



25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all." Taking a child, he placed it in their midst, and putting his arms around it, he said to them, "Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me." - Mk 9:35b-37a

MASS INTENTIONS

**Monday, Sept. 20 SS. Andrew Kim Tae-gon,
Paul Chong Ha-sang & Companion Martyrs**
8 am Int. of the Roland Morency Family
6:30 p.m. +Fr. Anthony Iwuc by PRCUA Friends

Tues., Sept. 21 St. Matthew, Apostle
8 am +People of the Parish
10 a.m. Memorial Mass for Nancy Ann Lisisceki

Wednesday, Sept. 22 Weekday
8 am +Maryann Malesky 1st ann. by Parish
+Rose & Gabriel Mannarino by Owens Family

Thursday, Sept. 23 St. Pius of Pietrelcina
8 am Health of Leona Flatley-Chichkan by the
Schultz Family

Friday, Sept. 24 Weekday
8 am Linda & Danny Wielkopolan 50th ann. by
friends

Saturday, Sept. 25 Weekday
4 pm +Doris Zamaitis by Bob Nichols
Int of Paul & Samantha Hook by family

Sunday, Sept. 26 26th Sunday
8 am Health of Leona Flatley-Chichkan by
Schultz Family
10 am +Mary Herman Fuchs by O'Connor Family
+Monica Rainey (10th ann.) by family
Health of Evelyn Kissel by family
5 pm +Robert Favot by Victor, Jan & Mana Favot

SANCTUARY LAMP



The Sanctuary Lamp burns
brightly this week in remembrance of:

†George Schneggenberger
by his wife



PARISH OFFICE HOURS

*Calls after hours should be limited to emergencies
only.*

Monday - Thursday: 9 am - 4 pm
(The office is closed daily for lunch Noon - 1 pm)
Friday: CLOSED for the time being

If you need to contact the parish office,
please call during regular business hours.
You can also reach the parish office by email:
parishoffice@smgoretti.com

CATECHETICAL SUNDAY

This year, the Archdiocese of Detroit will celebrate Catechetical Sunday on September 19, 2021, with the theme "Disciples of Jesus: Witnesses to the Gospel." On this special day, catechists are formally commissioned for ministry to our parish community to pass on the Catholic Faith to our families. Today we celebrate our catechists' response to the Lord's invitation to develop their own relationship with Jesus. Catechists teach us to recognize Jesus' voice and invitation in our own lives so that we will grow as His disciples and witness his love and mercy in our world. We also celebrate our parents, grandparents, and guardians by recognizing their important role in teaching the faith. The parish community is encouraged to pray for all catechists who dedicate themselves to the mission of helping those they teach to hear the voice of Jesus and to grow in relationship with Him.



Blessing of Catechists

Jesus, on the road to Emmaus, your followers were frightened and alone; you had just been put to death on a cross.

They met a man on the road leading away from Jerusalem who told them all about you and what your presence among them meant.

They did not realize that the man speaking and walking with them was you, raised from the dead.

When their eyes were opened and they received the gift of faith, they turned around to spread the word.

We ask you to bless all your disciples who now work as catechists in our parishes.

Bless them and give encouragement to their work, that it will have an impact upon the world.

We ask all this in your name, Jesus, our companion on the road from Emmaus. Amen.

Young Adult Mass and Social at the Cathedral Saturday October 2nd at 6 PM. Come celebrate the start of Fall with 6 PM Mass followed by brats on the grill, s'mores on the bonfire, and drinks in the cooler. Bring some friends and make some new ones! Bring your ID, too, if you'd like to enjoy a beer. The Mass will be the vigil Mass for the 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time. It will not be livestreamed. The Cathedral is located at 9844 Woodward Avenue in Detroit.



GOSPEL MEDITATION
25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

There is something about being first. Whether it be first in line, first to be picked for the team, or the first one to finish their work, great satisfaction is achieved. Our egos love being first. It somehow sets us apart from everyone else, gives us a sense of pride and positions us to feel better than others. When we are first, we can glory in our efforts, skills, and achievements. Isn't that what really matters? After all, we are taught from a very young age to be proficient, stay on top, be the best at what we do, and win the praise and esteem of others. This is the stuff that makes us successful and provides us with a comfortable, satisfying life.

Jesus wants none of it. All of the details we anguish over mean little to the kingdom of God. You want to be first? Then, be a servant and welcome a child. All of this is the opposite of our often vehement pursuits. If we are serious about following Jesus and living the Gospel, then we must put the needs of others before our own. If we continue to listen only to the noise of the world, we are going to continue to believe the illusions we inherit. Those illusions come in many forms, but all have things in common: me before you, being on top and not the bottom, us versus them, personal security over universal harmony and peace. When are we going to learn that always striving to be the best and first is an empty pursuit in our struggle for happiness? While satisfying our ego with this momentary boost of esteem may feel good for a moment, is it what we really desire?

If we can break from the world's noise and create a space of sacred silence in our lives, we can begin to listen and see that we are being called in another direction. What we really desire is not the bolstering of our egos but the innocence we lost somewhere along the way. When we can be playful, joyful, and even somewhat carefree, life is good. We want our relationships to work, a place to call home, and to live peaceful lives with our sisters and brothers. Only a servant can do this.

The servant's prayer seeks to detach from self-concern in order to be used by God. Rather than worrying about being first and coming out on top, we can be inspired, guided, empowered, and led to do good works. Stop worrying about being first and put greater energy into feeling joy. ©LPi

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

The View from the Back of the Line

Have you known that person? The one who leaves every person they encounter feeling a little more blessed for having met them? They're the friend you can count on when nothing is going well. They're the one who's always "doing" for others. They're never gossiping or sniping or complaining.

We wonder how they do it, how they have it in them. We're a little envious, even if we don't let ourselves acknowledge it.

That, folks, is what the view is like from the front of the line, gazing at those suckers in the way back and wondering why they're smiling so much.

We've all been at the front of a line and felt no shame about it. We show up early, we put in the time and the legwork, and we "earn" whatever it is we came for — sports tickets, the latest Apple product, whatever. That's how it works here on Earth, where the fastest win the race, the fittest survive and the first shall be first, always.

It's exactly why stewardship is such a tall order. Stewardship calls us to play by the rules of another kingdom — one where the richest have the least amount in their bank accounts and the happiest don't seem to have anything to show for it, at least materially.



If you have a person in your life who always seems happy "doing" for others, it's because by a boatload of God's grace, they play by the rules of the other place.

Watch and take notes — and don't be afraid to join them at the back of the line.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

*Serve Ye the Lord
with gladness!*

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK - REFLECT AND RESPOND TO SCRIPTURE

First Reading: The Wisdom writer reveals the mentality of the wicked, characterized by revenge and treachery. How best should people of faith respond to such behavior?

Second Reading: James offers insight into the human condition as it relates to how often our ambitions and passions can lead us astray. How do you keep yourself grounded in holy intentions?

Gospel: We hear today how the disciples were afraid to ask Jesus questions and reluctant to share with him some of their tensions. Why do you sometimes hold back from opening up to the Lord? ©LPi

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

What does it mean to be God's servant? In essence, it means being willing to call the world back to its child-like innocence, showing all that a joy-filled playfulness has a place in life. The servant of God serves to foster the Kingdom of God. God's kingdom is not a sterile, unhappy, strict, and rigid reality. It is quite the opposite. It is a kingdom devoid of jealousy and selfish ambition where peace, gentleness, mercy, and good works abound. To be a servant of this kingdom means that selfish ambition must be set aside so that others can be first, and justice pursued at all cost. The prayer of this kind of servant is not focused on self-advancement or need. Rather, the servant's prayer seeks to detach from self-concern in order to be used by God. In this way, we who are servants can be inspired, guided, empowered, and led by God. We can then be used to lay the cornerstones of the kingdom: faith, hope, and love. It is upon these that God's firm dwelling is built. Accepting this call may place us last in the world's eyes but first in God's. ©LPi

Interested in Becoming A Catholic?



Would you like to learn more about the Catholic Faith; to grow more intimately with Christ through the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist in the Catholic Church?

All are welcomed and invited to seek the Lord through a process called Rite of Christian Initiation. You will be given the opportunity to experience Christ through service, scripture, sacrament, prayer and fellowship. Please contact the Parish or

Faith Formation Office if God is calling you to find out more about our Catholic Faith.

Question: Why are Catholics required to fast before Communion?

Answer: How we prepare for an important event helps us with the intentionality of our actions and raises our awareness. We prepare our house for guests. We wash our car before an important trip. We create a nursery for a newborn child. All of these actions

heighten our senses for what is about to come.

The fast required by canon law before holy Communion has its roots in Jewish spiritual practices. We fast for cleansing and to demonstrate our reliance on God. Catholics used to fast for much longer periods of time, but it was Pope Paul VI in 1964 who set the time at one hour in an attempt to encourage people to receive the holy Eucharist more frequently. That one-hour observance allows us to pause and reflect on what we will participate in in the very near future. We deny our bodies so that we can focus more clearly on the Body of Christ that we will consume. ©LPi



28TH ANNUAL MASS FOR COMMERCE OCTOBER 27, 2021

Time: 8:00 AM

Cost: Free will offering

Location: Sacred Heart Major Seminary, 2701 Chicago Blvd., Detroit, MI 48206

**note that this year's Mass is a week later than in previous year*

JOIN US FOR A MORNING OF INSPIRATION

Leadership styles change, but the principle of stewardship and serving others are timeless. Join the Southeast Michigan business and professional community and celebrate the Eucharist in thanksgiving for God's gifts of love and grace.

*Please be assured that we take your personal safety very seriously, and we will adhere to any recommendations made by the Archdiocese of Detroit or State of Michigan regarding COVID-19. Please make a commitment to attend by **registering via the form below** so we can keep you posted as things progress.*

I'm going to take a break from the Precepts of the Church this week. Why,



you ask? Because I can, and because we celebrated last Wednesday, September 15th, a very important Feast Day in the Church calendar, the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows. This feast commemorates the sorrowful Mother and the sufferings she experienced in union with her Son and dates back to the 12th century. Our Lady of Sorrows is usually depicted with seven swords piercing her Immaculate Heart. The feast was extended to the universal Church in 1817 by Pope Pius VII and fixed officially in the calendar for September 15 in 1913 by Pope Pius X.

Interestingly, the date of September 15th is the Octave of Our Lady's birthday which is celebrated on September 8th each year. Also of interest is that the Feast of the Exultation of the Cross is celebrated on September 14th, the day before the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows. In the Wisdom of the Church, these feasts are all tied together this month. I love it when a plan comes together!!!!

So, what are the Seven Sorrows of Our Lady? I'm glad you asked. Here they are:

1. The prophecy of Simeon at the Presentation (Luke 2: 22-35)
2. The Flight into Egypt (Mat 2: 13-21)
3. The loss of the Child Jesus in the Temple (Luke 2: 41-50)
4. Mary meets Jesus on the way of the Cross (Luke 23: 26-32)
5. Jesus dies on the cross (Mark 15: 22; John 19: 18, 25-27, Luke 23: 46)
6. Jesus is taken down from the cross (John 19: 31-34, 38)
7. Jesus is laid in the tomb (Mat 27: 59, John 19: 38-42, Mk 15:46, Luke 27: 55-56)

There is a beautiful meditation prayer that can be said in honor of Our Lady of Sorrows. It's available on the internet. Just type in your search engine the words "Seven sorrows of our lady-pierced hearts. It includes meditations on each of the sorrows and after each you pray an Our Father and seven Hail Marys.

Our Lady of Sorrows, Pray for us!!!
 God Is Good All the Time!
 All the Time God Is Good!

Don't forget, join us this Friday and every Friday at 3PM to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet on ZOOM. See the ad in our bulletin or on the parish website for details on how to join in. Hope to see you there!

FR. SOLANUS GUILD 2021 FALL DAY OF REFLECTION

Established by the Guild in 1976 for all men and women. Thursday, October 14, 2021 9:00a.m. -2:30p.m. (check-in at 8:30 a.m.) \$25.00 per person for Guild members, \$30.00 for non-Guild members includes continental breakfast and lunch, two sessions with our speakers, Fr. Tom Zelinski, OFM Cap and Sally McCuen.

Held at the Solanus Casey Center, 1780 Mt. Elliott, Detroit, MI 48207 (313) 579-2100 x1140 Registration is in advance only. Space is limited, so please respond by September 23rd. If you are paying for a guest, please supply their name, indicating he/she is your guest. Please make checks payable to Solanus Casey Center or pay with a credit card by completing the form below and returning it.

Fr. Solanus Guild 2021 Fall Day of Reflection. Credit card information slip -please print clearly and be sure to include CVC (security code.)

Name _____

Address _____

City, State,
 Zip _____

Phone _____

Credit card: circle one Visa MC Discover
 American Express Credit card number:

Security code _____
 Expiration date _____
 Amount to charge _____
 Credit card billing zip code _____
 Billing address for card if different than home address

Name(s) _____

Please
Pray
for...



Norm Abramczyk
Louise Ames
Anna Axe
Joyce Babosh
Harry Bacalia
Sue Bacalia
Norma Bak
Violet Barrette
Bob Behmer
Bob Bellottie
Jim Bellottie
Vincent Bellottie
Judy Bennett
Sharon Bieniek
Cynthia Blaha
Marilyn Block
Evelyn Boettger
Aaron Boyless
Thomas J. Brennan, Jr.
Joan Buzo
Jacob Cassar

Michaeline Chwastek
Richard Cline
Zoe Cossin
Betty Ann Crawford
Sylvia Cyncewicz
Judy Daniels
Brian Davis
Tina Doney
Pearl Dube
Mary Durkacs
Marsha Farmer
Geraldine Filippi
Cecil Fernandez
Tina Fernandez
Lisa Foster
Rose Fraley
Duane Glossa
Roseann Gomez
Bob & Lori Gonzales
Gary Graham Jr
Abigail Graves
Jennifer Hanna Green
Charlotte Gutierrez
Eileen Halpin
Annie Hapunowicz
Tina Hovis
Sue Jagodka
Joanne Kacher
Norman Kaleto
Brenda Kaleto

Fr. Terry Kerner
Phyllis Kinnell
Evelyn Kisell
Joan Klimchalk
Chris Kovac
John Kovac
Jenene Kozinski
George Kramar
Patrica Lacopelli
Joseph Lasky
Henry Lemmens
Guadalupe Madrigal
Phyllis Mareck
Donald Martin
Erin Martin
Larry & Carol McGrew
Jane Mellnick
Linda Molek
Pat Mozdzen
Suzanne Nicholas
Gigi Novak
Diane Owens
John Palmer
Mary Pellegrini
Helen Petroski
Jimmy Piche
Mary Pike
Jeff Pingilley
Jess Pingilley
Linda Pingilley

Robert Pingilley
Sam Pingilley
Wayne Pingilley
Carol Regnier
Whitney Regnier
Noemia Reid
Linda Robb
Richard Roberts
Laura Salazar
Fred Sanscrainte
Matt Sanscrainte
Joann Sanscrainte
Dennis Scanland
Darlene Shannon
Phil Shannon
Rose Shannon
Jaxon Shubik
Margaret Smith
Jimmy Stecki
Gerald Stevens
Jim Tokarczyk
Laurie Trupp
Michael Wheelock
Eileen Winnie
The Wirick Family
Frank Wojcik
Vickie Wrobel
Stephen Zelle



Air Force

*Matthew Thornton, Nicole Thornton,
Michelle Thornton, Brittany Mack,
Tiffany Kay Smith (Ladd), husband, Don Smith*

Army

*Josh Harpster, Zachary Robbins,
Robert Truchan, Anthony Lemieux,
Bryce Bieniek, Tony Pernicano, Jacob Grzebienik,
Matthew Hapunowicz*

Marines

*Joseph Krawzyk, 1st Lieutenant, Joseph McGinnis,
Corporal, Andrew Clark, 1st Lieutenant,
Cody S. Pratt, Luke Cohen, PFC 1st Class*

Navy

Ryan Detlor, Patrick Hanosh

Army National Guard

*Vincent Nowak, Spc. Kyle F. Johnson,
Michael Dunne*

Continuing the Journey – Bringing light out of darkness

St. Francis Retreat Center, DeWitt
Oct 30, 2021 Sat., 9:30 am - 3:00 pm

Are you yearning to hear more from God and bring something positive and lasting out of the pandemic? God is always seeking to bring good out of our challenges and works together with us to accomplish this. To truly collaborate with him, we must listen deeply, which can be difficult in the course of our daily lives. Join me to experience new ways of praying, using Scripture, music and movement, that will open our minds and hearts to encounter God. Together, we will each reflect on what we have learned during the pandemic, ask God to lead us, and discern our next steps.

Cost is \$55.00 and includes lunch. Register online at <http://www.stfrancis.ws/prayer-in-motion.html>. For further information contact Janene Ternes of Prayer in Motion, LLC at <https://www.prayer-in-motion.com/>

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time B 1

Wisdom 2:12, 17-20 The Weakness of Wickedness

For churchgoers who strive to do what is right, it is hard to understand



DAILY MARRIAGE TIP (from www.usccb.org)

1. Lift high the Cross! Do you have a crucifix in a prominent place in your home? Seeing Jesus' sacrifice is a great reminder of the love spouses are called to every day.

2. A Marian Marriage Tip from Pope Francis "May



[Mary] make us more aware that in having children parents are acting as God's assistants. It is a mission that is

truly sublime, which makes each family a shrine of life, and each child's birth awakens joy, wonder and gratitude."

3. "You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do." (Mk 8:33) We are not always capable of understanding the way in which God works. But we must always trust and remain faithful to Him, despite our lack of understanding. He will not lead us astray.
4. If one of you is sad, sick, or depressed, how can you tell? What do you usually do to comfort each other? Does talking about it help? Or would you rather have time alone? What does your spouse want you to do? Ask.



why some people strive to do what is wrong. But those people exist. They steal to support a drug habit. They hack websites to cause confusion. They lie. They murder. They have no respect for human life.

Evil people have been around throughout the history of the world. Jesus predicted that his life would end in their hands. Jeremiah faced them in his ministry.

Jeremiah overheard the collusion of the wicked. They targeted him because he was just, and righteous people were

obnoxious to them.

Whenever the just reproach the wicked, the two sides grow farther apart. The just become more just and the wicked conceive more wickedness in retaliation. To the untrained eye, evil people often seem to win. They achieve the wrong they try to do.

But to eyes of faith, the wicked never win. Agents of death and destruction, they are eternally conquered by the God of might.

Jeremiah did not live to see the final victory that Jesus achieved over death. Jeremiah lived to see revilement.

In the light of the resurrection, we know now what prophets only hoped for: that wickedness can never overcome what is good.

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time B 2

James 3:16–4:3 War and Peace

A world without wars would be a great place to live. How we yearn for days of peace, when killing stops and soldiers come home. But peace is not just the absence of war. Peace is the willingness to share from our abundance, to sacrifice for the needy, and to advocate for justice throughout the world. To achieve peace means more than laying down weapons of conflict. It means taking up the tools for a better world.

"Where do the wars and where do the conflicts among you come from?" asks the Letter of James. "Is it not from your passions?" Jealousy and selfish ambition bring about disorder and every foul practice, James says. Habits of self-absorption lead to indifference toward others. That breeds resentment and foments conflict.

We covet what we do not possess. Some with envy even kill others, but they still cannot obtain inner happiness. Many of us are not content with what we have; we want more income to buy more things. But we do not supply the needs of others. We are too busy feeding our own passions. And they will never satisfy.

Peace comes from God. And it can start at home. It comes from the willingness to do with less, to eliminate jealousy, and to promote mercy. That will make the world a great place to live. "The fruit of righteousness is sown in peace for those who cultivate peace."



St. Vincent de Paul



Food Pantry

St. Maria Goretti Parish

Please drop off your donations on Mondays and Wednesdays between 12:00 and 2:00pm or call Matt at 313-595-1317

Here is the current list of needs for our pantry:

- Canned Northern Beans
- Jelly: Grape & Strawberry
- Complete Pancake Mix
- Spinach
- Kool Aid Pouches
- Hormel Chili: with and without beans
- Saltine Crackers
- Mixed Vegetables
- Small Tomato Soup
- Frosting
- Feminine Hygiene Products

A special Thank You to all of you for remembering your neighbors in need. God bless you all. Remember, we feed our neighbors year round. Summertime is always slow for us receiving food. Please remember us and that we continue to need monetary donations to help those with financial needs as well.

ST. PAUL SCHOOL OF EVANGELIZATION

This fall, the St. Paul School of Evangelization is kicking off its new Southeast, Michigan location to equip ordinary Catholics in how to be fruitful evangelists, and we hope to see you in class! After an amazing response to our inaugural year in 2019, we've put together new live and virtual locations for students to learn how to become the evangelist that God wants them to be! Now if you're thinking, "I can't evangelize. I'm not a saint. I'll mess up!", we have only one thing to say: A Halo is Not Required! That's right. So many people think you have to be holy or have the perfect words to say to be an evangelist. And nothing could be further from the truth. All you have to have is a basic knowledge of the faith, a heart that's willing to serve God, a love for God's people, and a desire to learn from our instructors. Our new class will be starting in October this year. We will meet each week at St. Mary, Cause of our Joy. The school runs for four 8-week quarters. For more information or to apply: streetevangelization.com/parish-schools or contact Randy Husaynu at randyhus@gmail.com, or call/text 248-515-6805 for more information. God is calling each and every one of us to share the truth with a world that is lost. It's up to you to answer the call.



BULLETIN EDITOR
** bulletin@smgoretti.com **

All submissions are due 10 days before publication date.

The deadline for bulletin submissions is **2:00pm on Thursday, 10 days before the bulletin date.**

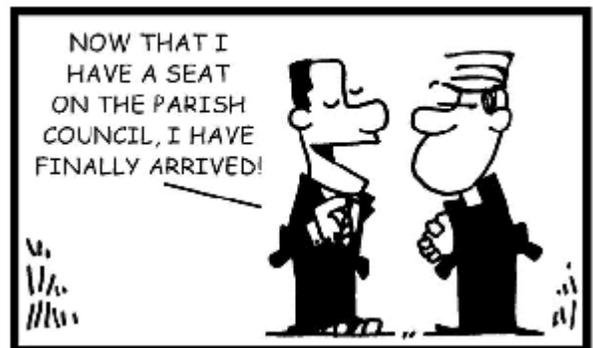
Exceptions occur when the bulletin is required to be sent early due to holidays.

Please plan ahead as submissions received past the deadline will be published in the following week's bulletin.

Submissions should be sent as a Word document (single spaced), PDF or photo format (JPEG, TIFF, GIF, PNG), attached to or in the body of an email



25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



give online

Online giving makes it easy to give! You never have to bring envelopes, cash or checks to church. Giving electronically also helps the church save money and plan its budget.

There are no fees for on-line giving.

- ★ Visit the St. Maria Goretti website at www.stmariagorettiparish.com
- ★ Click on the Online Giving link on the left side of the home page.
- ★ Complete the registration form

Please feel free to call the Parish Office if you should have any questions or want to know more about Online Giving.

Your donations are vital to the success of our Parish community.

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

with Deacon Regis

Join us on

*Fridays at 3:00pm to pray the
Divine Mercy Chaplet on ZOOM.*

*To connect by computer use this link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85478055945>*

*To connect by smart phone call
1 (312) 626 6799*

PARISH COMMISSIONS, COUNCILS AND GROUPS

Parish Council

Chairperson: Richard Fron

Co-Chairperson: Chris Bergeron

Secretary: Thomas Koselka

Members at Large: Barbara Balnius Mario Ferrante
Pat Wallace David Griswack Valerie Koselka
John O'Callaghan Marge Taylor Sandy VanAssche
Linda Wielkopolan

Worship Commission: David Griswack

Education/Formation Comm: Marge Taylor

Christian Svc. Commission: Cathy Nagle

Finance Council: Dianna Dunne

Ushers President: Dave Griswack
313.999.5144

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WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturday: 4 p.m.

Sunday: 8 a.m., 10 a.m. & 5 p.m.

DAILY MASSES:

Monday through Friday: 8 a.m.

Monday Evening: 6:30pm

First Friday: 8 a.m. & 12 Noon

First Saturday: 8 a.m.

CONFESSIONS

Saturday: 3 - 3:30 p.m. or by request

HOLYDAYS

TIMES TO BE DETERMINED

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Each Monday, beginning at Noon, ending prior to 6:30pm
Mass

BAPTISMS

Contact Parish Office for arrangements.

Pre-Baptism Class required.

MARRIAGES

Please contact Parish Office at least six (6) months in advance.



Sunday, Sep 19, 2021 TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY

TIME Let the Good News resound Religion is often reduced to its most visible aspect: Sunday worship. But the church's ministry includes service, evangelization, healing, and teaching. On Catechetical Sunday we celebrate our mutual call to educate and instruct. "Catechize" means to echo or resound.

Saint Paul once modeled for the Corinthians this task of "re-sounding" the Good News when he wrote: "I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you." Does your Catholic faith steer you when making decisions and weighing values? Does it bring consolation? Does it challenge you to sacrifice? Echo these riches to those you love. **TODAY'S READINGS:** Wisdom 2:12, 17-20; James 3:16-4:3; Mark 9:30-37 (134). "Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me."

Monday, Sep 20, 2021 MEMORIAL OF ANDREW KIM TAE-GŎN, PRIEST, AND PAUL CHŎNG HA-SANG, AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS Sound the depths of your faith This year marks the 200th anniversary of the birth of Andrew Kim Tae-gŏn, the first native-born Korean priest and patron saint of Korea. He was one of an estimated 10,000 who were martyred for their Christian faith in Korea in the 19th century. The theme of the bicentenary celebration is "Are you Catholic?" because Andrew's "yes" to that question during interrogation cost him his life. The bishop of the Korean city of Daejeon said the theme "calls us to reflect seriously on our identity and our consistency as Catholics." Take this opportunity to consider what your Catholic identity means to you. **TODAY'S READINGS:** Ezra 1:1-6; Luke 8:16-18 (449). "No one who lights a lamp conceals it with a vessel or sets it under a bed."

Tuesday, Sep 21, 2021 FEAST OF MATTHEW, APOSTLE, EVANGELIST Let peace begin with me The United Nations designates today as the International Day of Peace. It's also the feast of Saint Matthew—the evangelist whose list of Beatitudes includes the words "blessed are the peacemakers." According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, the "Beatitudes are at the heart of Jesus' preaching." They "shed light on the actions and attitudes characteristic of the Christian life" and are the "paradoxical promises that sustain hope in the midst of tribulations." Matthew must have experienced such tribulations when he, as a hated tax collector, joined the other apostles. Be a peacemaker today, especially among people you're nearest to. **TODAY'S READINGS:** Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13; Matthew 9:9-13 (643). "I desire mercy, not sacrifice."

Wednesday, Sep 22, 2021 Share the wealth Power sharing and collaborative ministry are thorny questions within church circles and many faith communities. Jesus can be our model and our guide, in this as in all questions. When he sent the apostles out he did so in pairs and "gave them power and authority." Add it up and it equals shared, collaborative ministry. Those who are sure of their own authority are able to share it freely and without fear. More ministries and leadership positions will open up in the church when those with power learn to trust the faith community the way Jesus did. **TODAY'S READINGS:** Ezra 9:5-9; Luke 9:1-6 (451). "He sent them to proclaim the Kingdom of God and to heal the sick."

Thursday, Sep 23, 2021 MEMORIAL OF PIUS OF PIETRELCINA, PRIEST Be an everyday mystic In a secular world that prizes material possessions, the mystical aspect of the church can captivate. Saint Padre Pio (1887-1968) certainly drew attention for his mystical attributes. A relatively obscure Italian Capuchin priest, he gained fame for reportedly displaying the wounds of Christ, called stigmata, and for his insightful (some called it psychic) abilities as a confessor. He spent up to 10 hours a day with people who sought guidance and forgiveness in Confession. Only a few of us become mystics, but all can seek holiness and insight. Today meditate and act on the path to holiness that God has placed before you. **TODAY'S READINGS:** Haggai 1:1-8; Luke 9:7-9 (452). "Herod said, 'John I beheaded. Who then is this about whom I hear such things?'"

Friday, Sep 24, 2021 Grounded in a sense of belonging In our Western mindset, we often think of land as "property," owned and available for human use. But if we hope to stem climate change, we need to realize it's really the other way around. The land doesn't belong to us; we belong to the land. Writes Pope Francis in his encyclical on caring for creation, *Laudato Si'*: "Many things have to change course, but it is we human beings above all who need to change. We lack an awareness of our common origin, of our mutual belonging, and of a future to be shared with everyone." How will you commit to the care of this land that sustains us in so many ways? **TODAY'S READINGS:** Haggai 2:1-9; Luke 9:18-22 (453). "In this place I will give you peace."

Saturday, Sep 25, 2021 OPTIONAL MEMORIAL OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY Ripe with possibilities Jesus was born to Mary “in the fullness of time,” as one scripture passage puts it. This rich metaphor of time ripening rings true to human experience. Think of the blessings in your own life, and how they have developed often from small beginnings or mere glimmers of hope: deep and lasting relationships, hard-earned insights, lifelong achievements and legacies. Good things take time, patience, perseverance, courage, and perhaps most of all, trust. Think of Mary’s journey of trust in response to God’s call, and make it your own. And may the blessings in your own life ripen in the fullness of time! **TODAY’S READINGS:** Zechariah 2:5-9, 14-15a; Luke 9:43b-45 (454). “Sing and rejoice, O daughter Zion! See, I am coming to dwell among you, says the LORD.”

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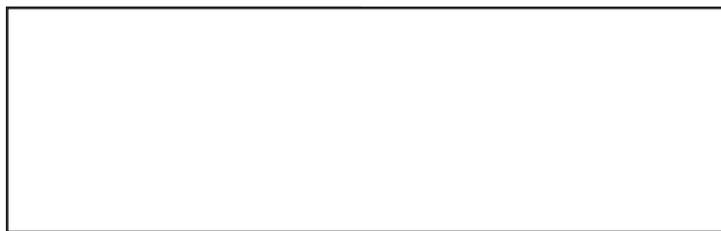
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