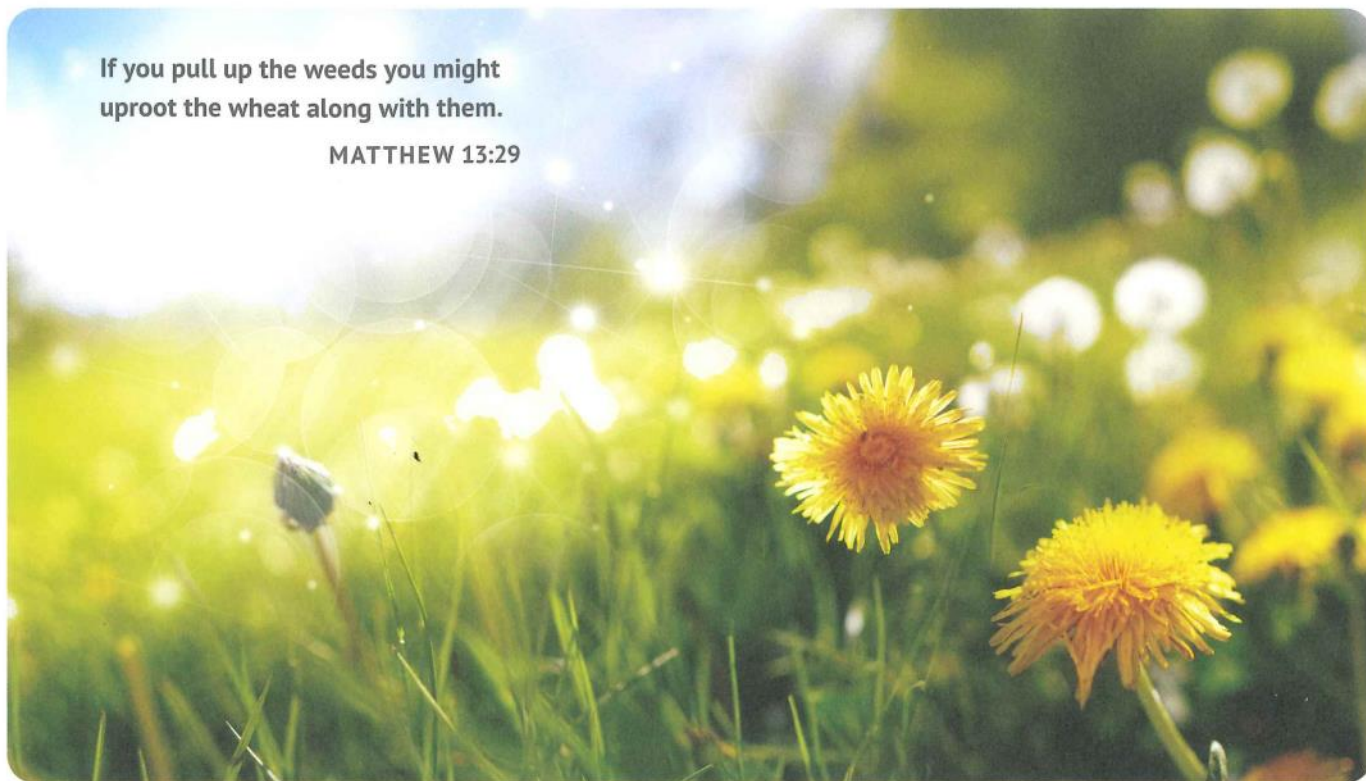




If you pull up the weeds you might
uproot the wheat along with them.

MATTHEW 13:29



Weeds in the Gardens of Life

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

We humans are a curious lot, a mixture of wheat and weeds, sin and grace, tolerance and intolerance. Uproot one and you might uproot the other as well. The one who is guarded and may seem superficial may also be the one who is fun to be with and makes us laugh. The one who is terribly impractical may also be the creative dreamer. The penny-pincher who finds it difficult to spend and enjoy life may also be the one who calms our own spending and encourages us to save.

The kingdom of heaven, says the parable, is about God, who allows the wheat and weeds to grow together; God, who recognizes in each of us both good and evil and seems able to love us that way. Some find it difficult

to tolerate those who are still growing in the faith.

Over the years there have been different litmus tests to determine the truly faithful ones—usury and the lending of money for interest, being part of the military, nuclear arms use, the prohibition and use of alcohol, birth control, divorce. Consider the Inquisition, when

heretics were burned at the stake. Being a believer does not mean any of us perfectly lives out the ideal.

God seems more tolerant of us than we are of one another. We vessels who hold the treasure of

faith grow at our own pace, each quite differently. It is God who does the ultimate sorting, willing to gather the wheat from our personal gardens and leave the weeds behind. ●

Reflect

**Are there some believers
you find difficult to
tolerate?**

Saint Michael's Catholic Church

17150 - 88th Ave, Coopersville, MI 49404
Parish Office: 616-384-4026

*Saint Michael's Catholic Community is a family challenged by Christ,
inspired by the Holy Spirit, to care for others and to become the body
Of Christ through worship, hospitality and service.*

Pastor: Fr. Michael Hodges—frmhodges@grpriests.org
Deacon: Deacon Tom Roberts—troberts@saintmarysmarne.org

For more information on staff, councils, ministries and schedules,
visit our website : www.saintmichaels.us
Prayerline: Chris Albrecht, 616.403.7110 or Judy Driedger, 616.899.2470

Mass Intentions

Saturday July 22

4:30PM † Sarah Hapon by Family **MA**
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:30 PM—4:15 PM - St Mary

Sunday July 23

8:30AM † Jack Kirkwood by Chris & the late Chuck Albrecht ... **MI**
10:30AM † Judy Drong by The Todd Davis Family **MA**
4:30PM † Merlin Steffes by Norm & Barb Rohen **MI**
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:30 PM—4:15 PM - St Michael

Monday July 24 No Mass

Tuesday July 25

† Pat O'Connor by Jim Fritz..... **MA**
Adoration begins after Mass until 2pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 2:00 PM—3:00 PM - St. Mary

Wednesday July 26

† Chuck Albrecht by Mary VanDenBrink..... **MI**
Adoration begins after Mass until 2pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 2:00 PM—3:00 PM - St. Michael

Thursday July 27

9:00AM † Bette Lipski by M/M Dennis Bochniak **MA**

Friday July 28

9:00AM † John VanDenBrink by Greg & Andrea Steffes **MI**

Saturday July 29

4:30PM † Betty Oziemkiewicz by Sue Zolinski **MA**
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:30 PM—4:15 PM - St Mary

Sunday July 30

8:30AM † Art & Evelyn Schmidt by Joan Hecksel & Family **MI**
10:30AM † Gordon Powers by Family **MA**
4:30PM † Carl Goosen by Marcy Goosen **MI**
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:30 PM—4:15 PM - St Michael

MA=St. Mary **MI**=St. Michael's

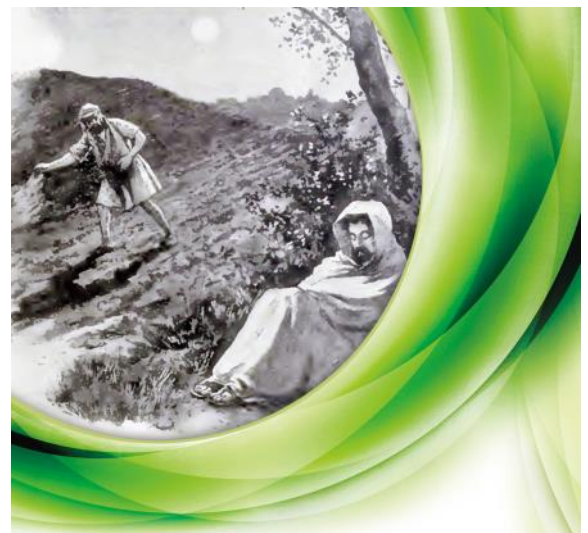


St. Michael's Liturgical Ministers

	July 30 / 8:30 AM	July 30 / 4:30 PM
Altar Servers	Lauren Meerman Melena Lindberg	NEED TWO
Eucharistic Ministers	Cindy Lindberg Joe Hitchings Zach Nelson Debbie Veneklas Jennifer DeMull Paul Schmidt Rosemary Weigel	NEED TWO
Lector	Carl Pohlman	Carol Reens
Sacristan	Chris Albrecht	NEED ONE
Ushers	Mary Bueche Jim Ponshair Ed Irwin NEED ONE	NEED TWO
Music	Anna Jonaitis	Anna Jonaitis

St. Mary's Liturgical Ministers

	July 29 - 4:30PM	July 30- 10:30AM
Sacristan	Need One	Gary Karr
Altar Servers	Kassidy Britt MaKaelyn Britt	Ty Ricord Lauren LeMieux
Precious Body	Lori Rander Rob Rander Deb Hapon	Deacon Tom Christina Withers Paul Madura
Precious Blood	Matt Karr Austin Lampe Michell Lampe Mary Kirkwood	Janette Ney Becky Warners Jim Fritz Geary Farrell
Hospitality	Need Four	Leonard Horter Bruce Kamp Marcia Kamp Need One
Lector	Steve Lampe	Rita Carmody
Music	Bernie Stanko	Bernie Stanko



16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"If you pull up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along with them."
Matthew 13:29

St. Michael's Parish News



Scrip News— Thank you to our 13 families who purchased Scrip this week. Our total profit was \$111.90.

2023 Vacation Bible School — STELLAR: SHINE JESUS' LIGHT!

July 24-28th, from 6-8:30 pm.

Registration forms are in the narthex and on parish website. Many volunteers are needed! If interested please contact Debbie Veneklas with any questions. (616)384-4026. We are looking for donations for VBS. If you are willing to make a donation for teen snacks, please contact Debbie at 616-384-4026.



Congratulations to Joe Heminger & Laura Wierman

who celebrated the Sacrament of Marriage here at St. Michael's yesterday, Saturday, July 22, 2023



Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

St. Michael's Preschool

Have you considered St. Michael's Preschool for your child or grandchild? If not, you should! Come see what a great experience St. Michael's Preschool can provide. Come meet our Director/Teacher, Cindy Lindberg! Preschool meets on MWF from 8:45—11:45 am (Mon. 8:45am-2:30pm for 4-year-olds). For more info, call the Parish Office at 616-384-4026. Now enrolling for the 2023-24 school year!

St. Michael's Faith Formation

Children's Liturgy of the Word: Our program is now on summer break. CLW will resume in September.

Elementary Faith Formation: Grades 1-5 are now on Summer Break. Classes will resume in September.

Middle School Faith Formation: Grades 6, 7 and 8 are on Summer Break. Classes will resume in September.

St. Michael's Parish Family

Remembers in Their Prayers: Kevin Johnson, Anne Pols, Alexandria Gordon, George Langlois, Brooke Campbell, Linda Abel-Carroll, Jackie May, Brad Boerma, Dennis Goosen, Jean Mayse, Ken Heflin, Payton Patterson, Winnie Spencer, the victims of abortion, & the men and women in the military.



St. Michael's Sanctuary Lamp

for +John VanDenBrink
by his wife



St. Michael's Chicken Dinner

Come one, come all. Our parish festival is August 27, 2023! We will have big raffle, chicken dinner, mini-affle, kids' tent, grocery wheel . . . something for all ages! We will need many volunteers to help out. Sign-up sheets are in the glass hallway. There will be another festival meeting on August 13, after 8:30 AM Mass.

Large Raffle: We are looking for a chairperson to lead this important event. Raffle tickets will be available after Masses. We are asking that each family try to sell at least 2 packets.

Mini Raffle: You may bring donated items into the office during regular hours. If you would like to donate money for the committee to purchase items, please do so by August 20.

Kitchen: In need of donations — 2 large decaf canisters of coffee; 2 large regular canisters of coffee; fresh cherry tomatoes; 1 jug of bleach; 1 large bottle of dish soap.

Country Store: The following is meant to be suggestions only: any and all baked goods, canned preserves, pickles, fruits, homemade jewelry, greeting cards, quilts, wood work, ceramics, homemade doll clothes, produce and herbs from your garden, honey, homemade soap. And books are always welcomed! If you aren't sure it is appropriate for the Country Store, please call Mary Turbessi 231-865-3468 or Cindy Lindberg

Pie Collections: We will take a special collection for pies on August 6 and August 13.

Please contact our co-chairs, Cindy Lindberg (616-822-1213) or Jenny Lindberg (616-862-3588), with any questions.

Giving Back to God

July 16, 2023

Adult Envelopes	\$3,536.00
Loose Cash	\$272.00
Children's Envelopes	\$12.31
Online Giving	\$760.00
Total	\$4,580.31
Building Fund	\$25.00
Financial Assistance	\$35.00

Thank you for your continued support!

July 23, 2023 ~ The 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Cluster News and Community News and Events

Mass of Hope, Health & Healing

Healing Mass with The Sacrament of the Sick. **Friday, August 4 at 7PM** at St Mary. All are welcome. Please come and receive the healing power of God.

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest"

Matthew 11:28



Coopersville Cares Benefit Sale

Friday, **August 18** and Saturday, **August 19** at the Grace Lutheran Church - 300 E. Cleveland. Donations of good usable clothing, toys, furniture and household items will be needed. Please remember this sale and start collection items that you will be willing to donate the week of the Sale.

Behold Him: Youth Adoration Night

All students entering grades 6-9 are invited to join us on Thursday, July 27 from 6-7:30 p.m. for an evening of worship at West Catholic High School. Those who attend will have a unique opportunity to participate in adoration with other students from across the diocese! RSVP today at grwestcatholic.org/youthadoration.

Please Pray for our Engaged Couples

Joe Heminger & Laura Wierman
.....July 22, 2023 (St Michael)
Wyatt VanDyke & Olivia Killebrew
..... July 29, 2023 (St Michael)
Christian Hall & Kayleigh Kutchin
.....August 25, 2023 (St Michael)
Marissa McDonald & Christopher Barczak
.....October 7, 2023 (St Mary)

Lord God, the source of all love, the wise plan of your providence has brought these young people together. As they prepare themselves for the sacrament of marriage and pray for your grace, grant that, strengthened by your blessing, they may grow in their respect for one another and cherish each other with a sincere love. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen



Youth Ministry

Youth Ministry (6-12 Grade)

Summer Activities for Youth
Summer is more than half way over!
There are just a couple more Youth Ministry events left this summer. Event info, dates and times have been sent out in email. If you're not on the Youth Ministry email and would like to be please contact Rebecca. Middle School Youth are those entering 6-8 grade this fall and High School Youth are those entering 9th grade through 12 grade next fall, as well as, those newly graduated. For more information and/or dates please contact Rebecca

Questions or comments

Please contact Rebecca Chicklon at 616-677-5065 or dre@saintmarysmarne.org



Fr. Mike's Musings

Over the past few weeks, I have been discussing the whys and the wherefores of the ordained priesthood in Roman Catholicism.

We (priests) are a special segment of the Church population, and as such have been entrusted and empowered with a variety of duties, traditional practices, and even gestures that are unique to our ministry and provide the significance of the task of continually bringing Christ to His people, and to the world. Sometimes these faculties are subverted, either through ignorance or obstinance, and this can lead to confusion about one's professed faith, and the role that each of us, clergy and laity, have in that faith.



A discussion that is common in Catholic parishes between the more orthodox members of the parish and the more "progressive" members is whether or not the faithful should use the Orans Posture during the 'Our Father'. When such a question comes up, the obvious solution is to go to the rubrics. Unfortunately, in this case, the General Instruction on the Roman Missal (GIRM) is relatively silent on the topic. Because of the GIRM's silence, many people have taken this to mean that the faithful may do whatever they want. However, this is not the case. In the document, "Instruction On Certain Questions Regarding the Collaboration of the Non-Ordained Faithful in the Sacred Ministry of Priests", issued by the Vatican in August of 1997, it is noted:

"In eucharistic celebrations deacons and non-ordained members of the faithful may not pronounce prayers — e.g., especially the Eucharistic prayers, with its concluding doxology — or any other parts of the liturgy reserved to the priest.

Neither may deacons or non-ordained members of the faithful use gestures or actions which are proper to the same priest celebrant.

It is a grave abuse for any member of the non-ordained faithful to "quasi preside" at the Mass while leaving only that minimal participation to the priest which is necessary to secure validity" (Section 6, Paragraph 2).

What the above statement means is that we may not say the Eucharistic prayers along with the priest — believe it or not, I occasionally see people mouthing the words along with me every week. More importantly to this topic, this also means the faithful may not use the same gestures that are reserved for the priest-celebrant. As mentioned above, the "GIRM" is silent with regard to the posture of the faithful during the Our Father, however, the Roman Missal (the book of prayers for Mass used by the priest) states that the celebrant is to pray the 'Our Father' with hands extended. The faithful are not to use gestures or actions proper to the priest-celebrant. Using this argument, one would think that the rubrics could be used to appeal to the faithful. Unfortunately, many of the faithful view the rubrics as another set of rules and those of us who wish to enforce the rubrics are no better than the modern-day Pharisees.

In that regard, let us look instead to another reason why the Orans Posture and the holding of hands are not appropriate gestures for the faithful during 'Our Father'. This prayer takes place during the 'Liturgy of the Eucharist'. This time of prayer and offering is directed to God, as is the entire Mass, but more specifically during the 'Liturgy of the Eucharist'. As it is directed toward God, the extending and/or holding of hands creates a horizontal emphasis (keeping it among us) on the prayer, as opposed to the vertical emphasis (directing it to God) that it demands. Many people who prefer hand holding or the Orans Posture argue that the 'Our Father' is a community prayer, and as such holding and/or extending hands is a visible sign of that community. However, the 'Our Father' is a community prayer, not because we hold or extend our hands, but because we pray it together as the Body of Christ!

In late-1958 the faithful were given permission to pray the 'Our Father' with the priest. However, the faithful maintained the same posture as before - standing, with their hands folded in prayer. Prior to this, the priest prayed the 'Our Father' on behalf of the faithful. The Orans Posture is representative of praying on behalf of others. The next time you are at Mass, watch the priest's gestures closely. Anytime he offers prayers on behalf of the faithful, he uses the Orans Posture. Anytime he is offering other prayers, his hands are folded together. Having a better understanding of what particular gestures mean will lead to a better understanding of the Liturgy. It is of the utmost importance that we treat the Mass with the respect it deserves. This is not the time nor the place to get creative and inject one's own style and preferences.

St. Mary's Parish News

Religious Education

Religious Education meets on Wednesdays, 6:15-7:30 p.m. and will resume in September.

Children's Liturgy of the Word meets during the 10:30 a.m. Mass and will resume in the fall.

Questions or comments:

Please contact Rebecca Chicklon at dre@saintmarysmarne.org or 616-677-5065

High School Youth Ministry

See Cluster Page for more information.



Save the Dates

July - Aug	School Supply Drive
August 4	Mass of Hope, Health and Healing St Mary 7PM
August 22	Back to School Bash-Vets Park 5PM
August 27	St Michael Parish Festival
Sep 10	St Mary Parish Picnic
Oct 8	Knights of Columbus Council #11581 Breakfast & Blood Drive
Oct 24	Flute Recital - St Mary 7:30PM
Nov 3	Mass of Hope, Health & Healing St Mary 7:00PM

Help Wanted

Catholic schools, parishes, affiliated organizations, and the diocese are hiring! Visit the diocesan website to see available opportunities, and check back regularly for new openings: <https://grdiocese.org/employment/>

Catholic Service Appeal 2023

Thank you for your gifts to 2023 Catholic Services Appeal! Your generous support funds essential diocesan ministries that strengthen us in Christ. Remember that any amount collected over the goal will stay in the parish. If you have not responded, please do so as soon as possible. Learn more at GRdiocese.org/CSA
CSA 2023 Pledge Goal: \$51,834.00
 Total Pledges Made: \$37,860.00 (73%)
 Balance: \$13,974.00
 Participation: 105 of 292 Active Households (36%)
 Totals as of July 10, 2023
 Thank you for your stewardship



School Supply Drive

Our Lady of Fatima Guild is hosting their annual school supply drive. Donations of backpacks, lunch boxes, pencils, notebooks, markers, and other school supplies would be appreciated. Donations will be collected July 22- through Aug 14. There will be a box in the Narthex to place your donations.



Parish Picnic Planning Meeting ~ July 25-6PM

There will be a planning meeting on Tuesday, July 25 at 6PM. Meeting will be held in the church community room. The planning committee **NEEDS YOUR HELP** to make this picnic successful. Please plan on attending the meeting to see what you can do to help your parish picnic. Thank You. The picnic is currently planned for Sunday, September 10 beginning with outdoor Mass at the cemetery altar at 10:30AM.



Meal Train for Fr Mike

Fr Mike has been enjoying his weekly homemade meals from our Parish Family. THANK YOU to everyone that has prepared a meal for him. It is very much appreciated. We have THREE open dates in August. Can you take one of them? It really is as easy as making an extra serving of whatever you are making for dinner. Put it in a microwavable container and drop it off at the Parish Office on our way to (or home) from work.. (Sign up online: or call the parish office) <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/8vv97n>



Knights of Columbus #11581 News

Knights of the Month

Knight Person of the Month for July - Jim Harlett

Knight Family of the Month for July - Jim & Peggy Lothschutz

The Knight Person / Family of the month is a way of recognizing someone who has gone above and beyond, or done something extra for the council or the church community. Congratulations and Thank You for your service and commitment to our Parish Family



To learn more about the Knights of Columbus' activities and what they do to support our parish community, the surrounding area and the world, please contact Grand Knight: Rob Rander at: roblander82@gmail.com or come to a General Membership Meeting. Meetings are held the 1st Thursday of the month at 7:00pm in St Mary's Parish Hall.

Next Council Meeting - August 3 at 7PM at the Parish Hall.

Save the Date: October 8

Community Breakfast and Blood Drive Register here: https://donate.michigan.versiti.org/donor/schedules/rive_schedule/149333



Giving Back to God

	July 15/16
Regular Contributions	\$4009.00
Capital Improvement	\$61.00
Online Contributions	\$1355.00
Children's Contributions	\$26.41
Total	\$5451.41

Thank you for your continued support and generosity!

St. Mary's Sponsor of the Week

STEHOUWER'S FROZEN FOODS INC.

2055 Bristol Ave. ~ 616.453.2471 ~ stehouwerfrozenfoods.com

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR BULLETIN!

Welcome to the Cluster Parishes of St. Mary and St. Michael

Dear Padre,

Christians teach that Adam and Eve were the first man and woman and that they were created by God. How does the Catholic Church reconcile this belief with the theory of evolution?



Chapter 1 of Genesis contains the seven-day account of creation that we usually refer to when we reflect on the beginning of our world. The very next chapter contains a second account. The editors of the Bible were not distraught over the two differing accounts; they left them side by side because they weren't interested in giving either a historical or scientific explanation for the world's origin. Rather, they were emphasizing deeper truths, such as the goodness of the earth as created by a loving and caring God. Scripture tells us that the Creator held human beings as especially precious.

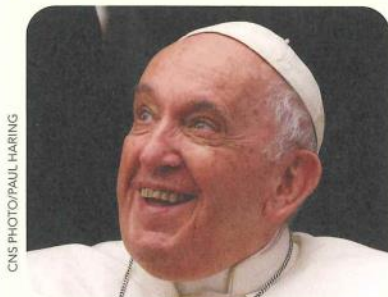
Cannot these same values be maintained if we believe creation (or evolution) took longer than seven twenty-four-hour days? Perhaps God actually spent seventy billion years bringing forth the world's beauty. Details and numbers don't change the message of Genesis: God is good; God created the cosmos, heaven and earth, "all things visible and invisible," as we profess in the Nicene Creed, and all of creation is good. Furthermore, scientific discoveries surrounding space, matter, and all forms of life "invite us to even greater admiration for the greatness of the Creator, prompting us to give him thanks for all his works and for the understanding and wisdom he gives to scholars and researchers" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 283). ●

Fr. Richard A. Boever, CSSR, PhD

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to **DearPadre.org** to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
July 24	July 25	July 26	July 27	July 28	July 29	July 30
Weekday	St. James, Apostle	Sts. Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Weekday	Weekday	Sts. Martha, Mary, and Lazarus	Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Ex 14:5-18	2 Cor 4:7-15	Ex 16:1-5, 9-15	Ex 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b	Ex 20:1-17	Ex 24:3-8	1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12
Mt 12:38-42	Mt 20:20-28	Mt 13:1-9	Mt 13:10-17	Mt 13:18-23	Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42	Rom 8:28-30 Mt 13:44-52 or Mt 13:44-46



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

It is not those who are always searching for others' limitations and flaws who cooperate well with God but, rather, those who know how to recognize the good that silently grows in the field of the Church and history, cultivating it until it becomes mature....God, and he alone, will reward the good and punish the wicked.

ANGELUS, ROME, JULY 19, 2020