

# Dear Padre,

## Is “co-redemptrix” a title for the Blessed Virgin Mary?

The Church does not officially regard Mary as a co-redemptrix with Christ. Her “unique holiness”...‘from the first instant of her conception’ comes wholly from Christ: she is ‘redeemed, in a more exalted fashion, by reason of the merits of her Son’” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 492).

According to Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, the title “co-redemptrix” would “obscure” the origin that “everything comes through Christ,” as written in Ephesians and Colossians. “Mary, too, is everything she is through Him,” stated the future Pope Benedict XVI, adding that “co-redemptrix” is a departure from the language of Scripture and of the Fathers, and therefore gives rise to misunderstandings.”

Likewise, in 2019, Pope Francis quoted St. Bernard, who said that no praise is sufficient to talk about Mary, but, ultimately, her title as a humble “disciple” best represents Mary’s faithfulness to “her Son, the only Redeemer.” “She never wanted for herself something that was of her Son,” explained the pontiff. “She never introduced herself as co-redemptrix. No. Disciple.”

Pope Francis reiterated the Church’s position on this matter in 2021, saying that Jesus entrusted the universal Church and all the faithful to Mary, “Not as a goddess. Not as a co-redemptrix. As a mother.” Incidentally, “Mother of God” (Greek: *Theotokos*, “God-bearer”) is Mary’s oldest title, established in 431 by the Council of Ephesus. ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR / DearPadre.org



## Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](https://dearpadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
August 18	August 19	August 20	August 21	August 22	August 23	August 24
Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time
Jgs 2:11-19	Jgs 6:11-24a	St. Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church	St. Pius X, Pope	The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Ru 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17	Is 66:18-21
Mt 19:16-22	Mt 19:23-30	Jgs 9:6-15	Jgs 11:29-39a	Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22	Mt 23:1-12	Heb 12:5-7, 11-13
		Mt 20:1-16	Mt 22:1-14	Mt 22:34-40		Lk 13:22-30



## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*The Gospel does not leave things as they are; when the Gospel... is listened to and received, things do not stay as they are. The Gospel provokes change and invites to conversion. It does not dispense a false intimist peace, but sparks a restlessness that sets us in motion and drives us to open ourselves up to God and to our brothers and sisters.*

ANGELUS, ROME, AUGUST 14, 2022

# Our Parish COMMUNITY

August 17, 2025

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10 / Hebrews 12:1-4 / Luke 12:49-53



## Where I Stand

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

One day, as I was walking in a local nature preserve, I came across what someone had written in the sand: “It’s time to take a stand.” Though the person never suggested what we should take a stand on, all of us take stands in life. In many ways, those stands define our lives: Republican or Democrat, pro-life or pro-choice, NRA and guns, save the whales, vax or anti-vax, ecology. As we all know so well, where we stand on any given issue can become divisive among friends and even family.

The Scriptures this weekend tell of the prophet Jeremiah, who took a stand of faith against the king who trusted in military arms rather than in God. The Letter to

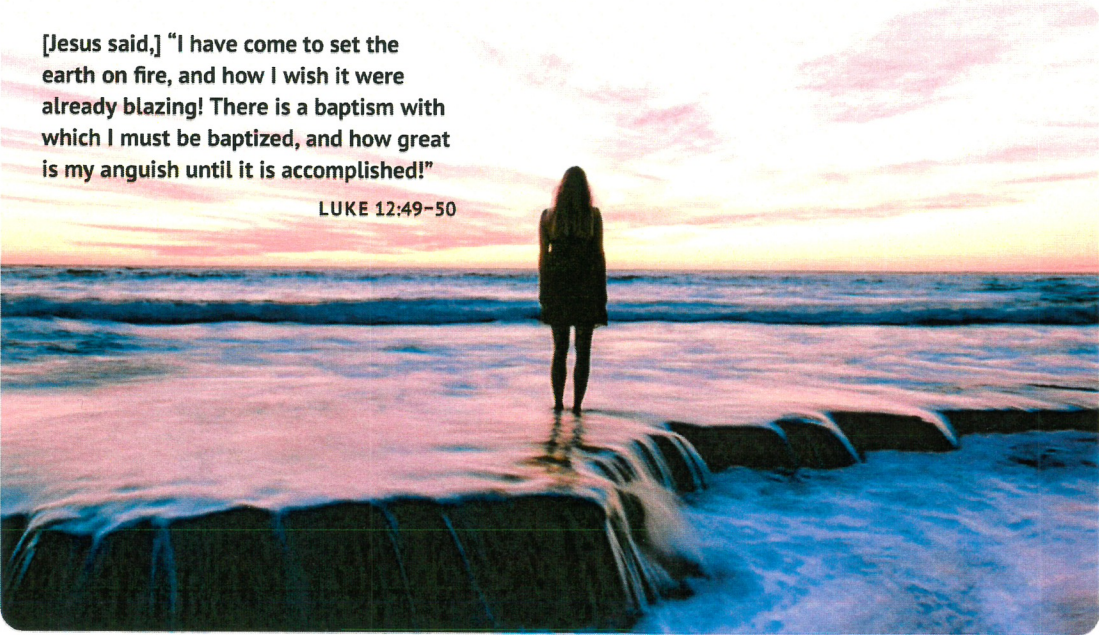
the Hebrews mentions an Old Testament “cloud of witnesses” who placed faith in God without knowing where that would take them. And, Jesus himself recognizes that those who place their faith in him and the vision of life he proclaimed would find themselves in conflict with others. For every person who professes faith in Jesus Christ, the question becomes how this faith affects all the other stands we take. To “keep our eyes fixed on Jesus” influences the lifestyle we choose, how we spend our time and our money, who our friends are, and even who we vote for. At some point, faith insists we take a stand. ●

## Reflect

How does my faith affect all my other beliefs and practices?

[Jesus said,] “I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing! There is a baptism with which I must be baptized, and how great is my anguish until it is accomplished!”

LUKE 12:49-50





August 17, 2025 - Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time



ST. JUDE PARISH

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For Pastoral Emergencies, Contact Deacon Jim on his cell phone.

PARISH SUMMER OFFICE HOURS (6/1 THRU 9/1/25): Mon.-Thurs., 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Office Email: [st.judeparishgobles@gmail.com](mailto:st.judeparishgobles@gmail.com)

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Safe Environment Coordinator:	Jennifer Rossell	(269) 744-2582
Choir Director:	Laura Woods	(269) 628-4886

WEEKLY MASS CALENDAR: **Confession:** *Thursday Mornings after Mass* **CELEBRANT:**

Sunday	Aug. 17, 2025	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Mass	Fr. Schmidt
Thursday	Aug. 21, 2025	9:00/10:30 a.m.	Adoration and Mass	Fr. Creagan
Sunday	Aug. 24, 2025	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Mass	Fr. Fr. Fabio
Thursday	Aug. 28, 2025	9:00/10:30 a.m.	Adoration and Mass	Fr. Creagan

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS:

Sunday	Aug. 17, 2025	The People of St. Jude Parish	By: Pro populo
Thursday	Aug. 21, 2025	Larry Bowman	By: Mr./Mrs. Jake VanDam
Sunday	Aug. 24, 2025	Victoria & Robert Schmidt	By: The Hanchak's
Thursday	Aug. 28, 2025	Jim & Marilyn Cusack	By: James/Deborah Cusack

---TODAY:

SUNDAY: 8-17-2025

NEXT SUNDAY: 8-24-2025

Reader	Jennifer Price	Reader	Ellen Brown
EO Ministers	D. Herschleb & K. Boyer	EO Mins	J. Price & D. Hanchak
Servers	Bella, Sadie, Alanah	Servers	Daisy, Noah, Lydia

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday	Aug 10, 2025	Target	\$ 1600	Offered	\$ 2,063.50	\$ 463.50
Year to Date		Target	\$ 11,100		\$ 11,029.00	\$ 71.00
Attendance		119	Year-To-Date Attendance			735

Let the Children Come to Me

In today's Gospel, Jesus admonishes his disciples for trying to drive away some children who want to see him. Then, Jesus lifts up the children as examples of who the kingdom of heaven is for: the vulnerable, the seemingly insignificant, and those who are inherently the least in society. He says, "Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them; for the Kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

Jesus' treatment of the children shows how God sees us when we seek to know Him and be in relationship with Him. God does not favor the rich and powerful, nor the smartest, strongest, or fastest. He opens his arms to all who seek Him, especially those most in need of him, as children are often most in need in society.

To be like children ourselves when calling upon the Lord, to encourage one another in approaching God, and to avoid being an obstacle to God for another – these are three exhortations we find in Christ's words today.

Regarding the first exhortation, to be like a child: **Only in our vulnerability—similar to the vulnerability of children—are we able to open our hearts to dependence on God.** If we have childlike hearts, He will be able to love us, lead us, and conform us to be more like Himself.

The second point is that we should encourage each other: **Once we experience the joy of a life lived in humble dependence on God, we are meant to share it with others**, to show them the blessings of trusting God and His promises.

The third point is just as important: We need to watch out that our actions and behaviors don't become obstacles for others discovering the beauty of God's kingdom.

We have been offered our inheritance and become co-heirs with Christ of the kingdom. **The kingdom of heaven belongs to us—just like these children—those who are eager, open, vulnerable, and willing to embrace the Lord.** His hands will be upon us, just as they were upon the children. Walking with Him and following Him, we will one day rest in the fullness of the kingdom that awaits us.



### FROM THE DRE

It's time to start thinking about CCD again.  
We are in need of another Catechist this year.  
If interested, please see Jennifer Price.

Registration will start at the beginning of September.  
We will have a catechist meeting on 9/14. Our first class will be 9/21.

**PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL:** Sonny Laughlin, Julie Haley, Joan Rumery, Margie Burris, Lillian B. Wheeler, Donna Murphy, Jack Secondi, Mary Heinz, Vicki Clark, and those on our prayer chain.

**THURSDAY MORNING MASS TIME WILL CHANGE TO 10:00 A.M. STARTING SEPTEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup>**  
**Adoration will continue to start at 9:00 a.m.**

**RAY BURZA FUNERAL INFORMATION** - Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Monday, August 18, 2025, at Saint Mary Catholic Church, 209 N. Brown Street, Paw Paw, with Rev. Fr. Robert F. Creagan officiating. Raymond and his wife Shirley will be laid to rest at Saint Mary Cemetery immediately following.

**A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE** – Today Jesus warns us his Word will create conflict between parents and children. In a permissive society which advocates individualism and consumerism, parents must continue to teach and live the gospel values of respect, service to others, forgiveness, generosity and compassion. A Christian family is a countercultural family.

**TEARDROP SERVICE** - On Wednesday, August 27th at 6:00 p.m., St. Augustine Cathedral, 542 W. Michigan Avenue, Kalamazoo, MI. Please use the Church entrance off of the parking lot. We all know people who were once Catholic but are no longer attending Church or say that they no longer believe in God – our own children, other relatives or friends. So, what would St. Monica do? She gives a beautiful example of praying for them just as she did for the conversion of her son, St. Augustine. Join us at St. Augustine on St. Monica's feast day for a time of prayer and adoration for those we know so their hearts may be opened to receive the Good News.

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.**  
**This meeting is open to any parishioner who wants to attend.**

**IF YOU ARE NEW TO THE PARISH, WELCOME!** – We love to see new faces! In order to get to know you better, please see Deacon Jim or stop by the office to fill out a registration form.

### SAINT JUDE PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR

**August 17: Mass at 9:30 a.m. Twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time**

**August 17: Saint Jude Family Funday at Revel & Roll from 12-3 pm.**

**August 20: Parish Council Meeting 6:00 p.m.**

**August 21: Adoration at 9 a.m. & Mass at 10 a.m. Memorial of Saint Pius X, Pope**

**August 24: Mass at 9:30 a.m. Twenty-first Sunday of Ordinary Time**

**August 28: Adoration at 9 a.m. & Communion Service at 10 a.m.**

**August 31: Mass at 9:30 a.m. Twenty-Second Sunday of Ordinary Time**

**September 4: Adoration at 9 a.m. & Communion Service at 10 a.m.**

**September 7: Mass at 9:30 a.m. Twenty-Third Sunday of Ordinary Time**

**September 14: Mass at 9:30 a.m. The Exaltation of the Holy Cross**

**September 14: Catechist meeting after Mass**

**September 21, 2025: Twenty-Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time**

**September 21, 2025: Blessing of the CCD Teachers, First Day of Class, Coffee & Donuts.**

### FROM THE DIOCESE

#### WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS OCTOBER 5, 2025

The Diocesan Celebration of Wedding Anniversaries will take place Sunday, October 5, 2025, honoring couples celebrating 25th, 40th and 50th. Mass will be celebrated at St. Augustine Cathedral at 2 p.m. with a reception following in the Fr. Crowley Center on the Cathedral grounds. Contact Socorro Truchan, [struchan@diokzoo.org](mailto:struchan@diokzoo.org) for more information and to register.

#### TRAUMA RECOVERY PROGRAM – NEW SESSION OPENS THIS FALL

When children are physically, emotionally, or sexually abused, or experience severe neglect, the injuries are profound. The effects often extend into their adult lives and affect their abilities to live effectively and experience contentment. They are apt to feel isolated in their pain, with no knowledge that their struggles are expectable because of their trauma histories.

The diocesan Trauma Recovery Program will begin this fall, open to any Catholic that is an adult survivor of childhood abuse or neglect. Participants meet for ten sessions in a small group (no more than ten participants), facilitated by licensed mental health professionals. If you are interested in participating in this program or have questions about the Trauma Recovery Program, please contact Fr. Ken Schmidt at 269.381.6290, ext. 9390.

**Bishop Lohse has committed to providing professional counseling or therapy to victims of clergy sex abuse in the Diocese. Victims can access 24-hour support through the crisis hotline established by Catholic Charities at 800-873-8336.**