

# St. William Parish Community



Walled Lake, Michigan 48390

July 18, 2021

[www.stwilliam.com](http://www.stwilliam.com)



This weekend in the Gospel reading, we hear that after Jesus had sent the Apostles on Mission and they had now returned, they reported to him all that they had done and what they had taught. I guess they must have looked a little worn-out, because Jesus then tells them to “Come by yourselves to an out-of-the-way place and rest a little.” (Mk 6:31)

Just because they had had a successful first effort, it did not mean that the demands of being disciples were now going to let up. Quite the contrary, as happens often in our lives, when we finish one job, there’s two more that present themselves! Doing one thing well seems to lead to even more being asked of you. The Scriptures go on to say that the “people were coming and going in great numbers, making it impossible for them to so much as eat. So Jesus and the apostles went off in the boat by themselves to a deserted place.” (Ah! Good move!) However: “People saw them leaving, and many got to know about it. People from all the towns hastened on foot to the place, arriving ahead of them.” (Mk 6: 31-33)

Following the Lord can certainly be challenging, whether it’s volunteering at a parish (by the way, we’re looking for more people to be catechists for the children in our after-school program!), or fulfilling whatever your primary vocation is at this moment in your life, such as being a mom or dad, a spouse, a single person, a student, or even a pastor. The solution however, is not to give up, but rather do what Jesus did and what he invited his disciples to do after their return from Mission: **take time to find**

*(Continued on page 3)*



## 16<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

When he disembarked and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them, for they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things. - Mk 6:34

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1988, 1970 CCC.

ELA

### *Inside this week . . .*

Surviving Divorce  
Youth Ministry PB & J Ministry  
Eucharistic Exposition & Benediction  
Dads Club Golf Outing  
Girls Volleyball & Boys Football Sign-Ups

*. . .and more!*

Parish Mission: *“To live the Good News so joyfully, that we can’t help but proclaim it!”*

## MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 4:30 pm, .  
Sunday \*10:00 am (\*also Live-streamed)  
and Sunday 12:30 pm  
Tues., Wed. & Thur., 8:00 am



Follow us on Facebook,  
@stwilliamparishwalledlake

### Office Hours

Monday through Thursday, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Many issues can be taken care of with a phone call, 248-624-1421.

### Registration

For many reasons it is important to be formally registered as a parishioner. Contact the rectory for friendly help. Ext. 341

### Baptism

To begin the preparation process for Baptism please call 624-1421. Baptisms are normally scheduled the first and third Sundays of the month.

### Marriage

To celebrate a valid marriage Catholics must have the help of a priest or deacon. Call at least six months in advance.

### Funeral

Please contact the parish office to make arrangements.

### Ministry To The Sick

We are happy to visit the sick and provide anointing. Please contact the Parish Office at 624-1421.

### RECTORY

Email: [Rectory1@stwilliam.com](mailto:Rectory1@stwilliam.com)  
531 Common Street (248) 624-1421

**Pastor** Rev. Michael G. Savickas Ext. 346  
**Deacons** Rev. Mr. Bob Dreyer Ext. 345  
Rev. Mr. John Liddle

**Baptisms** Ext. 341

**Business Office** Ext. 341

**Business Manager** Mrs. Deborah Diviny Ext. 349  
**Administrative Asst.** Mrs. Lisa Geoffroy Ext. 342

**Pastoral Assistant** Mrs. Karen Sommers Ext. 344  
248-624-8870

**Maintenance:** (248) 669-5522  
**Supervisor** Mr. Dave Colby Ext. 312

### EDUCATION CENTER

135 O'Flaherty Street

**Office of Faith Formation** (248) 624-1371

**Dir. of Rel. Ed.** Mrs. Kim Kaye Ext. 307  
**Dir. Of Initiation** Mrs. Kim Kaye Ext. 306  
**Youth Ministry** Mrs. Karen Trojniak Ext. 308  
**Music Ministry Dir.** Mr. Bill Richart Ext. 310  
**Administrative Asst.** Mrs. Lisa Geoffroy Ext. 342

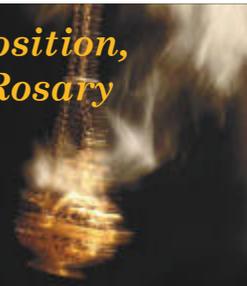
**School Office** (248) 669-4440  
**Principal** Mrs. Betsy Gabrish Ext. 303  
**Secretary** Ext. 302

### CYO Sports

**Athletic Director** [ad@saintwilliam.net](mailto:ad@saintwilliam.net)

## Eucharistic Exposition, Benediction & Rosary

Tuesday  
July 27<sup>th</sup>  
7:00 pm



### Contribution levels are still below average due to lower Mass attendance due to COVID concerns.

If you are in a position to help, automatic giving can be easily arranged online. Go to [Faithdirect.net](http://Faithdirect.net), or follow the link from our website, [www.stwilliam.com](http://www.stwilliam.com).



### Offertory Report

(The fiscal year begins July 1)

	Collected	Budgeted*	Over/(Under)
As of June, 2021	*\$852,402	\$999,996	(\$147,594)

\*This does NOT represent *needed* income, but only the amount we expected would actually come in.

Note: For clarity and accuracy, this report now shows reconciled month-end balances.

## The "One-Hour Challenge!"

To have a *happy, peaceful life*, it is important that we have our lives in order, with our grateful response to God for his gifts being our top priority. That is how a disciple responds in the areas of *prayer, family, finance, and service*.

If you need help to put balance in your life, take the "one-hour challenge": Each week, spend at least...

- One hour in prayer and worship.
- One hour, special, focused on your family or other important relationship.
- One hour's wage (if you have a job) for the Lord. No job? Then give what seems right for you.
- One hour in service. (Helping another, or working for some cause.)

It's important to be *specific* in what steps to take in order to ensure that each "hour" actually happens!

May God bless you!

(Continued from page 1)

**balance.** For example, earlier in the Gospel of Mark, after Jesus had a very busy day that lasted well after sunset and evening drew on, it says that “rising early the next morning, he went off to a lonely place in the desert; there he was absorbed in prayer.” (Mk 1: 35) He needed that time with his Father to keep focused on his mission, not get distracted or frustrated, and keep his balance.

Certainly being a disciple can seem like we’ve taken on an ever more demanding lifestyle, but if it seems overwhelming, something’s out of order. At that point **we need balance.** We need to balance prayer and action, balance work with relaxation and recreation (recreation?). That’s part of being a good disciple! (A little confession here: I’m still working on that myself.) However, I have to say that the world around us, and our American culture in particular, militates against having balance. Our culture applauds working yourself to death, being busy all the time even at the expense of health or relationships, whether with family, friends, or God.

I really think that far too many Catholics in the U.S. today lack balance. They are much too busy, DOING things, active all the time. Too often it seems we can’t take time to slow down and rest a while! When’s the last time you sat, calmly, watching the sun set? (*Right!* Who’s got time for THAT?) When’s the last time you sat at a table together with family or friends and really were in the moment, and not worried about what needed to be done later? When’s the last time you came to Mass, to the *Eucharistic Table*, without thinking about things you’ve got to do later? Now, maybe you’ve answered the above questions well, but if not, I have some suggestions, especially about Sunday.

First: Take some time... to at least get to Mass. Take time for God, to set aside the rush, the anxiety of the week, and bring it to Mass. If you live in a family, come together to Mass, and then later be together as a family around a dining room table, to extend that Eucharist. Be present in the moment.

Second, again about Sunday: It’s not the time to do all of the regular work that we couldn’t get done in the rest of the week! (“Thank God it’s Sunday, so I can try to catch up!”) That’s out of balance! It’s supposed to be the Sabbath, a day of REST. In case some Catholics are confused about this, it’s still a teaching of the Church! It’s also number 3 in the list of the ten commandments, and I think it was probably included to keep God’s people in balance. “Six days you may labor

and do all your work, but the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord, your God. No work may be done then...the Lord has blessed the sabbath day and made it holy.” (Exodus 20:9-11) —Otherwise we’d work ourselves silly, and get out of balance. So, it’s a rule of God and a rule of the Church, for our good.

The world would lead us astray. “Here’s what’s going to make you happy: Work your brains out! Work until you have no time for family or friends! Then you will have enough money to *buy* happiness.” So...we’re to have happiness later, if we don’t lose our money in the stock market. We’ll find happiness in possessions, (which will fade, and are never enough), instead of the joy of relationships immersed in love.

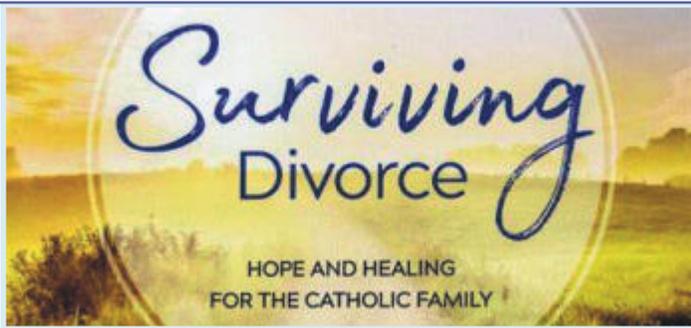
Don’t believe the world.

Take some time today to enjoy family and friends. Take time on each Sunday, like Jesus did with his disciples, to relax with the Lord—not “get LAX” with the Lord. (It’s too nice a day, let’s go to the beach instead of Mass.) That would be pretty much missing the point. Let’s reclaim Sunday for the Lord, and get our lives back in balance!

In Jesus,  
Fr. Michael

P.S. I promised Tom and Char Moersch that I would do them the favor of putting a notice in the bulletin about the funeral for their son, Chris. The funeral will be here next Saturday, at 1PM. He died during the pandemic, when some funeral Masses were being postponed. Tom was concerned that some people who would want to be there might not know about the rescheduled date for the Funeral Mass, or even about the death. My condolences to the family.





## **Surviving Divorce: Hope & Healing for the Catholic Family**

**Wednesdays, Sept. 1st—Dec. 8th  
6:30 to 8:30 pm**

Divorced? The twelve-week *Surviving Divorce* program begins on September 1, 6:30 to 8:30 pm, in the Disciples Room. The cost of the program for participants includes the *Surviving Divorce* Personal Guide and all program materials. Find comfort and counsel consistent with Catholic Church teachings. You can also sign up directly at <https://study.ascensionpress.com/studies/56279/registrations/new>, or click the link from our website, [www.stwilliam.com](http://www.stwilliam.com). Call Kim Kaye at 248-624-1421 for more information.

About the Program:

Surviving Divorce was created to bring hope and healing to those who have experienced the pain of a broken marriage. It is for the newly separated and divorced and those still struggling with issues many years later. It will help them find answers, restore hope, and begin authentic healing.

Registration Includes:

- Online access to the study videos and discussion forum
- Study materials shipped to you

**Note:** Registration prior to event is required. Call parish office 248-624-1421 ext 345 for details. Enter via the east tower doors. Signs will be displayed to guide you to classroom. Refreshments will be served.

Experts in the series include Rose Sweet, *Surviving Divorce* producer and author of *Healing the Divorced Heart*; Dr. Ray Guarendi, clinical psychologist, Catholic author, and host of Ave Maria Radio's *The Doctor Is In*; Fr. Mitch Pacwa, priest, biblical scholar, and author; Fr. Donald Calloway, priest, author, and popular EWTN host; Fr. Steve Porter, priest, biblical scholar, and spiritual director; and Christopher West, Catholic speaker and expert on St. John Paul II's Theology of the Body.

It also includes personal testimonies of Catholic men and women who have experienced the breakdown of their families. They courageously share their stories with heart, humor, and wisdom. Please join us.

This program is based on the teachings of the Catholic Church and is open to anyone who needs comfort, counsel, and clarity after divorce.



## **St. Vincent de Paul Society — 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples to "Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while." Vincent de Paul, a great man of action was also a contemplative. His contemplation of God's love overflowed into practical love for the poor.

Please say a special prayer for the poor and forgotten, as you place your gift in the Society of St. Vincent de Paul poor box.

### ***Word of Life***

#### **United States Conference of Catholic Bishops**

*"Because of our belief and hope in the Resurrection, we can face death not with fear, but with preparation.... We prepare for eternal life by choosing to love and follow God now, in our daily lives and decisions." Read more at [www.respectlife.org/end-of-life-considerations](http://www.respectlife.org/end-of-life-considerations).*

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities  
"Catholic Considerations for Our Earthly Passing"

### **A Family Perspective**

**by Bud Ozar**

In today's gospel "the apostles gathered around and told Jesus all they had done." Listening allows the other person to express, understand and appreciate their experiences. Whether it is the excited chatter of young child or the repetitious stories of an aging grandparent, listening is important. It is not just time well spent, it is sacred time.

## The Steward's Work Is Never Done

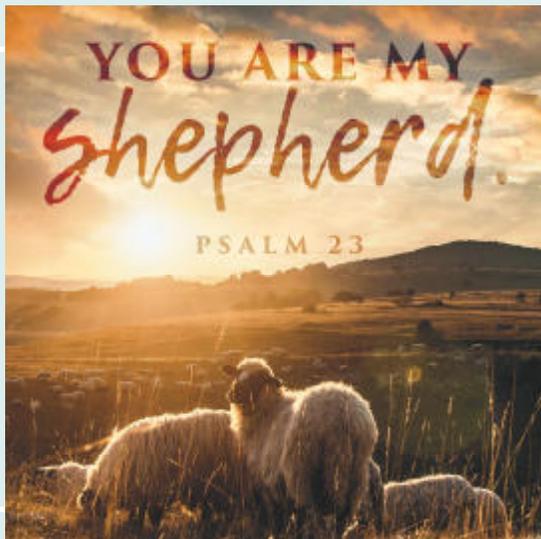
Woe to the shepherds who mislead and scatter the flock! When you hear these strong words from the Old Testament, you're probably thinking, thank goodness I don't have any sheep — dodged that bullet. Nobody misled here! No flock scattered on my watch! However, we are all shepherds of a kind, called to tend our own sheep: our families, our parishes, our communities.

But it's exhausting. Don't we all sometimes just want to take a break from being a steward? The excuses are so familiar: we're tired, we've done enough, we've given all we can, what more does the parish (or my spouse, or my kids, or my boss, or my friends, or my community) want? We give ourselves permission to be selfish. So, what if the flock scatters just a little?

Jesus gets that. We can just imagine him weary with exhaustion, can't we? We see him on his boat, attempting to sneak away for a quick break — maybe just a chance to eat a bite of food in peace. He is God, but he was still human, after all. Even the most dedicated shepherds need to sleep. But people couldn't leave him alone. They were hungry for him. They needed what he could offer, and they needed it now.

As tough as it is, that's the example we are tasked with imitating. Everyday Stewardship demands accountability. It demands our showing up even when we are tired. It demands that we look at our lives, our time, our energies, our talents, our hearts, our bank accounts and think: where do I still have more to give?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS, ©LPi



## Legion of Mary

If you would like to enrich your spiritual life & would like to help others, we need you in Legion of Mary.

Meetings are in the St. Paul room every Tuesday evening after 6:30 PM rosary. Come join us and say the Rosary and see what we're all about.

Contact Sherri Szeptowski, 248-957-8244, if you have any questions.

## Right to Life — Lifespan Conscience Protection

The Democratic Women's Caucus and the Secular Democrats of America are pressuring Mr. Biden to eliminate the Conscience and Religious Freedom Division of the Office of Civil Rights. This division was created to ensure the federal enforcement of laws that exist to protect the fundamental right of conscience and religious freedom. Those who seek the removal of this protection claim that "it has been weaponized to justify discrimination". It would seem that some seek the removal of rights guaranteed to all of us in the Constitution of the United States.

## Live the Liturgy

We only have so much psychological and spiritual energy. We easily get tired. Responding to life's demands and people's needs can really zap us of all of our energy. Anger, frustration, exhaustion, discouragement, helplessness, and even apathy can run wild. We can find ourselves bitter and irritated by the fact that we have to do it all again. We need to rest, connect, and focus. Deserted places, free of unnecessary distractions and demands, are great places of refreshment and we all need them. Desiring to be alone for a bit and rest does not indicate selfishness. Rather, it radiates wisdom. God is the source of all we do and the satisfaction of every human heart. If we are going to use the gifts God gave us well, then we have to make sure our batteries are recharged and replenished. Jesus invites us to go to a desert place to rest and pray. Where is yours?

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## Youth Ministry Calendar of Events:

July 21, 2021 - Teen Topics on ZOOM, 4:30-5:30p, MS and HS youth

July 24, 2021 - PBJ Outreach Ministry, 5:30-10:00am, MS and HS youth

July 25, 2021 - Gospel Reflection for High School teens, 11:15a-12:25p

July 27, 2021 - Field Game Day at St. William, 7-9pm, MS and HS youth

July 28, 2021 - Teen Topics on ZOOM, 4:30-5:30p, MS and HS youth

Aug. 14-15, 2021 - Youth Ministry Bottle Drive

## Bottle and Can Drives for Youth Ministry

Let us help you clear out the bin at home! Please **SAVE YOUR BOTTLES AND CANS** for our upcoming Bottle and Can Drives to raise funds for the National Catholic Youth Conference that occurs in November. The NCYC bound youth will be collecting your donations after all masses on the weekends of **August 14-15** and **September 11-12**. Please drop off your returnable cans and bottles at the trailer parked in the northeast corner of the main parking lot. The trailer will remain available through Monday of these weekends, too!

If you have a large stash of returnables at your home and would like us to come and get them, please call Karen Trojniak at 248-624-1371 ext. 308 to arrange for a pickup.

## What You Do For the Least of My Brothers . . .

St. William Youth Ministry continues to serve with P.B.J. Outreach, Inc., a non-profit organization focused on feeding and clothing the poor and marginalized living in the Detroit metropolitan area. The organization unites volunteers and equips them to obtain, prepare, and distribute food and clothing to those in need. Volunteers from various organizations or as individuals, meet every Saturday to prepare food, and then head to various locations in Detroit to serve it. Our experiences have shown us what is more important than the food that we serve to these wonderful people, is the sharing of a smile, handshake or hug, and offering a few words of hope.

We will be joining P.B.J. Outreach again on Saturday, July 24. We meet at 5:30am in St. William parking lot and car-pool to Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish, home to P.B.J. Outreach, Inc.

After serving our homeless guests at 8:00am, we go out to breakfast and talk about our experiences. Middle and High School youth are invited to join us. Youth permission slips can be found in the email reminder or the parish website.



# St. William Dads' Club Golf Outing

\*Proceeds to benefit the Dads' Club Activities and St. William Parent School Association

Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021

1:30 PM

4 Person Team, 18 Hole Golf Scramble, Shotgun Start  
\$100/person includes golf, cart, dinner, range balls and four drink tickets

Register online: [www.saintwilliam.net/events/golf](http://www.saintwilliam.net/events/golf)

Contact:

Golf - Tom Kenyon, 248-207-7550, [trkenyon@comcast.net](mailto:trkenyon@comcast.net)

Sponsorship - Nick Kiryakoza, 248-894-4200 [nkiryakoza@gmail.com](mailto:nkiryakoza@gmail.com)

## Intercessory Prayers

Intercessory prayer boxes have been placed in the tower entrances. Our Intercessory Prayer Teams will lift your intentions up in prayer for two weeks. You may also email your prayer requests by clicking the link on our website, [www.stwilliam.com](http://www.stwilliam.com). All prayer requests are kept confidential.

### Week of July 18<sup>th</sup> through 24<sup>th</sup>

Monday July 19<sup>th</sup>

7:30pm K of C Mtg., Lower Zepf

Tuesday July 20<sup>th</sup>

8:00am Mass

6:30pm Rosary followed by

7:00pm Legion of Mary, St. Paul Room

Wednesday July 21<sup>st</sup>

8:00am Mass

Thursday July 22<sup>nd</sup>

8:00am Mass

7:00pm St. Vincent de Paul Mtg., RGR

7:30pm AA Mtg., Lower Zepf

Saturday July 24<sup>th</sup>

11:00am Marriage Convalidation

4:30pm Mass

Sunday July 25<sup>th</sup>

10:00am Mass (also livestreamed)

12:30pm Mass

### ST. WILLIAM CRUSADERS 2021 FALL GIRLS VOLLEYBALL SPONSORED BY ST. WILLIAM DADS' CLUB

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

SIGN UP BY July 15, 2021

Registration Cost:  
\$100 for first child,  
\$40 discount for each additional child

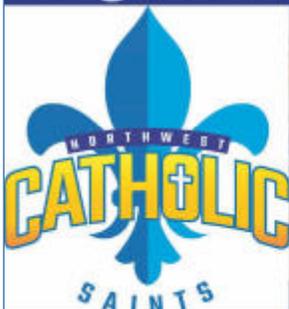


To Register online, follow the link on our parish website, [www.stwilliam.com](http://www.stwilliam.com)



E-Mail any questions to St. William Athletics Director, Mark Westemeier at; [ad@saintwilliam.net](mailto:ad@saintwilliam.net)

## Registration Now Open



Boys entering 3<sup>rd</sup>—8<sup>th</sup> grade this fall.

The NW Catholic Saints' program teaches:

- Football skills & techniques
- Discipline
- Teamwork
- Fitness
- Christian Values

Registration ends August 1<sup>st</sup>, Season begins August 9<sup>th</sup>

Registration Fee: \$230

**Register: [olsorrows.com/athletics](http://olsorrows.com/athletics)**

## Mass Intentions:

**Tuesday, July 20<sup>th</sup>**

**8:00 am**

**Fidelis D'Silva (D) familiy**

**Wednesday, July 21<sup>st</sup>**

**8:00 am**

**Anna Giacomazza (D) family; Judith Wozniacki (D) Roger; Souls in Purgatory**

**Thursday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**8:00 am**

**Chris Moersch (D, B. Day) family; Sharon Godfrey (D) John Fitzpatrick & Pam Sarotte**

**Saturday, July 24<sup>th</sup>**

**4:30 pm**

**Dave Kozora (D) wife; Anthony Vitale (D) family; Thomas Sitko (D) family; Rogelio Pacis (D) St. William Parish; Alicia Barcalon (D) family; D'Silva & Lewis families (L&D); Ruth and Tom Langan (L&D, Anniv.)**

**Sunday, July 25<sup>th</sup>**

**10:00 am**

**Members of St. William Parish (L&D)**

**12:30 pm**

**Gloria Raddant (D) St. William Parish; Howard Phillips (D) family; Ronald Chapp (D) St. William Parish; Sharon Godfrey (D) Peg Stasser; Chuck McKenzie (D) and Rev. James Mayworm (SI, 55 Anniv. of priesthood) Marge McKenzie**

## Readings for the week

**Sunday:** Jer 23:1-6/Ps 23:1-3, 3-4, 5, 6 [1]/Eph 2:13-18/Mk 6:30-34

**Monday:** Ex 14:5-18/Ex 15:1bc,-2, 3-4, 5-6 [1b]/Mt 12:38-42

**Tuesday:** Ex 14:21-15:1/Ex 15:8-9, 10 and 12, 17 [1b]/Mt 12:46-50

**Wednesday:** Ex 16:1-5, 9-15/Ps 78:18-19, 23-24, 25-26, 27-28 [24b]/Mt 13:1-9

**Thursday:** Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [2]/Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

**Friday:** Ex 20:1-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [cf. Jn 6:68c]/Mt 13:18-23

**Saturday:** Ex 24:3-8/Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15 [14a]/Mt 13:24-30

**Next Sunday:** 2 Kgs 4:42-44/Ps 145:10-11, 15-16, 17-18 [cf. 16]/Eph 4:1-6/Jn 6:1-15

## Pray for the Sick of Our Parish

All-powerful and ever-lasting God, your Son accepted our sufferings to teach us the virtue of patience in human illness. Hear the prayers we offer for our sick brothers and sisters. May all who suffer pain, illness, or disease realize that they have been chosen to be saints and know that they are joined to Christ in his suffering for the salvation of the world. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.

- |                    |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| ♦Andrew Hailo      | ♦Sam Kirk            |
| ♦Ann McCarville    | ♦Shannon Salter      |
| ♦Betty Jo Weaver   | ♦Suzanne Temple      |
| ♦Bonnie Barnes     | ♦Trevor Monfette     |
| ♦Cathy Vanderhovel |                      |
| ♦Cheryl DesJardins |                      |
| ♦Chris Bushaw      | Residents of:        |
| ♦Donna Thomas      | ♦Bloomfield Villa    |
| ♦Ellen Salter      | ♦Brookdale           |
| ♦John Shubsda      | ♦First & Main        |
| ♦Julianne Lister   | ♦Henry Ford          |
| ♦Mary Kay Dreyer   | ♦Maple Manor         |
| ♦Muriel Reutter    | ♦Novi Lakes          |
| ♦Pat Forge         | ♦Serenity            |
| ♦Robby Spencer     | ♦Sunrise Senior Ctr. |
| ♦Ryan Mele         | ♦Waltonwood          |



*Happy are those who have died in the Lord;  
let them rest from their labors for their good  
deeds go with them—Rev. 14:13*

Victor Iagnemma



## Gospel Meditation

There's an ordinary pine grove located on a tree farm not too far from town where life's stresses and demands seem to melt away. It is here that all that seemed so important out there no longer is and one can get lost in the rows of trees and majestic beauty. God is here and all is good. We need to connect with the Divine Source of all that is in order to understand what it is we are doing and why we are doing it. Otherwise, things stop making sense and bitterness can overcome one's spirit. It's okay to play once in a while and to discover that place of profound life and peace. People always have needs and there is constantly something to do. And while all of that is necessary and we are needed, there is also that inner solitude within that needs to be celebrated and released.

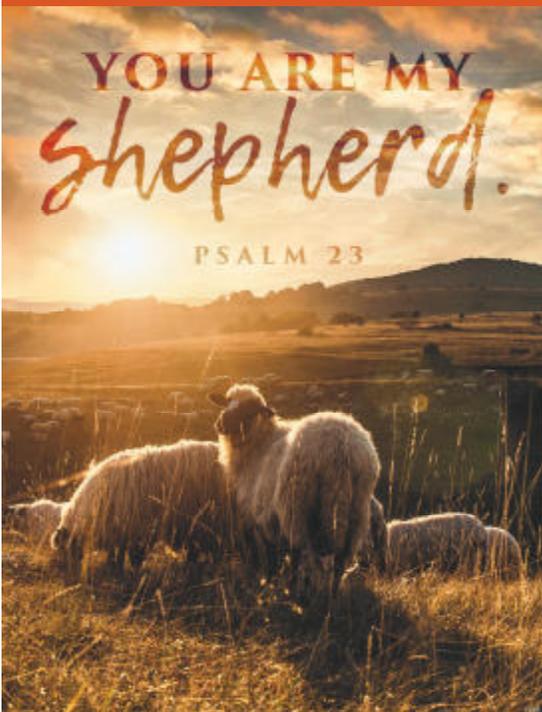
We all need a pine grove. It's that little place we can go and leave all that consumes us behind. It's a place where technology can be set aside and wonder, and awe given some time. We don't have to text, calculate, or orchestrate anything in the pine grove. It is a somewhat deserted place where all of that can be set aside and we can just be. The anger, frustration, exhaustion, discouragement, helplessness, and occasional apathy, all can fall to the ground like all of those pine needles that once held their place on the branch of a Frasier Fir. The needles can let go. We can let go. We are beings connected with Being and we all need to remember what really matters, who really



matters and what life is truly all about. We need to find that place where we can rest and let go of all of the barnacles we accumulate. Rest, breathe, seek, and love.

The world will need us again when we leave the pine grove. It will all be waiting for us, beckoning for our attention. But we will have prayed and will have marveled at the silence and the beauty of goodness. We can go back, ready, and eager to listen, to help, to heal, to cry, to embrace, and attend to all that is asked of us. But, having let go of the distractions in that deserted place we will have a renewed sense of purpose. We will know better Who it is we serve and what we are meant to do. It will all be clearer now that we have been Divinely touched and refreshed.

©LPI



## WHY DO WE DO THAT?

**Question:** I've heard that we become angels when we die. Is this what the Church teaches?

**Answer:**

As human beings, we are both spiritual and corporeal. We are body and soul. This makes us unique in all creation. No other physical creature — plant or animal — possesses an immortal soul made in God's image and likeness. Like the distinction with plants and animals, angels have an entirely different sort of existence. Angels are pure immortal spirit, and they have been so since the moment of their creation. While they may take on an appearance of a body in Biblical history, they are not a body like we are. Angels are neither male nor female, despite the art we often see.

As the result of the Fall, human beings experience death. Our souls are temporarily separated from our bodies. However, we do not become something other than human. Every Sunday in the Creed we profess "I believe in the resurrection of the body." As Jesus was united with his body on the third day, so too will we be united with our bodies at the end of time.

### Sharing the Gospel

Have you ever just wanted to be alone for a while? Jesus and his disciples knew what that felt like. They wanted to be alone to talk and rest, but crowds of people were surrounding them. Even when Jesus and his disciples tried to slip away unnoticed, people followed them anyway. They arrived only to find more crowds of people. This was certainly not the quiet time they had planned on. Being patient and kind, Jesus gave up what he wanted, and he began to teach the crowds.

### Prayer

Dear God, thank you that Jesus gave up what he wanted, just so he could help other people. Help me to follow his example. Amen.

### Mission for the Week

Spend some alone time with Jesus tonight. If you get interrupted because someone else needs help, that's okay. Go help, and then come back to your alone time with Jesus again.

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