



Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

07/18/2026 — 07/26/2026

Welcome to Mater Dei Parish!



The Gospel According to Matthew...



There are 28 chapters in the Gospel of Matthew. This week we continue our study of Chapter 16. The answers to these questions are found in Matthew 16:14 — 28.

Circle the correct answer to each question and cut this section out of your bulletin. Sign your name on your entry and put it in the collection basket during Mass.

Last week's winner was **Neena Gratton**. Her entry will be submitted for the Grand Prize when we are finished with our study. Congratulations, Neena!

1. What did Jesus say would not prevail against his church?
A. The works of the evil one
B. The gates of Hades
C. The walls of Hades
D. The enemies of the Gospel
2. What did Jesus warn his disciples not to tell anyone at Caesare Philippi who he was?
A. The son of Man
B. The Christ
C. The Son of David
D. The Suffering Servant
3. When did Peter rebuke Jesus?
A. When Jesus told him to get into the boat
B. When Jesus told him he would suffer and die
C. When Jesus told him the people would reject him
D. When Jesus told him they would all flee
4. How will Jesus reward each person when he returns?
A. According to their faith
B. According to their righteousness
C. According to the Father's mercy
D. According to what they have done

Answers to Last Week's Questions

1. Jesus said that when the blind lead the blind they both fall into a pit. (B)
2. The Canaanite woman came to Jesus about a demon possessed daughter. (A)
3. Jesus told the Canaanite woman that she had great faith. (B)
4. The people were amazed and praised God when they saw the mute speak. (D)

NAME: _____



Thank You for Your Generosity to our
Mater Dei Parish Churches

July 11th & 12th 2026

Envelopes:	\$ 3,546.00
Loose:	\$ 2,891.00
eCatholic:	\$ 555.00
TOTAL:	\$ 6,992.00

Fuel: \$ 2,807.00
Weekly Budget Expenses: \$ 10,756.00
Deficit/Surplus: \$ -3,764.00



There is a special collection this weekend for the **Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa**. This fund asks Catholics to support the Church in Africa, particularly in regions facing material poverty, conflict and social challenges. Your donation supports initiatives such as leadership formation, construction & renovation, justice & peace, communications, youth ministry, evangelization, Catholic education, child protection, and education of seminarians, clergy & religious. Please be as generous as possible.



WELCOME SEMINARIANS!

Mater Dei warmly welcomes two Vocationist seminarians who will be staying with us for the next month.

Brother Ezechukwu joined the Vocationists from his native country of Nigeria. He made his First Profession in 2018 and his Perpetual Profession in 2023.

Brother Hery Onja joined the Vocationists from his native country of Madagascar. He made his first profession in 2021 and his Perpetual Profession in 2026.

They are staying at the rectory in Newport and will be visiting our parish churches and participating in Masses while they visit the Northeast Kingdom.

Be sure to introduce yourself to them when you see them. Welcome, Brother "Eze" and Brother Hery! We hope you enjoy your stay with us.

MEALS FOR THE MISSIONARIES

Mater Dei is still looking for volunteers to provide meals for the missionary teachers during Totus Tuus from July 26th — July 31st

There are sign-up sheets in the back of our churches. Please include your phone number on the sign-up sheet so we can contact you. Contact Donna Cheney at (802) 487-7278 for more information.



MATER DEI RAFFLE UPDATE

Have you bought your Mater Dei Raffle tickets yet? Tickets are available after all Masses every weekend until our **Parish Picnic on August 2nd**. Tickets are also available at the parish office.

1st, 2nd & 3rd prizes are \$3,000, \$1,500 & \$1,000. There are also 5 prizes of \$100 each.

Tickets are a bargain at \$20 each, 3 tickets for \$50 or 6 tickets for \$100.

Are you a good salesman or woman? We would love to give you some tickets to sell.

Drop by the parish office to pick some up.

Ticket sales so far total **\$10,200**. Time is short! What are you waiting for?



VOCATIONISTS CORNER

"O my God and my All"

Father, Son and Holy Spirit, may Your will be done, Your love reign, Your glory shine, always more in me and everyone as in Yourself. O my God and my All.

GUIDELINES FOR EULOGIES AT FUNERAL MASSES



The bishop has reminded us of the importance of maintaining the sacred nature of the Funeral Mass. Eulogies, when offered, should be limited to **five minutes** and should be **prepared in writing and delivered by only one person** before the beginning of Mass.

The focus of the eulogy should be on the **virtues, faith, and meaningful qualities of the deceased**, offering a respectful reflection on their life and the example they gave to others. Appropriate and respectful language should always be used.

Personal stories and memories are most fittingly shared during the wake or funeral reception, where family and friends can gather to celebrate the life of their loved one. **The Funeral Mass itself is a time of prayer, worship, and entrusting the deceased into the loving hands of God.**

Thank you for helping us preserve the dignity and sacredness of our funeral celebrations.



YOUTH CHOIR PRACTICE

All youth who are part of the Youth choir — or would like to join — are asked to attend a practice on **Monday, July 20th at 7:00 pm at St. Edward's.**

Bring your voices and your instruments and make beautiful music for the Lord!

Totus Tuus is Almost Here!

Totus Tuus will be at Mater Dei **during the last week of July.**

Have you registered yet?



High School Students: July 26th – 30th
6:00 pm — 8:00 pm

Elementary Students: July 27th – 31st
9:00 am — 3:00 pm

All Totus Tuus activities will take place at **St. Edward's this year for both groups.**

There is still time to register! Registration forms are available at each of our parish churches and at the parish office.

ANNUAL BISHOP'S APPEAL UPDATE



The 2026 Annual Bishop's Appeal continues! If you have not already given to this year's fund drive, please prayerfully consider joining the more than 2,500 families and individuals who have already made a donation to the 2026 Bishop's Annual Appeal. These sacrificial gifts are a beautiful expression of faith in action. Your support helps the Diocese of Burlington continue building a vibrant Church in Vermont through programs, ministries, and services. To learn more, or to make a gift online visit bishopsappealvt.org.

Thank you for your support of the Bishop's Appeal.



EMERGENCY CONTACT WEEKEND PHONE NUMBER

If you need to contact a priest **in an emergency** when the parish office is not open, please call **(802) 323-7752**. The call will be transferred to Fr. Benny's phone for you to leave a message. Please include your name and phone number in your message.

This number is intended for emergency sick calls or for an emergency Anointing of the Sick. It is NOT intended for questions or requests that could easily wait until the office reopens on Monday.

Thank you for your cooperation.

"I don't think he's waiting for us to be holy. I think he's here because we can't be holy without him."

[ST. MARY MAGDALENE: FEAST DAY — JULY 22ND]

Exercise daily....Walk with God.

