

Dear Padre,

Does praying to the saints really do any good?

Prayer can connect us, however mysteriously, to those who have gone before us in faith. If prayer can change people, opening them to God's grace and healing, then surely the saints and our deceased loved ones can facilitate similar healing from their communion at God's right hand. Such prayer also calls us, however subtly, to the central mystery that we also shall one day die and be a part of that communion. Thus, even as we seek the intercession of the saints for our earthly cares, such prayer reminds us that the fire of our own lives is being consumed daily, and that each of us will inevitably receive a call to death when it becomes God's will.

When Sr. Thea Bowman (1937–1990)—brilliant, creative, beautiful, and passionately alive—was diagnosed with cancer, she wondered how to pray. “I didn’t know if I should pray for healing or death. Then, I found peace in praying for what my folks call ‘God’s perfect will.’ As it evolved, my prayer became ‘Lord, let me live until I die.’ By that I mean I want to live, love, and serve fully until death comes. If that prayer is answered, I am able to truly live until I die. How long really doesn’t matter.” ●

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](#) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
July 15	July 16	July 17	July 18	July 19	July 20	July 21
St. Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Is 1:10–17 Mt 10:34–11:1	Is 7:1–9 Mt 11:20–24	Is 10:5–7, 13b–16 Mt 11:25–27	Is 26:7–9, 12, 16–19 Mt 11:28–30	Is 38:1–6, 21–22, 7–8 Mt 12:1–8	Mi 2:1–5 Mt 12:14–21	Jer 23:1–6 Eph 2:13–18 Mk 6:30–34



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Jesus...makes [the disciples] see that the Christian journey is simply about changing hearts. One's own heart first all.... It is about learning to live differently, under a different law, with different rules. It is about turning from the path of selfishness, conflict, division, and superiority, and taking instead the path of life, generosity and love.

HOMILY, ÑU GUAZÚ, ASUNCIÓN (PARAGUAY), JULY 12, 2015



Our Parish COMMUNITY

July 14, 2024
Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)
Amos 7:12–15 / Ephesians 1:3–14 or 1:3–10 / Mark 6:7–13



About Being Sent

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

A cousin died recently. After the burial, I walked among the gravesites remembering many of those I had once known who were now buried nearby. I came across a tombstone engraved with the epitaph: “In all of life God brings us to where we should be.” I noted the statement was not about where we *want* to be or where we think we *need* to be, but about where we *should* be. I agree. Even though we may find ourselves grumbling about how it is that we ended up where we are in life, the gospel suggests that God has sent us to that place.

We may think to ourselves: *this is not the life I chose; this is not the marriage I thought it would be; this is not what I thought raising a family would look like; this is not what retirement is supposed to be.* We may think that little of life is what we chose it to be. Yet somehow, God brings us to where we are, as if we’ve been sent as the Twelve were sent to overcome evil and bring about healing, even though no one ever asked if it was what we wanted. Wherever we are, it is there that we have been chosen to become holy. The Letter to the Ephesians tells us that God chose us, even before the world began to unfold, chose us to be holy, to be the presence of God in all that comes our way. ●



[The Twelve] drove out many demons, and they anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

MARK 6:13

Reflect

How is God calling you to be holy where you are today?

Sunday, July 14th, 2024: Fifteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

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 on the 1st and 3rd Sundays 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: Marion Ellis by Dcn. Jim & Tammy Bauer

NEXT SUNDAY, JULY 21, 2024

READER: Pat Sage

ALTAR SERVERS: Daisy, Emma, Lydia, Carlina

Extra-Ordinary Ministers: Tony & Jennifer Karsen

Mass intention for Thurs., July 18th, 2024: Lawrence Jorgensen by Family & Friends

Mass intention for Sun., July 21, 2024: Wally Weier by St. Jude Parish

Weekly Collection Information

Collections:	Target	Received	Over-(under)	Attendance
July 7, 2024:	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 2285.00	\$85.00	154
Year to Date:	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 2285.00	\$85.00	154

We are Blessed with Every Spiritual Blessing in The Heavens

At the beginning of the Rite of Baptism, the person about to be given this adoption in Christ is called by name. This mirrors a truth that runs all our theology: **We are present here today because God has called us, by name, as unique individuals. God knows each of us intimately and has designed us to play a crucial role in his loving plan for goodness.**

In today's Gospel, **we see the striking aftermath of this kind of call.** The disciples are sent, and they drive out many demons and cure many who are ill. They combat the powers of evil and darkness and bring God's goodness everywhere they go. They also anoint with oil – they offer tangible evidence of God's presence and share God's healing generously.

There is a temptation to relegate this pattern to the past, to assume such effects could only be manifested in the lives of great saints of other times. But God's power has not changed. God's capacity to work mighty deeds has not diminished. **Our calling is no different – we are created to be saints! Like Amos, we may be going about our own work, but God says to us, "Go."**

Responding to this call requires us to pause and listen, be formed in prayer, and align our hearts and minds with God's voice. God is calling us at every moment: calling us to a relationship with Him, calling us to love Him and one another while sharing the Gospel and calling us to a life of holiness in witness to the Gospel message. This call is not a one-time event but a continuous, loving invitation from God.

If you feel overwhelmed by this calling and to take on such a mission, let us look to the Letter to the Ephesians:

- Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavens, as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world. God has lavished the riches of His grace upon us!

Be assured that by responding to God's calls, **He will never leave us alone in that call. It is a call to be drawn to His side, swept up in His life, carried by His Spirit. Yes, *God will ask much of us, but we should not be afraid of that ask. It is an invitation to live fully, richly, and generously.*** Know that anything we give to God, any sacrifice we make in response to His invitation, will be returned and poured out on the world, transformed by God's perfect love.

Regardless of where we find ourselves today, whether we are going about our work like Amos, following Christ like the Twelve Apostles, or somewhere in between, we have been summoned here by God. He has drawn us here to nourish us, to give us nothing less than His whole self so we can answer that call and participate in God's work in the world. As we prepare to receive Him in this holy Eucharist, let us listen for Christ's call, and ask for the grace we need to answer courageously, to respond actively, and to transform our world with His love. Remember, each of us has a unique and significant role to play in this transformative mission.

THE BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL—I want to extend my deepest gratitude to all of you for your generous pledges and payments, which have allowed us to reach our goal. This is the first time in two years that we have reached our BAA goal. By reaching our goal, we have saved over \$2000.00 off our current budget.

If you still want to contribute to the BAA, may I suggest contributing to either our St Jude Memorial Fund or our Catholic Education Fund? These funds allow us to help our parishioners whose children are enrolled in one of our Catholic Schools.

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL: Lillian A. Wheeler, Julie Haley, Steve Klein, Pete & Barb Percival, Rose Wood, Joan Rumery, Margie Burris, Lillian B. Wheeler, Frances Parsons, Sonny Laughlin, Donna Murphy, Jack Secondi, Mary Heinz, Vicki Clark, and all those on our Prayer Chain.

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE – Jesus sent out His apostles without a lot of “things” because THINGS distract. We collect, argue about and protect our “things.” Garage sales only transfer “things.” We even ignore each other because we have “things” to do. What “things” are separating you from your family?

BISHOP LOHSE WILL BE HERE FOR MASS ON SUNDAY, JULY 28TH: Please come to mass and afterward please stick around for Coffee, Bagels and Doughnuts and get to know the 5th Bishop of the Diocese of Kalamazoo

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR JULY - pepper, salt, garlic powder, muffin mixes, Jello/pudding, cleaning supplies, baking powder, and baking soda. 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.

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

THANKS TO YOUR GENEROSITY: We collected \$575 to support The Catholic Relief Services Collection and reveal Christ's love to the poor and marginalized worldwide. If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give! Just visit www.usccb.org/natonalcollections for more information.

FROM THE DIOCESE

DIOCESE HAS DISCOUNTED 5-DAY PASS TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE - The Diocese of Kalamazoo has a limited number of discounted 5-day pass tickets (\$200 each) to the **National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis** (regular ticket price is \$399). The ticket is for admission to the sessions and liturgies and does not include the cost of transportation and lodging which is up to the individual. For more information contact Jamin Herold, jherold@diokzoo.org

AS BISHOP LOHSE INDICATED in his [Letter to the Faithful](#) following the release of the Attorney General's report, he will celebrate a **Mass of Reparation and Atonement** on Friday, August 2, 6 p.m. at St. Augustine Cathedral. Prior to that, Bishop Lohse will host three listening sessions for the Faithful to attend with the opportunity to voice any thoughts or concerns. The nearest listening session is on Monday, July 29th, 6 p.m. at St. Thomas More Parish, Kalamazoo.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL ALUM HEADED TO THE OLYMPICS - Congratulations to Heath Baldwin, St. Monica Catholic Elementary School class of 2015, and Hackett Catholic Prep Class of 2019, who is headed to the Olympics competing in the decathlon.

ALL THOSE GRIEVING THE LOSS OF A LOVED ONE are invited to join in a weekly grief support group, GriefShare, every Tuesday at St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Portage beginning August 6th. The group will be from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Contact Paula White with questions, 269.330.3762.

Widowed Men and Women Are Invited to Participate in the Widowed Friends Support Group - The Widowed Friends Support Group meets once a month (typically the third Wednesday of each month) at the Diocesan Pastoral Center from 4-5:30 p.m. Various activities and events are organized throughout the year. Gather with fellow widows and widowers to share in relevant topics and offer support and fellowship. Contact Socorro Truchan, struchan@diokzoo.org

Anyone aware of child sexual abuse should report the matter to the appropriate law enforcement agency and make a report to the Michigan Department of Attorney General at 844-324-3374.

Bishop Lohse has pledged to provide professional counseling or therapy to victims of clergy sex abuse in the Diocese. Victims can receive 24-hour care via the crisis hotline set with Catholic Charities at 800-873-8336