

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, July 30 St. Peter Chrysologus, bishop 4 pm +Virginia Wolney by Wolney Familly

- +Jean Cyncewicz 11th ann. By Wolney Family
- +Gerald Haliburda Sr. by family
- +Gerald Haliburda Jr. by family

For God's blessings on Fr. Luke as he celebrates his 25th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood

Sunday, July 31 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time 8 am People of the Parish

10 am +Baldassare Filippi by Paula & TJ Briggs Susan & Andrew Gogola 50th wed. ann. by family12 pm For Vocations to the Priesthood & Religious

Monday, August 1 St. Alphonsus Ligouri 8 am +John Cardinal Dearden (34th ann.) Living & Dec'd Members of St. Alphonsus Parish

Tuesday, Aug. 2 St. Eusbius of Vercelli bishop and St. Peter Julian Eymard, priest 8 am no intention offered

Wednesday, August 3 Weekday 8 am no intention offered

Thursday August 4 St. John Vianney, priest 8 am +Nancy Roberts by family

1st Friday, August 5 Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome

8 am +Robert Choike by the Bedard Family
 12 Noon +Irene Pastuszka by Margaret Gallagher
 +George Tardie by Sam & Marge Dicriscio

1st Saturday, Aug. 6 Transfiguration of the Lord 8 am In reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary 4 pm +Joseph K. McAdams by family

+Bernard Dzbanski by Wolney Family
Int. of Mary Formosa by Medical Missionaries of
Mary

Sunday, August 7 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time 8 am +Geraldine Filippi by Tom & Valerie Koselka 10 am +Frank J. Hicks by friends

- +Pearl Dube by family
- +Jim Cavley by Betty Cavley
- +Monica Rainey bday by family

In tksgiving Alice Rudegeair by Jim & Jan Russell **12 pm** For the People of the Parish

Please note: Mass intentions originally offered for the 5 p.m. Sunday Mass are being offered instead at the 12 Noon Mass





PARISH CSA UPDATE

To date, only \$ 21,568 has been pledged or paid toward our parish target of \$ 74,466. You are asked to seriously consider the opportunity to support the work of evangelization and charity in the Archdiocese of Detroit. A suggested donation of \$100 is asked of each parishioner if you are able to do so.

ANNOUNCING THE LADYWOOD LEGACY GROUP!

We are excited to announce that in October 2020 an independent group of interested alumnae and former supportive employees gathered to lead an effort to form the Ladywood Legacy Group for the purpose of preserving the legacy of Ladywood High School.

All Ladywood alumni, staff, coaches, and parents are invited to join the Ladywood Legacy community on Sunday, September 11 for Mass in the Motherhouse Presentation Chapel followed by a plaque dedication, brunch, and fellowship. This event will be a place where you can share your stories, meet your fellow alumnae, catch up with old friends, make some new friends, and just have a good time! We hope you will join us as we celebrate Lady-wood's Legacy, and of course, relive your glory days. Register today at bit.ly/LWOODMASS. Tickets are \$25 and must be purchased by August 26. You can also visit our website at ladywoodlegacy.weebly.com to register or for additional updates and group information.



Please remember in your prayers the souls of Jacqueline
Pruzzo, Frank Bydlowski
and Margaret Gallagher
whose funeral Masses were
celebrated last week. May
they share in the eternal life of
Christ, our Risen Lord. May
their families and friends be

consoled in the hope of the resurrection.

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT following the morning Mass until 9:30 am. Consider offering your heart to our Lord, most present in the Blessed Sacrament, for the salvation of the world.

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

What makes us feel secure? Many people look to tangible forms of security that will safeguard their livelihood and prepare for their future. We tend to associate security with things: the accumulation of goods and possessions, retirement funds, savings accounts, and substantial incomes. While acquiring these promises a life with less anxiety and worry, we actually find ourselves more preoccupied and consumed with their growth and preservation. We worry more!

We can easily become quasi-hoarders, consumed with obtaining more tangible crutches. Our minds and hearts are always restless, and we never seem to be at peace.



Why do we so easily give our self-worth, value, and sense of security over to things? God certainly does not deny us the pursuit of a productive and enjoyable life but where do we draw the line? A sense of well-being and happiness can easily get deferred to sometime "in the future" while we continue to wrestle with the toils of today. There is no guarantee that there will be an earthly tomorrow and all of the frenzy we bring to securing our state in life will be for naught. When we are called from this world, will we even know where to begin to look for the tranquility and repose our souls so desperately need?

We cannot be hoarders, pursuers of vanity, or greedy. They just don't work as they are too dependent on things that can fall apart. Rather than always feeling the need for more, we need to learn how to be grateful for what we have. By learning to look inward we can learn how to live lives of faithful service to others. "Happiness can only be achieved by looking inward and learning to enjoy whatever life has, and this requires transforming greed into gratitude (St. John Chrysostom)." We all need to be good stewards of what has been entrusted to our care. Grateful hearts recognize the true source of what we have and realize that our true treasure lies not in what matters to us but to God. ©I Pi

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Greed is more present and powerful in our lives than we care to admit. We like our "stuff" and are hesitant to part with it. What we convince ourselves that we really need, we really do not. If everything we own is tak-



en away from us tomorrow, life will continue. We will find happiness again. How many relationships are ruined because of inheritance issues? Our possessions cannot come with us when we die. Why do we foolishly think that we cannot live without them here? Wealth and happiness do not have physical origins. True wealth and happiness are gifts of God's kingdom and matters of heart and soul. We are much more than what we possess, and greed is more real and operative than we think. Let us begin our journey to detachment with an honest admission. We often place more importance on things than on people and God. Ask God to

accept our conflicted hearts and give us the courage to do things differently. ©LPi

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK - INVITE PARISHIONERS TO REFLECT AND RESPOND TO SCRIPTURE

First Reading: Ecclesiastes speaks of "vanity" in the sense of emptiness or futility, such as those who seek to build their legacy or those who suffer with a restless heart. How are you able to remain focused on the important things in your life?

Second Reading: Paul teaches the Colossians that the key to focusing on "what is above, not on what is on earth" is to live a moral and upright life, grounded in your faith in Christ. Who do you know who does this well?

Gospel: Jesus tells the parable of the rich fool in response to a question about inheritance, warning the crowd about over dependence on possessions. How do you balance your material needs with "what matters to God?" ©LPi

The Catholic Church dedicates the month of August to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Just as devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus is only a form of devotion to the adorable Person of Jesus, so also is devotion to the Holy Heart of Mary a special form of devotion to Mary. It is intended that the faithful reflect on Mary's Immaculate Heart in its full-



A MINUTE OF YOUR TIME Deacon Regis

ness. It is the expressive symbol and the living reminder of Mary's interior life, her joys and sorrows, her virtues and hidden perfections, and, above all, her virginal love for her God, her maternal love for her Divine Son, and her motherly and compassionate love for her sinful children here below.

Throughout scripture and in the early church you can find examples of devotion to the Heart of Mary. These devotions were widespread and became more and more popular as time went on. n 1799 Pius VI, then in captivity at Florence, granted the Bishop of Palermo the feast of the Most Pure Heart of Mary for some of the churches in his diocese. In 1805 Pius VII made a new concession, thanks to which the feast was soon widely observed. Such was the existing condition when a twofold movement, started in Paris, gave fresh impetus to the devotion. The two factors of this movement were first of all the revelation of the "miraculous medal"; in 1830, and then the establishment at Notre-Dame-des-Victoires of the Arch confraternity of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Refuge of Sinners, which spread rapidly throughout the world. On 21 July, 1855, the Congregation of Rites finally approved the Office and Mass of the Most Pure Heart of Mary without, however, imposing them upon the Universal Church. Interestingly enough, there is no Universal Feast Day for the Immaculate Heart of Mary; however, the Church dedicates the month of August to that Most Pure and immaculate Heart.

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY, PRAY FOR US

God Is Good All the Time! All the Time God Is Good!

Don't forget, join us this Friday and every Friday at 3PM to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet on ZOOM. See the ad in our bulletin or on the parish website for details on how to join in. Hope to see you there!

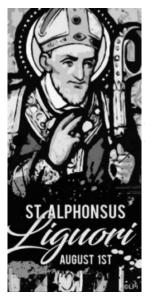
There are times in our lives that we get the chance to see a glimpse of heaven. It may be through the love of another, loved one or stranger. Sometimes it may even be an event that seems unexplainable, perhaps even supernatural. These occurrences may be the answer to prayer or they may surprise us by coming out of nowhere. But no matter their nature or origin, they give us hope and strength to carry on through life.

When we journey on a pathway of stewardship, we are bound to experience moments of grace where we see even the smallest seeds we planted grow into something amazing. At these moments, we are reminded that God is real and that our stewardship is not in vain. The giving of our gifts and talents is not just a response to God's calling. The giving is one way that God breaks through into the lives of others. As we use what God has



given us for his glory, he uses us as instruments of grace to be truly present to others.

The greatest example of this occurs at the Mass. Through the hands of an ordained priest taking the gifts of bread and wine, God is really present with us. When we then take Christ into our bodies, we accept the offer to take him into the world to others. The world cannot see Jesus in us with human eyes, but through our works of stewardship, they can see Jesus in us. One could say they even have a chance to see a glimpse of heaven. — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS © Liturgical Publications



St. Alphonsus Liguori | Aug. 1

Saint Alphonsus was born into a well-respected family in 1696, in Marianella, in the Kingdom of Naples. He received an exceptional education through private tutors and was conferred degrees

in civil and canon law at 16. He practiced law for 8 years before he turned to the Church. He was ordained a priest in 1726.

Saint Alphonsus traveled for 26 years in Kingdom of Naples preaching. His style of ministry was called "mission among the

people," he and a group of priests or lay brothers would go to rural areas, staying for a time to teach, preach, and pray with the people there.

Saint Alphonsus was a brilliant preacher, he was able to connect with ordinary people and his teaching and sermons were marked by his compassion. In a time of restrictive Church rule, where fear of God was truly fear, Saint Alphonsus taught about God's redeeming love. He also had a special devotion to Mary, praying to her for intercession and including devotions to her in his teaching. He wrote extensively, more than 100 books which have been through thousands of editions. His books are still available today and have been translated into more than 60 languages.

In 1762 Saint Alphonsus was made a bishop by Pope Clement XIII, however, he was eventually allowed to resign his post because of his ill health. He was paralyzed for a time from rheumatic fever in 1775, and had rheumatism so severe it was deforming, bending his head so far forward that his chin rested on his chest.

He died peacefully at the age of 90 in 1787. He was canonized in 1839 by Pope Gregory XVI, and in 1871 he was named a doctor of the church by Pope Pius IX. In 1950 he was declared patron of moral theologians by Pope Pius XII. ©LPi







EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

What We Store in the Barn

I once knew a godly woman who had truly tasted the bitterness of this earthly life. This woman knew pain. She knew sacrifice. She knew hard labor and loss, including the death of a cherished child. She worked each day at a low-paying job, waiting patiently for her 65th birthday, when she could retire and devote herself full-time to her grandchildren. She crossed off the dwindling days on her calendar like a first grader waiting for Christmas.

Ninety-eight days before she was set to retire, she died suddenly. Her name was erased from the schedule at work and penciled over with that of her replacement hire.

All things are vanity.

I think we all know someone like this, don't we? If the details aren't exactly the same, the outline of the story is: someone labors "with wisdom and knowledge and skill," in the words of Ecclesiastes. And what profit comes to him? Sorrow and grief all his days. The proverbial barn filled with harvest and left to rot.

But I'll let you in on a secret: this isn't a sad story. I've only told you part of it.

This woman heard, daily, the voice of God, and against it she never hardened her heart, whatever news it brought her. This woman loved as hard as she worked. Every action was a form of evangelization. To talk to her was to feel the embrace of Christ.

As much as she waited for that retirement that never came, it was never the harvest in her barn.

This is what it means to be a true steward: to seek what is above.

- Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi



Norm Abramczyk Louise Ames Anna Axe Harry Bacalia Sue Bacalia Norma Bak Violet Barrette **Bob Behmer Bob Bellottie** Jim Bellottie Vincent Bellottie Judy Bennett Patricia Best Sharon Bieniek Cynthia Blaha Marilyn Block Aaron Boyless Thomas J. Brennan, Jr. Ken Butler Joan Buzo Stella Camilleri Jacob Cassar

Richard Cline Carolyn Doran Zoe Cossin Betty Ann Crawford Todd Dawson Shannon Dawson Tina Doney Sandy Dudek Marsha Farmer Cecil Fernandez Tina Fernandez Lisa Foster Rose Fraley Duane Glossa Roseann Gomez Bob & Lori Gonzales Garv Graham Jr **Abigail Graves** Jennifer Hanna Green Charlotte Gutierrez Eileen Halpin Tina Hovis Sue Jagodka Joanne Kacher Norman Kaleto Brenda Kaleto Fr. Terry Kerner Evelyn Kisell Chris Kovac John Kovac Jenene Kozinski

George Kramar Rachel La Pointe Patrica Lacopelli Joseph Lasky Margaret Lasky Jennifer Mackaluso & Family Guadalupe Madrigal Phyllis Mareck Donald Martin Erin Martin Larry & Carol McGrew Sue McCoy Linda Molek Steven Monroe **Dorothy Morse** Pat Mozdzen Suzanne Nicholas Gigi Novak Daniel O'Connor Diane Owens John Palmer Mary Pellegrini Jenna Peters Maryanne Peters Jimmy Piche Kathleen Pietras Mary Pike Jeff Pinaillev Jess Pingilley Linda Pingilley

Robert Pingilley Sam Pingilley Wayne Pingilley Carol Regnier Whitney Regnier Noemia Reid Richard Roberts Laura Salazar Richard Sanchez Fred Sanscrainte Matt Sanscrainte Joann Sanscrainte Dennis Scanland Carol Schwartz Darlene Shannon Phil Shannon Rose Shannon Jaxon Shubik Jimmy Stecki Gerald Stevens Jim Tokarczyk Bob Tomey Laurie Trupp MichaelWheelock Eileen Winnie The Wirick Family Frank Wojcik Stephen Zelle



Air Force

Matthew Thornton, Nicole Thornton, Michelle Thornton, Brittany Mack, Tiffany Kay Smith (Ladd), husband, Don Smith

Army

Josh Harpster, Zachary Robbins, Robert Truchan, Anthony Lemieux, Bryce Bieniek, Tony Pernicano, Jacob Grzebienik, Matthew Hapunowicz

Marines

Joseph Krawzyk, 1st Lieutenant, Joseph McGinnis, Corporal, Andrew Clark, 1st Lieutenant, Cody S. Pratt, Luke Cohen, Lance Corporal

Navy

Ryan Detlor, Patrick Hanosh

Army National Guard Vincent Nowak, Michael Dunne

18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME





Gospel Differences

Question: Why do the Gospels differ in their details? I was surprised to learn that not all of the Gospels tell the same stories, for example, the Nativity. Doesn't this take away from their credibility?

Answer: Take any event that happens, from family trips to national politics and ask two or three different people to explain what happened. You will get a different version of the same story. People tend to tell the story from their perspective, and past experience shades what we recall and how we recall it. Our choice of words and what details we leave in or out is also influenced by the audience who is listening to our tales.

The Gospel writers are no different. Each one tells the story of Jesus from their own perspective. Versions differ in some details, not because one is true and the other is not, but because each Gospel writer, or Evangelist, has a different theological point to communicate as well as a different audience for whom he is writing. He picks and chooses the details of his Gospel based on what message he is preaching, what his audience may already know, and what message they need to hear. The various details of the Gospels point more to their authenticity as a record of the church's experience and understanding of Jesus. In a good study Bible, the background notes for each Gospel contain a lot of information that helps us better understand each Evangelist and his message. ©LPi

1st Reading: Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21–23 Wasted Work

Nobody likes to waste time. If someone has not done the job and it costs us time and effort, we get angry. If a company promised to deliver by a certain date and it misses the deadline, we are furious. If somebody does the job wrong, and we have to redo it, we hate it. We hate to waste time. But some of the hard work we do is also wasted. Work may feel valuable because it fills our time. It feels worthwhile if we do it faithfully.

But not everything we do has value. Some of it keeps us from doing more important things. Workaholics spend less time with family. People concerned with their own lives may volunteer less for others. Our work and our lives are important, but sometimes not as important as we think.

Qoheleth says everything is vanity; everything is worthless. You spend your life gaining wisdom, knowledge, and skill, but at the end of your life you give all your property to someone who has not worked for it. You work all day long. You spend your days in sorrow and grief and your nights without rest. The bleak descriptions by this Old Testament writer keep us humble about our work. We may not be as important as we thought.

Perhaps God gets frustrated with us too. Why do we waste our time? The time we spend with God is never wasted at all.

2nd Reading: Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Colossians 3:1–5, 9–11 There Goes the Neighborhood

Where you live determines how you live. If you live in an apartment, you have to be mindful of your neighbors. If you share a homeowners' association, you have to follow its rules. Even if you have a private home in a gated community, you have to pay taxes and keep up with the bills.

Where do you live? No, not your address. Not the apartment number. Not your street or neighborhood. Not the town you chose because of its beauty or proximity to work. Where do you live? You live with Christ.

The Letter to the Colossians calls
Christian brothers and sisters those who
"were raised with Christ." And it tells them,
in a beautiful phrase, where they live:
"Your life is hidden with Christ in God."

Because we were raised with Christ, we live above, and we should seek the things that pertain to life above, not to life below. "Think of what is above, not of what is on earth."



We have a classy address. We live with Christ in God. Where we live determines how we live. We put aside the wants of the earth: immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed. We adopt the way of freedom and unity. It's good for the neighborhood.

We are hidden with Christ in God. We are so close to Christ that when he, our life, appears, we will appear with him in glory

Lectionary Bulletin Inserts: Reflections on the First and Second Readings, Year C © 2019 Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications. All rights reserved. Written by Paul Turner. Lectionary for Mass © 2001, CCD.



Please drop off your donations on Mondays and Wednesdays between 12:00 and 2:00pm or call Matt at 313.595.1317

Here is the current list of needs for our pantry:

Mustard Mashed Potatoes
Hamburger Helper Stove Top Stuffing
Kool Aid in a can Coffee
Hormel Chili with/without beans
Mac n Cheese (need badly)
All Cereal except Cheerios or Honey Nut

We are well into the hot days of summer and the lines at the pantry remain long. People are having difficulties putting food on their tables. We are dealing with not being able to find certain items in the grocery store so we have to eliminate them from our list. Times are hard on all of us but if you can find a place in your heart to remember our neighbors in need, please consider donating to our pantry.

We also are beginning our "Simply Give Program" at Meijer in Allen Park. Please try and stop by and donate to this worthy cause. We are the pantry being helped from July 3 rd till October 1 ST. Remember, a \$10 donation gets us \$20 and on August 13 th and September 10 th Meijer will double your donation. In return, we get debit cards back which we can go and purchase items we need.

Please enjoy your summer, stay cool and remember your neighbors in need. God bless you all.

LECTORS

July 30-31

4 pm Gretchen Searynck 8 am Pat Wallace 10 am Pat Schoenherr 12 pm Betty Cayley

August 6-7

4 pm Sylvia Francis 8 am Tom Koselka 10 am Pat Woodby 12 pm Francis Tofil

August 13-14

4 pm Dave Griswack8 am Mary Ellen Sobczak10 am Garry Schoenherr12 pm Mary Jane Favot

August 20-21

4 pm Marge Taylor 8 am Pat Wallace 10 am Pat Schoenherr 12 pm Francis Tofil POLISH ALLIANCE DANCERS; GEN.
PULASKI LANGUAGE
SCHOOL (youth lessons since 1963) and POLANIE
Song & Dance Ensemble (adult lessons since 1997) accepting Registrations for 2022-23 year.

Lessons held at ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH, 31530 Beechwood Avenue, Garden City, MI 48135, north of Ford Road, west side of Merriman Road. FIRST DAY of Dance and Language Classes: Saturday, September 10, 2022, 9:30 am. No experience -- just LOVE Polish! For more information or to request Registration Form, please contact Natalia Jackson, Director, 734-674-7352 or polaniedetroit96@gmail.com. Instill the love of Polish culture in your children! Join our Polish Dance and Language family! You'll LOVE it!



BULLETIN EDITOR

** bulletin@smgoretti.com **

All submissions are due 10 days before publication date.

The deadline for bulletin submissions is **2:00pm on Thursday, 10 days before the bulletin date**.

Exceptions occur when the bulletin is required to be sent early due to holidays.

Please plan ahead as submissions received past the deadline will be published in the following week's bulletin.

Submissions should be sent as a Word document (single spaced), PDF or photo format (JPEG, TIFF, GIF, PNG), attached to or in the body of an email



Online giving makes it easy to give! You never have to bring envelopes, cash or checks to church. Giving electronically also helps the church save money and plan its budget.

There are no fees for on-line giving.

- ★ Visit the St. Maria Goretti website at www.stmariagorettiparish.com
- **★** Click on the Online Giving link on the left side of the home page.
- **★** Complete the registration form

Please feel free to call the Parish Office if you should have any questions or want to know more about Online Giving.

Your donations are vital to the success of our Parish community.

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

with Deacon Regis
Join us on
Fridays at 3:00pm to pray the
Divine Mercy Chaplet on ZOOM.
To connect by computer use this link:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85478055945
To connect by smart phone call
1 (312) 626 6799

PARISH COMMISSIONS, COUNCILS AND GROUPS

Parish Council

Chairperson: Richard Fron

Co-Chairperson: Chris Bergeron

Secretary: Thomas Koselka

Members at Large:Barbara BalniusMario FerrantePat WallaceDavid GriswackValerie KoselkaJohn O'CallaghanMarge TaylorSandy VanAssche

Linda Wielkopolan

Worship Commission: David Griswack

Education/Formation Comm: Marge Taylor

Christian Svc. Commission: Cathy Nagle

Finance Council: Dianna Dunne

Ushers President: Dave Griswack

313.999.5144

St. Maria Goretti Parish Directory

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WEBSITE: www.stmariagorettiparish.com

PARISH OFFICE parishoffice@smgoretti.com Phone: 313.562.5356 Fax: 313.562.0058

PARISH STAFF & LEADERSHIP

PASTOR Rev. David Lesniak pastor@smgoretti.com

SENIOR DEACON Rev. Mr. Lawrence Girard

PARISH DEACON

Rev. Mr. Regis Buckley deacon@smgoretti.com

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE

DRE@smgoretti.com or FaithForm@smgoretti.com 313.563.0960

ORGANIST ELYSE PENZATO

BULLETIN EDITOR bulletin@smgoretti.com

St. Vincent De Paul Food Pantry Ext. 309 Matt Kulczyk Direct Number: 313.563.3970

WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturday: 4 p.m.

Sunday: 8 a.m., 10 a.m. & 12 Noon

DAILY MASSES:

Monday through Friday: 8 a.m. First Friday: 8 a.m. & 12 Noon

First Saturday: 8 a.m.

CONFESSIONS Saturday: 3 - 3:30 p.m. or by request

HOLYDAYS TIMES TO BE DETERMINED

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

First Fridays following the morning Mass until 9:30 a.m.

BAPTISMS Contact Parish Office for arrangements. *Pre-Baptism Class required*.

MARRIAGES Please contact Parish Office at least six (6) months in advance.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Closed to visitors until further notice due to surge in covid cases. Please telephone or email. Calls after hours should be limited to emergencies only.

Monday - Thursday: 9 am - 1 pm **Friday**: CLOSED for the time being

If you need to contact the parish office, please call during regular business hours. You can also reach the parish office by email: parishoffice@smgoretti.com



Sunday, Jul 31, 2022 Dizzy yet? Do you ever feel like the world is spinning out **PREPARE** of control? You're not alone: Pope Francis has called this effect of modern culture "rapidification." It's not just you: Things really are happening, progressing, WORD and becoming obsolete faster—including what many of us do for a living. We're not unlike the tragic lamplighter in Catholic author Antoine de Saint-Exupéry's classic, The Little Prince. The lamplighter's planet is turning faster, but he still

operates at the same mortal speed. He must now respond to 1,440 sunsets where there used to be just one. Now more than ever, we need to honor our Sabbaths and take our rest. EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDI-NARY TIME TODAY'S READINGS: Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23; Colossians 3:1-5, 9- 11; Luke 12:13-21 (114). "For what profit comes to [us] from all the toil and anxiety of heart with which [we have] labored under the sun?"

Monday, Aug 01, 2022 Vocation is deeper than a job Alphonsus Liguori is the patron saint of many things, including the work of laypeople. Even though he was a founder of a religious order, the Redemptorists, he was, of course, first a layperson himself—and one with a successful career. A lawyer who didn't lose a case for eight years straight, he still found time in his busy schedule to visit the terminally ill, which is how he discovered his true vocation and became a priest and leading theologian. Liguori might be the first to advise: Take a break from work to give back to the community and you might get your big break in finding your mission. MEMORIAL OF ALPHONSUS LIGUORI, BISHOP, FOUNDER, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH TODAY'S READINGS: Jeremiah 28:1-17; Matthew 14:13-21 (407). "His heart was moved with pity for them, and he cured their sick."

Tuesday, Aug 02, 2022 Be present to the presence Peter Julian Eymard, the French Catholic priest who founded the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament, had a deep love and understanding of the Eucharist. "How kind is our Sacramental Jesus! He welcomes you at any hour of the day or night. His Love never knows rest," he said. "When you visit Him, He forgets your sins and speaks only of His joy, His tenderness, and His Love. By the reception He gives to you, one would think He has need of you to make Him happy." Take such words to heart as we begin the U.S. bishops' new Eucharistic Revival. MEMORIAL OF PETER JULIAN EY-MARD, PRIEST, FOUNDER TODAY'S READINGS: Jeremiah 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22; Matthew 14:22- 36 or Matthew 15:1-2, 10-14 (408). "Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid."

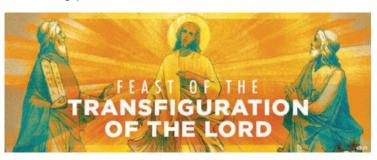
Wednesday, Aug 03, 2022 Let your life be one of service Sor Isolina Ferré Aguayo, M.S.B.T., a Missionary Sister, died on this day in 2000 after a lifetime of service to the poor of her native Puerto Rico and New York. Known as the "Mother Teresa of Puerto Rico," Aguayo served people living on the margins and opened schools and resource centers throughout Puerto Rico and beyond. For her tireless work, she received 17 honorary degrees and more than 50 additional awards including the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1999, bestowed for "her passionate fight against poverty, violence, and despair in Puerto Rico and Brooklyn, New York, where she worked to reconcile rival gangs in 1950-1960." In endowing the award, President Clinton said Sor Isolina taught people "to see the best in themselves and in their communities." May we all serve so well. TODAY'S READINGS: Jeremiah 31:1-7; Matthew 15:21-28 (409). "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish."

Thursday, Aug 04, 2022 Persistence is a virtue Sometimes a vocation comes packaged with obstacles. Perhaps it is God's way of testing our resolve. In any case, John Vianney, born in revolutionary France in 1786, modeled persistence in his determination to become a priest. His religious training was disrupted by the anticlerical reign of terror unleashed during the French Revolution. Priests in hiding who risked their lives to administer the sacraments became Vianney's heroes, and once the church was reestablished. Vianney entered seminary. Today we know him as the patron saint of parish priests. May his story inspire us to overcome obstacles that keep us from our God-given vocation, whatever that might be. MEMORIAL OF JOHN VIANNEY, PRIEST TODAY'S READINGS: Jeremiah 31:31-34; Matthew 16:13-23 (410), "You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do."

Friday, Aug 05, 2022 At home in a house church Christians first gathered in homes, or "house churches," before there were dedicated religious buildings. Remember the "upper room" where the disciples received

the gift of the Holy Spirit? It was likely one of the first house churches. As Christians were able to more freely express their faith, churches were built. One of the most historic and significant churches is the Basilica of Mary Major in Rome. It was built out of deep love of Mary and her significance in salvation history. It holds many important relics, works of art, and the sacred experiences of pilgrims since the fifth century. What is a church that has been especially meaningful for you? MEMORIAL OF THE DEDICATION OF THE BASILICA OF MARY MAJOR TODAY'S READINGS: Nahum 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7; Matthew 16:24-28 (411). "See, upon the mountains there advances the bearer of good news, announcing peace!"

Saturday, Aug 06, 2022 Bury the bomb On August 6, 1945 at 8:15 in the morning, an atomic bomb exploded above Hiroshima, Japan, dropped from an American B 29 bomber. In an instant some 70.000 souls were incinerated by the 10,000-degree fireball generated in the blast. By the end of the year, injury and radiation doubled the total number of deaths. Seventy-five years later, Pope Francis declared the



use of atomic weapons, even the mere possession of such devices, to be immoral. Reflect on the transfigured Christ who stands in solidarity with the suffering and dead of all crimes against humanity. FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD TODAY'S READINGS: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14; 2 Peter 1:16-19; Luke 9:28b-36 (614). "While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white."

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