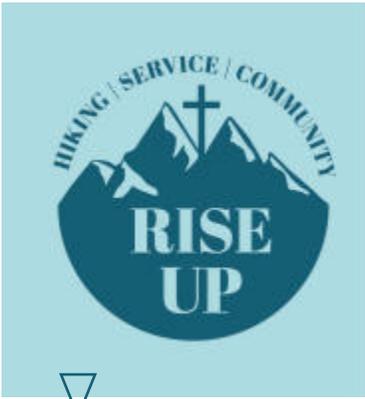
"Amen, I say to you, I shall not drink again the fruit of the vine until the day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God." Then, after singing a hymn,* they went out to the Mount of Olives."

Think about this scene for a moment. Jesus is about to be betrayed, the disciples are confused, and Jesus leads them in a hymn. And not just any hymn, mind you. Passover concluded with hymns like Psalms 114-118 (i.e. the psalm we sing at Easter... "Alleluia! Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, His mercy endures forever.") I mean... wow! Can you imagine singing with such fervor and joy in such a confusing moment?

This is our call as Catholics. In the midst of our grief, sorrow and weariness we're called to lift our voices in praise of the only One who frees us from these bonds. I encourage you to enter into sung prayer today, whether you feel gusto at first or not. Your voice joins all the angels and saints in a hymn of praise. Enter into this mystery and beauty today.

Next week I'll share reflections on how Catholic music has changed during the past 17 months and what prompted the change. Until then, I leave you with a song to pray (and sing!) with: Enjoy Jon Guerra's version of Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing: https://youtu.be/N3RFhT_5Kio





Pier Giorgio Frassati Group of South Puget Sound is a hiking/service/prayer group for young adults throughout South Puget Sound. *To the heights!*

Next hike

Sunday August 1 to Juniper Peak Summit Trail, a moderate hike bringing wildflowers and mountain views. Meet in lower parking lot at SMP at 8:45AM, returning at 5PM. Details for this hike and all hikes and service projects can be found on the group's Facebook page.

Hello fellow hikers! Thank you to all who came out to hike at Mount St. Helens with the **Rise Up** group!

Eighteen people from age 2-69 participated—pretty good for a first hike. We reflected on how God can bring the land, and our lives, too, from devastation to restoration, emptiness to fullness, loss to gain. And there was the witness of the volcanic eruption and new life springing up before our eyes. Friendships were formed and renewed, people accommodated each other so well, showing hospitality like St. Bernard by sharing binoculars and snacks, taking turns carrying an extra pack, or entertaining a little child. We are blessed.

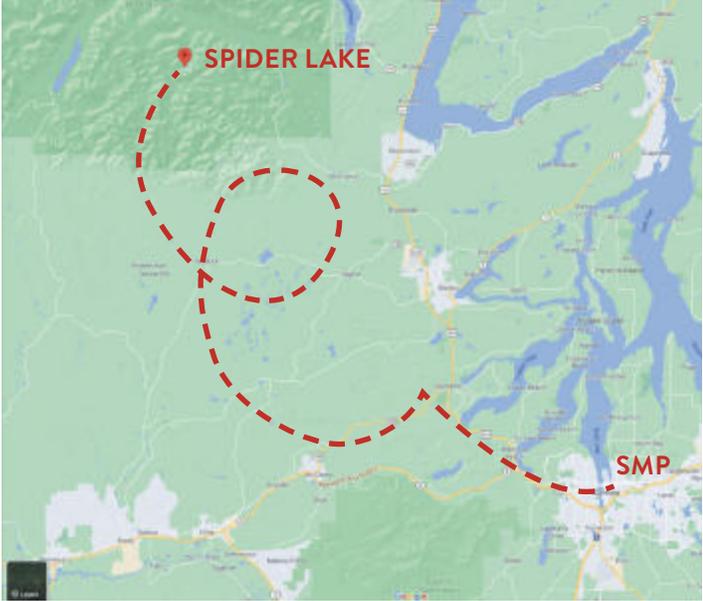
We hope to see more of you next time, and please welcome others into the experience of unplugging and reconnecting with our Creator in nature. **Rise Up** is a newly formed group for all ages and families, with hikes at many levels. Sign up for this group on *SMP Connect*. Hike details will be sent to this group via email. Contact Bene at breece@saintmichaelparish.org for more information.

Next hike

Sunday, August 1 to Spider Lake, nestled in the Olympic Mountains. We are departing from the SMP lower parking lot at 11AM. Duration about 4 1/2 hours (including drive time). Hosted by Cody and Kimmy Jones. More details soon!



Rise Up group



Frassati group

PASTORAL CARE/COMMUNITY OUTREACH

We review ministries at SMP every year for our annual report to the archdiocese and to you, our parishioners. As part of that review, we ask a series of questions and report those results. For the next few issues of the bulletin, we'll detail some of results of our Pastoral Care/Community Outreach ministries.

Annual Ministry Review Questions:

1. How many parishioners served in your ministry in the last year?
2. How many people received support/service through your ministry in the last year?
3. What new or ongoing challenges did your ministry face in the last year? How did COVID impact the function of your ministry?
4. What was a highlight or "God sighting" that you or others in your ministry experienced in the last year?
5. What plans do you have to change/grow/improve your ministry in the coming year?

St. Peregrine Cancer Support Group:

1. Two parishioners served in this ministry.
2. Twenty people received support/service through this ministry in the last year.
3. Moving from in-person to virtual meetings was the main challenge. Some people were more comfortable with the technology than others.
4. We will plan to invite more guest speakers to talk to the group in the upcoming year. There seems to be a lot of interest in hearing from people involved in cancer survivorship resources and classes.

"Holy Oly" Faith Sharing Group:

1. There are 20 members of the group.
2. Of the group, 12 have participated on a more regular basis and have consistently prayed and discussed *Lectio Divina*, shared prayer requests and prayed for one another.
3. Operating in the virtual environment was our biggest challenge. The technology worked well, but it took a while for participants to become comfortable with it. Over time members shared more and more and were comfortable being open with each other in the virtual environment. They also became more technologically savvy and able to access the meeting, mute and unmute appropriately, etc. However, there were some people who were completely unable to work with the technology and therefore did not attend at all. It was challenging to stay in touch with group members no longer attending or missing a meeting. We need to think through a system for connecting with them and assuring their needs are met.

COVID-19 forced a suspension of the group for a time. However, by September, we were meeting online via Zoom. Part of the impact of COVID on this ministry is that it made our meetings an even more valuable social connection to some of our members, especially those who live alone. Some of our members felt quite depressed being shut off from the world, and the opportunity to see a friendly face and have a discussion with others, even if it was in a digital format, seemed to be very helpful and uplifting.

4. During the *Three Conversations* everyone prayed together in partners in small Zoom breakout rooms and shared their faith journey with the group. Even in our Zoom setting, our members are becoming comfortable enough with one another and confident enough in the safety and support of the group that they are willing to share more intimate parts of their lives. Everyone present takes these confidences seriously and honors the need to be loving and discreet.

Some participants indicated that they have been away from the faith for a very long time and they joined the group out of curiosity and/or with a light heart, while forced at home during the pandemic. Being in the group via Zoom ignited their faith to a deeper level.

5. We are hoping to be able to meet face-to-face soon. We also suggest some virtual options for faith-sharing groups and other support groups continue to be available. We should take more time to pray together over our prayer requests at the beginning (not the end) of the meeting.

FORMED pick of the week



At the end of this week, we celebrate the feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola, the "Soldier for Christ." While Martin Luther's interior troubles plunged Europe into a maelstrom of controversy, Ignatius set out on an extraordinary pilgrimage of grace. Taught directly by God, he offered the Church a new spirituality of devoted service to Christ and founded a religious order dedicated to evangelization—the Jesuits. Sign up for free at formed.org/signup

stewardship of treasure

July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022	
Donations Received as of July 11, 2021	
Sunday Stewardship	\$18,540
Online Giving	\$31,055
Sunday Loose Donations	\$1,149
Holy Days	\$49
Youth (Little House)	\$26
Total Offertory	\$50,819
Total Year-to-Date	\$125,246

please pray for:

Antoinette Wilcoxson
Tom Hackstadt
Kathy Catterson
Bonnie Stover
JCA & Raoul Titus
Sue Holt
Suzanne Heaps
George Domonique
Deonne Clesi
Pat Pickett
James Sharp & family
McCarthy Family
Leonard & Vanessa
Brammeier
Valorie Kolarik
Debbie
Steve & Eileen Durspek
Ramon S. Borromeo, Sr.
Tom Hinchcliffe
Ilias Murr
Finnley Suthard
Carlos Lara
Cecile Jesse
Colleen Hays
Pati Lieninger

Joan & Leslie Anne
Bykonen
Suzanne Delia
Mary Isaacson
Jean Meyn
Paul Merritt
Doug Cameron
Bob Kelly
Avis Blowers
David Kinner
Shayne Kinner
George Michael
Diana Weber
Tom Nolan
Sebastian Compton
Linda Phillips
Mary F.
Karen Gummersall
Mary Newbill
Athena Rose
Lucas Oakland
Donna Simon
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John Kramer
Wanda & Harold French

Bob Lindblom
Isla Rae Mason
Emily Riordan
John Randall Hall
Lynn Valentine
Michael "Mick" Milasich
Krissy Jones
Deanne Clesi
Joey P.
Fr. Jerry Villarrubia
Britni Donaldson
Russell Owens
Deveda Puckett
Darrell Quinlan
Peter Dzurilla
Desean McLane
Shantell Rodriguez
Audrey Boyn
Gabriel Rodriguez
Albert Lopez
Neil Blubeck
Clarissa Rodriguez
Chris Erickson
Sylvia Sandobal
Chelsea Lopez

Paul Rodriguez
Roman Luckey
Lorenzo Jones
Bev & Jim Heggie
Rhonda Davis
Linda Ruiz
Dina McBride
Deveda Puckett
Mike Smith
Rita Brown
Nancy Cosgrove
Andrea Bell
Baby Olive
Sherry Santo
Greg Cina
Jerry Robert Stiles
Leonard Firth
Tiffany
Jan Putnam
David Bruner
Bob Falkner
Brian Barkis
The Morgan Family
Marguerite Gibbs
Dorothy Porter

To submit prayer requests, call the parish office at (360) 754-4667 or submit your request via our website. If you or someone you know is homebound and wishes to receive regular calls to check on their welfare and even pray with them during this crisis, please call Benedetta Reece at (360) 292-7143.

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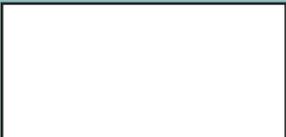


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