

Parish of the Precious Blood

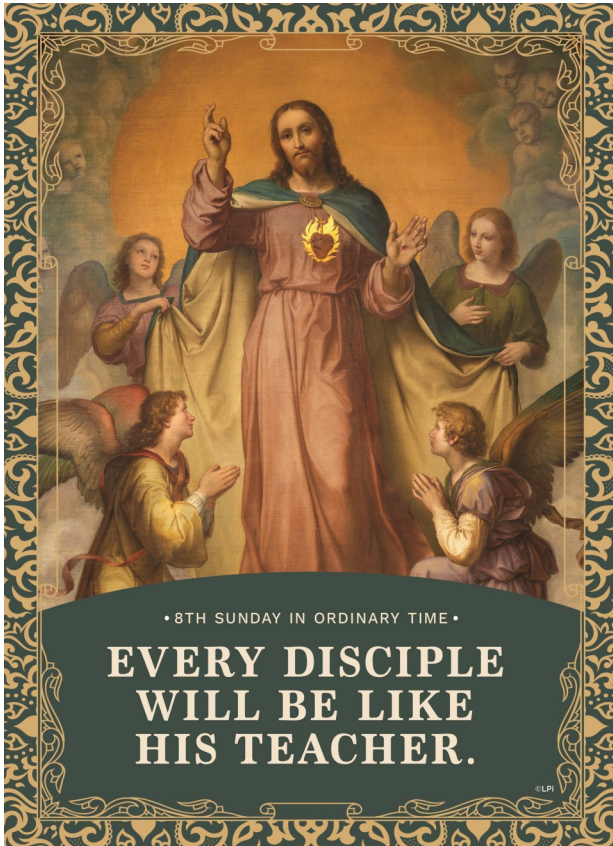


March 2, 2025



Email: ppb@portlanddiocese.org

Website: www.theppb.org



PASTOR

Rev. Anthony Korir, SMA 'Fr. Tony'

PAROCHIAL VICARS

Rev. Simon Assogba, SMA 'Fr. Simon'

Rev. Thomas Xavier, SAC 'Fr. Tom'

RETIRED

Rev. David R. Raymond 'Fr. Dave'

DEACON

Rev. Mr. Carl Joseph Gallagher 'Deacon Carl'

PARISH OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD OFFICE HOURS

Caribou Office:

31 Thomas Ave.

P.O. Box 625

Caribou, ME 04736

207-498-2536

Presque Isle Rectory:

6 Roberts St.

Presque Isle, ME 04769

207-768-3671.

Hours: Monday—Thursday, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Closed Friday

For Business Purposes Call:

207-498-2536

It's very easy to be judgmental, especially these days. Social media tends to encourage and reinforce that behavior. Before we know it, we've disparaged someone for what they said or did. Today's Gospel is a warning to us. It has a lot to say about our eyes and our brother's (or sister's). But there is another pair of eyes to think about today: God's eyes. Over the last few weeks, we have heard Jesus teaching His disciples how to see the world through God's eyes. He told His disciples that God does not see poor people as unfortunate, but as the inheritors of the kingdom. Those who are hungry, grieving, or maligned will end up joyful. Notice that it offers an alternative. Refocus. When it comes to failings, look in the mirror, not out to the world. Especially as we enter Lent. We should practice examining our consciences. If we do so honestly, we can determine how to improve ourselves... and the way we see others. We should also note the way Jesus counsels us to handle faults in others. We're not told to condemn our brother or accuse our sister. No, we're called to kindly help them. Then both you and they will be better. This is because God foresees what we cannot. God calls us to love our enemies because God does not see enemies but fellow children of God. God sees us stumbling from the wooden beam in our eye and wants us to be healthy and whole. We need the grace of God to see our lives from God's eyes.

Saint Paul too leaves the Corinthians a farewell message: "Be . . . fully devoted to the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain" (1 Corinthians 15:58). This ties in so well with Jesus' call to His disciples, here and elsewhere, to bear good fruit. We are called to put our faith into action, to make the world better, to give a glimpse of the kingdom through our actions. The question we ask ourselves here is, are we known by the fruit we produce? What fruit have we produced or are we producing?

As we approach the penitential season of Lent, we hear a warning from Jesus about sin. Don't focus on the sins of your brother, your sister, or your neighbor; look at your own sins. Every year, Lent gives us the opportunity to recognize our sinfulness and our need for God's forgiveness, which Jesus offers us most dramatically on the cross. As we gather for Mass this weekend on the eve of Lent, let us commit ourselves to recognizing our own faults and failures, repenting for our sins, and resolving to follow the Lord more faithfully.

Fr. Anthony K. Korir, SMA
*With you a Christian,
For you, a priest*

SANCTUARY LAMP



SANCTUARY LAMP

Holy Rosary

*In Memory of
Theresa Breau*

By The Holy Rosary Blanket
Ministry

St. Denis

*In Prayerful Memory of
Dick & Evelyn Levesque
By Their Family*

OUR LADY LAMPS



If you would like to have a lamp burned in memory of someone or for a special intention, please contact the rectory during normal business hours.



BULLETIN MEMORIALS		
In Loving Memory of DAVID H. SEARLES By His Wife Jeanette	In Loving Memory of SHAWN BERNARD By His Dad Charles	In Loving Memory of WENDI VOISINE LEAVITT By The Voisine Family
In Loving Memory of Kenneth G. Murchison, Sr. By The Murchison Family	In Loving Memory of DEPUTY SHERIFF MATTHEW LONG By Mom, Julia & Nieces	In Loving Memory of ALBERT POWERS By His Wife Lorraine & Family
In Loving Memory of GILBERT GUERRETTE By his Loving Wife & Family	In Loving Memory of BRENDA THIBODEAU By Her Husband Galen & Family	In Loving Memory of LINDA PAGE By Norman & Family
In Loving Memory of LIONEL, DORIS & RAYMOND BLANCHETTE, LINDA & BERT OUELLETTE By The Family	In Loving Memory of MAURICE & ANITA SOUCY & LOVED ONES By Their Loved Ones	In Loving Memory of ROSAIRE "PEANUT" LAGASSE & FAMILY By Sons Shawn & Troy Granddaughters Megan, Grace & Faith
 In Loving Memory of SANDRA BEAUPRE By Her Loving Husband Gordon & Family	In Loving Memory of SONIA & DANNY LABBE By The Labbe Family	In Loving Memory of OMERINE CYR By Her Loving Husband Peter Cyr & Family
In Loving Memory of THE COTE & JOHNDRO FAMILY By Michealla & Family	In Loving Memory of PRECIOUS GLENNA WIFE & MOTHER By Her Husband Peter, Audrey, Carla, Ned & Athena	In Loving Memory of DALE CORBIN & MICHAEL POISSON By Sharon Corbin & Families
		 PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

HOLY ROSARY, CARIBOU

Monday:

6:00 p.m. 1st & 3rd Mon. Women's ACTS
Faith Sharing
7:00 p.m. 1st & 3rd Mondays ~
Men's Faith Sharing

Wednesday:

9:00 a.m. Scripture Study with Tea & Coffee at
the Parish Center after Mass.

Thursday:

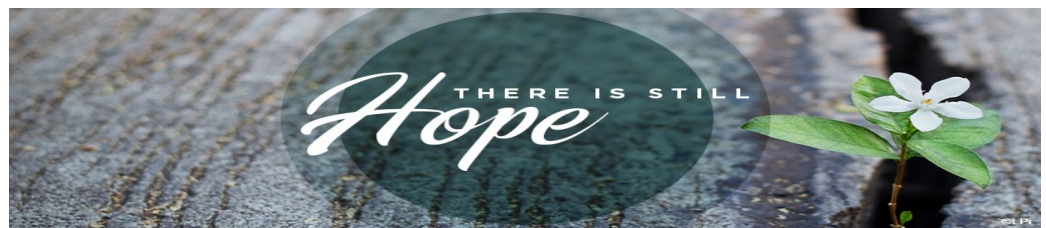
7:00 p.m. Burning Bush Prayer Group
7:00 p.m. That Man Is You—Men's Group

1st Friday: Adoration & Mass

5:00 p.m. Adoration of the Blessed
Sacrament
6:00 p.m. Mass
7:15 p.m. Prayers & Benediction

1st Saturday:

9:30 a.m.-12:00 PM Followers of the Cross
Parish Center Large Room
9:30-10:15 Rosary & Confession
10:15 a.m. Mass



GROUP PRAYER & DEVOTIONS

ST. MARK, ASHLAND

Tues. & Fri. Rosary at 9 a.m.

OUR LADY OF THE LAKE Portage

Sun: 8:30 a.m. Rosary before Mass
each Sunday

SACRED HEART, N. CARIBOU

Sat: 5:15 p.m. Rosary before Mass.

ST. MARY'S, PRESQUE ISLE

Confession is offered after Daily Mass &
before Sat. & Sun. Masses.

Tues: 9:00 a.m. Rosary Making Team

Weds 6:30 p.m. Faith Sharing in the

Rectory. All are welcome. **(In Session)**

1st Fri.

5:00 p.m. Adoration & Confession

6:00 p.m. Mass.

Sun Rosary before the 9 a.m. Mass

ST. DENIS, FORT FAIRFIELD

Confessions Every 3rd Sunday
after Mass. And after Thursday
daily Mass.

Rosary: 8:00 AM prior to Daily Mass.

***10:15 AM on Sundays**

Tues: 9:00 a.m. Faith Sharing

Thurs. 9:15 a.m. Cenacle of the
Marian Movement of Priests.

2nd Fri. at 3:00 PM—Adoration &
Confession. 4:00 PM Mass.

Sun: 10:15 a.m. Rosary.

Mass Schedule**March 2, 2025****Sunday, March 2: 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C #951**

- 9:00 a.m. Holy Rosary ** Ruth P. Dionne by Michael & Susan Deschaine
 9:00 a.m. Our Lady ** For the People
 9:00 a.m. St. Mary ** Daniel Labbe by The Family
 10:30 a.m. St. Mark ** Sonia Labbe by The Family
 11:00 a.m. St. Denis ** Evelyn Levesque by Dee Dee Robinson
 11:00 a.m. St. Louis ** Rob Pelletier (1st Anniversary) by The Pelletier Family

Monday, March 3: St. Katharine Drexel

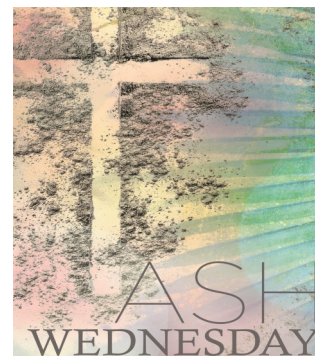
- 8:30 a.m. Holy Rosary ** Arnold Gahagan Jr. by Mary Ellen Field
 1:30 p.m. Leisure Village ** Dorothy Gustin by Augustine Buck

Tuesday, March 4: St. Casimir

- 8:30 a.m. St. Denis ** Louise Saucier by Daughters of Isabella
 12:15 p.m. St. Mary ** Dana R. Shaw by Maxine Buck & Family

Wednesday, March 5: Ash Wednesday, #882

- 8:30 a.m. Holy Rosary ** For the Healing of Terry Longley by A Friend, Donna
 8:30 a.m. St. Denis ** Sylvio & Edwina Cyr by Gary & Linda Sirois
 8:30 a.m. St. Mary ** Geraldine Oakes by Frank & Darrylin Keenan
 12:00 p.m. Sacred Heart ** For the Health of Fred Schloeman by A Friend, Rena
 12:00 p.m. St. Joseph ** Arnie Gahagan by Ruth Gahagan
 12:00 p.m. St. Louis ** Loomis & Shirley Roy Lavoie by Kay Mulherin
 12:00 p.m. St. Theresa ** Elaine Haines by Dave & Debbie Cyr
 6:00 p.m. Holy Rosary ** Florian Levesque by The Family
 6:00 p.m. St. Mark ** Lawrence & Hilda Bosse & Patsy Paradis by Nancy & Jim Chandler
 6:00 p.m. St. Mary ** Roland Babin by His Wife & Children

**Thursday, March 6:**

- 8:30 a.m. St. Denis ** Ed Bolstridge by Anne & Rosaire
 6:00 a.m. Holy Rosary ** Elaine Haines by Frank & Gloria Thomas and Gary & Stephanie Mosier

Friday, March 7: Sts. Perpetua & Felicity

- 6:00 p.m. Holy Rosary ** Viola Cummings-Sirois by Madeline Guerrette
 6:00 p.m. St. Mary ** For the People of Israel by Doreen McCarthy

Saturday, March 8: St. John of God

- 4:00 p.m. Holy Rosary ** Special Favor Received from Sts. Rita & Anne by Norma Lambrecht
 4:00 p.m. St. Mary ** Mr. & Mrs. George Bernard by Their Son, Charles
 4:00 p.m. St. Theresa ** Gilman Raymond (6th Anniversary) by His Family
 5:30 p.m. Sacred Heart ** Roland Guerrette (1st Anniversary) by Galen & Betty Thompson
 6:00 p.m. St. Catherine ** Eric Thibodeau by Mom, Dad, & Daughter
 6:00 p.m. St. Joseph ** Jay Brewer by Betty Mahan & Families

Sunday, March 9: 1st Sunday of Lent, Year C #885

- 9:00 a.m. Holy Rosary ** Matthew Long (Happy Birthday) Love Mom
 9:00 a.m. Our Lady ** For the People
 9:00 a.m. St. Mary ** Colin Daigle by Terry, Norma, Trevor, Tyler & Torey Levesque
 10:30 a.m. St. Mark ** Donald Laveway by Sis Laveway & Family
 11:00 a.m. St. Denis ** Evelyn Levesque by Charlie & Susan Russell & Family
 11:00 a.m. St. Louis ** Albert & Annette by Gary & Gisele Labreck

Readings for the week of March 2, 2025

Sunday:	Sir 27:4-7/Ps 92:2-3, 13-16 (see 2a)/1 Cor 15:54-58/Lk 6:39-45
Monday:	Sir 17:20-24/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7/Mk 10:17-27
Tuesday:	Sir 35:1-12/Ps 50:5-6, 7-8, 14 and 23/Mk 10:28-31
Wednesday:	Jl 2:12-18/Ps 51:3-6ab, 12-14 & 17/2 Cor 5:20—6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday:	Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 9:22-25
Friday:	Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19/Mt 9:14-15
Saturday:	Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 5:27-32
Next Sunday:	Dt 26:4-10/Ps 91:1-2, 10-15 (see 5b)/Rom 10:8-13/Lk 4:1-13

PARISH PRAYER LINE CONTACTS:

St. Louis ~ (Gail Hjort) 492-7901
 Sacred Heart ~ (Gail Hjort) 492-7901
 Holy Rosary ~ Gail Hjort 492-7901
 St. Mary's ~ Marilyn Peary 762-0401
 St. Joseph ~ (Volunteer Needed)
 St. Denis ~ (Volunteer Needed)
 St. Mark & Our Lady ~ Joan Goodblood 435-6017



Christian Life Center
Marriage Preparation
March 15 & 16, 2025
 Snow Date March 22 & 23

Sign-in begins 8:00am on Saturday
\$120 per couple
includes meals and Saturday accommodations

Friday night accommodations available for an additional \$30 per couple

To register contact the Christian Life Center
 207-543-6193



Presque Isle Daughters of Isabella

The Presque Isle Daughters of Isabella will be selling raffle tickets after Mass to raise funds for rectory windows. The winners will be drawn on Sunday, March 16. The beautiful prizes donated are a handmade quilt, queen blanket and a tapestry.

Pilgrimage Opportunity

Save the Date

There will be a Pilgrimage to L'Oratoire St. Joseph & Notre Dame Du Cap, June 20-22, 2025. The fee is \$500 Canadian money per person. For more information call Verna Beaulieu at 895-2287.

Maine Catholic Men's Conference.

Men from across the Diocese of Portland are invited to attend the Maine Catholic Men's Conference, which will be held **March 15, 2025, at the St. John's Community Center in Brunswick.** This year's theme is Pilgrims of Hope in celebration of the Jubilee Year. Join Bishop James Ruggieri, our keynote speaker, as we explore how to increase our faith and to walk with others on our spiritual journey. To learn more and to register, visit <https://portlanddiocese.org/Mens-conference-2025>

St. Mary's Family Faith Formation
Sunday March 2
10:15-11:30 a.m.
Knights of Columbus Hall

Youth Jubilee

The Office of Lifelong Faith Formation is excited to announce an event for high school students.

During the Jubilee year, there are designated days dedicated to different people in our Church; April 25 - 27 is the Jubilee for Teenagers and **so we will celebrate on April 26.**

We are blessed to have Oscar Rivera as our keynote speaker! He is the Director of Youth Ministry in Fall River, MA and is a gifted speaker and musician who has presented at many retreats and conferences including the Steubenville youth conferences.

To learn more and to register: [Witnesses of Hope Youth Jubilee Event | Diocese of Portland](#)

Maine Catholic Women's Conference

The Diocese of Portland in collaboration with the Maine Catholic Women's Conference Planning Committee will host the 12th Maine Catholic Women's Conference on **May 17, 2025, at the St. John's Community Center, 43 Pleasant Street in Brunswick.** The conference is a joy-filled opportunity for Catholic women ages 16 and older to come together to celebrate their Catholic faith. This year's theme is "When Women Pray," focusing on the power and importance of prayer.

The featured speaker for the 2025 Maine Catholic Women's Conference will be Amber Ezeani, known for her [Theology of Heart and Home](#) podcast. To learn more and to register, visit <https://portlanddiocese.org/mcwc>

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat

Women and men impacted by an abortion experience often feel pain, grief, and regret. Project Rachel offers hope and healing by offering God's love, forgiveness, and compassion in a safe nonjudgmental environment during our Rachel's Vineyard retreat. The retreat provides an opportunity for anyone affected by abortion to release their pain and embark on a journey of healing. The next Rachel's Vineyard retreat in Maine will be held April 25-27 in Midcoast Maine starting on Friday at 3 p.m. and concluding on Divine Mercy Sunday at 1:00 p.m. The registration deadline for the retreat is Friday, March 21. To talk about attending a retreat, please leave a confidential message at (207)-321-7897; email projectrachel@portlanddiocese.org; or submit a confidential interest form at <https://bit.ly/3CS5rO0>

THE LOG IN YOUR EYE

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Mini Reflection: If we see a splinter in another person's eye, or a problem in the world that needs to be fixed, what Jesus is saying is not that we should ignore it and move on. He's merely saying that, when we see these things, we must take them first as a challenge to examine ourselves.

Today's Gospel is a big favorite of non-Christians — or Christians who don't like being told what to do.

That trusty ol' *remove the wooden beam from your own eye* line is a classic. *Mind your business, Christians! You're not perfect either.*

And that's entirely true. None of us are perfect. We've all got logs in our eyes. We can't approach life acting like we have the answers simply because we follow Jesus.

Jesus has the answers, and we have Jesus.

The real problem with having someone remove a splinter from my eye, if he himself has a log in his eye, is not that he has no business removing the splinter from my eye. It's that he can't see clearly to do it. His own eyesight is occluded.

If we see a splinter in another person's eye, or a problem in the world that needs to be fixed, or a scandal in the community that should be addressed, what Jesus is saying is not that we should ignore it and move on. He's merely saying that, when we see these things, we must take them first as a challenge to examine ourselves. To address the problem as it exists within our own souls, so that we ensure we are seeing clearly. Then, if we reach out to pluck the splinter, we will do so with clear eyesight.

He wants us to worry as much about our own souls as we do about other people's.

We tend to look at the world and feel anxious — so much evil! So much hate! So much sin! We pray, *God, when will you change it?*

And He whispers back: *I will change it here. Now. In your own heart. You just have to ask.*

©LPi

St. Theresa's Pew Cushion

Fr. Tony suggested the parishioners of St. Theresa's obtain seat cushions for the pews. Arrangements were made with Gary's Upholstery in Madawaska to have the cushions made for \$130 each. The cushions cover the pew between the armrests.

Parishioners have purchased cushions "in memory" of loved ones. To date, we have ordered 26 cushions. Orders are placed for 12 at a time to save on the cost of materials purchased. If anyone is interested in purchasing a cushion in memory of a loved one at St. Theresa's or would like to see a picture of the cushion, please contact Debbie Cyr at 896-3409.

You are invited to attend St. Theresa's Mass on Saturday afternoons at 4:00 p.m. and try out the cushions. They are very comfortable.

Caribou Ecumenical Food Pantry

Holy Rosary is a member of the Caribou Ecumenical Food Pantry. The month of March is our turn to provide volunteers to help stock shelves, pack boxes, clean, etc. The following dates and times are needed: Tuesdays and Thursdays from approximately 8:00 AM until 11:00 AM for the entire month of March. The number to the pantry is: 493-4860 should you have any questions. Thank you for supporting the pantry and helping our brothers & sisters in need!

Soup Supper During Lent

The Ladies of St. Anne of Holy Rosary will start serving Soup Suppers on Friday, March 7, after the Stations of the Cross. All are welcome and there is no cost.

Schedule

March 7, March 14, March 21,

March 28, April 4, and April 11.

Soup will not be served on Good Friday. If there are any questions, please call 493-1083.

Elizabeth Long, President
Ladies of St. Anne, Holy Rosary

"Lord , it is good to give thanks to you."

Ps. 92

Theology in the County is Back!

Theology in the County provides an opportunity for adults to gather in a casual setting for challenging and relevant presentations on the Catholic faith and how it applies to daily life. It also gives adults the change to network with one another and to experience the Catholic community beyond their own parishes.

****Theology in the County—Upcoming Events****

Join us for an evening of faith, fellowship, and learning!

****March 13, 2025**—*New Encyclical on the Sacred Heart* with Bishop Emeritus Deeley**

****Schedule****

•Doors Open at 5:30 p.m. •Blessing and meal at 6:00 p.m. •Presentation begins at 6:30 p.m.

Location: Knights of Columbus, Chapman Street, Presque Isle, ME **Suggested Donation** \$10 (Meal TBD). BYOB

Come for the Faith, stay for the Fellowship!

Parish Financial Stewardship

Parish of the Precious Blood is in need of the following:

Sexton - This person will be responsible for the day-to-day cleaning and maintenance of the facilities at Holy Rosary in Caribou and other sites as needed. Snow removal with the ability to operate a plow truck during winter months is essential, along with basic understanding of equipment functions and carpentry skills. A valid driver's license and pre-qualifying physical are required. Position is full-time with benefits. Job description and application are available on our website, theppb.org

Communications Director - Part-time paid position to oversee our parish bulletin, website, social media, and other communications.

Family Life Coordinator - Part-time volunteer position to build and promote a culture of life in our parish.

Please talk with Fr Tony or contact the Business Office if interested.

Up Coming Second/Special Collections:

March 2 - Energy/Fuel Fund
 March 5 - Church in Eastern Europe
 March 9 - Black & Native American Missions
 March 16 - Easter Flowers / Maintenance Fund

Financial Blessings

OFFERTORY Feb. 16, 2024

Collections Last Week :

First Collection	\$ 13,690
Second Collection	\$ 2,636
Total:	\$ 16,326

Total Collections YTD:	\$ 573,542
Collections Budget:	\$ 521,059
+/- Budget:	+ \$ 52,483

Total of Weekly Collections this time last year:	\$ 507,063
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Current Weekly Average:	\$ 17,380
2024 Weekly Average:	\$ 15,366
2023 Weekly Average:	\$ 15,543

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP -
 RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Planted in the House of the Lord

Grocery delivery apps are all the rage these days, and I can't deny the convenience of tapping your finger a few times and seeing your week's shopping dropped on the doorstep. But there is one aspect of this trend that seems to make a lot of shoppers nervous — fruits and vegetables.

A lot of us have strong opinions on our fresh produce and aren't ready to delegate this highly subjective selection process to a total stranger. My father was a produce manager and I remember as a child learning about the complexities of choosing correctly. Getting a bad bag of under ripe tomatoes after shopping on an app could easily sour one on the whole idea.

Forrest Gump said life is like a box of chocolates. I say, we're all like grab-bags of produce dumped on someone's doorstep — but if we're Christians who live our faith publicly, we're stamped with the name of God. If your thumb is green enough, you know that you can tell a lot about a gardener from the produce he grows. We who are planted in the house of the Lord — what do we reveal about our Gardener?

What do our actions show of His teachings? What do our words reflect of His voice? What does our strength reveal of the soil from which we sprang and the life-giving waters that nourished us?

When we open ourselves up to those we encounter, let's make a special effort to show the care we have had — lest our peers come away from the experience thinking God doesn't know how to garden, when in reality, it's us who don't always know how to grow.

• Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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DONATE ONLINE

Through eCatholic

At theppb.org



8TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

