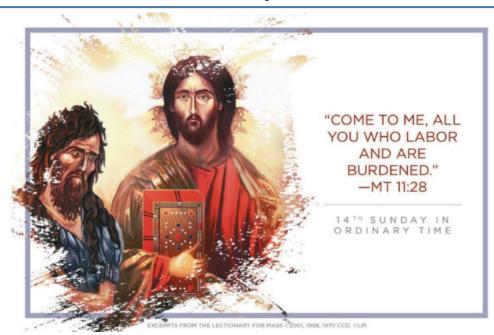


All are St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception elcome

July 9, 2023 Early Publication

14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

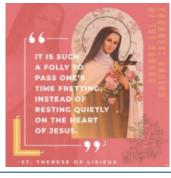




St. Kateri Tekakwitha Friday, July 14



St. Therese of Lisieux -Youngest Doctor of the Church





Keep Up-To-Date

with St. Mary and our community through our eNewsletter. Sign-up or view recent eNewsletters on our website at:

stmaryslg.org/enewsletter



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:

The prophet Zechariah saw the future king of Israel restoring both the land and the people, bringing peace and justice to all the nations. *How might you help build toward this promised future?*

Second Reading:

Paul speaks of the power of the Spirit living in those who believe in Jesus. When have you felt or experienced the presence of the Holy Spirit in your life?

Gospel:

Jesus invites all who are burdened and laboring to find "rest" in him. What burdens do you or your family need lifted from your life?

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TODAY'S READINGS

Zechariah 9:9-10;

Psalm 145;

Romans 8:9,11-13;

Matthew 11:25-30

REFLECT & RESPOND TO SCRIPTURE

The theme of humility is central to our readings today. God Himself is a humble God, so if we wish to follow Him as Christian stewards, we too, must be humble. In fact, humility is key to the stewardship way of life, and to a peaceful and fulfilling life.

Our first reading from Zechariah foretells the unexpected way in which the Lord, the Savior of the world, will arrive. "See, your king shall come to you; a just savior is he, meek and riding on an ass... and he shall proclaim peace to the nations." It is almost unfathomable that our almighty, all-powerful God would humble Himself to live among us as one of our own, let alone to contemplate the unassuming way in which He arrived — born as a helpless baby, growing up under the care of human parents and finally making his entrance as savior on a lowly colt. Christ has given us a clear and compelling model of humility. We dare not pursue any other path for ourselves if we wish to follow Him.

But this kind of humility goes against our natural, worldly bent which says we must insist on having our own way, assert our rights at all costs, and put ourselves first so as to get ahead. How can we live the radical way Christ is calling us to live?

As St. Paul tells us in the letter to the Romans, our second reading today, "Brothers and sisters: You are not in the flesh; on the contrary, you are in the spirit." Because of the gifts of our Baptism and Confirmation, we have a "superpower" right within us — the Holy Spirit — Who gives us every spiritual gift and all the strength we need to follow Christ. We must awaken to the power of the Holy Spirit in our lives, leaning into Him to increase virtue in us, especially this key virtue of humility. Paul reminds us that this is for our own good after all — "For if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live."

In our Gospel passage from Matthew, Jesus Himself speaks to the Father of the privileged role that humble souls play in God's plan of salvation. "I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to little ones."

What does it mean to be a "little one"? It means that we acknowledge we don't have it all figured out, but that we are very much in need of a savior. It means we recognize that all we are and all we have been given is a gift from God. It means we embrace the stewardship way of life.

It is not easy, but deep peace and consolation come with this way of life. Jesus offers these warm and encouraging words to entice us to embrace it. "Come to me all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light."

Let us resolve to follow in the footsteps of our Savior, embracing the humble path of stewardship. It is the path that leads to peace here and now, and ultimately leads us to heaven.



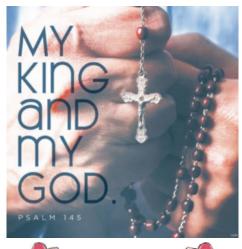
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Ceci Salgado, Office Manacsalgado@stmaryslg.org	ager x118	





READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sun	7/9	14 TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Zec 9:9-10; Ps 145:1-2, 8-11, 13-14; Rom 8:9, 11-13; Mt 11:25-30
Mon	7/10	Gn 28:10-22a; Ps 91:1-4, 14-15; Mt 9:18-26
Tue	7/11	St. Benedict, Abbot Gn 32:23-33; Ps 17:1-3, 6-8, 15; Mt 9:32-38
Wed	7/12	Gn 41:55-57; 42:5-7a, 17-24a; Ps 33:2-3, 10-11, 18-19; Mt 10:1-7
Thu	7/13	St. Henry Gn 44:18-21, 23b-29; 45:1-5; Ps 105:16-21; Mt 10:7-15
Fri	7/14	St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin Gn 46:1-7, 28-30; Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40; Mt 10:16-23
Sat	7/15	St. Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor of the Church Gn 49:29-32; 50:15-26a; Ps 105:1-4, 6-7; Mt 10:24-33

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon	7/10	8:30 am	Peterson & Kelsey Conway (special intention)
Tue	7/11	8:30 am	Mr. & Mrs. Richard Tam (wedding anniversary)
Wed	7/12	8:30 am	Monica and Robert Kirschmann (wedding anniversary)
Thu	7/13	8:30 am	John Thompson † and Mark Del Bene †
Fri	7/14	8:30 am	Kelly and Michael Coffey (special intention)
Sat	7/15	8:30 am	
Sai		5:00 pm	Fr. Mark Catalana †
	7/16	9:00 am	Miller Family & Stuglik Family (special intention)
Sun		11:00 am	Anna Miceli †
		5:00 pm	

OUR FACINATING FAITH: FAITH DOESN'T GIVE TIME OUTS

Faith doesn't give time outs Jesus calls us to follow him. He doesn't call us to join him at the rest stop or arrive well rested to his backyard BBQ. His invitation is for us to walk the highways, alone and often burdened, not dawdling at tourists attractions.

We are called to movement, to constant travel with plenty of weary, bone crunching tiresome trudging along the way. And Jesus is a demanding leader. He says that those who make a start, and then look back, aren't fit for the kingdom at the end of the road. That's a tough call!

It's uncomfortable because this walk of faith is relentless, requiring us to keep going through gritted teeth, always looking forward, not back. It's a call which requires 100% commitment, sacrifice, self denial, discipline. And the saddest part is, we fail so often not because we lose faith, but because we take too many time outs on the way. We want our rest now, instead of in His kingdom.

The next time you find yourself dreaming of spiritual "couch potato-ness" ask Jesus not for understanding or compassion, but for new energy and commitment. You'll find your time well spent instead of merely time out.

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

The Christian life does not require wisdom, charisma, or strength — no, quite the opposite. To be Christian, we must embrace our faults, our littleness, our shortcomings — gather them up, and lay them all at the feet of Jesus. There, they will be transformed.

 $\mathbb{C}LPi$

Pope Francis' Universal Prayer Intention: July

FOR A EUCHARISTIC LIFE

We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters.

A PRAYER FOR REST

Dear Lord,
Please carry the concerns we hold with us today.
Help us to rest in your assurance that you will good things for your children. Amen.

FAITH IN ACTION

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

Grateful Stewardship

"For my yoke is easy, and my burden light."

Matthew 11:30

When we think of being good Stewards, we may think that God is asking too much of us when He calls us to generously share our time, talent and treasure. However, we must remember that we are not "owners" of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts God have given us. All He is asking is that we give back a small portion, in gratitude, of what He has already given to us.



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.; Chuck Blalock; Valerie Bruno; Julio Emberto; Carol Rakich; Frances Corpuz; Sharon Lyndon For those who have recently died:

Charles Boesenberg; Joseph Perrone; Ed Kelly; Anna Miceli; Delores Simone; Lorreene Giansiracusa; Terry Harper; Robert Hapgood Cowden

Members of our parish family who are in the military, hospitals, nursing homes, shut-ins and all who have no one to pray for them.

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 July is \$70,000.00

Your weekly offerings enable us to meet our monthly obligations and continue to support the many parish programs at St. Mary. Thank you for your faithful support.

To make an online gift: stmaryslg.org/online-giving

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

SAVE THE DATE!

ST MARY'S COUNTRY FAIR RETURNS OCTOBER 6-8, 2023

Celebrating its 55th year, the fair is a beloved community event driven by generous sponsors, volunteers and attendees that make it all happen.



SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

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

† St.Vincent de Paul

Neighbors helping neighbors

St. Vincent de Paul has a very active conference at St Mary's! We meet every 2nd Sunday of the month after the 9am Mass in the Parish Office Conference Room. Please see us on the parish website under at

stmaryslg.org/st-vincent-de-paul

Anyone interested in our work helping the unhoused and working poor in our community please contact conference president Sue Ahmadian at sue.ahmadian@gmail.com



July 30 @ 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm: Afternoon of Reflection & Mass

Special Event for grieving mothers and grandmothers. Sunday, July 30, 2023, 1:30-4:30 pm. The Chapel Building at Queen of Heaven Cemetery in Lafayette. Join us for this comforting program of peace – no matter how long it's been since your loss. Reservations Required. Visit **sacredsorrows.org** to register or for more information.

OUR CATHOLIC FAITH

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

A BALLAD OF FLESH AND SPIRIT

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

"My yoke is easy and my burden is light," says the man hanging from a cross. And if we only went on what we see with our eyes — flesh driven through by nails and sword, swollen from beating and inches from expiration — it would seem like a joke.

I'll tell you something we all know: this life on earth is hard. It's either too long or it's too short. It's frequently painful. It's riddled with problems that seem to make no sense. It is, as Dickens wrote, "made of ever so many partings welded together."

But it's also shockingly, senselessly beautiful. It is full of physical experiences of love, joy, and peace that are so powerful they leave you breathless.

It is both these things — good and bad, hard and wonderful, just as we are both body and soul, spirit and flesh.

No one knows the Father except the Son, who entered into our bodily existence to free us from enslavement to it. No one knows the Son except the Father, and the means by which they know one another — the love passing between them, the Third Person himself — has been shared with us, has made its dwelling within us through baptism.

"Brothers and sisters, we are not debtors to the flesh, to live according to the flesh." — Romans 8:12 ©LP

WHY DO WE DO THAT? - CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

COMING BACK TO CHURCH

I have been away from the Church for a few years and really want to get active again, not so much for me, but for my children. Is this a bad reason to come back to Church?

If you are on your way to the supermarket, and you are forced to detour from your usual route because of road work, does the food you buy taste different? Is the meal less filling? Are the vegetables less tasty? Of course not. In our faith journey, there are many detours called sin. Some are greater than others, some are even a bit longer. But God's grace comes to us in ways we understand and recognize and need. Your children leading you back to the Church is not as important as the fact that you are back. This is an opportunity for you to renew, strengthen, and deepen your faith. Regardless of how we get to Church, or what draws us closer to God, the fact is we are there. Do what you need to do to get right with God and the Church. Go to confession, begin good family religious practices, and be involved in the ministries your parish offers. Be more than a lukewarm parishioner. Be the kind of Catholic you want your children

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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: VENERABLE JOHN AUGUSTUS (GUS) TOLTON

John Augustus (Gus) Tolton was born on April 1, 1854, to parents who were enslaved by a white Catholic family in Missouri. Early in his childhood, the Civil War broke out and his father, Peter Paul Tolton, escaped slavery to join the Union Army. John and his mother remained enslaved until 1862 when they escaped by crossing the Mississippi River into Illinois.

Tolton and his family were introduced to Catholicism by their enslavers, and, despite the awful circumstances that they were subjected to, John developed a deep personal relationship with Jesus. It's said that, after escaping into Illinois, his mother told him, "John, boy, you're free. Never forget the goodness of the Lord."

Tolton attended an all-white school in Illinois, St. Peter's Catholic School, where he was noticed and mentored by the school's pastor, Fr. Peter McGirr. As he matured, he intended to go to seminary, but no American seminary would accept him due to the color of his skin. With Fr. McGirr's support, Tolton attended seminary in Rome, instead, and began his formation for the priesthood. While there, he learned many languages and studied music! He was ordained a priest at the age of 31.

In Chicago, Tolton led the development of St. Monica's Catholic Church in Chicago's South Side. After four years of hard work, the Chicago Tribune covered the church's dedication, printing on January 15, 1884, that, "St. Monica's Church was dedicated yesterday with impressive services. It is the first Catholic church in this city to be built by colored people. More than this, it is the first church of the kind constructed in this State and probably the only Catholic church in the West that has been built by colored members of that faith for their own use. The pastor of St. Monica's is the Rev.



Father Augustus Tolton and the handsome edifice at the corner of Thirty-sixth and Dearborn streets will stand as a monument to his untiring labor on behalf of the Church of his adoption."

As pastor of St. Monica, Tolton served the poor, fed the hungry, ministered to formally enslaved families, shared his beautiful singing voice and talent for playing the accordion, and led many to the faith. Locally he was known as Father Gus and his congregation grew rapidly, frequently being recognized in the newspapers and other greater Chicago publications.

In 1897, at age 43, Fr. Augustus Tolton died of heat stroke. The sudden tragedy left his whole community shocked and saddened. His legacy, however, lives on and he was declared Venerable by Pope Francis in June of 2019.

ST. MARY SCHOOL



OFFICE HOURS FOR THE SUMMER Monday - Friday 9:00am - 2:00pm

Now Enrolling New Students 2023 - 2024 School Admission TK - 8th Grade

Email: admissions@stmaryslg.org or call 408-354-3944 Website: smslq.org

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SEPT. 10-21, HOLY LAND - 11 DAY PILGRIMAGE Organized by St. Christopher Parish. saintchris.com/ pilgrimage-to-the-holy-land-2023

SEPT. 20 - OCT. 3, FOOTSTEPS OF ST. PAUL - 13 **DAY PILGRIMAGE**. Organized by Saint Anthony Parish. churchstanthony.com/

OCT. 2-17, HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE - 11-DAY PILGRIMAGE Organized by Saint Mary's Parish - Gilroy. dsj.org/event/holy-land-pilgrimage-2/



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Register at www.org/apply or for more information call Ken & Claranne at 408-782-1413.

DOCENT TRAINING AT CATHEDRAL BASILICA OF ST. JOSEPH

New volunteers are needed for the Docent Society. If you are interested in this historical diocese and its rich history, become a member of the Docent Society. Training will be held at the Basilica starting July 17. This training will be weekly for two months. Call 408-283-8100.



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