



SANTA MARIA *del* MAR

CATHOLIC CHURCH

—SURSUM CORDA—

CATHOLIC PARISH *by the sea*

**WELCOME TO SANTA
MARIA DEL MAR
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

FR. MANNY B. LOPEZ

Pastor

JOHN CARNEY

Special Advisor

NICHOLAS CARRUBE

Parish Administrator

nick@smdmcc.org

KYLE DEPALMA

Assistant Administrator

kyle@smdmcc.org

DENISE COLLINS

Director of Religious Education

denise@smdmcc.org

MARIA FLAKE

New Members/Hospitality

maria@smdmcc.org

KIM CAZZANIGA

Music Director/Youth Ministry

kim@smdmcc.org

JEANNIE JOHNSON

Parish Secretary

jean@smdmcc.org

CHRISTINE SUDANO

Administrative Assistant

christine@smdmcc.org

NILTON BOTELHO

Maintenance Supervisor

nilton@smdmcc.org

J U L Y 1 9 , 2 0 2 0



16th Sunday
IN ORDINARY TIME

“Let them grow together until harvest; then at harvest time I will say to the harvesters, ‘First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for burning; but gather the wheat into my barn.’” - Mt 13:30

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

WWW.SMDMCC.ORG

915 NORTH CENTRAL AVENUE | FLAGLER BEACH, FL 32136 | PHONE: 386-439-2791 | FAX: 386-439-1362



Parish Resources During the COVID-19 Crisis

Santa Maria del Mar Catholic Church
915 North Central Avenue
Flagler Beach, FL 32136
386-439-2791

www.smdmcc.org • [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/smdmcc/) (www.facebook.com/smdmcc/)

Parish Office: The parish office, church, and all other buildings are closed until further notice, but the office phone is being answered remotely (see number above) during usual business hours (Tuesday-Friday, 9am-4pm with a break for lunch).

Parish Masses: Bishop Estévez has dispensed the faithful from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass until further notice.

Masks and social distancing are mandatory.

- **Sunday Mass** will be celebrated at 9am in the church. Masks are required.
- **Saturday Vigil Mass** will resume at 4pm. Masks are required.
- **Sunday 11am Mass** will continue to be **streamed** on Facebook (www.facebook.com/smdmcc/) and YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/user/SMDMCC>).
- **Weekday Masses** will be celebrated on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 9am in the church. Masks are required.
- **High-Risk Individuals**—Drive-up communion on Wednesdays from 10-11am.
- Adoration—Wednesday and Friday, 9:30am-2pm.

Visit the parish website for additional information.

Appointments with Fr. Manny: Fr. Manny is available by phone Wednesday, 9:30am-12:30 pm, and Thursday and Friday 9am-Noon. Call the parish office, 386-439-2791, to schedule an appointment.

Daily Readings: Daily Mass readings (<http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings>) and brief video reflections (<http://www.usccb.org/bible/reflections>) are available from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Spiritual Communion: The Church encourages us to make an act of 'spiritual communion' when we are prevented from receiving the Eucharist at Mass: "My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen." (St. Alphonsus Liguori)

Click on any link (blue highlight) to take you directly to the referenced website. Last updated June 25, 2020.

Rosary by Phone: Join the Legion of Mary daily at 4:20pm via conference call: 862-799-9790. For more information, Contact Steven at jsnandmjn@outlook.com or at 215-527-7411.

Diocesan Resources: The [Diocese of St. Augustine](https://www.dosafl.com/) (<https://www.dosafl.com/>) has a special [Coronavirus resource page](https://www.dosafl.com/coronavirus) (<https://www.dosafl.com/coronavirus>), including links to televised, online, and radio Masses in our diocese and beyond.

Magnificat: This monthly publication used for our weekday Masses is offering [complimentary access](https://us.magnificat.net/free) online (<https://us.magnificat.net/free>) and via its [iOS](#) and [Android](#) apps.

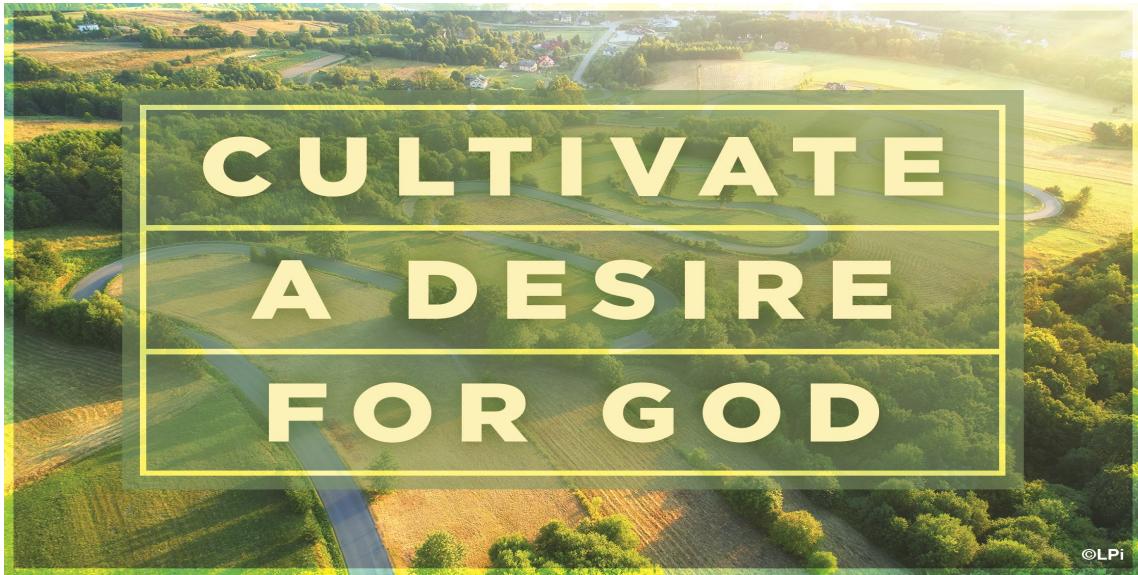
Laudate: The free Laudate app ([iOS](#) and [Android](#)) is a gateway to many Catholic prayers and other resources.

Formed: FORMED.org has given SMdM limited-time free access to its library. It has great resources for all, including kids. Click Sign Up; select "I Belong to a Parish or Organization;" find Santa Maria Del Mar by parish name, address, or zip code; enter your email—and you're in!

Rice Bowl: CRS has instructions for contributing online, by phone, and by mail: <https://support.crs.org/donate/change-life-lent-0>. Rice bowls will be collected once we're able to assemble again.

Want to help others? You can help others in our community by mailing donations to [Society of St. Vincent de Paul](https://www.facebook.com/flaglersaintvincentdepaul) (<https://www.facebook.com/flaglersaintvincentdepaul>), P.O. Box 1328, Flagler Beach FL 32136. Contributions for international relief can be sent to [Catholic Relief Services](https://www.crs.org/) (<https://www.crs.org/>).

Your Offertory Contributions: If at all possible, please continue to support Santa Maria del Mar by mailing your offerings (checks only) to the church (address above) or use our convenient [online giving system](https://www.osvonlinegiving.com/1748) (<https://www.osvonlinegiving.com/1748>).



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Grace and sin, belief and unbelief, good and evil all exist together. While we wrestle with these two dimensions of reality inwardly, they are also witnessed in the actions and words of others. Many, all too often, beat themselves up because of their sin. We are also all too quick to pass judgment on others whom we perceive to be in error and walking down a wrong path. God does not make rash judgments, nor should we. Patience is the order of the day as is an understanding that God is ultimately the caller of the shots.

Our faith tells us that while God allows the wheat and the weeds to coexist, the wheat will always triumph. As long as we can cultivate even a little faith and a small measure of desire for God, He can produce abundant blessings and good things. Even when the weeds seem to have triumphed, there still may be a small measure of faith remaining that can be cultivated and grown. It doesn't take much! Unless a person totally allows the weeds to reign, there is always to be found at least a small measure of faith, good, light, and love. With even this small portion, God can produce abundant growth.

Admittedly, it is easy to give into the weeds, and they grow very quickly. Any gardener knows this to be true. Sometimes, the weeds even seem more attractive and vibrant. Dealing with weeds can quickly become a losing battle, and they can look healthier and grow faster than the very plants we are trying to protect. It's easy to give into them and let them win. While God will deal with all things in due time, we are responsible for keeping things in check in the short term. It is our task to keep our eyes fixed on God's presence and mercy. We are asked to avoid judgment. And, it is not our responsibility to deal with the weeds in someone else's garden, only our own. One garden is enough responsibility for anyone.

Weeds have power. We have to realize this. While they can appear attractive and healthy, they can quickly choke us off from God's presence. Our task is one of maintenance and cultivating a desire for God. Even the smallest kernel of faith can grow into something wonderful. In God's time, the eternal harvest will come, and we will no longer have to worry about the weeds.

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Gospel Reflection

TODAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING:

For your might is the source of justice; your mastery over all things makes you lenient to all. (Wis 12:16)

PSALM:

Lord, you are good and forgiving. (Ps 86)

SECOND READING:

And the one who searches hearts knows what is the intention of the Spirit, because it intercedes for the holy ones according to God's will. (Rom 8:27)

GOSPEL:

"Let them grow together until harvest; then at harvest time I will say to the harvesters, "First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for burning; but gather the wheat into my barn."'" (Mt 13:30b)

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the Lectionary for Mass (c) 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 20

MON JULY 20

ST. APOLLINARIS
Mi 6:1-4, 6-8
Ps 50:5-6, 8-9,
16bc-17, 21
and 23 [23b]
Mt 12:38-42

TUES JULY 21

ST. LAWRENCE OF
BRINDISI
Mi 7:14-15, 18-
20
Ps 85:2-4, 5-6, 7-
8 [8a]
Mt 12:46-50

WED JULY 22

ST. MARY
MAGDALENE
Sg 3:1-4b or 2
Cor 5:14-17
Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-
6, 8-9 [2]
Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

THUR JULY 23

ST. BRIDGET
Jer 2:1-3, 7-8,
12-13
Ps 36:6-7ab, 8-
9, 10-11 [10a]
Mt 13:10-17

FRI JULY 24

ST. SHARBEL
MAKHLUF
Jer 3:14-17
Jer 31:10, 11-
12abcd, 13 [cf.
10d]
Mt 13:18-23

SAT JULY 25

ST. JAMES
2 Cor 4:7-15
Ps 126:1bc-2ab,
2cd-3, 4-5, 6 [5]
Mt 20:20-28

SUN JULY 26

17TH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12
Ps 119:57, 72,
76-77, 127-128,
129-130 [97a]
Rom 8:28-30
Mt 13:44-52 or
13:44-46



STEWARSHIP OF OUR TREASURE

Your offering of as little as one hour's wage will help us meet our daily needs.

Our parish is grateful for your continued support at this time. Thank you! Please consider making your weekly donation to Santa Maria del Mar online at:

www.osvonlinegiving.com/1748

STEWARSHIP ~ A WAY OF LIFE

REFLECTIONS ON STEWARSHIP

NEVER GET TIRED
OF DOING LITTLE THINGS
FOR OTHERS.
SOMETIMES THOSE
LITTLE THINGS OCCUPY
THE BIGGEST PART
OF THEIR HEARTS.

— ST. THERESE OF LISIEUX

O Lord, thou art great with compassion and mercy. May our field have a plentiful harvest of good seed (children of God) and not the offspring of the wicked one.

The Holy Spirit will help us in our weaknesses where we are confused. We need strength to work for justice by our prayers, our actions and our ability to help sustain those who are in want, (especially during this global crisis) by sharing our own talents and abilities. Help us to recognize our skills so we can act as *stewards*, as the children of God.

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THIS MONTH'S MINISTRY SALUTE

IN GRATITUDE FOR GOD'S GIFTS OF TIME AND TALENT
TO US, WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE AND BLESS:

SANTA MARIA DEL MAR'S PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council members are: John Bangert (Chair), Julie Low (Vice Chair), Margie Check (Secretary), Toney Altieri (Chair of the Finance Council), Lizbeth Alicea, John Check, Bryant Perszyk, Diane Postemski, Tim Postemski. They meet on a monthly basis and currently are convening via Zoom.

The Parish Council assists the pastor in supporting and cultivating the pastoral vitality of the parish. Its main functions are: to make recommendations to the pastor on issues that have significant pastoral impact; to develop the parish's long-term pastoral plan; to help formulate parish policies and initiatives; and to monitor, encourage, and support the parish's ministries. In doing so, the members work with ministry leaders, and seek and consider parishioners views, ideas and opinions. Council members are active in various ministries and groups, and bring their experiences into Council discussions.

The Council has developed and adopted (with Father Manny's approval) bylaws that direct how the Council operates. Presently they are developing new ways for parishioners to communicate with the Council and ministry leaders. Also on their agenda is the vision of the Council for the Parish that will be captured in a pastoral plan, taking into account diocesan priorities, our pastor's priorities and input from parishioners. Additional details of the Council's work will be shared when the parish begins to function normally. Needless to say, this group has an awesome responsibility to Santa Maria del Mar as they forge ahead to sketch the future for us. It seems saying "thank you" is not enough so what we will do is keep them in our prayers for their wisdom, vitality, talent and time. *Blessings and gratitude from all of us to all of you.*

Keep up-to-date on announcements from the Diocese of St. Augustine regarding COVID-19 here:
www.dosafl.com/coronavirus/

Ministry Stories from the COVID-19 Pandemic

A look at how SMDM's Ministries are adapting

Introduction

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and by direction of the bishop, the Santa Maria del Mar parish buildings closed on March 20, 2020. Fr. Manny and the parish staff worked extremely hard to maintain pastoral care—online Masses, prayer, and spiritual counseling—in the following days. Maintaining these services required creativity in finding and implementing new ways to minister to our congregation.

We, the Parish Council, heard a few wonderful stories about how some of our parish ministries also adapted to keep their ministries active during the time when our buildings were closed and most parishioners were effectively sheltered in place. We decided to invite all parish ministry leaders to tell us their stories so that we could share them with our entire community. We asked the leaders how they were able to keep their ministry active; their successes and their challenges.

We suspected that many ministry leaders would have a good-news story to tell, and we weren't disappointed. We learned that in addition to the incredible work that our pastor and staff did to keep the parish active, our ministries quietly contributed to that as well. You can read their stories here over the next few weeks.

The Santa Maria del Mar Catholic Church Parish Council

Lizbeth Alicea, Toney Altieri (Chair, Finance Council), John Bangert (Chair), John Check, Margie Check (Secretary), Julie Low (Vice Chair), Bryant Perszyk, Diane Postemski, Tim Postemski



***There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone.
(1 Cor 12:4-6)***

Bread of Life Ministry

(Drew Hoffman)

A little over three years ago, a new ministry was created at Santa Maria del Mar to help individuals and families in need of food, friendship, and at times, clothing or toiletries. The Bread of Life (BOL) Ministry was developed to meet some of those needs. Until the coronavirus hit, the ministry was serving nearly 80 meals every Monday night in our parish hall and sending an additional 100-120 meals to shut-ins and others needing relief. Any remaining food was packaged and sent to the Family Life Center. This has all been accomplished by a cadre of outstanding cooks and six teams of volunteers totaling over 130 parish members.

When COVID-19 shut down many services throughout the nation, our state, and Florida counties, BOL leaders were busy assessing how to service the people we serve in the area. Their need for food would not be diminished by the pandemic.

Mindful of the need for social distancing and similar cautionary protections, BOL served its last meal (take out only) on March 16, 2020. Along with most services in the state, BOL services were shuttered for the next nine weeks. Finally, after continued conferences with Fr. Manny and the Flagler County Health Department, it was determined we could resume serving the needy under certain health conditions.

As with our last day of service, the ministry has been cleared to provide "takeout" food. And so, on May 12, we fired up the ovens and opened the virtual doors to begin takeout service once again. We are already serving over 70 meals each week and hope to increase this as the word spreads of our "re-opening."

Contemplative Prayer Group

(Jeannie Johnson)

Our Contemplative Prayer Group continued to meet and continues to meet on Sundays at 12:15pm through email. Each Sunday I send an email inviting everyone to contemplative prayer practice at 12:15pm, in solidarity knowing we are all connected in silence. I include a spiritual reading to ponder. I invite others to share what may have touched them about the reading or through their contemplative prayer or in their lives. As we pray on Sundays—together yet apart—there is feeling of being bonded in the knowing we are consenting to the presence and action of the Lord within from 12:15-12:35pm. Some of the members respond to the emails, others I know read it and reflect in silence. It is just a small way to stay connected, and we look forward to the day when we can meet as a group again in the beautiful chapel at 12:15pm on Sundays.



BIRTHDAYS

July 20

Glenn Fairchild, Bruce Hartung,
Jeffrey James, Donald Kull,
Kaitlyn Mackay, Sandra Mancuso,
Darrin McDonald, Teresa Phillips,
Priscilla Positano, Caleb Rivera,
Ann Skellenger, Austin Woodlief

July 21

Makayla Barbel, Roy Carli, Michael Danyus III, Lynn French, Angela Gayson, Laureen Neff, Huy Nguyen, John Puccio, Sarah Roberts, Donna San Antonio, Yong Surprenant, Barbara Taylor, Joseph Vitale, Joanna Zampella

July 22

Alvaro Alvarez, Sabrina Cicacci, Karl Corritore, Julie Eads, Ashley Gaspar, Sharon Scott

July 23

Mariana Abreu, Jeremy Balzan, Michael Bittaker, Ricardo DeClaro, Anthony Forte, Michael Greene, Robert Haehn, Amy Kemper, Vicki Leignadier, Carol Leto, David Maddox, Ronald Melycher, Alivia Merckling, Samantha Meyer, Gloria Ott, Maria Ouellette, Nicholas Petraglia, Cheryl Rossi, JoAnn Sparks, Frank Stramaglia, Tammy Sullivan, Samantha Tite-Webber, Rachel Vitale

July 24

Bernard Connelly, Faye Dolce, Colin Fries, Mary Garrison, Angelo Hernandez, Robert Hodge, Candice Lambert, Erica Lovelette, Margaret Mahoney, David Manowski, Mary Nollmann, Douglas Priest, Kimberly Raszi, Lexie Shupe, Natalie Tarantola

July 25

Anna Allen, Cary Alvarez, Samantha Balzan, John Cospito, Alexander Hetzler, Alexia Lilavois, Virginia Maurer, Michael McGuire, Kathleen Milburn, Jennifer Ronan, Jolene Rosamonda, Carol Ryan, Patricia Sedlak

July 26

Mary Ann Betz, Jacob Boczon, Thomas Brennan Sr., Andrew Buckel, James Callery, Anna Costa, Danielle Eldredge, Ivette Esposito, Alex French, Anne Laraia, Mary Mills, Jennifer Nieves, Ann O'Leary, Alania Pacheco, Tamara Paulo, Julia Pereira, Wilbur Rau, Mia Scarella, William Starke, Douglas Strickland

LEGION OF MARY

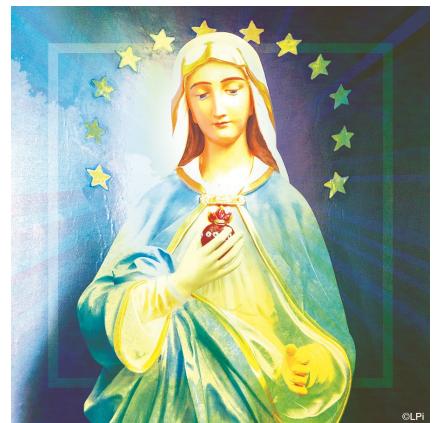
The Legion of Mary is one of the largest lay apostolic associations in the Catholic Church, with several million members serving in most countries of the world.

The goal of the Legion is to make its members better Catholics – through a balanced program of prayer and service in union with the Holy Spirit as He operates through Mary, the Mother of the Church.

Our members participate in the life of the parish by visiting families, the sick (both in their homes, nursing homes, and hospitals), and by collaborating with other ministries in any apostolic undertakings sponsored by the Parish.

Our members meet weekly for prayer, spiritual reflection, discussion, and planning in a family atmosphere. Then, we are assigned an apostolic work and report back the following week.

We are currently meeting virtually each Friday at 10:30am. For more information and sign-on details, contact Steven Neyer at 215-527-7411.



HOW TO PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT EVEN DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Environmental Sustainability

The goal of environmental sustainability is to conserve natural resources and to develop alternative sources of power while reducing pollution and harm to the environment. All renewable energy sources like solar, wind, hydropower and ocean energy are sustainable, as they are stable and available in plenty.



ATTENTION: The Diocese of St. Augustine treats all allegations of sexual misconduct seriously and deals with all allegations in a prompt, confidential, and thorough manner. To Report Abuse, call the police or the Department of Children & Families at (800) 962-2873. Or call the Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator at (904) 208-6979 or email inquiries@dosafl.com. To report abuse by a bishop, call (800) 276-1562 or visit www.reportbishopabuse.org.

PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS

PAST & PRESENT



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PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

- **Col. Andrew Morgado** (US Army)
- **Jay Matthews** (US Navy)
- **Sgt. Benjamin Wurtz** (US Army/Ft. Hood, TX)
- **Honor Otmar** (US Air Force)
- **Matthew Callegari** (USCG)
- **Jayson Trucksess** (US Navy)
- **Chief Gregory Worman** (US Navy)
- **Joshua Raffaele** (USMC)
- **Rachel Mincey** (US Navy)
- **LCDR Brandon Aten** (USCG)
- **Joseph Otmar** (USMC)
- **Casey Henrikson** (US Navy)
- **Chad M.R. Schuch** (US Air Force)
- **Emma J. Schuch** (US Navy)
- **Col. Daniel O'Connor** (USMC)
- **Sgt. Sean Collins** (US Army)
- **Michael Martins** (USMC)
- **Dr. Nick Patellis** (NG/Kuwait)
- **Justin Smallwood** (USMC)
- **ENS Barret Manfre** (US Navy/USS San Diego)
- **LCDR Shaun Kersey** (US Navy/Bahrain)

If you have a family member in the military and would like us to pray for them, call the parish office to have their name added to the bulletin, or email your request to Christine Sudano at christine@smdmcc.org.

Please advise when a person above is no longer deployed so we can remove their name from our list. God bless them all & continue to pray for them!

PLEASE REMEMBER THE SICK OF OUR PARISH IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Heal us, Lord, and we shall be healed; save us, and we shall be saved; for it is You we praise. Send relief and healing for all our diseases, our sufferings and our wounds; for You are a merciful and faithful healer. Blessed are You Lord, who heals the sick.

- Richard Ackerman
- Joyce Aitkens
- Blake Alberto
- Lisa Alberto
- Lou Ambrosia
- Jim Anderson
- Lisa Anello
- Kevin Baird
- Stephen Barnier, Sr.
- Michelle Barrett
- Alyssa Barth
- Tracy Barth
- Judith Batson
- Nancie Bennett
- Ivan Berke
- George Betz
- John Bladel Jr.
- Victor Bordonaro
- Lorraine Bouillon
- Mary Bowe
- Bryan Bowman
- McField Bowman
- Pat Brandt
- Betty Ann Brennan
- Jim Brogan
- Ralph Buchanan
- Kim Burt
- Marlene Bushnoe
- Bryon Campbell
- Bruce Carey
- Dellis Carey
- Roger Carey Sr.
- Roger Carey Jr.
- Ryan Cavanaugh
- Gerald Chabon
- Joe Chiarello
- David Cobb
- Billy Corrigan
- Mike Coyle
- Joshua Cummings
- Marlene Curtain
- Regina Cush
- Mary Dardzinski
- H. Lee Dasch Jr.
- Nina Davis
- Katiana DeCayette
- Fred DeFelice
- Louise Derita
- Denise Diamond
- Larry Doege
- Renee Donaghy
- Thomas Donaghy Sr.
- Donna
- Robert DuLong
- Marie & Alfred Durand
- Isaiah Estrada
- Greg Everett
- Tony Favara
- Ariel Fenner
- Candice Fenner
- Judy Fields
- Jonah Finn
- Steven Fitzgerald
- Greg Flake
- Elizabeth Flohr
- Terry Footit
- Michael Forte
- Fr. Dismiss
- Fr. Pervaiz
- Lou Freda
- Frank Garcia
- Jeff Gearhart
- Scott Giguere
- John Gormley
- Gladys Grant
- James Green
- James Greene
- Nancy Greene
- Roger Gronert
- Susan Gronert
- Catherine Mary Gubicza
- Steve Gubicza
- Roe & Hal Hanson
- Jacob Hardin
- Rose Harvey
- Tony Hassert
- Lucas Healy
- Mike Hewson
- Lori Ann Hines
- Janet Holland
- William Ilavsky
- Wayne Kellenberger & Family
- Jim Kitchen
- Marty Klein
- Ann Kozanecki
- Andrew Kozer
- Frances Kozer
- Larry Kuchta
- James T. Lainge
- John Lappke
- Gerald LaRosa
- Anna Lavrador
- Deborah Lepley
- Doris Lessig
- Pat Lopez
- Veronica Lyons
- Beverly & Sam Maggio
- Dina Mancuso
- Frank Mancuso
- TR Mancuso
- Garo Maroutian
- Linda Maxwell
- James B. McCallen
- James McMonagle
- Tom McNally
- McPartland
- Victor Mele
- Marisol Melendez
- Joseph T. Milici
- Deacon Mike Moody
- Alvina Moore
- Barbara Motta
- Mary Ann Murphy
- Joyce Needelman
- Margee Netzer-Zito
- Barbara O'Keefe
- Luisa Olivo
- Laura O'Shea
- Terry Parenteau
- Vincenzo Perrone
- Karen Pisan
- Vincent Positano
- Thomas Quinn
- Vincent Rafaelle
- Jayce Ramage
- Robert Rizzo
- Stuart Rockett
- Connie Rotondi
- John Rybacki
- Val Sabia
- Jack Salisbury
- Amanda Schark
- Helga Schroeder
- Scott
- Michael Sheridan III
- Millie Sikorski
- Rich Small
- David Smith
- St. Paul's Monastery Priest
- Gina Stokes
- Mary Stowe
- Ellen Streblow
- Stephen Sullivan
- Catherine Sveda
- Jim Szymanski
- Mary Jo Tinney
- Eugene Tontodonato
- Dave Torma
- Jennifer Triano
- Stephen Troxwell & Family
- Juan Vega
- Alda Vilar
- Carolyn Webb
- Mary-Ann Woika
- Carol Woodard
- Annette Zabetakis
- Grant Ziegler



WE COMMEND TO GOD'S LOVING EMBRACE

Receive, Lord, in tranquility and peace, the souls of your servants who have departed out of this present life to be with you. Give them the life that knows no age, the good things that do not pass away; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

† Robert Steele

Notes from Life Teen on this week's readings

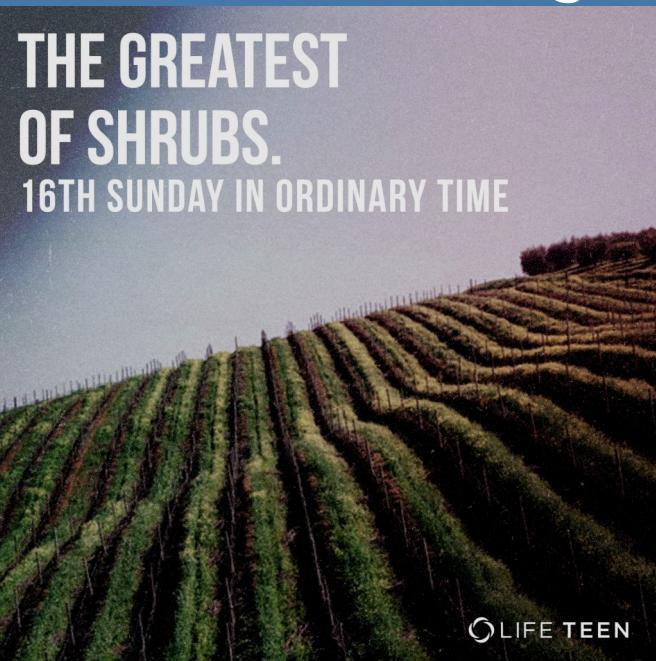
Sometimes we are in a state — perhaps we are hurt or confused — where we do not know what to say in prayer. This is OK since God already knows what we need. But, if we just put ourselves in place for it, "the spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words." God wants to help us in these moments, but we have to let Him in, for He will never force a relationship with us.

We have to remember that God is just. He does not just ignore sin and expects us to live the right way, but He is also merciful. God gives us the grace to see our sins and, more importantly, turn from them.

When we are growing in our faith, it can be tempting to look down on others who are struggling. It is in those times when we are most called to be forgiving, to support each other. We have to remember this is more than just accepting them; it means calling our friends and family to be who God calls them to be.

Sometimes we feel like we have crossed a line that God could not or would not forgive. However, God is always waiting to forgive us, we just have to ask Him. This is why we have confession. We express that trust in today's Psalm: "For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call on you."

Sometimes we look around us and wonder why God lets evil exist in the world, why He lets evil people keep on keeping on. But Jesus speaks of this in His first parable. God lets them continue for the same reason He lets us continue when we fall into sin. God



loves us — and them — so much that He wants to give us every chance to turn to Him. Eventually, though, we will all be called home and those chances will end. We never know when that will be, so we have to make sure we turn back immediately when we catch ourselves in sin. The great thing is that we can trust God to be waiting with open arms the moment we do.

EVERYDAY DISCIPLESHIP: HELPING OUR TEENS

Life Teen has launched a way to get great resources directly into the hands of your teens, while earning money for your parish to use on resources and training for youth ministers.

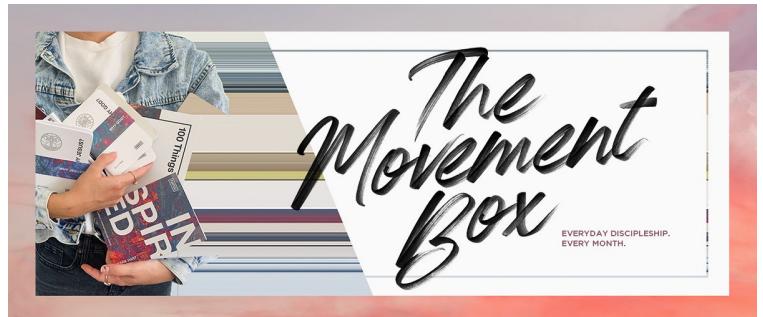
It's called, "The Movement Box."

The Movement Box is a subscription service that helps teens live as every day disciples by delivering great Catholic resources, lifestyle products, and content every month.

It's also a subscription that puts money back into your parish for your Youth Minister to use with Life Teen.

Here's how:

1. A teen at your parish (or their parent, grandparent, godparent, etc.) purchases a subscription to The Movement Box.
2. During check out, they list your parish name with their personal info.
3. Life Teen matches that subscription to your parish and credits your parishes account with 10% of the subscription cost.
4. Your youth minister uses those credits toward Life Teen materials.



The numbers add up.

If 30 teens at your parish sign up for The Movement Box for six months, your parish will be credited with \$650 (\$3.60 box x 6 months x 30 subscriptions). **That covers the entire cost of online Edge Support!**

Let's recap:

1. Teens at your parish get great Catholic resources and products that help them live as every day disciples.
2. Your parish gets money to use toward a Life Support or Edge Support subscription that empowers you to continue to reach teens.

That's a win-win!

Interested in signing up? Just go to this link:
LFTN.CO/MOVEMENTBOX