

# *Blessed Sacrament Church*

1626 W. 26th Street • Erie, PA 16508  
814-454-0171 • [www.bsparisherie.org](http://www.bsparisherie.org)  
June 13, 2021



## *Come To* **Blessed Sacrament Parish Mission**

**Recharge your soul  
June 14 - 16**

**At 7:00 pm each evening**

**Redemptorist, Fr. Kevin MacDonald**

**No matter where you are in life**

**God loves you, come accept**

**God's love for life!**

## Blessed Sacrament Parish Mission Statement

*To nourish our love of God through Jesus Christ under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Centered in the Eucharist, we are developing a faith community through prayer, education, worship and Christian fellowship. As stewards of God's love, we strive to share our gifts and talents for the service of God and all His people.*

### PARISH DIRECTORY

Parish Office 814-454-0171  
 Parish Office Hours  
     Monday—Friday 8am—4:00pm  
     Closed for Lunch 12:00-12:30pm  
 E-mail dfisher@bserie.org  
 Website www.bsparisherie.org  
 School 814-455-1387  
 Cafeteria 814-455-7113  
 Gym Scheduling Mark Kloecker 881-1016  
 Prayer Requests 860-6211  
 Bulletin Deadline Monday at noon

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Pete Sala pjsalaw@yahoo.com  
 President of Ushers  
 Mary Jo Fulton mjfulton@roadrunner.com  
 Chairperson of Pastoral Council  
 Carmen Phillips carmp2020@outlook.com  
 Chairperson of Finance Council  
 Al Smith allen.smith@wabtec.com  
 Knights of Columbus  
 Jim Theisen webmaster@bserie.org  
 Webmaster for the parish www.bsparisherie.org  
 Melissa Baldwin mbaldwin@ericatholic.org  
 Webmaster for the school www.bsschoolerie.org  
 Michael Scalise twintek@velocity.net  
 Parish Foodbank Coordinator

If child abuse is suspected call:  
 PA Child Line: 1-800-932-0313

♯ HEARING DEVICES AVAILABLE  
 & HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE

### PASTORAL STAFF

Father Philip Pinczewski ~ Pastor  
 pastorphil@bserie.org  
 Kevin Kunik ~ Permanent Deacon  
 kevinkunik@hotmail.com  
 Jane Wagner ~ School Principal  
 jwagner@ericatholic.org  
 Jennifer Durney ~  
 Facilitator of Religious Education  
 jdurney@bserie.org  
 Kathy Golden ~ Director of Music  
 kgolden@bserie.org  
 Joyce Wickles ~ Business Manager  
 jwickles@bserie.org  
 Diane Fisher ~ Parish Secretary  
 dfisher@bserie.org



## FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

Parenting is a lot like the story of the farmer in the gospel parable today. All growth is the Lord's work. We have no control over the process. In fact, the farmer doesn't even understand it, for the seed grows even when he sleeps. As parents, we can influence our children but can't guarantee results.

## MARRIAGE MOMENTS

Most couples think that their sexual relationship is the most intimate part of their marriage. Praying together, however, may be an even deeper form of intimacy. A first step may be praying for each other even if not in one another's presence.

## PARENT POINTERS

Are your children old enough to help around the house? Anyone over 2 years old can do something like putting a toy away. If you already have a system that works – good. Relax. But maybe it's time to revise responsibilities and help your kids grow up.

## CHURCH SANCTUARY CANDLE

The Church Sanctuary Candle will burn this week in loving memory of Ed Moore from Pam & Rich Moore.

## SAINT JOSEPH ALTAR

The St. Joseph Candle will burn this week in loving memory of Joseph Santone from the Santone Family.

## CHAPEL SANCTUARY CANDLE

The Chapel Sanctuary Candle will burn this week in loving memory of Richard Ropiecki from Family & Friends.

## MINISTRY SCHEDULE

### SATURDAY, June 19 @ 4:00pm

Lector: Rich Moore

Eucharistic Ministers: Amy Scalise, Patty George [S]

Altar Servers: **servers needed**

### SUNDAY June 29 @ 8:30am

Lector: Gerri Piecuch

Eucharistic Ministers: Joe Scalise, Nancy Flaherty [S]

Altar Servers: Simon & Kate Kunik

### SUNDAY June 20 @ 11:00am

Lector: Emily Kujan

Eucharistic Minister: Kevin Kujan, **Sacristan needed**

Altar Servers: **servers needed**

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Monday, June 14—Weekday

8:00 +Barbara Becker / Jim & Joyce Becker

### Tuesday, June 15—Weekday

8:00 +Tom Peck / Jan & Family

### Wednesday, June 16—Weekday

8:00 +Melissa Zeolla / Mom & Dad

### Thursday, June 17—Weekday

8:00 +Joseph Santone / Family

### Friday, June 18—Weekday

8:00 +**NO MASS**

### Saturday, June 19—12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 \*All Dads both Living & Deceased

### Sunday, June 20—12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 \*All Dads both Living & Deceased

11:00 \*All Dads both Living & Deceased

7:30 \*All Dads both Living & Deceased

\* Living

## MASS SCHEDULE

*Daily Mass in the Church at 8am Monday -Thursday*

*On the first Friday of the month...Mass at 8am*

*followed by Eucharistic Adoration 8:30-9:30am*

*Saturday Vigil: 4:00pm*

*Sunday: 8:30am\*\*, 11:00am and 7:30pm\*\**

*\*\*these Masses will be livestreamed on our parish website & Facebook page*

## RECONCILIATION

*Saturday: 3:00—3:45pm and by appointment*

*Unvaccinated people should wear a face mask.*

*Social distancing is still encouraged.*

*The priests, deacon and all Eucharistic Ministers will continue to wear face masks when distributing Communion.*

## ???QUESTION OF THE WEEK???

**Question for Children:** Have you ever had to walk in the dark with no light? How is that like walking by faith and not by sight? What did you have to do to keep going in the dark?

**Question for Youth:** Do you pray and ask for faith? How do you work on building your faith?

**Question for Adults:** When do you find it hardest to have faith? Must you “see” answered prayer, or can you peacefully accept God's will?



## *From Our Pastor*

Jesus uses parables in today's Gospel (Mark 4: 26-34) to teach about the Kingdom of God. The parables use images that Jesus' audience would be very familiar with, like the growth of the mustard seed, and the stages of growth of a grain of wheat. Using what people already knew about the growth of seeds helped to convey the point that the Kingdom of God has a phenomenal, constant growth. Jesus uses everyday experiences to help us reflect on the Kingdom of God. God's time table is often not what we expect or hope for. Sometimes we think prayers go unanswered. But God is always doing something! We all need to learn patience in order to grow in holiness.

Our parish is providing you an opportunity to further your growth in holiness with a Parish Mission/Retreat. Father Kevin MacDonald, C.Ss.R. will give those in attendance a joy filled experience of God's plentiful redemption. Father will be looking at three central symbols of our faith. The Bible, the Easter Candle, and the Altar. Father is a gifted and dynamic speaker. I am sure his meditations will inspire you to enter into a deeper and more personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Remember you can call the Parish Office (814-454-0171) to arrange a ride to each evening service. See you June 14, 15, & 16!

Peace, Fr. Phil

*We will need some volunteers for the upcoming Parish Mission. If interested in any of the following, please call Diane in the Parish Office [454-0174] or email [dfisher@bserie.org](mailto:dfisher@bserie.org). Please be at church by 6:30pm for any special instructions.*

**Monday June 14 at 7:00 pm - The focus for this evening's talk is the bible.**

- Greeters (approximately 5 to welcome parishioners and guests as they arrive)
- Bible bearer - 1 individual needed
- Additional helpers for bible veneration—3 individuals needed

**Tuesday June 15 at 7:00 pm - The focus for this evening's talk is the Easter Candle**

- Greeters (approximately 5)
- Bible Bearer - 1 individual needed
- Candle Bearer – 1 individual needed

**Wednesday June 16 at 7:00 pm - The focus for this evening's talk is the altar (There is Mass on this evening).**

- Greeters (approximately 5)
- Bible bearer - 1 individual
- Candle bearer - 1 individual
- Altar cloth carrier - 1 individual
- Lector - 1 individual
- Eucharistic Minister - 1 individual
- Altar servers - 2 if possible

## Blessed Sacrament School 8th Grade Graduates:

Rocco Almonte—Prep	Anna Amendola—Mercyhurst	Anthony Batista—Prep
Kayla Bogdanski—Mercyhurst	Faustina Campbell—Villa	Arden Claudio—Collegiate
Jamarion Coleman—Erie High	Antwan Cruz—Collegiate	Emerson DeForce—Villa
Norah DeRooy—Collegiate	Reish-Ka Dunn—Collegiate	Amorie Gaines—Erie High
Jamison Gromley—Prep	Roman Hamm—Prep	Rashaun Hilliard—Prep
Trent Alan Hoban—Prep	Cajohn Howard—Prep	Ella Jones—McDowell
Donavon Kehm—Bethel Christian	Thomas Klins—Mercyhurst	Kathryn Kunik—Mercyhurst
Brenna Landahl—Villa	Jaden Lawrence—Erie High	Nathan Luthringer—McDowell
Marin O’Hara—Villa	Katelyn Olinger—Mercyhurst	Sincere Perez—Prep
Katherine Phan—Villa	Derek Raleigh—Collegiate	Allasandra Rondinelli—Villa
Olivia Rupp—Collegiate	Benjamin Scheffner—Prep	Noah Tavani—Prep
Crysstia Taylor—Villa	Angeline Terrizzi—Villa	Evan Theisen—Prep
Addison Twohig—Collegiate	Lily Walbridge—Villa	Genevieve Zielinski—Erie High

### ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

English— <i>Kayla Bogdanski</i>	Social Studies— <i>Faustina Campbell</i>	Math— <i>Nathan Luthringer</i>
Literature— <i>Reish-Ka Dunn</i>	Religion— <i>Crysstia Taylor</i>	Science— <i>Arden Claudio</i>

Outstanding Participation in Blessed Sacrament Band: *Norah De Rooy and Brenna Landahl*

Outstanding Participation in Blessed Sacrament Chorus: *Crysstia Taylor*

Service Award: *Reish-Ka Dunn*

Faith Award: *Trent Hoban*

Involvement in the School Safety Patrol Program: *Trent Hoban and Donavon Kehm*

President’s Education Awards: *Kayla Bogdanski, Arden Claudio, Norah DeRooy, Reish-Ka Dunn, Roman Hamm, Brenna Landahl, Nathan Luthringer, Katherine Phan, Crysstia Taylor, Evan Theisen*

Altar Server Awards:

*Kayla Bogdanski, Norah DeRooy, Thomas Klins, Kate Kunik, Katelyn Olinger, Angeline Terrizzi*

### High School Scholarships

Mercyhurst Prep:	<i>Katherine Kunik—Mercyhurst Prep Laker Leader Award</i>
	<i>Katelyn Olinger—Creative Arts Scholarship and the Catherine McAuley Scholarship</i>
Cathedral Prep:	<i>Roman Hamm—Catholic School Graduation Scholarship</i>
	<i>Evan Theisen—Entrance Exam Scholarship (#4 score)</i>
Villa Maria:	<i>Kayla Bogdanski—Entrance Exam Scholarship (#1 score)</i>
	<i>Brenna Landahl—Entrance Exam Scholarship (#7 score)</i>

Msgr. John B. Hagerty Perseverantia Award: *Donavon Kehm*

Principal’s Pride Award: *Evan Theisen*

American Legion Award: *Antwan Cruz and Kayla Bogdanski*

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2021



## BLESSED SACRAMENT ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Blessed Sacrament Golf Tournament benefitting the school's Scholarship Fund will be held on **Friday, August 6, 2021** at the Whispering Woods Golf Course. In the past this event has produced a significant amount of scholarship money to help Blessed Sacrament students. The continued success of this event is dependent upon the generous support and participation of parish members, friends of the school, and business partners in the community. If you are a past contributor, sponsor or golfer, please accept our sincere thanks. We hope that we can count on you again this year to support this event. If you have not been involved in the past, please consider supporting us this year by being a sponsor, donor, or a golfer. There are sponsorship opportunities available at several levels. Another way you can help is by forming a foursome and participate in the outing. Price is \$110 per golfer which includes lunch, dinner, beverages and golf. Registration starts at 11:30am, shot gun start 1:00pm. You can also donate non-monetary items and items for our Basket Raffle.

This event is an opportunity for you to have a good time, benefit a good cause, and promote your business as well. Through your generous support we will make this a memorable and successful event for the students and families of Blessed Sacrament School. Sponsor forms and registration forms are available in the School Office. For more information contact Jay Bish at [jaybish80@gmail.com](mailto:jaybish80@gmail.com)

Sincerely,

Jason Bish & Blessed Sacrament Golf Committee

*Thank you for supporting Blessed Sacrament's Advancement Fund,  
making a brighter future for our children!*

### 2021 DIOCESAN ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS



The 2021 Diocesan Anniversary Celebration Liturgies for couples celebrating 25, 40, 50, 60, or more years of marriage will be held at two locations in the diocese:

Sunday, August 1, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. at Immaculate Conception in Clarion and Sunday, August 8, at 2:00 p.m. at St. Jude in Erie. To register, please go online to <https://www.eriecd.org/familylifeoffice/anniv.html> or contact your parish office or the Family Life Office at (814) 824-1261.

### COMFORT IN GOD'S ARMS PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

We have shawls available to take to your loved ones who need to feel the comfort of God's arms around them. If you or someone you know would like a prayer shawl or would like to join our group, please contact Linda at (814) 490-8022.



There is no charge for the shawls. Our Ministry is glad to provide comfort and prayers for your loved ones in need.

### 31 CLUB Pray for Vocations

June 14 date available  
 June 15 Patty George  
 June 16 Jan Peck  
 June 17 Kevin Kunik, Debbie Levesque  
 June 18 Joyce Wickles  
 June 19 Marilyn Konopka, Kevin Kujan  
 June 20 Christina Amendola

Members of the 31 Club agree to go to daily Mass **and** /or offer prayers on a particular day every month for an increase of vocations to the Church. One of the best ways to increase vocations is through prayers, and the greatest prayer we have is the holy sacrifice of the Mass. Please call the Parish Office if you want to be in the 31 Club and experience the satisfaction that comes from helping to fulfill a great need in the Church.



### SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

*My Jesus, I believe that you are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I long for you in my soul. Since I cannot receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart, as though you have already come. I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. AMEN*

**EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP -  
RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS  
St. Anthony Can Find Anything — Even You**

“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. Anthony— 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 ©LPi

**GOSPEL MEDITATION  
ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE**



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!

©LPi



### THE YEAR IN HONOR OF ST. JOSEPH

*The Holy Father's Intention is that "every member of the faithful following Joseph's example may strengthen their life of faith daily in the complete fulfillment of God's will."*

#### ST JOSEPH ALTAR

On our St. Joseph Altar is a basket for your prayer requests and a beautiful St. Joseph memorial candle. If you would like to have the candle as a memorial for a loved one, call or stop by the Parish Office and let us know which week you would like. Donations are \$10.

#### ST. JOSEPH...PRAY FOR US

*"Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted his only son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man. Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy, courage and defend us from every evil. AMEN"*

#### \$\$\$\$\$ RAISE THE ROOF LOTTERY \$\$\$\$\$

06/01 #502...#503...#501 no winners  
06/02 #866...#867 no winners..#865 Gerry McCallion \$10  
06/03 #795...#796...#794 no winners  
06/04 #133...#134...#132 no winners  
06/05 #573 Riley Surovick \$50...#574...#572 no winners  
06/06 #869...#870...#868 no winners

#### JUNE TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE

**\$5 per ticket 90 chances to win this month**

If you want tickets, call Diane in the Parish Office at 454-0171 or send an email [dfisher@bserie.org](mailto:dfisher@bserie.org) and leave a message with your choice of numbers and we will mail them to you. You can mail back your stubs and money or drop off at the office. We appreciate your support.

#### USHERS' CORNER

The month of June has ushered in an open Blessed Sacrament Church. Hence, more people are once again attending mass and the need for Ushers assisting at those masses has increased. So every Usher is asked to assist at their respective masses. If you are attending the Saturday or Sunday morning masses, please check in with the mass captains to see where you are needed.

The last Usher meeting before the installation dinner will be Thursday, June 17 at 7:30 p.m. in the Field House. There will be many issues to discuss including the upcoming schedule for the year as well as the budget. Please mark your calendar for this very important meeting.

Finally, bocce has restarted at Blessed Sacrament with tremendous success. Both men and women's leagues were glad to roll the bocce balls once more. Special thanks to Rob Penpek and A.J. Cimino who volunteered many hours to help make bocce at Blessed Sacrament a reality once again.

Have a great summer! Pete Sala



**Erie Catholic**  
SCHOOL SYSTEM

Saint James • Our Lady of Peace • Saint George  
Saint Jude • Blessed Sacrament • Saint Luke

## Looking for a Summer job with a great team?

Erie Catholic School System is seeking Summer Program Employees to work with school-aged children (grades Pre-3 to 8th) at one of our three locations this summer.

**WHEN?** → June 15th to August 20th  
Shifts include: 7:30-12:30 pm & 12:30 - 5:30 pm

**WHO?** → Ages 18+  
Campers are in grades Pre-3 through 8th, and grouped by grade level. (Preschool/Kindergarten, 1st-4th, 5th-8th)

**WHERE?** → Saint George, Saint James, or Saint Jude

We are currently looking for professional, reliable, and enthusiastic summer camp workers to lead the youth and provide a wonderful summer program filled with fun weekly themes and activities. Gain valuable experience working with children and make money, too!

Email [SARNONE@ERICATHOLIC.ORG](mailto:SARNONE@ERICATHOLIC.ORG) for more information and to get started!

**PRE BAPTISMAL CLASS** will be held on *Saturday, July 10th at 9:30am* in the Parish Office. This class is for first time parents or if it has been more than 5 years since you last attended a class. This is a requirement to have your child Baptized. If interested in the class please call the Parish Office to register [454-0171].



**Sunday, June 13, 2021**

**ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**Surprising yields ahead**

Many have been glad to shake off the past year with good ridance. We're quick to write off difficult situations as sinkholes of our personal efforts, with nothing to show for our suffering. Every plague, war, and famine of history has caused its multitude of lost lives, endless grief, and economic devastation. Yet Jesus promises us that underneath the soil of human experience, the kingdom of God is always at work, pushing new life and fresh hope into existence. Many are working hard right this moment to promote a new vision for humanity. Commit to the new seed of Kingdom Coming.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Ezekiel 17:22-24; 2 Corinthians 5:6-10; Mark 4:26-34 (92).* "And through it all the seed would sprout and grow, he knows not how."

**Monday, June 14, 2021**

**Make an offering**

It is fitting that today is both Flag Day in the United States and World Blood Donor Day. Many have shed their blood for the ideals a flag represents, and while most of us are not called to make the ultimate sacrifice for our country, many of us can make the small sacrifice of donating blood to save the lives of others. In some areas, the blood supply has become low because of fewer blood donations during the pandemic, and blood donation remains essential everywhere. If you are able to donate, or be supportive of someone who can, it will contribute to our much-needed healing in these hurting times.

TODAY'S READINGS: *2 Corinthians 6:1-10; Matthew 5:38-42 (365).* "Give to the one who asks of you, and do not turn your back on one who wants to borrow."

**Tuesday, June 15, 2021**

**With respect to elders**

It's World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. Pope Francis marked the observance last year by describing a shameful and painfully obvious truth: "The COVID-19 pandemic has shown that our societies are not organized well enough to make room for the elderly, with proper respect for their dignity and frailty. When the elderly are not cared for, there is no future for the young." Eighty percent of COVID deaths have been people 65 or older. What does your parish or local community do to support and engage seniors? If programs are not in place, can you help initiate them?

TODAY'S READINGS: *2 Corinthians 8:1-9; Matthew 5:43-48 (366).* "I say this not by way of command, but to test the genuineness of your love by your concern for others."

**Wednesday, June 16, 2021**

**Be well intentioned**

Jesus' admonition to perform good deeds in private and pray alone in our rooms can be difficult to figure out when we belong to a church that calls the community's public gathering for Mass the "source and summit of faith." So here's the deal: Jesus isn't telling us to hide our faith but instead to check out *why* we do what we do. He frowns on giving alms to get attention or making a big public display of our prayer, as if to prove we are

closer to God than our neighbor. Instead, we are called to pray, fast, and give alms simply to draw closer to our Lord. In public or private, let's pray with the best of intentions.

TODAY'S READINGS: *2 Corinthians 9:6-11; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18 (367).* "When you pray, do not be like the hypocrites."

**Thursday, June 17, 2021**

**Time to move beyond temptation**

The Lord's Prayer, introduced in today's gospel, is the best-known Christian prayer the world over. Two years ago, a change in the way French Catholics say the prayer made headlines. The new translation avoids "lead us not into temptation" in favor of "do not let us fall into temptation." The point is that God doesn't lead us to sin. Rather, God gives us the strength to resist it, overcome it, learn from it, move beyond it. The next time you pray the great prayer, picture the Creator extending a hand to pull you away from sin into grace and light.

TODAY'S READINGS: *2 Corinthians 11:1-11; Matthew 6:7-15 (368).* "This is how you are to pray: 'Our Father who art in heaven . . .'"

**Friday, June 18, 2021**

**Get some rest**

Saint Augustine of Hippo captures the human condition perfectly when he says in his *Confessions*: "Lord, . . . our heart is restless until it rests in you." Christian prayer practices are designed to protect us from spirit-dulling anxiety and bring us to the peace of Christ. Try meditating on these words from Saint Francis de Sales for starters: "The same Eternal Father who cares for you today will take good care of you tomorrow and every day of your life. Either he will shield you from suffering, or he will give you the unfailing strength to bear it. Be at peace then and put aside all useless thoughts, vain dreads, and anxious imaginations."

TODAY'S READINGS: *2 Corinthians 11:18, 21-30; Matthew 6:19-23 (369).* "Store up treasures in heaven."

**Saturday, June 19, 2021**

**MEMORIAL OF ROMUALD, ABBOT**

**A simple practice for inner peace**

Romuald was a 10th-century Italian monk and teacher. He started life as a wealthy aristocrat but soon found his life of pursuing comfort and pleasure unsatisfying. He sought refuge in a monastery and discovered peace as a monk. Wishing to help others achieve fulfillment, he founded the Camaldolese Order of monks and established several monasteries, instructing the monks to practice intellectual stillness and interior receptivity in meditation. "Take every opportunity you can to sing the Psalms in your heart," he wrote in his rule, "and to understand them with your mind." Take a moment today and give it a try.

TODAY'S READINGS: *2 Corinthians 12:1-10; Matthew 6:24-34 (370).* "Do not worry about tomorrow; tomorrow will take care of itself."



*Daily renewal for busy Catholics.  
Invest just five minutes a day,  
and your faith will deepen and grow  
a day at a time.*

**PARISH FAMILY**

Pray for all those in our parish family who are hospitalized, ill, homebound and in nursing homes as well as those who care for them.

Pray for members of the military.

Pray for peace in our country and for God’s protection and guidance over our country.

Pray for those who have suffered the experience of abuse, may they find through Christ’s presence, deep healing and peace.

**The United States Flag**



As we look at the flag of our country, let us always remember its true meaning, for a flag without meaning is only a piece of cloth. The red of our flag stands for valor and bravery like that of those who fought to protect our freedoms.

White signifies purity and innocence, as that of our Founding Fathers’ intent to secure the rights of all.

Blue signifies vigilance, perseverance, and justice, as all are needed in any government to secure the blessings of God.

And as our stars and stripes point to the stars of the heavens and the rays of the sun, let us never forget that our country must depend upon God’s blessing and protection.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 13**

- Sunday: Ez 17:22-24/Ps 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16 [cf. 2a]/2 Cor 5:6-10/Mk 4:26-34
- Monday: 2 Cor 6:1-10/Ps 98:1, 2b, 3ab, 3cd-4 [2a]/Mt 5:38-42
- Tuesday: 2 Cor 8:1-9/Ps 146:2, 5-6ab, 6c-7, 8-9a [1b]/Mt 5:43-48
- Wednesday: 2 Cor 9:6-11/Ps 112:1bc-2, 3-4, 9 [1b]/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
- Thursday: 2 Cor 11:1-11/Ps 111:1b-2, 3-4, 7-8 [7a]/Mt 6:7-15
- Friday: 2 Cor 11:18, 21-30/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [cf. 18b]/Mt 6:19-23
- Saturday: 2 Cor 12:1-10/Ps 34:8-9, 10-11, 12-13 [9a]/Mt 6:24-34

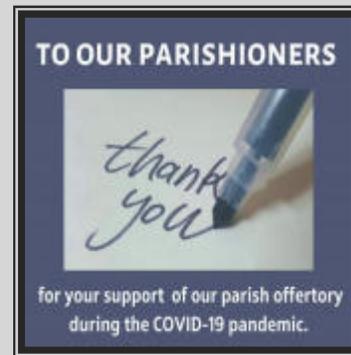
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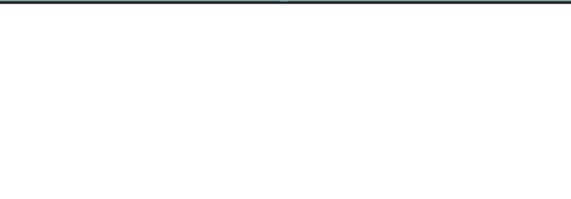
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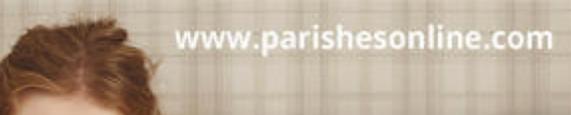
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