



## Build Love Not Walls

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**I**n Robert Frost's poem "Mending Wall," he tells how each spring he meets with his farming neighbor, and the two of them walk along on either side of the stone wall that marks their property to replace the stones toppled by the ice of winter. His neighbor loves the idea of a wall, inspired by his father's advice that "good fences make good neighbors." Frost, however, is not convinced and keeps suggesting that "something there is that doesn't love a wall," as if walls are not intrinsic to God's creation.

We humans seem to like our boundaries. As children, we divide ourselves between girl germs and boy germs and draw imaginary lines in the back seats of cars. Later we build walls everywhere—the Great Wall of China, the Berlin Wall, the structures at Mexico's border, backyard fences, and gated communities. We set up national boundaries, build emotional walls, relegate people to ghettos and the other side of the tracks, and we differentiate among religions, arguing over which is God's preference. We seem to use walls rather than love to give us our identity.

Some Scripture scholars suggest that this Sunday's Gospel event was a turning point where it became clear that Jesus came to save not only the Jewish people but all people, believers and unbelievers alike. Seeing her faith, Jesus willingly cured the Canaanite woman's daughter. With God there are no boundaries or walls—not those of nations, not those imposed by languages and customs, not those we use to divide people of faith. ●

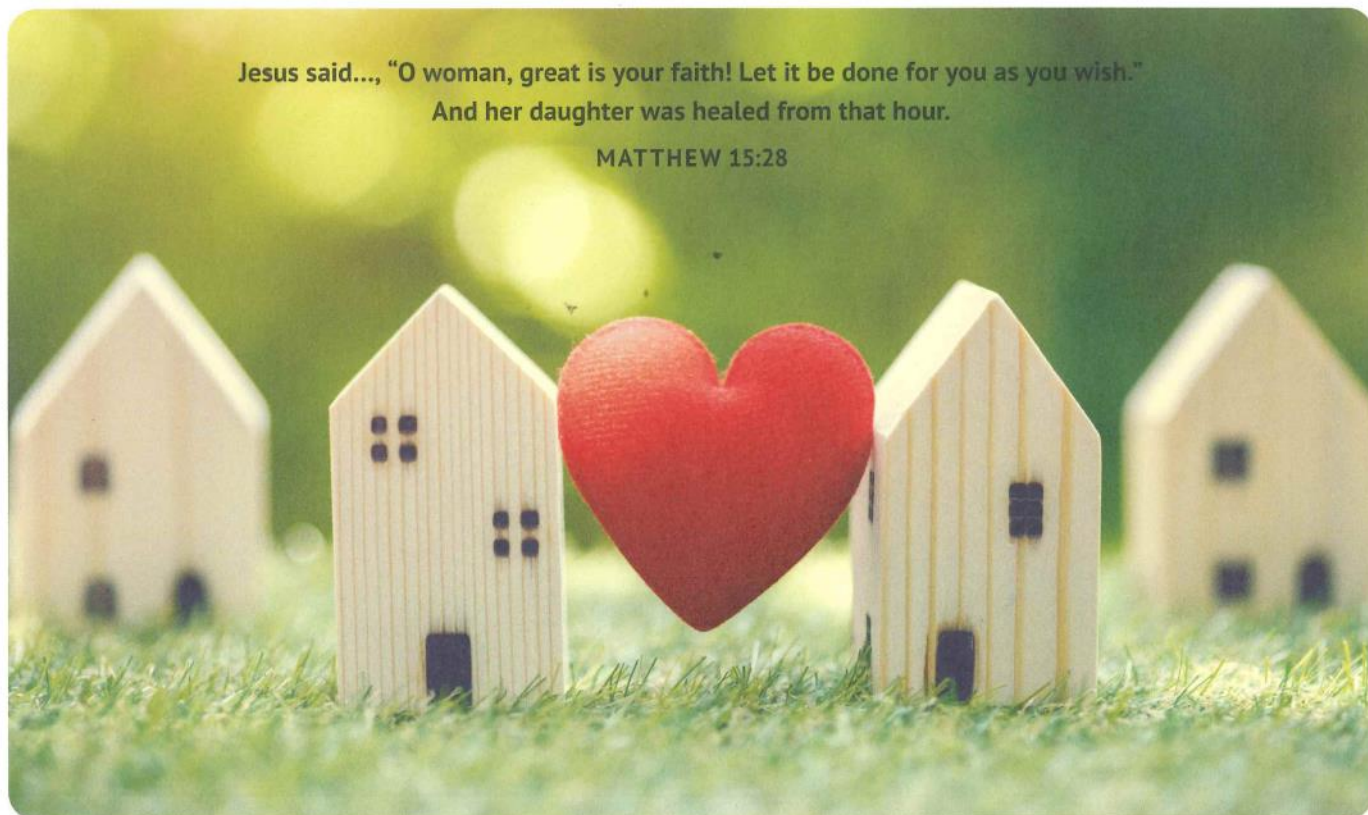
### Reflect

***Have you ever felt isolated by a wall?  
Who built it—you or someone else?***

Jesus said..., "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish."

And her daughter was healed from that hour.

MATTHEW 15:28



# 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](mailto:frmhodges@grpriests.org)  
Deacon: Deacon Tom Roberts—[troberts@saintmarysmarne.org](mailto:troberts@saintmarysmarne.org)

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

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday August 19

4:30PM † Bob Bacon by Family .....MA  
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:30 PM—4:15 PM - St Mary

### Sunday August 20

8:30AM † Eli O'Bradovich by Family .....MI  
10:30AM † Pat O'Connor by Margie Jirous .....MA  
4:30PM † Caroline Idziak by Bob Idziak and Family .....MI  
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:30 PM—4:15 PM - St Michael

### Monday August 21 No Mass

### Tuesday August 22

9:00AM † Bette Lipski by Family.....MA  
Adoration begins after Mass until 2pm  
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 2:00 PM—3:00 PM - St. Mary

### Wednesday August 23

9:00AM † Margaret Jonio by Ruth Estelle.....MI  
Adoration begins after Mass until 2pm  
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 2:00 PM—3:00 PM - St. Michael

### Thursday August 24

9:00AM † Jim Kline by M/M Duane Perrin.....MA

### Friday August 25

9:00AM † Chuck Albrecht by Chris Albrecht .....MI

### Saturday August 26

4:30PM † Robert Wetherbee by Janice Beuschel .....MA  
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:30 PM—4:15 PM - St Mary

### Sunday August 27

8:30AM † Jim Drake by Joan Drake .....MI  
10:30AM † Monica Zahm by M/M Jim May .....MA  
4:30PM No 4:30 Mass, due to Parish Festival .....MI

MA=St. Mary

MI=St. Michael's

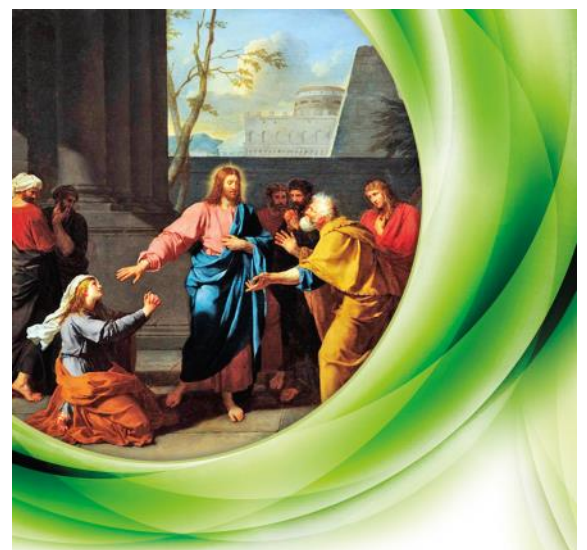


## St. Michael's Liturgical Ministers

	Aug 27 / 8:30 AM	Aug 27 / 4:30 PM
Altar Servers	Bryson Lindberg Clare Taylor	NO MASS
Eucharistic Ministers	Denise Parish Jennifer DeMull Joe Hitchings Zach Nelson Cindy Lindberg Peter Nielsen Jeff Johnson	NO MASS
Lector	Carl Pohlman	NO MASS
Sacristan	Rosemary Weigel	NO MASS
Ushers	Jim Ponshair Wade Lindberg Dave Tronovich Deb Tronovich	NO MASS
Music	Anna Jonaitis	NO MASS

## St. Mary's Liturgical Ministers

	August 26 - 4:30PM	August 27 - 10:30AM
Sacristan	Jose Gomez	Gary Karr
Altar Servers	Kassidy Britt MaKaelyn Britt	Calvin Davis Hannah Davis
Precious Body	Angie Hanks Paul Madura Geary Farrell	Janette Ney Bruce Kamp Jim Fritz
Precious Blood	Deb Hapon Julie Lothschutz Kay Willcome Mary Kirkwood	Margie Jirous Becky Warners Need Two
Hospitality	Jeff Schneider Megan Greenland Katie Greenland Austin Lampe	Jim Looks Marian Looks Leonard Horter Need One
Lector	Rita Carmody	John Klein
Music	Bernie Stanko	Bernie Stanko



20<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
in Ordinary Time

"O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish."  
And her daughter was healed from that hour.

Matthew 15:28

Christ and the Canaanite Woman by Jean Germain Drouais, 1788  
© Drouais



## St. Michael's Parish News



**Scrip News—** Thank you to our 10 families who purchased Scrip this week. Our total profit was \$86.20.



We are pleased to welcome a newly baptized child of God!

*Cecilia Rose Nelson*

daughter of Zachary & Amber Nelson  
**Baptized on August 13, 2023**

## 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

**It is time to register for Faith Formation. Attention families with children ages 3 through grades 8. Please registered your child for Faith Formation. You can find registration forms on the parish website and forms are also located in the church narthex.** Contact Debbie if you have any questions (616)384-4026.

**Children's Liturgy of the Word:** program is offered on Sunday during 8 and 8:30 Masses. Children 3-9 years old are welcome to join us each week as we pray, read and explore the Sunday Gospel from a child's viewpoint. We include the Gospel Acclamation so children understand the importance of preparing our mind and heart for the Gospel reading. **CLW will start on 9/24.**

**Elementary Faith Formation:** The elementary program is for students in grades 1-5. We meet on Wednesday from 6:15- 7:30 pm. Registration forms are in the back of church and on the parish website. **Classes start on 9/20.**

**Middle School Faith Formation:** Grades 6, 7 and 8 will meet on Sundays after the 8:30am Mass from 9:45 to 11:15 in the Youth Room. The 8th Grade students will also receive Confirmation Preparation. **Classes will begin on 9/24.**

## 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 +Caroline Idziak  
by Bob Idziak and Family



## St. Michael's Chicken Dinner

Come one, come all. Our parish festival is next Sunday, August 27! We will have a big raffle, chicken dinner, mini-affle, kids' tent, grocery wheel . . . something for all ages! We still need many volunteers to help out. Sign-up sheets are in the glass hallway.

**Large Raffle:** Raffle tickets will be available after Masses. We are asking that each family try to sell at least 2 packets. All sold or unsold tickets **MUST** be returned by 10 AM Festival morning.

**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 today!

**Kitchen:** In need of donations — 1 large decaf canisters of coffee; 1 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, home-made 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 have taken two pie collections, but you may still contribute to the pie collection if you'd like.

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

## Giving Back to God

**August 13, 2023**

Adult Envelopes	\$3,272.00
Loose Cash	\$222.00
Children's Envelopes	\$8.25
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,502.25</b>
Pie Collection	\$596.00
Building Fund	\$2,085.00
Financial Assistance	\$10.00

**Thank you for your continued support!**

**August 20, 2023 ~ The 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

## Cluster News and Community News and Events



### Diocesan Assembly 2023:

#### Share your Encounter

Catholics of the diocese are invited to participate in Diocesan Assembly 2023: **Saturday, Sept. 30 - 8:45 a.m. to 3 p.m.** on at Cathedral Square Center. This year's keynote speaker will be Father René Constanza, CSP, president of the Paulist Fathers and former rector/pastor of the Cathedral of Saint Andrew and executive director of the Catholic Information Center. The conference will be offered in-person and online. The in-person and livestreamed sessions will be presented concurrently in English and Spanish. Cost of the in-person event is \$15 (includes lunch) Registration to attend via livestream is free. For registration info:

Contact Jen at [jbaxter@grdiocese.org](mailto:jbaxter@grdiocese.org)

### Please Pray for our Engaged Couples

#### Christian Hall & Kayleigh Kutchin

.....August 25, 2023 (St Michael)

#### Marissa McDonald & Christopher Barczak

.....October 7, 2023 (St Mary)

#### Julia Delaney & Logan Brouwer

.....April 13, 2024 (Cathedral of St Andrew)

#### Rachel Berg & Joseph Elenbaas

.....September 21, 2024 (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)

Youth Ministry will resume in the fall. Feel free to contact Rebecca for more details.

6th-12th grade youth are invited to help with the St. Michael Festival and St. Mary Parish Picnic. If interested, please contact our Director of Youth Ministry, Rebecca Chicklon at the contact information listed below.

Questions or comments

Please contact Rebecca Chicklon at 616-677-5065 or [dre@saintmarys.marne.org](mailto:dre@saintmarys.marne.org)



### Fr. Mike's Musings



In one of my favorite 'Three Stooges' skits Moe is going door-to-door as a Federal census taker and asks a gentleman the standard questions about his address and his age and then reveals to the hapless homeowner what his feelings are concerning the bonds of matrimony: "Are you married or happy?" While we may find this question humorous (I do) the sacrament of Marriage is a serious matter for the Church.

Throughout history civilizations have placed a sense of sacredness on the union of man and woman. There has always been a vague realization that the deep longing for oneness with "the other" is life-giving, and that this longing bespeaks it as being the source of all life for generations to come. This is why religious rituals and codes of behavior have always been tied to marriage. Jesus gave matrimony a new sacramental dimension as being a hallmark of Christian vocation that has its beginnings in the sacrament of Baptism. The family of God is mirrored in the family of man.

In matrimony a couple is called to live their sacramental bond for the good of not only themselves but also for others that they encounter. By their closeness, a couple affects the lives of others with the love of Christ in their midst. They reveal Christ's love and make it something to be desired to their immediate family members and to the community as a whole. A couple's love not only gives life through the birth of children but also imparts the life-giving presence of Christ to their brothers and sisters in the world.

Matrimony is more than a private arrangement between two people designed to give only satisfaction and joy to one another. It is a sacramental vocation in the Church through which Christ reveals and deepens the mystery of His oneness with us, His Body. In realization of this important aspect of the bond couples, new and years in being, should strive to avoid unrealistic aspects that place "conditions" on the relationship, conditions that often lead to stress and endanger the marriage when they have not been met.

Below is a short list of some myths that can hamper the true happiness inherent in marriage. They are red flags for potential problems in the relationship and they need to be addressed, not ignored or swept under the rug.

- \*Marriage should be totally happy all the time.
- \*There's never disagreement in a happy marriage.
- \*Total honesty leads to marital paradise.
- \*Successful marital partners should be like twins who have everything in common.
- \*Doing everything together will lead to total happiness.
- \*Stability should be the highest priority of a marriage.
- \*Always expect to do family rituals the way your family did.
- \*There is no place for joy and laughter in marriage; it's all serious work.
- \*Make sure to hide your fears and weaknesses from your spouse.
- \*Love conquers all and will keep you together.
- \*Men and women are from different planets.
- \*Conflict will take care of itself if you wait long enough.
- \*Remember that you are always right; remind your partner of this frequently.
- \*Take credit for everything that goes well.
- \*Always blame your partner for your problems.
- \*Exaggerate the negative and minimize the positive to help your spouse grow.
- \*Never ever forgive your spouse.
- \*The only way to express affection in marriage is to have sex.

Living in the reality of human relationships can only serve to enhance the reality of our relationship with Christ. And when this enhanced relationship of true love is exhibited to others their relationships can grow and improve as well. "Are you married or happy?" The answer should be a resounding "YES!" on both counts. It is the truest response couples can give in fulfilling their sacramental vocation.

### Meal Train for Fr Mike

Have you signed up yet? It really is as easy as making an extra serving of whatever you are preparing your family for dinner. Put it in a microwavable container and drop it off at the Parish Office on our way to (or home) from work.. Or call the office to make special drop off arrangements. (Sign up online: or call the parish office)

<https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/8vv97n>

**August 20, 2023 ~ The 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

## 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](mailto:dre@saintmarysmarne.org) or 616-677-5065

#### High School Youth Ministry

See Cluster Page for more information.

## St. Mary's 2023 Photo Directory

This Will Be A Digital Website Directory Only  
Using Parishioner Supplied Images

### 3 Ways To Submit Your Photo:

**Email  
Your Image to:**  
[secretary@saintmarysmarne.org](mailto:secretary@saintmarysmarne.org)

**Physical  
Photo:**  
Send us your printed photo  
or digital photo on a memory stick  
Envelope at Church  
or Mail to:  
15164 Juniper Drive  
Marne, MI 48435  
Office: 616.677.3934

**Attend  
an Evening  
Photo Session:**  
These will be informal  
Send us an email to sign up  
(Date to be determined)  
[secretary@saintmarysmarne.org](mailto:secretary@saintmarysmarne.org)

**Important: Provide Full Names,  
listed from Left to Right, Back Row First**

### St Mary's Parish FAMILY REUNION Mass & Picnic - Sept 10.

Join your parish family (past & present) for an afternoon of FOOD, FELLOWSHIP & FUN! Grilled Hamburgers & Hotdogs, Baked Beans, Potato Salad, Coleslaw, Chips and Punch & Punch will be provided.. Please bring a DESSERT or SALAD to share.. All are Welcome! Come and Visit... Stop by and say HI to your old friends and make some new friends. 50/50 Raffles, Yard Games, LIVE Music, Cake Walk and More... 10:30AM Mass at the Cemetery Altar. (Please bring a lawn chair. In case of inclement weather, Mass will be celebrated inside) Picnic Reunion will be at the Parish Hall at 12PM. Please RSVP... Sign Up Sheets in the Narthex. Questions call the Parish Office



### Parish Picnic Planning Meeting ~ August 22-6PM

The Next Planning Meeting will be on **Tuesday, August 22 at 6PM**. The Meeting will be held in the church community room. Please plan on attending the meeting to see what you can do to help your parish picnic.

### Knights of Columbus #11581 News

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](mailto:roblander82@gmail.com) or come to a General Membership Meeting. Meetings are held the 1st Thursday of the month at 7:00pm in Parish Hall.

**Next Meeting - September 7 at 7PM at the Parish Hall.**

**Scrap Metal Drive - September 30 & October 1**

**St. Mary's - Marne Hall Parking Lot - SELF SERVE**

**Community Breakfast and Blood Drive - October 8**

Register here:

[https://donate.michigan.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive\\_schedule/149333](https://donate.michigan.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/149333)



### Knights of the Month

Knight Person of the Month for August - Joe Lothschutz

Knight Family of the Month for August - Jim & Marian Looks

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 for service and commitment to our Parish Family

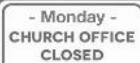


## Save the Dates

<b>August 27</b>	St Michael Parish Festival
<b>Sep 10</b>	St Mary Parish Picnic
<b>Sept 30 &amp; Oct 1</b>	Knights of Columbus Scrap Metal Drive Parish Hall Parking Lot
<b>Oct 8</b>	Knights of Columbus Council #11581 Breakfast & Blood Drive
<b>Oct 24</b>	Flute Recital - St Mary 7:30PM
<b>Nov 3</b>	Mass of Hope, Health & Healing St Mary 7:00PM
<b>Nov 22</b>	Thanksgiving Eve Mass, Grocery Collection
<b>Nov 23</b>	Thanksgiving Day Mass

### Parish Office Closed

The St Mary Parish Office will be closed Monday, August 21.  
It will resume normal office hours on Tuesday, August 22.



### Thank You

The Lady of Fatima Guild would like to thank all of you for your generous gifts of Back to School Supplies.



### 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.

**CSA 2023 Pledge Goal: \$51,834.00**

Total Pledges Made: \$41,630.00 (81%)

Balance: \$10,204.00

Participation: 112 of 292 Active Households (39%)

Totals as of August 8, 2023

**Thank you for your stewardship**

**Please Note, if we do not reach the parish goal set by the diocese, the shortage will need to come out of our church operating account. Please help us reach our goal and send in your pledge card this week! If you have returned your CSA pledge card,**



## Giving Back to God

	August 12/13
Regular Contributions	\$3952.00
Capital Improvement	\$105.00
Online Contributions	\$1460.00
Children's Contributions	\$2.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5519.00</b>

**Thank you for your continued support and generosity!**

**St. Mary's Sponsor of the Week**  
**DONNA'S CATERING ~ INTERURBAN DEPOT CAFÉ'**

Jim & Bobbi Poley 231.856.6193 / 616.677.1280

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR BULLETIN!**

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



# Dear Padre,

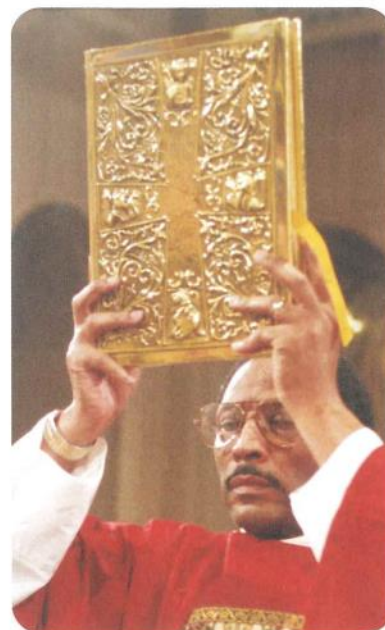
**Why are the Scripture readings for Mass so piecemeal?**

**We read part of a verse then jump to another part.**

**Doesn't reading it like this distort the meaning of the passage?**

The readings for Mass are in a book called the *Lectionary*. Our current *Lectionary* was set up after the Second Vatican Council. It uses a three-year cycle for the Sunday readings, so over three years we hear the majority of the Bible at Mass. Its introduction states, "The present Order of Readings for Mass, then, is an arrangement of biblical readings that provides the faithful with a knowledge of the whole of God's word, in a pattern suited to the purpose" (*General Introduction to the Lectionary*, Second Edition, 60).

So the readings are not "piecemeal" but rather arranged so that we are exposed to the whole of God's word within three years. At times a given reading may not be complete—for example, the second reading for today is from St. Paul's Letter to the Romans, chapter eleven, verses 13–15 and 29–32. This is done not only for brevity but for clarity. Those who organized the *Lectionary* thought that this excerpt made the message clearer or gave better emphasis to a point in the reading. It certainly is good to get out your Bible and read the whole section so you can see what is missing, but when the word is proclaimed at Mass, the current arrangement is most effective. ●



CNS PHOTO BY NANCY WIECHEC

**Fr. Patrick Keyes, CSSR / DearPadre.org**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
August 21 St. Pius X, Pope Jgs 2:11–19 Mt 19:16–22	August 22 Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary Jgs 6:11–24a Mt 19:23–30	August 23 Weekday Jgs 9:6–15 Mt 20:1–16	August 24 St. Bartholomew, Apostle Rev 21:9b–14 Jn 1:45–51	August 25 Weekday Ru 1:1, 3–6, 14b–16, 22 Mt 22:34–40	August 26 Weekday Ru 2:1–3, 8–11; 4:13–17 Mt 23:1–12	August 27 Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time Is 22:19–23 Rom 11:33–36 Mt 16:13–20

## Know Someone Overly Anxious About Sin?

Since 1964, the Redemptorists' *Scrupulous Anonymous* free monthly newsletter has ministered compassionately to those struggling with scrupulosity. To subscribe, visit [ScrupulousAnonymous.org](http://ScrupulousAnonymous.org).



KAROLINA GRABOWSKA/PEXELS

## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

**Each one of us has our own story and...it is not always a clean story.... Many times it is a difficult story, with a lot of pain....What do I do with my story? Do I hide it? No! We must bring it before the Lord. "Lord, if You will it, you can heal me!"**

ANGELUS, ROME, AUGUST 16, 2020