

Dear Padre,

What were the main changes brought about by the Second Vatican Council?

It has been sixty years since the Second Vatican Council and we are still learning from what Pope John Paul II called the “fundamental event in the contemporary Church” and “the constant reference point of every pastoral action.” Vatican II’s sixteen documents focus on a wide variety of topics, touching almost every conceivable aspect of Church and Christian life. Four of the documents bear the title of “Constitution” and contain the core formulations of the council’s teachings.

The most visible change might be in how we worship. But even more fundamental is the emphasis on the Church as the “people of God.” Baptism admits all to the same journey of faith, initiating each person with differing talents and abilities into the mission of the Church. Thus, the faithful must be “led to that fully conscious, and active participation in liturgical celebrations which is demanded by the very nature of the liturgy. Such participation by the Christian people as ‘a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a redeemed people’ (1 Peter 2:9; see 2:4–5), is their right and duty by reason of their baptism” (Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy [*Sacrosanctum Concilium*], 14). The hierarchy continues, but it is to hear and serve God’s people; “servant leadership” is the way to exercise authority in the Church of Vatican II. ●

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

Saint Paul VI was Pope when the last of the Second Vatican documents was promulgated.



WIKICOMMONS

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
May 13 <i>Easter Weekday</i> Acts 19:1–8 Jn 16:29–33	May 14 <i>St. Matthias, Apostle</i> Acts 1:15–17, 20–26 Jn 15:9–17	May 15 <i>Easter Weekday</i> Acts 20:28–38 Jn 17:11b–19	May 16 <i>Easter Weekday</i> Acts 22:30; 23:6–11 Jn 17:20–26	May 17 <i>Easter Weekday</i> Acts 25:13b–21 Jn 21:15–19	May 18 <i>Easter Weekday</i> Acts 28:16–20, 30–31 Jn 21:20–25	May 19 <i>Pentecost</i> Acts 2:1–11 1 Cor 12:3b–7, 12–13 or Gal 5:16–25 Jn 20:19–23 or Jn 15:26–27; 16:12–15
Timely topics viewed with a Catholic perspective <i>Catholic Update</i> explores contemporary issues through the lens of Catholic teaching and traditions. Print and digital subscriptions available. For more information, visit Liguori.org or call 800-325-9521.						



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Jesus’ ascension into heaven...constitutes the end of the mission that the Son received from the Father and the beginning of the continuation of this mission on the part of the Church. From this moment...Christ’s presence in the world is mediated...by those who believe in him and proclaim him. This mission will last until the end of history.

REGINA CAELI, ROME, MAY 28, 2017



Apples and Pears

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

As a child, I remember our back yard had a fruit tree planted by my grandfather. Each year the tree bore apples and pears, both on the same tree. My grandfather explained that he had planted an apple sapling and then had grafted a pear branch onto its trunk. What continues to intrigue me about that tree is how the very same nourishment, the same sap out of the earth and traveling up the trunk, would produce such different fruits.

It is much like the power of the Holy Spirit given to human beings at the time of the ascension. Various gifts make themselves known, at times in the same person, over the course of a lifetime. A friend loved being a mom and raising a family. After the children had grown and went on their way, she went back to school and became a nurse. A local pastor was a pediatrician. After his wife died, he decided to become

a priest. John Grisham, educated as an attorney, began writing novels. All apples and pears, the fruit of God’s Spirit.

We tend to ask young people what they would like to be when they grow up. A better question might be to ask what they think God would like them to be. However someone might answer such a question, what is important is to do it with “humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another through love, striving to preserve unity of the spirit through the bond of peace” (Ephesians 4:2–3)—all prompted by God’s Spirit. ●

Reflect

Is there a difference between what we want to do and what God wants us to do?
How do we know?



[Jesus] said to them, “Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature.”

MARK 16:15

Sunday, May 12, 2024 – The Ascension of the Lord

ST. JUDE PARISH BULLETIN

Sunday Mass at 9:30 a.m.

Confessions by appointment or after Mass on Thursday

Adoration at 9:00 a.m. before weekly Thursday Mass at 10:30 a.m.

Rosary is the first Sunday of the month at 9:00 a.m. before Mass.

Website: www.stjudeparishgobles.com Office: (269) 628-2219

Pastor: Very Rev. Fr. Robert Creagan email: frcreagan@stakalamazoo.org

Pastoral Administrator: Deacon Jim Bauer Office: (269) 628-2219
P.O. Box 102, 13809 M-40 Cell: (269) 655-6510
Gobles, MI 49055

Email: deaconjimbauer@gmail.com

For pastoral emergencies, contact Deacon Jim on his cell phone.

St. Jude Parish Office Hours:

Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Office Email: st.judeparishgobles@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant-Bookkeeper: Lauren Gilbert (269) 628-2219
Choir Director: Laura Woods (269) 628-4866
Religious Ed Coordinator: Jennifer Price (269) 377-6734
Safe Environment Coordinator: Jennifer Rossell (269) 744-2582

Mass Intention for today: Chuck & Berniece Cozzolino by Jim & Nancy Cox

NEXT SUNDAY, May 19th, 2024

READER: Marcus Secondi

ALTAR SERVERS: Bella, Emma, Alexa, Sadie

Mass intention for Thurs., May 16, 2024: Maria & Stephen Keller by Marie Keller

Mass intention for Sun., May 19, 2024: The People of St. Jude Parish

Weekly Collection Information

Collections:	Target	Received	Over-(under)	Attendance
May 5, 2024:	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,872.00	\$ (128.00)	107
Year to Date:	\$ 83,500.00	\$ 82,985.31	\$ (514.69)	5125

By His Example, Jesus Teaches Us about Prayer

Prayer is a powerful force. We know that it changes hearts, sustains us in times of difficulty and, as intercession, binds us to one another in the communion of discipleship. Today's Gospel account begins by saying that Jesus lifted His eyes to heaven. This description reflects the important insight that prayer is rooted in our relationship with God the Father, who abides in and reigns in heaven.

Jesus' relationship with the Father flows from the reality that Jesus is the incarnate Word of God, the second person of the Trinity made flesh. For us, this relationship is established in baptism when the Holy Spirit washes away original sin and any sin that comes to dwell in our hearts, incorporating us into the Body of Christ and making us sons and daughters of God. Now, with Christ, we too can raise our eyes to God the Father in heaven.

Regrettably, unlike Jesus, we can distance ourselves from the Father through sin, which can adversely affect our prayer life. However, the Lord in His wisdom, has provided us with a solution: the sacraments of reconciliation and the Eucharist. These sacraments not only heal the wounds of sin but also fortify God's grace in our hearts, enabling us to resist temptation and maintain our relationship with Him. If we find ourselves grappling with our prayer life, regular participation in these sacraments can be a significant aid.

As we delve into Jesus' prayer, we encounter two crucial aspects. First, it precedes His passion, death, and resurrection, marking its importance. Second, he directs His prayer not toward himself in this challenging time but toward His disciples, demonstrating His selflessness and love.

Just as Jesus anticipated the trials He was about to face and turned to prayer, we too are aware of significant events in our lives. In our preparations for these moments, prayer should take center stage. The burdens we carry – whether these moments are sorrowful or joyful – are significantly lightened when we approach them grounded in our relationship with God and with a desire to navigate them by following God's will.

When faced with life-changing events or even our everyday trials, it is easy to focus only on ourselves and what they mean to us. But, as John tells us in his letter today, a marker of our relationship with God is our love for one another. One expression of that love is praying for our loved ones in difficult and joyous times.

As we seek to deepen our relationship with God and persevere in our life of prayer, let us ask the Lord to intercede for us as He did for His disciples, knowing He will give us the grace we need to do so.

FROM OUR DRE:

No CCD today because of Mother's Day.
5/19 - CCD Annual Clean-up Day (last class).

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL: Fran Sage, Father Richard, Zane Miller, Pete & Barb Percival, Steve Klein, Garry Adams, Joan Rumery, David Vana, Phil Boyer, Margie Burris, Lillian B. Wheeler, Frances Parsons, Sonny and Mary Laughlin, Donna Murphy, Jack Secondi, Mary Heinz, Vicki Clark, Vivian Polomcak, and all those on our Prayer Chain.

SPRING PLANT SALE

We invite you to get your spring flowers and support St. Mary Catholic School!

Visit us in the school gym:

Sunday, May 12th, 9 am – 12:30 pm

Hanging Baskets - Combination Planters - Annuals - Perennials - Vegetables - Herbs

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR MAY - canned fruit, mac and cheese, peanut butter, condiments, salt & pepper, and Jello. If someone is 60 years of age and over, and their monthly income is \$1580 a month for one person, they can apply to receive CSFP/Senior Commodities each month. If you have any questions, feel free to call 269-501-0224.

THE NEXT SENIORS TOGETHER will be held on Thursday, June 20 from 12 to 2 p.m. at Fletcher's Pub, Texas Corners. We'd love to see you there!

A NEW WAY TO REMEMBER A LOVED ONE—Here at St. Jude, you can sign up to remember a loved one by having the Sanctuary Candle lit for one week in their name (the name will be announced in the bulletin). Donations are \$10.00. If you are interested, please call the office at 269-628-2219.

THE BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL - Thank you so much to the parish families who have made a commitment to help grow God's Kingdom in our parish, diocese, country, and world. Our total commitment to the Bishop's Annual Appeal so far is \$8135 or 45% (towards our goal of \$17,962). Your gift will bring Christ to people and people to Christ in countless important ways. There are still families we haven't heard from – please make a commitment this week. We are moving closer to our goal of 100% participation, but we can't make it without you.

TRANSITIONAL DIACONATE ORDINATION ON MAY 18th at 10 AM

Please pray for
Paul Thuantho

FROM THE DIOCESE

SUPERINTENDENT OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS - The Diocese of Kalamazoo is seeking a dynamic, driven education professional for its role of Superintendent of Schools. This position oversees all aspects of governance for the 21 Catholic schools of the Diocese of Kalamazoo. The Superintendent ensures a Catholic learning environment that provides and fosters quality academic programs. Qualified candidates should possess a State of Michigan teaching certificate and a minimum of a master's degree in educational administration or a similar area. PhD preferred. For more details, go the Diocesan website and type "job openings" in the search field. If interested, send a cover letter and resume to Tammi Wachterhauser, HR Director, twachterhauser@diokzoo.org.

HAPPY ORDINATION ANNIVERSY - Bishop Bradley celebrated 53 years as a priest on Wednesday, May 1st. Send well wishes to officeofcommunications@diokzoo.org.

BISHOP LOHSE TO LEAD PILGRIMAGE TO ROME IN MARCH 2025 – Bishop Lohse and Father Bob Creagan will lead a jubilee pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi March 19-27, 2025. More details and information are available at www.diokzoo.org

THE CATHOLIC BISHOP ABUSE REPORTING SERVICE (CBAR) has been established to receive reports of sexual abuse and related misconduct by bishops and to relay those reports to proper Church authorities for investigation. To make a report, visit ReportBishopAbuse.org or phone (800) 276-1562. When a report includes a crime, such as the sexual abuse of a minor, it will also be reported to civil authorities. Otherwise, reports will be kept confidential.

RETURN OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD THIS JUNE –

Bishop Lohse has announced that the regular distribution of the Precious Blood at Mass will return to Parishes across the diocese on June 23rd. Prior to the return, Parishes will participate in catechesis on three Sundays (June 9, 16, 23). More information will be available on the diocesan website.