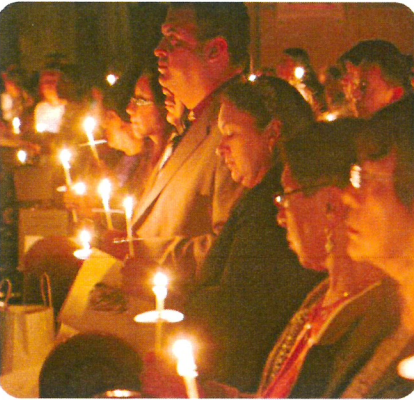


Dear Padre,

Why is RCIA now called OCIA? And why do people have to go through that process anyway? Can't they just talk to the priest if they want to be Catholic?

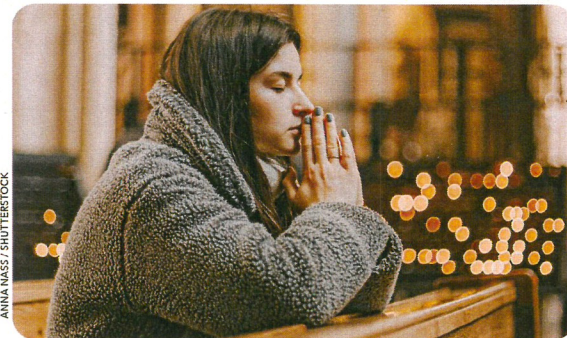
The reason why Christian Initiation for Adults is now identified as the "Order" rather than the "Rite" is that the US Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) changed the name in November 2021. The name change more accurately reflects the English translations of the Latin texts and emphasizes the ongoing development of participants in the faith. Within the Order are different rites, such as the Rite of Entrance to the Catechumenate, the Rite of Sending, the Rite of Election, the Scrutinies, and the Rites of Initiation.

Although it is still possible to become a baptized Catholic or a confirmed Catholic after a simple conversation with a priest or a catechist, the preferred way is the communal encounter. The Christian community plays an important role in calling us to faith, enabling our practice of the faith, and helping us persevere in our baptismal call to faith. We are not alone; we are part of the people of God. We are the community that is called into life by the Spirit of God and that is nourished by the Eucharist we share and the sacraments we celebrate. ●



NANCY WIEGHEC / ONG

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org



ANNA NASS / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

In Gaza...children, families, and elderly are reduced to starvation. In Myanmar, new hostilities have cut short innocent young lives. Finally, war-torn Ukraine awaits negotiations for a just and lasting peace.... We implore [Our Lady's] intercession for the gift of peace, for support and comfort for those who suffer.

REGINA CAELI, ROME, MAY 18, 2025

Monday

September 8
The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Mt 5:1-4a or
Rom 8:28-30
Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or
1:18-23

Tuesday

September 9
St. Peter Claver, Priest
Col 2:6-15
Lk 6:12-19

Wednesday

September 10
Weekday
Col 3:1-11
Lk 6:20-26

Thursday

September 11
Weekday
Col 3:12-17
Lk 6:27-38

Friday

September 12
Weekday
1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14
Lk 6:39-42

Saturday

September 13
St. John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
1 Tm 1:15-17
Lk 6:43-49

Sunday

September 14
The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Nm 21:4b-9
Phil 2:6-11
Jn 3:13-17

Our Parish COMMUNITY

September 7, 2025

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Wisdom 9:13-18b / Philemon 9-10, 12-17 / Luke 14:25-33



"In the same way, every one of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple."

LUKE 14:33

When Life Becomes Lose-Lose

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

There is so often a cost to being a follower of Jesus, to doing the right thing. During our country's Civil War, southern plantation owners came face to face with the gospel's imperative to accept slaves as human beings who have the right to be free, though that would then bring about the collapse of the cotton economy. For them, it was live the gospel or save the economy. Sometimes, the gospel seems to put us in a lose-lose situation.

President Lyndon B. Johnson was confronted by the Vietnam War. By continuing a war he knew was unwinnable, it would cost human lives. If he ended the war, he would be labeled as the president who lost a war. For him, it was lose-lose. Do the right thing or save face. A person may be confronted by a job that demands unjust and immoral decisions when

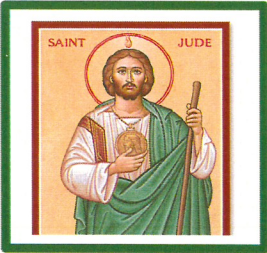
the refusal to make such decisions would cost that person the job necessary to support his or her family. A student may be faced with the prospect of either cheating or receiving a poor grade. Living the gospel is fraught with costs.

Today, our nation faces the difficulties of immigration. On the one hand, there is the gospel's command to love the poor and so to accept immigrants seeking to escape violence and terror and drought, conditions that make it impossible to live. On the other hand, there is the need for our nation to deal with uncontrolled migration. The question of "What would Jesus do?" is never without consequences. ●

Reflect

How does following Jesus cost me in my life?

September 7, 2025 – Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



ST. JUDE PARISH

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Office Phone (269) 628-2219
Webpage: www.st.judeparishgobles.com

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

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Mon.-Thurs., 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Office Email: st.judeparishgobles@gmail.com

Sacristan:	Tammy Bauer	(269) 655-6672
Administrative Asst.-Bookkeeper:	Lauren Gilbert	(269) 286-4898
Religious Ed Coordinator:	Jennifer Price	(269) 377-6734
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	Sep. 7, 2025	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Mass	Fr. Morris
Thursday	Sep.11, 2025	9:00/10:00 a.m.	Adoration and Mass	Fr. Pinto
Sunday	Sep. 14, 2025	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Mass	Fr. Fabio
Thursday	Sep. 18, 2025	9:00/10:00 a.m.	Adoration and Mass	Fr. Pinto

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS:

Sunday	Sep. 7, 2025	Andy Keller	By: Marie Keller
Thursday	Sep. 11, 2025	Edward & Eleanor Kazak	By: M/M John Kancauski
Sunday	Sep.14, 2025	Marcia House-Warrington	By: Margie & Ken Little
Thursday	Sep. 18, 2025	Joseph & Ann Lukas	By: Leonard Lukas

---TODAY: SUNDAY: 9-07-2025 NEXT SUNDAY: 9-14-2025

Reader	Jennifer Price	Reader	Rocky Karsen
EO Ministers	Ken & Margie Little	EO Mins	D. Hanchak & K. Boyer
Servers	Bella, Hayzl, Lydia	Servers	Daisy, Carlena, Sadie

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday	Aug 31, 2025	Target	\$ 1,300	Offered	\$ 2,036.00	\$ 736.00
Year to Date		Target	\$ 15,700		\$ 17,194.00	\$ 1,494.00
Attendance		151	Year-To-Date Attendance			1177

The Lord Calls Us To Abundant Discipleship.

Jesus offers a series of challenging statements in today’s Gospel. These are words which grab our attention and grate against our sensibilities. **First, Jesus asks us to hate our own families. Then He asks us to hate our own lives.** Finally, He asks us to renounce all our possessions. These, He explains, are the conditions of discipleship. **These are the costs we must consider as we prepare to follow him.**

These things Jesus asks us to renounce are good, so we should not interpret his admonitions in today’s Gospel as harsh demands to reject loved ones or to condemn private property. Family is meant to be a school of holiness, a place where we can practice Christ-like love. Indeed, our lives are good too – God himself created them in his own image! **Finally, our possessions are essential; they allow us to live, contribute to society, serve others, and worship God.**

It is possible, however, to become so consumed by any of these things that we stop focusing on Jesus and directing our lives toward him. A life of discipleship should be focused on God and on striving to remain faithful to him. The key, therefore, is not that we are literally asked to give up our family or possessions, but that we are willing to do so out of love for God. It is our willingness that makes all the difference.

Ultimately, what Jesus is emphasizing is what it means to be a disciple. Discipleship requires sacrifice, Jesus explains. It requires the willingness to give up everything for love of God. Although we are not all asked to surrender our possessions or families, we are all called to make smaller sacrifices each day in order to train ourselves to say “yes” to God. **Whether it’s waking up a little earlier to pray or practicing patience with our children, we learn, through these small sacrifices, what Jesus means when He asks us to hate even our own lives to love Him.**

At this liturgy and every liturgy we attend, we become present to Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross. He offers himself to his Father in an act of love that costs **him everything.** May Jesus grant us a share in his generosity and courage so we might be willing to do whatever it takes to orient our lives to him.

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, Donna Murphy, Jack Secondi, Mary Heinz, Vicki Clark, and those on our prayer chain.

ST. MARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL IN PAW PAW HAS THEIR ANNUAL MUM SALE COMING UP! The dates: Friday, September 12, from Noon to 5 p.m. and Saturday, September 13, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Other fall flowers will also be available. All plants are grown locally. Please support the school and get your beautiful autumn flowers!

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE – Today's gospel is clear: commitment to another involves sacrifice. Before we accept a commitment such as marriage or parenting, we must plan carefully like the king in today's gospel. These are serious commitments which demand complete self-giving and are not for the faint-hearted or selfish.

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

Sun., Sept. 7: Mass at 9:30 a.m. Twenty-Third Sunday of Ordinary Time

Thurs., Sept. 11: Adoration at 9 a.m. & Mass 10 a.m.

Sun., Sept. 14: Mass at 9:30 a.m. The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Sun., Sept. 14: Catechist meeting after Mass

Sun., Sept. 21, 2025: Twenty-Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time

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

Thurs., Sept. 24: Adoration at 9 a.m. & Mass 10 a.m.

Sun., Sept. 28, 2025: Twenty-Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time

FROM THE DIOCESE

UPCOMING EVENTS FROM THE OFFICE OF VOCATIONS

ST. ANDREW DINNER - We invite you to join us for dinner, prayer, and an opportunity to learn more about the Vocation of Priesthood on Monday, Sept. 8, 2025, from 6-8pm at St. Augustine Cathedral.

A St. Andrew Dinner is an opportunity for young men in our Diocese to share a meal and learn more about the Vocation of the Priesthood. We will have a short talk followed by time for any questions you may have regarding this topic. Attending a St. Andrew Dinner does not mean you are going to enter seminary, but rather, that you are interested in learning more and talking to other young men with similar interests in the Diocese. Please contact Brielle Trembl with questions and/or to RSVP at btrembl@nd.edu

MIRIAM BRUNCH - Please join us and a group of Religious Sisters for brunch, fellowship, prayer, and an opportunity to learn more about Religious Life on Saturday, September 13, 2025, from 11am-1pm at St. Augustine Cathedral.

Miriam Brunches are an opportunity for young women in the Diocese to gather together and learn more about the Vocation of Religious Life. A group of Religious Sisters will join the brunch to share their Vocation Stories, what "A Day in the Life" of a Religious Sister looks like for them, and to answer any questions you may have. If interested, please contact Brielle Trembl at btrembl@nd.edu for additional information and/or to RSVP.

HELP SAVE LIVES IN KALAMAZOO – 40 Days for Life Campaign runs from September 24th through November 2nd, 2025. Here's how to take part:

Vigil Location: on the sidewalk in front of Planned Parenthood, 4201 W. Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo, MI

Vigil Hours: 8 a.m. – 8 p.m., Monday-Saturday.

Local Contact: Joe Magalski 989-992-6085 or 40dayskalamazoo@gmail.com

Prayer Vigils at Planned Parenthood: Candlelight Vigil Sunday, Sep. 21, at 6:00.

Midpoint Rally, Wednesday, Oct. 22, at 1 p.m. with Dr. Haywood Robinson, 40 Days for Life Director of Medical Affairs & Education.

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.