

COME AWAY BY YOURSELF

and rest.

MARK 6 | 16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



A Letter from our Pastor

Greetings of peace and goodwill to you and your household!

The readings for this weekend focus on shepherds. The oracles of the prophet Jeremiah, in our First reading, are addressed to those shepherds who have not cared much for the sheep but for themselves. By so doing, they failed to mirror God's benevolence to the sheep entrusted to them and presented a scary image of a shepherd that caused the sheep to fear and tremble. These shepherds are thus accused of scattering the flock. God then promises to give them shepherds who would care for them and gather them from all the places they have been scattered. Furthermore, the Lord promises to raise a righteous shoot to David who would govern with wisdom and justice. He would be called "The Lord our justice." This name is a play on words, and serves to counter that of the weak king, Zedekiah, whose name means "The Lord is just." In another chapter, God promises to give his people shepherds after his own heart "*Pastores dabo vobis*" (Jeremiah 3:15). But no human shepherd could care for God's sheep better than God would. So, God comes to care for his sheep by himself. We see this in the Gospel. Jesus fulfills the Old Testament prophecy of an eschatological shepherd, who cares for His followers who were like sheep without shepherd. In Jesus we see the incarnation of God who is the ideal shepherd of his people.

The idea of shepherding might be strange to some of us, but not necessarily for those who grew up on a farm, or owned a flock. Maybe a trip to one of the Amish communities around might help us get a better picture of who shepherds are and what they do. We cannot deny the fact that the job of a shepherd is a very difficult one. There could be so many sheep in a herd, and the shepherd has to cater for each one. He has to know their names and relate to each one according to their need. The ideal shepherd knows the sheep, and the sheep know the shepherd's voice. They answer when he calls, but would not answer the voice of a stranger. The sheep does not lead the shepherd; instead the shepherd leads them to green pasture. The shepherd is attentive. He knows when the sheep is happy, well-fed, hungry or sick.

The sight of a shepherd should not be a scary one, but a joyful one. The sheep should not be afraid of their shepherd because a shepherd's presence ought to signal security and provision. A shepherd provides, nourishes, protects, guides, and binds up. In the real sense, the title, shepherd, only acquires meaning in relation to the sheep. There would be no shepherd without a sheep. And the relationship that exists between shepherd and sheep ought to be mutually beneficial, not exploitative. While the shepherd ought to provide for the needs of the flock, the sheep in return provides food and clothing for the shepherd. The shepherds under fire from the Lord today neglected their responsibility to the sheep, but satisfied their own needs at the expense of the flock. They misled the flock and exposed them

to predators. They plundered the flock without caring for them. As such, the flock was afraid and trembled at the sight of the shepherds. Their productivity was also impacted. Notice also that the flock of the pasture belonged to the Lord and not to the shepherds. The shepherds only held that office on behalf of the Lord. But when they failed the Lord calls them out, and promises to shepherd them himself.

The sheep and shepherds in our readings, were, of course, symbols representing God's people and their rulers. Just as there were rulers who put the interest of the people first, and over their own, there were also those who used the people for their own ends. In Jesus, God distinguishes Himself from the latter group. Jesus demonstrates God's solicitude for the plight of his people. Where human leaders have plundered the people and not cared to bind them up, Jesus, the Good shepherd, tends to their need and even gave His life for them.

This weekend, I will be installed as your Pastor. The word "pastor" comes from the Latin meaning shepherd. I will be officially installed shepherd of the faith community of St. Thérèse, Little Flower, Parish, South Bend, Indiana. By virtue of this office, I am charged with the pastoral and spiritual leadership of all that the Lord, in his providence, has gathered under the care of our heavenly patron, St. Thérèse. I ask your prayers that I will model my life after the Good Shepherd. That I will spend myself at the service of the Word and the Sacraments. That I will tend to the weak and sick, the aged and feeble, the young and strong, and gather together all those who are scattered. Pray that I will shepherd with the heart of the Good Shepherd, not wishing that anyone be lost, but with all patience and kindness seek out those who go astray. Ask the Lord to help me lead with humility, teach with courage, and correct in love. While you are at it, pray also that you will make my work as shepherd easy by being a good sheep. Pray that you will listen to my voice, and follow in my lead. In conclusion, pray that the Lord will help all of us to recognize whose flock we are, and in whose pasture we gather. We are the Lord's; and he alone is our ideal shepherd.

May Jesus bless you, and may Our Lady protect you!

With blessings from my heart,



Text of the Propers— 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Propers of the Mass include the Scriptural texts that change with the liturgical calendar. The Proper texts which will be chanted by a cantor are the Introit (when the priest processes to the altar), Offertory (when the altar is prepared for the Liturgy of the Eucharist), and Communion.

Introit: “Behold, God is my helper, and the Lord is the upholder of my soul; turn back all the evil against my enemies; destroy them in your fidelity, O Lord, the protector of my life.” (Psalm 54:6-7)

Offertory: “The ordinances of the Lord are right, bringing joy to all hearts, sweeter than the honeycomb. Therefore your servant will observe them.” (Psalm 19: 9-12)

Communion: “You will accept a sacrifice of righteousness, oblations, and burnt offerings placed on your altar, O Lord.” (Psalm 51:21)

Altar Server Training:

Training for Altar Servers will be held in the church on Saturday, July 24th at 4:00pm. All current altar servers as well as anyone interested in becoming an altar server is asked to attend. If you cannot attend but are interested in continuing or beginning this ministry, please contact Daniel Tucker at (574) 243-3440.

Check out our Playlist!

Looking for some good music to listen to during the week? Check out our Spotify playlist! Featuring the set lists for our 8PM Mass, this is a great way to get to know the music you'll hear on Sunday night!



Readings for the Week of July 18, 2021

Sunday	Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Jer 23:1-6; Ps 23:1-3, 3-4, 5, 6; Eph 2:13-18; Mk 6:30-34
Monday	Ex 14:5-18; Ex 15:1bc-2, 3-4, 5-6; Mt 12:38-42
Tuesday	Saint Apollinaris, Bishop and Martyr Ex 14:21–15:1; Ex 15:8-9, 10 and 12, 17; Mt 12:46-50
Wednesday	Saint Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest and Doctor of the Church Ex 16:1-5, 9-15; Ps 78:18-19, 23-24, 25-26, 27-28; Mt 13:1-9
Thursday	Feast of Saint Mary Magdalene Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17 or Ex 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b; Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56 or Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5-6ab, 15 and 17; Jn 20:1-2, 11-18
Friday	Saint Bridget, Religious Ex 20:1-17; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11; Mt 13:18-23
Saturday	Saint Sharbel Makhlūf, Priest Ex 24:3-8; Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15; Mt 13:24-30
Sunday	Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 2 Kgs 4:42-44; Ps 145:10-11, 15-16, 17-18; Eph 4:1-6; Jn 6:1-15

Healing Prayer Corner: Woe or Blessing?

The beginning of the first reading from the Prophet Jeremiah hits like a ton of bricks. “Woe to the shepherds who mislead and scatter the flock of my pasture.... You have scattered my sheep and driven them away.” Although Jeremiah was speaking to the leaders of his time, the message is eternal. But we are mistaken if we think it applies exclusively in our time to the pope, bishops, priests, religious, and parish staffs. It’s easy to think that “ordinary” parishioners are simply sheep; we are not, because we too are called to be shepherds in our community, our families, and in our civic involvements. Leaders of the universal church to parish churches carry heavy loads, but all the baptized carry some level of loads. So we all must ask, have my words or actions “scattered” the faithful and “driven them away”? Which comes down to the eternal questions. Have I loved? Have I listened? Have I forgiven? Have I alienated? Have I reached out to the left out? Have I healed?



July 25-31, 2021 is...
NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING WEEK
parish events

Monday 26th

Learn NFP from a certified instructor!



Learn from a certified Femm™ instructor how to read your body's natural fertility signs. Men and women both welcome!

Wednesday 28th

Families of Two: Catholics + Infertility



Ever wondered whether you 'count' as a family if you don't have kids yet? Struggling to conceive or stay pregnant? Join us for an uplifting night with the Scott and Reyes-Miranda Families.

Thursday 29th

Adoption + Foster Care Panel



Curious about foster care or adoption but unsure where to start? Join us for a panel hosted by real Catholics who have been through it all: the good, the bad, and the ugly.

Friday 30th

The Sinner's Guide to Natural Family Planning



Let's get real about the highs and lows of doing NFP as a couple. Presented by the author of *The Sinner's Guide to NFP*, Simcha Fisher.

Want more details? Visit www.littleflowerchurch.org/year-of-the-family/

From the Director of Sacred Music & Liturgy

The pious practice of Catholics since the 16th century has been to assign a particular devotion to each month of the calendar year. The month of July is traditionally dedicated to honoring the Precious Blood of Jesus. The very preciousness of such blood is articulated beautifully by the author of the Letter to the Hebrews, who writes: "But when Christ came as high priest...he did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!...Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings" (Hebrews 9:11-14, 10:19-22).

How can you grow in your devotion to the Precious Blood in the coming weeks? Here are three ideas:

Study the life of Blessed Fr. Gaspar de Bufalo, founder of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood, and ask his intercession for your prayer intentions.

Spend more time in Eucharistic Adoration. As Catholics, we know that the Body and Blood of the Lord Jesus are found united even under the appearance of bread alone (this doctrine is called concomitance - see CCC 1390).

Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet each day at 3:00 PM, but especially on Fridays, the day on which Our Lord freely spilled His own Precious Blood as the price of our salvation.

Peace,
Daniel

NFP Trivia!

Circle your guess!

true or false

NFP is only beneficial to women with regular cycles.

true or false

Women are the only ones who really need to learn NFP.

true or false

Couples who practice NFP have a <2% divorce rate.

true or false

NFP and the rhythm method are essentially the same thing.

answers: 1) false, 2) false, 3) true, 4) false.

Want to know more? Join us for an Introduction to NFP Night

Monday, June 26th at 7PM with certified FEMM™ Instructors, Ryenn & Lauren!

Whatsoever You Do: In Appreciation

“Have you ever realized that you can give things to God that are of value to Him? Or are you just sitting around daydreaming about the greatness of His redemption, while neglecting all the things you could be doing for Him? I’m not referring to works which could be regarded as divine and miraculous, but ordinary, simple human things – things which would be evidence to God that you are totally surrendered to Him.” That was written by Oswald Chambers, a Scottish evangelist and teacher.

You are doing much more than simply giving money to the Whatsoever You Do Outreach Program that enables our parish to reach out to the poor, the hurting, the forgotten. What you give is an “ordinary, simple human thing” that has great impact. In our minds, it is evidence that you are surrendered to him. We can never thank you enough, but we will continue to thank you. As do the people we help.

Whatsoever you do...



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HUNGRY?

Are you or someone you know in need of food?
We can help!

Our parish food pantry is open weekly on
Tuesdays from 1:30-3:15 pm.

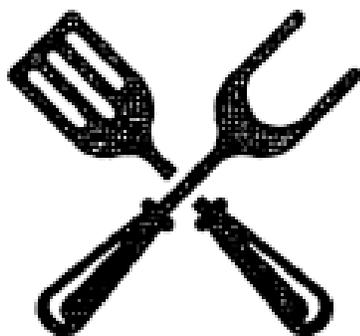
Work with Catholic Charities!

Catholic Charities is growing and has several positions available working from the South Bend office: Community Service Case Manager, School Counselor, Addiction Counselor, Clinical Liaison and Mental Health Counselor. Interested candidates will find a full job description and minimum qualifications by visiting our website at: www.ccfwsb.org/careers.

We are a community that extends the Kingdom of God.

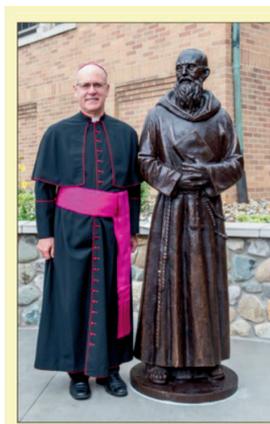
Annual Corn & Sausage Roast

Save the Date! August 8th 12:30–2:00pm. Come reconnect with those we have been missing over the last 16 months & welcome the many new faces that have joined our parish! Bring your own lawn games and just enjoy being together again! The cost is \$5.00 for ages 8 & up, and there is no charge for those 7 & under. Please plan to bring a side dish or dessert to share!



Landscaping Help Needed

Now that it's spring, it is time to ask all gardeners who might be interested in adopting a garden patch on church grounds to contact our landscape coordinator/business manager Gail Waltman. The gardens will be cleaned and mulched by professionals over the next month. Volunteers are needed to plant, weed and water their garden patches throughout the summer. If you are interested in adopting a garden patch, please contact Gail at gail@littleflowerchurch.org or 574-243-3443.



Celebrate the 4th Annual Blessed Solanus Casey, Feast Day

July 30, from 12:30-9:30 p.m.

Hosted by the Father Solanus Guild
at St. Felix Catholic Center, 1280 Hitzfield St. in Huntington

*Special guests include: Father Daniel Whelan,
Father Louis Fowoyo, Father Thomas Zehr,
Father Philip DeVolder and Madeline Nugent.
Activities for all ages provided by Huntington Youth Ministry.*

Preorder boxed lunches by July 25th or feel free to bring your own picnic.
Tours will be available all day. Mass at 5 p.m.

Contact Jan Scher at 260-450-3045

Knights of Columbus Happenings

Website – Thanks for the expertise of Brother Knight Mikel Hogan our Council 17043 St Therese Martin Little Flower now has its own website. We invite you to visit our webpage littleflowerkofc.org!

Tootsie Roll Drive – The Knights of Columbus will conduct a Tootsie Roll Drive after all Mass sessions the weekend of July 17th and 18th. This important mission of the Knights of Columbus is in support of our brothers and Sisters with Developmental Disabilities.

We want you! We will begin a new Fraternal Year on July 1st. We are always seeking new members to join our order. If you are a Catholic gentleman of the age of 18 or older, I ask this question: Why haven't you joined the Knights of Columbus? The Knights offer a chance to grow in your faith and serve your fellow Brothers and Sisters in serving one another. See any Knight if you wish to join, we would be glad to have you on our team. You can also visit kofc.org and join online, be sure to list Council 17043 as the Council you wish to join and we will reach out to you!

Election of Officers - Your Little Flower Knights of Columbus recently held an election of officers for the fraternal year of 2021-2022. The results are as follows: Grand Knight – Ben Janczewski; Deputy Grand Knight – Brian Peterson; Financial Secretary – Nevin Siqueira; Treasurer- Craig Phillips; Recorder- Jerry Zent; Advocate- Vince Feck; Chancellor- Jerry Espiritu; Warden-Alan Chamblee; Inside Guard- Art Zielinski; Outside Guard- Scott Smithburn; Third Trustee- Todd Elliott; Second Trustee-Rick Alexander; First Trustee- Mikel Hogan. Congratulations to all!

Installation of Officers: This event will take place at Little Flower immediately following the 11:30 Mass on Sunday August 1st. All parishioners are invited and encouraged to attend and view this important event. There will be refreshments immediately following the event in the Parish Center again all are invited to attend. This is the official installation of all Officers for the new fraternal year.

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Barbara & Dick Tjarsen	Peck & Lohmann Families	Morell-Piza Family	
Hanson & Bauer Families	Ouellette & Parent Families	Peterson Family	
		Dillman Family	
		Christine Stayback	
		For the Poor Souls in Purgatory	