



The Jesus Question

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

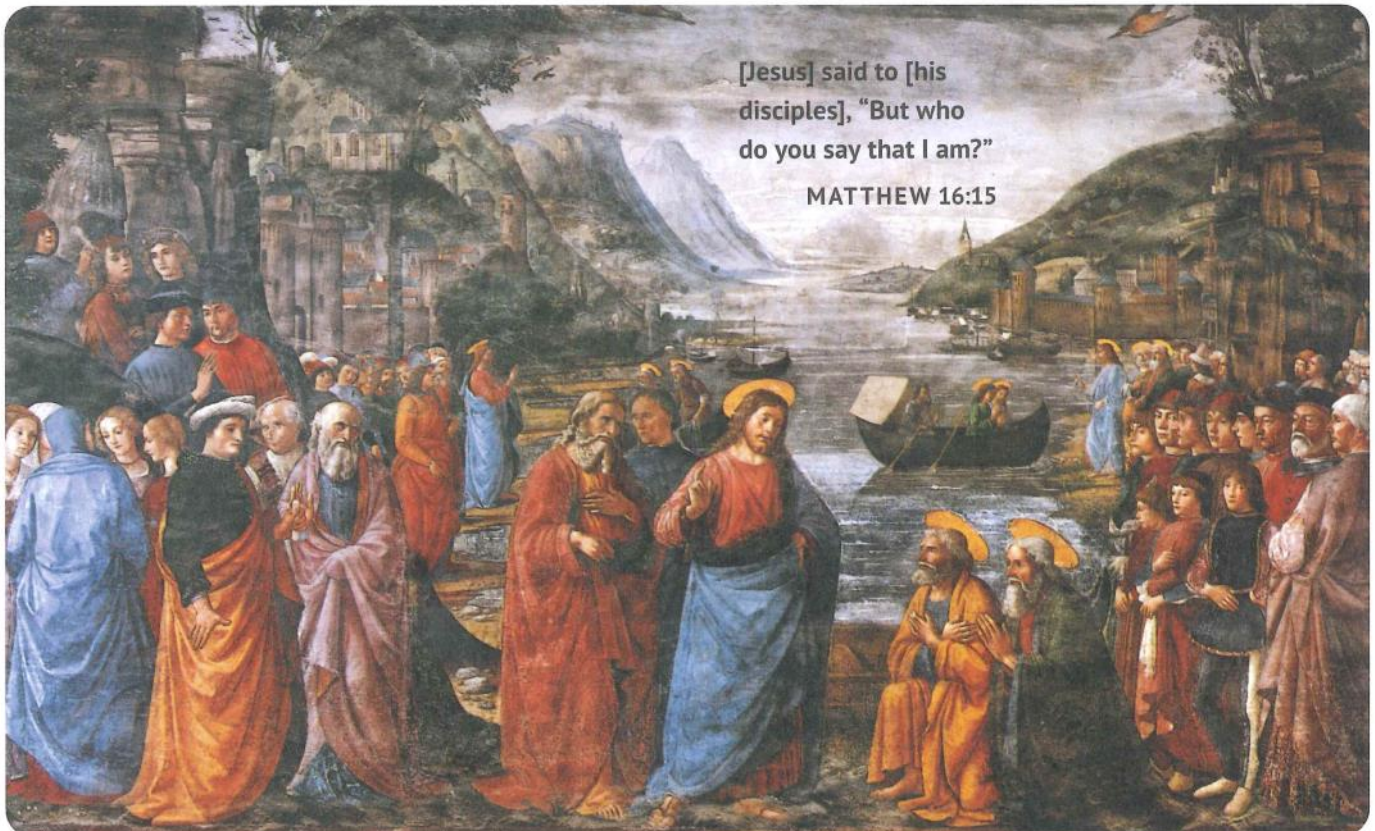
Over the years I've asked many people what they believe about Jesus and who he is for them. I've always nudged them away from the expected answer simply because I was interested in who he was for them down deep in their spirits. It's been a whole wheelbarrow full of answers, yes it has, a full and varied garden.

Some said they thought he was a very good human being, though they hedged when I asked if they thought he was also of God. Others thought he was a prophet, though they also backed away from anything that hinted of the divine. For some, Jesus was God dressed in human skin, as if he were simply playing at being human. Some labeled him a reformer and others a teacher. None of them dismissed Jesus as irrelevant or a remnant of the past. And for many, Jesus is the truth professed by Peter, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." He is the Word made flesh, the wisdom of God among us, the one who lives.

In one way or another all of us must answer the question Jesus asks of his disciples in today's Gospel: "Who do you say that I am?" The question is just as relevant today as it was when Jesus asked it. For some, their yes is without doubt. For others, it is a questioning journey of coming to faith. All of us are faced with that question: Who is Jesus for us today in the way we live our life? ●

Reflect

**Who do you say
Jesus is and how
does your answer
make a difference
in your life?**



[Jesus] said to [his
disciples], "But who
do you say that I am?"

MATTHEW 16:15

Mass Intentions

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**

Monday August 28 No Mass

Tuesday August 29

9:00AM † Carmen Dietrich by M/M Jim Harlett..... **MA**
 Adoration begins after Mass until 2pm
 Sacrament of Reconciliation: 2:00 PM—3:00 PM - St. Mary

Wednesday August 30

9:00AM † Lucy Marshall by the Family of the late Edna Schumaker..... **MI**
 Adoration begins after Mass until 2pm
 Sacrament of Reconciliation: 2:00 PM—3:00 PM - St. Michael

Thursday August 31

9:00AM † Betty Oziemkiewicz by M/M Duane Perrin **MA**

Friday September 1

9:00AM Ruth Hoffman 100th Birthday by Ruth Hecksel **MI**

Saturday September 2

4:30PM † Edmund "Trey" Eisenhower by M/M Richard Baker **MA**
 Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:30 PM—4:15 PM - St Mary

Sunday September 3

8:30AM † Elaine Schoenborn by Friends **MI**
 10:30AM † Daniel Drong by Todd Davis Family **MA**
 4:30PM † Sherman Hecksel by Ruth Hecksel..... **MI**
 Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:30 PM—4:15 PM - St Michael

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



For the Week of August 20, 2023

Sunday Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time
 Is 22:19-23; Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8; Rom 11:33-36; Mt 16:13-20

Monday Memorial of Saint Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
 I Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10; Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a & 9b; Mt 23:13-22

Tuesday Memorial of the Passion of Saint John the Baptist
 I Thes 2:1-8; Ps 139:1-3, 4-6; Mk 6:17-29

Wednesday I Thes 2:9-13; Ps 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab; Mt 23:27-32

Thursday I Thes 3:7-13; Ps 90:3-5a, 12-13, 14 & 17; Mt 24:42-51

Friday I Thes 4:1-8; Ps 97:1 & 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12; Mt 25:1-13

Saturday I Thes 4:9-11; Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9; Mt 25:14-30

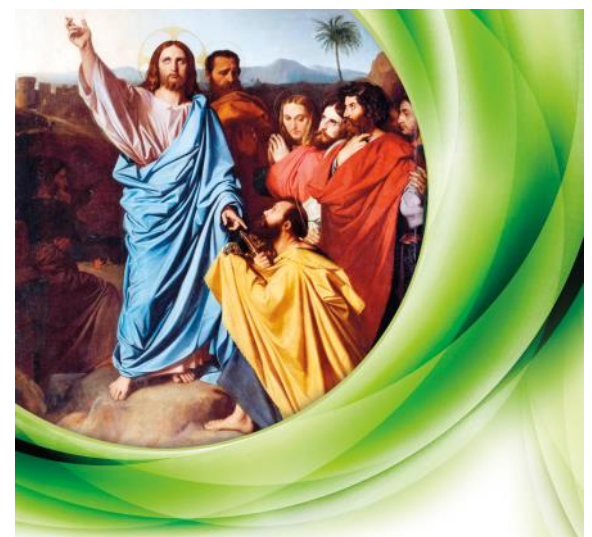
Sunday Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
 Jer 20:7-9; Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; Rom 12:1-2; Mt 16:21-27

St. Michael's Liturgical Ministers

	Sep 3 / 8:30 AM	Sep 3 / 4:30 PM
Altar Servers	Lauren Meerman Alivia Kosten	Madelyn Jonaitis Molly Jonaitis
Eucharistic Ministers	Sharon Carlson Andrew Bonter Denise Nelson Kenny Harker Rosemary Weigel Debbie Veneklas Paul Schmidt	Ken Schwallier Greg Helsen
Lector	Lyndsey Kosten	Joe LeMieux
Sacristan	Chris Albrecht	Karen Helsen
Ushers	Ed Irwin Curt DeVos Joe Meerman Ray Maka	Bob Jonaitis Greg Helsen
Music	Craig Bleckley	Craig Bleckley

St. Mary's Liturgical Ministers

	September 2 - 4:30PM	September 3 - 10:30AM
Sacristan	Matt Karr	Gary Karr
Altar Servers	Bryson Potts Mj Potts	Lauren LeMieux Ty Ricord
Precious Body	Deacon Tom Lori Rander Rob Rander	Margie Jirous Geary Farrell Paul Madura
Precious Blood	Austin Lampe Michelle Lampe Steve Lampe Lisa Potts	Janette Ney Christina Withers Jim Looks Marian Looks
Hospitality	Jeff Schneider Need Three	Anthony Leale Nettie Leale Leonard Horter Need One
Lector	Nicolette Looks	Rita Carmody
Music	Bernie Stanko	Bernie Stanko



21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

"And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it."

Matthew 16:18

Jesus Restoring the Keys to St. Peter by Jean-Auguste Dominique Ingres, 1825
 © Thomson

St. Michael's Parish News



Scrip News— Thank you to our 13 families who purchased Scrip this week. Our total profit was \$95.51.



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

Amelia Jean Wolgamott

daughter of Lucas & Christina Wolgamott
Baptized on August 20, 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! **There will be an Open House on Wednesday, August 30, from 6-7 PM in the preschool classroom (please enter the building on the east side, by the playground).**

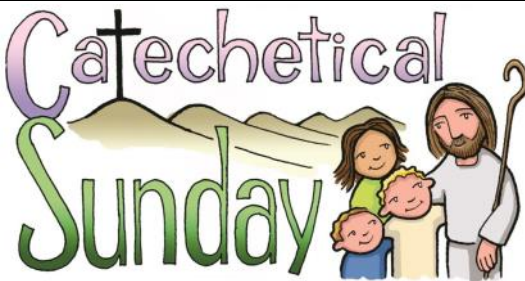


St. Michael's Faith Formation

Catechetical Sunday is September 17. The blessing of Catechists will be at the 8:30 AM Mass.

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 Sanctuary Lamp

for +Caroline Idziak
by Bob Idziak and Family

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 Hefflin, Payton Patterson, Winnie Spencer, the victims of abortion, & the men and women in the military.



Welcome Festival Guests!

Information and Schedule of Events:

Chicken Dinners will be served from 11 am —3:00 pm. Adults: \$12.00; Seniors: \$9; Kids 6-12; \$6; 5 & Under: Free

The Dinner Tickets are sold in front of the Family Center. The Dining Room is located inside the Family Center. Take out is located at the Parish Office Entrance and the Dining Tent is near the playground.

Large Raffle Tickets are still available, \$5 ea. 1st prize is \$2,000, 2nd & 3rd Prize is \$500, 4th - 8th Prizes are \$100.

The Large Raffle drawing is at 4:00p.m., after the drawings for the Mini-Raffle and Country Store.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: All packets of raffle tickets need to be accounted for. Please return them to the Large Raffle Ticket sales table in front of the family center as soon as possible.

50/50 Raffles are scheduled all day.

Also... check out the Kids Game Tent, Kiddie Train Mini-Raffle, Country Store & Grocery Wheel! Games will close at 3:30pm.

Giving Back to God

August 20, 2023

Adult Envelopes	\$3,668.00
Loose Cash	\$292.00
Children's Envelopes	\$18.00
Holy Day (the Assumption)	\$323.00
Total	\$4,301.00
Building Fund	\$25.00
Financial Assistance	\$20.00

Thank you for your continued support!

August 27, 2023 ~ The 21st 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



• SHARE YOUR ENCOUNTER •

Please Pray for our Engaged Couples

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

Fr. Mike's Musings



You may have noticed that there are now signs on the fire doors at St. Mary noting that these are for emergencies ONLY. However, these are being used with increasing frequency by those who seem to think that they have somewhere more important to be and simply cannot wait for the final conclusion of the Mass. Is McDonald's going to run out of coffee? The game requires your presence immediately. The golf course (beach, campground, etc.) will vanish from the face of the earth in the next fifteen minutes? I know that these examples come across as being snide in their tenor, but it is difficult to fathom what could possibly take precedence over Jesus Christ and His presence in the Eucharist.

Watching a person leaving immediately from Holy Communion, you wonder if the person is sick (valid reason). Was there an emergency? But no, after a while, you realize that the situation is not uncommon. Much like habitually arriving late for Mass, it may be discourteous, impolite and irreverent, but it is not uncommon in our parishes.

In the course of events, it seems odd that we can't organize our lives in such a way that we can attend Mass in its entirety. It isn't as if we are spectators at a stage play or ballgame and decide to show up at the bottom of the second inning or arbitrarily leave before the event is over. At the play or the game, neither the actors nor the players leave before the curtain goes down or the last out is made. Similarly, they are on hand when the curtain goes up or the first pitch is made. During the Mass, we are the players; we are the participants.

If we are invited into the presence of a president, a queen or the Pope, wouldn't we arrive before the dignitary and stay until the function is complete? It's protocol, respect and good manners. Doesn't God our Creator, who gave His life for us, deserve the same respect? What if Jesus asked us to attend the Last Supper; would we come late or leave before the meal was over? The Mass begins with the entrance procession and hymn. It ends with the dismissal. Everything in between is the Mass.

There was a time in Church history when people rationalized that their Mass obligation was satisfied if they attended the offertory, the consecration and holy Communion. Any such thinking was eliminated with the Second Vatican Council. Sacrosanctum Concilium (Constitution of the Sacred Liturgy), reads: "The two parts, which in a certain sense, go to make up the Mass, namely, the liturgy of the word and the eucharistic liturgy, are so closely connected with each other that they form but one single act of worship. Accordingly, this sacred Synod strongly urges pastors of souls that, when instructing the faithful, they insistently teach them to take their part in the entire Mass, especially on Sundays and feasts of obligation."

The Code of Canon Law likewise claims, "On Sundays and other holy days of obligation the faithful are obligated to assist at Mass." And the Catechism of the Catholic Church repeats the exact words of canon law regarding our Mass obligation. The first precept of the Catholic Church also tells us that we are obligated to attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation. There is no ambiguity here. None of these documents even hint or remotely infer that we can arrive late or leave early or that it's somehow OK to miss part of the Mass. In the words of Yogi Berra, "It ain't over till it's over." It is over when the celebrant has physically departed from the nave (congregational area) of the church.

Setting aside for the moment the mentioned documents and laws of the Church, there are other reasons for arriving on time and remaining until Mass ends. Those moments before Mass when we walk into this holy place, go to our knees before the throne of grace and revere our merciful God are moments to express our love. This is a time of personal preparation to meet God in the Eucharist. Likewise, the time after participation in holy Communion is a special period of reflection. We have just received the Body and Blood of Christ and to simply walk out makes a mockery of this glorious treasure. By showing up late or leaving early, we not only trivialize the real presence of Jesus, not only trivialize the Eucharist, but we also miss the full richness of the Mass. Remember who it was who left the Last Supper before it was over, and his fate? Do we really want to imitate that example of "discipleship" in our faith lives?

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 27, 2023 ~ The 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

St. Mary's Parish News

Religious Education

Religious Education meets on Wednesdays, 6:15-7:30 p.m. and will begin **September 27**.



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

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.

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

Physical Photo:
Send us your printed photo or digital photo on a memory stick
Envelope at Church or Mail To:
15164 Jupiter Drive
Marne, MI 49435
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

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

Save the Dates

August 27	St Michael Parish Festival
Sep 10	St Mary Parish Picnic
Sept 30 & Oct 1	Knights of Columbus Scrap Metal Drive Parish Hall Parking Lot
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
Nov 22	Thanksgiving Eve Mass, Grocery Collection
Nov 23	Thanksgiving Day Mass

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, thank you! If you have not responded, please do so as soon as possible



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

The Next Planning Meeting will be on Tuesday, September 5 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: robrander82@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



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 service and commitment to our Parish Family



Saint Mary Short Sleeve T-Shirt and Long Sleeve Crewneck Sweatshirt Sale!

Short Sleeve T-Shirts - \$15.00

Youth - S-XL & Adult -S-XL \$18.00 - 2XL, 3XL

Crewneck Sweatshirt - \$25.00

Youth - S-XL & Adult - S-XL \$28.00 - 2XL, 3XL

Samples & Order Forms available in the Narthex and Online. **Deadline to receive order and payment Sept.15.**



Share your FAITH & spread Our Church Mission!

Giving Back to God

	August 19/20
Regular Contributions	\$4501.00
Capital Improvement	\$60.00
Online Contributions	\$1325.00
Children's Contributions	\$39.00
Holy Day	\$340.00
Total	\$6265.00

Thank you for your continued support and generosity!

St. Mary's Sponsor of the Week

THE PICKLEBACK

616.677.5180 ~ Downtown Marne

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR BULLETIN!

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

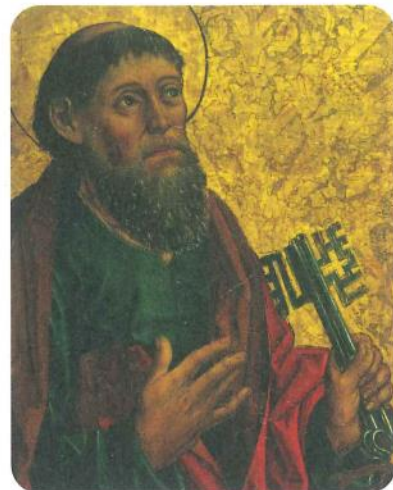
Dear Padre,

Why do Catholics believe they are the only true Church?

Roman Catholics believe our Church has historical continuity with St. Peter and the apostles who were present on the day of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit gave birth to the Church. Catholics believe the work begun by Peter and the other apostles continued under men they appointed and on whom they laid hands—giving them apostolic authority to carry their work into the next generation. Apostolic authority, understood by Catholics to be historical and traceable, is a mark of authenticity and continuity of the Church. For Catholics, this essential mark of the Church is missing if a Christian community rejects apostolic authority and Peter's leadership of the other apostles—carried on by their successors in the persons of bishops and popes—over the last 2,000 years.

Nevertheless, “numerous elements of sanctification and truth” are present in separated Churches and ecclesial communities, and “the Spirit of Christ has not refrained from using them as instruments of salvation” (*Responses to Some Questions Regarding Certain Aspects of the Doctrine on the Church*, by the Vatican Offices of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, 2007).

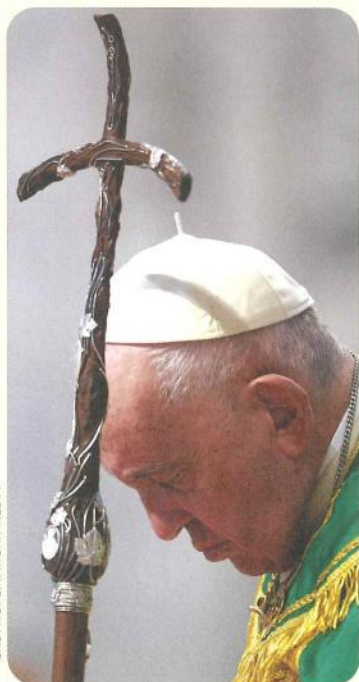
Dialogue with other Christians continues, and we hope the love and respect we have for one another can grow over time. While our Church leaders have the role of conserving the faith we have received, all Christians should remember that the Law of Love must prevail. If we violate that principle, we fail to comprehend an essential truth of our faith. ●



MARCO PERETTO / SHUTTERSTOCK

DearPadre.org

From *Catholic and Cornered: Answers to Common Questions About Your Faith* (Liguori Publications, 2011)



CNS PHOTO/VATICAN MEDIA

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Even today, so many people think Jesus may be a great prophet, knowledgeable teacher, a model of justice....And even today Jesus asks his disciples, that is, all of us: “Who do you say that I am?”...Let us pray that God grants us the grace to respond..., “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

ANGELUS, ROME,
AUGUST 24, 2014

MONDAY

August 28
St. Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
1 Thes 1:1–5, 8b–10
Mt 23:13–22

TUESDAY

August 29
Passion of St. John the Baptist
1 Thes 2:1–8
Mk 6:17–29

WEDNESDAY

August 30
Weekday
1 Thes 2:9–13
Mt 23:27–32

THURSDAY

August 31
Weekday
1 Thes 3:7–13
Mt 24:42–51

FRIDAY

September 1
Weekday
1 Thes 4:1–8
Mt 25:1–13

SATURDAY

September 2
Weekday
1 Thes 4:9–11
Mt 25:14–30

SUNDAY

September 3
Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Jer 20:7–9
Rom 12:1–2
Mt 16:21–27