

SAINT MARY’S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Ponca City, Oklahoma

Dear parishioners,

Like many Okies, I love summer thunderstorms. There’s something so awe-inducing about the colossal storm clouds, pierced with lightning and echoing with thunder that rattle our windows. There are about [16 million thunderstorms](#) around the world annually, meaning that 2,000 thunderstorms are in progress at any moment. Thunderstorms are often around 15 miles long, and lightning can strike up to 10 miles away from the center of the storm. Scientists believe that [one hundred lightning bolts](#) strike the earth every second. In spite of all our technological advances and meteorological knowledge, each of these awesome storms is completely out of our control. Thunderstorms still cancel games and delay construction work and close the neighborhood pool early. Thankfully, the Bible says that God is in control of every storm and lightning bolt. “For I know that the Lord is great,” [the psalmist wrote](#). “He it is who makes the clouds rise at the end of the earth, who makes lightning for the rain and brings forth the wind from his storehouses.” No matter how big and electrically-charged these storms are, they are under God’s control. We don’t cower in fear at every boom of thunder or flash of lightning. No matter what chaos is swirling in the sky around us, we are safe. I, like many of you, have been watching the news lately and it seems like everything is out of control! From the pandemic, to Afghanistan, the weather, and even our schools remodel...it seems like things are just out of (my) (our) control. Each new headline or breaking news bulletin is like a lightning bolt on the horizon — a storm of change. Like me, you have no doubt faced difficulties and struggles that keep you awake at night. Whatever storm is threatening you right now, I’d like to give you some verses from Sacred Scripture that reminds us our God is still in control: Psalms 9:9-10; 56:9; 68:19; 75:3; 145:14; Gospel of St. John 15:9; 16:33; Gospel of St. Matthew 6:25-34. These are just a few of the verses we can pray with when we feel like our life, our nation, or the world is out of control. God is in control, and we only have to trust in him and trust that every storm is bringing us closer to him. “But seek first the kingdom of

August 29, 2021

God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides. Do not worry about tomorrow; tomorrow will take care of itself.” Please know of my prayers, and I hope that you have a great week! God bless!

In Christ,

Fr. Carson Krittenbrink
Pastor

Weekly Income Report August 22, 2021	
Weekly Collection:	\$ 6,496.00
Lump Sum:	\$ 6,500.00
Catholic Communications:	\$ 525.00



MONDAY, AUGUST 30, 2021
12:10pm NO MASS
TUESDAY, AUGUST 31, 2021
12:10pm †Lawrence Horinek/Michel Gray
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2021
8:20am †David Courtney/Rosary Group
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2021
9:30am MASS (*Newkirk*)
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2021
7:00am †Patricia Rascon/Ellen Trantham
12:10pm †Jim Brown/His Family
6:15pm **FIRST FRIDAY MASS** (*Church*)
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2021
9:00am Spec. Int. Fr. Carson
5:00pm †Marcy Dimond/Her Family
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2021
8:00am †Donna Trewitt/George & Sheila Rahme
9:30am Pro Populo (*Newkirk*)
11:00am †Ginger Reinert Bagley/Joe & Alma Reinert
1:00pm *Spanish Mass/ Pro Populo*
7:00pm †Ruth Steichen

Please Pray For those who need prayers: Charlotte Meyer, Charlene Vap, Dora Behar, Cindy Wardlow, Colleen Schiltz, Jeanne Glaser, Patsy Hastings, Eileen Spellman, Linda Courtney, Martha Begwin, Donna Schlitz, Joe Badley, Sr. Mary Clare, Sallie Williams, Mike Kemmerer, Beth Whitney, Doug Revard, Mike Hammer, Sue Rice, Pamela Cline, Kim Maxson, Joyce Reutter, George Rahme, Jim Johndrow, Mandi Holba, Janice Loftis, Rosanne Rhodes, Gabe Dietz, Phyllis Moriarty, Julian (JuJu) Aguilar, Ben Delapaz, John Meyers, Harold Leven, Natalie Goldman Stewart, Sid Kothe, Michele Bodenstein, Karen Hull, Brennan Montgomery, Addy Wright, Lisa Holloway, Elizabeth Whitney

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WEEK AHEAD August 30-September 5, 2021		
Monday		
Tuesday	6:30pm	RCIA OPEN HOUSE, Parish Hall
Wednesday	9:30am	BIRTHDAY BRUNCH, McGurk Room
	6:30pm	K-12 FAITH FORMATION
	6:30pm	CHOIR PRACTICE, Parish Hall
Thursday		
Friday	9:00am	STAFF MEETING, McGurk Room
	10:30am	CONFESSION, Chapel
Saturday	3:30pm	CONFESSION, Church
Sunday	6:00pm	CONFESSION, Church

St. Mary’s Catholic School Fall Fest News!



Mark your calendars for
Saturday, SEPTEMBER 18TH!

The Fall Fest Committee needs volunteers to help with the Pot O’ Gold and other committee needs.

For more information, or to volunteer your time and/or talent please contact Leah Stieber at (580) 716-2614.

Raffle tickets will be available for



purchase beginning Wednesday, August 25th! You can purchase them from any St. Mary’s Catholic School Student or from the Parish Office. Tickets are \$1.00 each. They come in packages of 20 or can be purchased separately. **Prizes are:** 1 case (6) of Creekstone Tenderloin, \$750.00 Value (42 pounds of meat), a \$300 Visa Gift Card, a \$250 Lowes Gift Card, a \$150 Atwood Gift Card, and an iPad Air 4th Generation plus case. For more information contact Jill Cobb at 580-716-2885.

DONATIONS WANTED! Fall Fest committee is requesting New or GENTLY used items for their online Silent Auction. Please drop your donations off in the Parish Office so they can be documented for the online site. The ONLINE Auction is open from September 5th through the 18th. Website is [charityauction.bid/stmarysfallfest2021.com](#). Contact Veronica at 580-304-6922 to donate to the online auction.

Mark your calendars!

Our RCIA Open House will be Tuesday, August 31st in the Parish Hall beginning at 6:30pm.



Heavy hors d’oeuvres and drinks will be provided. If you are interested in growing in your Faith, have any interest in learning more about Catholicism

or simply wish to join us as a parish community then we hope to see you there!

Now Hiring! Substitute Teachers for St. Mary’s Catholic School. For more information please contact our Principal, Sarah Hunsaker at 580-765-4387.

Apply Now!

youth news

JH/SH Faith Formation and Youth Group is this Wednesday from 6:30-8PM, and all 7-12th grade teens are invited. Meet us upstairs in the Byrnes room and remember to bring your signed registration forms! See you there!



Join us in the church on
Wednesday, September 1st
6:30 PM-8:00 PM

Families are welcome to join us for prayer
and Mass. Prayer begins at 6:30. Mass
begins at 7:00 pm.

BIRTHDAY BRUNCH: Make plans to join us Wednesday, September 1st for our 1st brunch of this school year. We meet in the McGurk Room following the 8:20am Mass. **EVERYONE WELCOMED!**