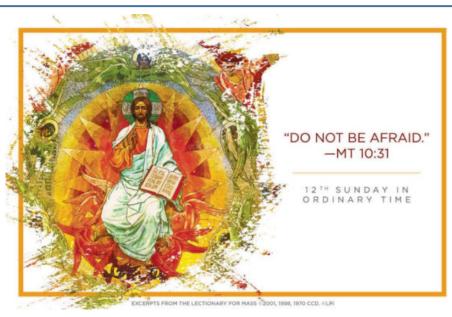
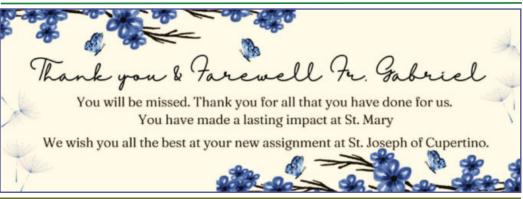
June 25, 2023

12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME





THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED

Monday & Tuesday, July 3^{rd} & 4^{th} in observance of INDEPENDENCE DAY. We will return on Wednesday, July 5^{th} .



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Sunday 9:00am and Daily Masses are Live Streamed on our website

stmaryslg.org/live-stream-mass

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil Mass

5:00 pm - In Person **Sunday Masses:**

9:00am

Live-Stream & In Person 11:00am & 5:00pm - In Person

> Mon - Sat: 8:30 am Live-Stream & In Person

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3:30pm - 4:30pm (Office Conference Room)

SUNDAY DONATIONS

are best made online stmaryslg.org/donate

Envelopes can be mailed in or dropped in the mail slot at the rectory

ADORATION LIVE STREAMED

Thursdays at 7 pm stmaryslg .org/live- stream-mass

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

First Reading:

We hear how the prophet Jeremiah turned to God when he felt alone and attacked. What do you need to pray to God for this week?

Second Reading:

Paul taught that through the grace of God, Christ reversed the sin of Adam, which brought death to all. When have you felt God's grace in your life?

Gospel:

Jesus encourages his disciples not to be afraid. What are some fears you have that you could turn over to God?

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TODAY'S READINGS

Jeremiah 20:10-13;

Psalm 69;

Romans 5:12-15;

Matthew 10:26-33

REFLECT & RESPOND TO SCRIPTURE

Today's readings call us to tackle the challenging issues of fear and trust — two concepts on opposite sides of the same coin. They must be confronted and dealt with by all of us who wish to live the stewardship way of life.

In our first reading, from Jeremiah, the prophet expresses sentiments we have all felt at some point in our lives, when he says, "I hear the whispering of many: 'Terror on every side!'" Perhaps this "whispering" comes from the culture that insists we must think of ourselves, our own interests, our financial comfort first—only when we are certain that our own needs are met can we think of serving God and sharing with others.

Perhaps when we consider stepping out of our comfort zones, the fear-inducing whispers come from within us — "you're too weak, too selfish, too broken to really live as Christ's disciple."

Yet, just when Jeremiah is nearly overcome with fear, he remembers the truth, and it is just as true for us today. "The Lord is with me, like a mighty champion." Of course!

St. Paul reminds us in our second reading, from the letter to the Romans, just how amazing this Mighty Champion is. "For if by the transgression of the one the many died, how much more did the grace of God and the gracious gift of the one man Jesus Christ overflow for the many." In other words, the safest and sanest move we can make is to put all our trust in the Lord who is so good to us, this God who cannot be outdone in generosity.

Even so, the Lord knows that facing down our fears and choosing to trust Him with all areas of our lives is an ongoing challenge for us. He is generous with reassurances to us throughout the Scriptures. Today's Gospel passage from Matthew is a case in point. In the span of eight verses, Jesus addresses the topic of fear four times.

- -"Fear no one."
- "Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul."
- "Rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy both soul and body."
- "So do not be afraid."

And the reassurance continues. "Are not two sparrows sold for a small coin? Yet not one of them falls to the ground without your Father's knowledge. Even all the hairs of your head are counted." Notice that Jesus says, "your Father" in describing God's intimate knowledge and tender care for each one of us. He is truly "Abba," our Dad, Who knows us inside and out. In fact, this intimate knowledge and tender care are precisely why He reassures us over and over again not to fear, but to trust in Him.

With that, let us all breathe a huge sigh of relief. All is well. Our Father knows us through and through, sent His Son to save us, and will always take care of us.

Let's stop wasting any more time with fear. Instead, let's put all our energy, all our time, our talents and our treasure into trusting this great God, and using all that we are and all that He has given us to bring Him glory.

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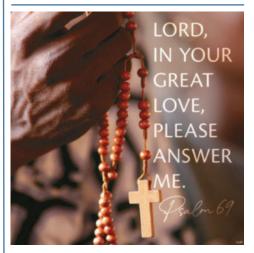
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Monica Hernandez, *Principal* mhernandez@stmaryslg.org
Ceci Salgado, *Office Manager*

csalgado@stmaryslg.org x118





READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sun	6/25	12 TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Jer 20:10-13; Ps 69:8-10, 14, 17, 33-35; Rom 5:12-15; Mt 10:26-33	
Mon	6/26	Gn 12:1-9; Ps 33:12-13, 18-20, 22; Mt 7:1-5	
Tue	6/27	St. Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop and Doctor of the Church Gn 13:2, 5-18; Ps 15:2-4b, 5; Mt 7:6, 12-14	
Wed	6/28	Saint Irenaeus, Bishop and Martyr Gn 15:1-12, 17-18/105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 7:15-20	
Thu	6/29	SAINTS PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES Acts 12:1-11; Ps 34:2-9; 2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18; Mt 16:13-19	
Fri	6/30	The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church Gn 17:1, 9-10, 15-22; Ps 128:1-5; Mt 8:1-4	
Sat	7/1	St. Junipero Serra, Priest Gn 18:1-15; (Ps) Lk 1:46-50, 53-55; Mt 8:5-17	
Sun	7/2	13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a; Ps 89:2-3, 16-19; Rom 6:3-4, 8-11; Mt 10:37-42	

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon	6/26	8:30 am	Karen Medina †
Tue	6/27	8:30 am	Gabriel Cuccias (birthday)
Wed	6/28	8:30 am	Danny Ross Kitchen †
Thu	6/29	8:30 am	Lauren Destafney †
Fri	6/30	8:30 am	Claudia DaSilva (special intention)
Sat	7/1	8:30 am	Josephine Brown †
Sat	//1	5:00 pm	
		9:00 am	Robert Hapgood Cowden †
Sun	7/2	11:00 am	Corey Roediger †
		5:00 pm	

OUR FASCINATING FAITH: SAINTS PETER AND PAUL

The Church places before us saints of all types: apostles and prophets, rich and poor, women and men, married and unmarried. On Thursday of this week we celebrate Saints Peter and Paul. In a way, they each had personality traits with which we can identify.

They were both impetuous, sometimes acting or speaking thoughtlessly, contradicting the spiritual gifts given to them by God. Remember that Paul began his career persecuting Christians and Peter denied three times that he even knew the Lord Jesus!

On the positive side, these men were deeply rooted in their faith in Christ, tireless and fearless in living out their call to spread the Good News of his life, death, and resurrection. They are real pillars upon which the Church is built. Just as they were called to holiness of life in spite of their failings, so, too, are we called to that same holiness.

Perhaps we might identify more with one or the other, but the essential truth we celebrate today is this: Through the Spirit, Christ built and continues to build the Church and make the kingdom known through fragile, remarkable human beings, each graced in a particular way for the work of the reign of God. Let us open our hearts to listen to God's voice, even in the midst of our own struggles and failings.

Friar Gilberto Cavazos-González, OFM, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc



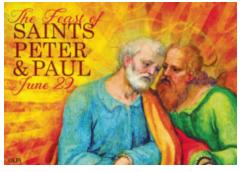
ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe you
are really here in
the Blessed Sacrament.
I love you more than anything
in the world, and I hunger
to receive you.
But since I cannot receive
Communion at this time,
Feed my soul spiritually.
I unite myself to you now,
as I do when I actually receive
You in Holy Communion. Amen.

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Christ promises to acknowledge us before his Father if we will acknowledge him. In what ways are we called to acknowledge Christ today? In what ways are we tempted to deny him, to distance ourselves from him?

POPE FRANCIS' UNIVERSAL PRAYER INTENTION: JUNE FOR THE ABOLITION OF TORTURE





FAITH IN ACTION

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

Living Stewardship

"Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father." Matthew 10:32

Would others know that you are a Catholic Steward by the way you act and speak? Do you share your Catholic faith with others? Do you defend your Catholic faith when the situation arises or do you remain silent? Do you pray in public before meals? Pray for the strength and courage to be a joyful witness of our Catholic faith when the opportunity presents itself. Let us become the radiant light and bold witness that we are called to be!



Please pray with us for our parishioners, family and friends.

For those who are sick and who have asked for our prayers: Vic LoBue, Jr.; Walter Singer; Chuck Blalock; Valerie Bruno; Julio Emberto; Carol Rakich; Frances Corpuz; Sharon Lyndon; Ederlina Nacion

For those who have recently died:

Charles Boesenberg; Joseph Perrone; Ed Kelly; Anna Miceli; Delores Simone; Lorreene Giansiracusa; Terry Harper; Bishop PJ McGrath; Elizabeth "Betsy" Doyle; Donald McNeil; Sara Babarczy; Robert Hapgood Cowden

Members of our parish family who are in the military,

Seasons of Hope Discussion Group Returns on July 11

The Seasons of Hope Grief Discussion Group returns for six consecutive Tuesdays, starting July 11. Our confirmed dates are July 11, 18, 25 and August 1, 8, 15. Meetings begin at 1:00pm and end at 2:30pm.

These will be in-person gatherings taking place inside the Sacred Heart Parish Center, 13716 Saratoga Avenue, Saratoga 95070.

If you are grieving for a loved one and wish to talk to others on the same journey, the Seasons of Hope group provides a faith-based, confidential place to meet and share your experiences. Our agenda includes prayer, Scripture readings, reflection, and conversation.

Reading materials and a journal are provided. There is no fee to participate. Come alone or bring a friend. This group is open to all.

To join, call or email Carolyn Orasin at 408-867-3634, c.orasin@sacredheartsaratoga.org. or Nancy Crowley at 408-209-6118. Please include your name, phone number, and email address so we can follow up with you.

Stewardship of TREASURE

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIFT OF TREASURE! Our Goal for June is \$70,000.00

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Please consider setting up a recurring or one-time gift Online. Instructions can be found at stmaryslg.org/getting-started-with-online-giving

2ND OFFERING - JUNE 24 & 25 PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION

Next week we will take up the Peter's Pence Collection to support the Universal Church and the work of the Holy See, including helping Pope Francis to carry out his charitable works. This collection also funds a number of solidarity projects that aid our brothers and sisters on the margins of society, including victims of war, oppression, and disasters. Please be generous. To learn more about the ways this collection supports the Holy Father's ministry of mercy, visit www.obolodisanpietro.va/en.html.

2ND OFFERING - JULY 1 & 2 SCHOOL SUPPORT

Thank you for remembering St. Mary School for the monthly Sunday Second Collection. These funds have a direct impact on our school's operating budget and helps support students and families in need of financial assistance.

To make your Gift Online, please visit: giving.parishsoft.com/App/Giving/stmaryslg

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stmaryscountryfair.org or contact fair.chairs@stmaryslg.org

OUR CATHOLIC FAITH

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

THE NECKLACE By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

I have a necklace that originally belonged to my great-grandmother. I don't really know much about the man who gave it to her, most of those details have been lost to time. But I know that he wanted to marry her, and that she refused, and it had something to do with religion - ultimately, he did not share her faith. And while I've certainly seen many interfaith couples have loving and successful marriages, in this particular case, my great-grandmother discerned that this would not be one of those marriages.

Like I said, I don't have many details about this man, but I know that she felt she couldn't marry him because it might jeopardize the souls of her children, and therefore the souls of their children, and their children after them - me. She turned him down because of me.

My great-grandmother never sold that necklace, not even when the Great Depression further reduced her financial circumstances. She kept it, and she gave it to her daughter, who gave it to her daughter, who gave it to me. The necklace is always given with a warning: there is something worse than being poor, worse than being scared, worse even than being desperate. Worse than all of these things is separation from God.

When I wear this necklace, I think about my grandmother and this man she possibly loved a hundred years ago. I think of the many decisions we make every day - large and small, good and bad — that reverberate down through the generations in ways we cannot, at the time, imagine. I think of the God who knows every hair on my head.

"And do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy both soul and body in Gehenna." — Matthew 10:28

WHY DO WE DO THAT? - CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

LECTIO DIVINA

What is Lectio Divina, and how is it associated with the Benedictine Monastic tradition, whose founder, St. Benedict, we honor on July 11?

Benedict desired his monks to live in community, praying the Liturgy of the Hours together, contemplating sacred texts, and doing manual labor. The monks developed a technique to facilitate a spiritual and devotional reading of the Bible known as Lectio Divina, the holy reading of a text. This method encourages the reader to hear the biblical text with an open heart and focus on whatever God wants to highlight and then apply it to daily life.

There are variations on Lectio Divina, but essentially, the technique consists of a three-step process of reflection. When the reflection is done with a group, the responses are shared by all the participants. Once the text is selected, it is read meditatively, and the following are then explored: a word or phrase that attracts you; how and where the content of this reading touches your life today; what you believe that God wants you to do during this coming week (month, year, lifetime).

Thanks to Benedict, the Christian community has been gifted with this special way of entering into the biblical text. This week, use the Lectio Divina process on one of the readings for the coming Sunday and make a note of the life connections you are making. How is this reflection on the biblical text drawing you closer to God and others?

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In 2023, we will continue to highlight holy men and women from the Americas who are canonized or in the process of canonization. We hope their stories inspire your faith!

SAINT OF THE WEEK: VEN. PIERRE TOUSSAINT



Venerable Pierre Toussaint was born into slavery in 1766 in what is now Haiti and raised as a Catholic. He and his sister, Rosalie, were brought to New York City by their enslavers, the Bérard family, originally of French descent, in 1787 as they fled unrest in Haiti.

Upon gaining his freedom, Pierre took on the surname of Toussaint, in honor of Toussaint Louverture, a Haitian revolutionary leader who helped transform the fledgling slave rebellion in Haiti into a successful revolutionary movement. Pierre Toussaint continued to work among the elite in New York as a hairdresser and, as his success grew, he began to use his wealth for several philanthropic causes.

During all of his philanthropic work, Pierre continued to work as a hairdresser and support his family. He died two years after his wife Juliette's passing in 1853, at the age of 87 and was buried

alongside her and Euphemia in the cemetery of St. Patrick's Old Cathedral in New York. When the investigation into his life for the cause of sainthood started, Pierre was exhumed and reinterred in the main cathedral. He was the very first layman to be honored by burial in the crypt below the main altar of St. Patrick's, an honor usually reserved for bishops of the Archdiocese of New York. He was declared Venerable by Pope John Paul II in 1996.

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