



St. Mary's Catholic Church



16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The Lord said to her in reply, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things. There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part and it will not be taken from her." - Lk 10:41-42

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

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July 20, 2025

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Mass Schedule and Intentions

7-20: Malta - 10:30 A.M: For all Parishioners

Saco— 8:30 A.M. : Repose of Lee Stevens /b Myrtle LaFond

Dodson— 12:30 P.M. : Repose of Jim Nevriy r/b Dave & Anne Boothe

7-21: Malta— 8:30 A. M. : Linda Sherrard r/b Darlene Cummings

7-22: Malta - 8:30 A.M. : Gloria Combs r/b Corky & Bonnie LaBrie

7-23: Malta— 8:30 A.M. : My Family /b Lana Fortin

7-24: Malta - 8:30 A.M.: Repose Jim Nevriy r/b Julie & Gary Howell

7-25: Malta: - 8:30 A.M.: The ill r/b Lana Fortin

7-26: Malta -5:00 P.M.: Repose of Fred Allery r/b Julie & Gary Howell

Confession Schedule

Fr. Felix will be in the Confessional at St. Mary's Church **Friday's 9:00-10:00,**
Saturday from 11:00 A.M.—Noon; and by appointment.

Weekly Eucharistic Adoration

Every Friday from 9 to 10 AM after Daily Mass.



Contact Fr. Felix for Home Visits, Distribution of the Sacraments, Home Blessings and Counseling of any type.

Knights of Columbus
Council 2124

Parish Council of Catholic
Women

Meets **First Tuesday** of the month

Meets **Second Sunday** of the month

Daily Scripture Readings

7-20: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Genesis 18:1-10; Psalms 15:2-5; Colossians 1:24-28; Luke 10:38-42

7-21: St. Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest and Doctor of the Church; Exodus 14:5-18; Exodus 15:1-6; Matthew 12:38-42

7-22: St. Mary Magdalene; Songs 3:1-4 or 2 Corinthians 5:14-17; Psalms 63:2-6, 8-9; John 20:1-2, 11-18

7-23: St. Bridget, Religious; Exodus 16:1-5, 9-15; Psalms 78:18-19, 23-28; Matthew 13:1-9

7-24: St. Sharbel Makhlūf, Priest; Exodus 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20; Daniel 3:52-56; Matthew 13:10-17

7-25: St. James, Apostle; 2 Corinthians 4:7-15; Psalms 126:1-6; Matthew 20:20-28

7-26: Sts. Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary; Exodus 24:3-8; Psalms 50:1-2, 5-6, 14-15; Matthew 13:24-30

7-27: 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Genesis 18:20-32; Psalms 138:1-3, 6-8; Colossians 2:12-14; Luke 11:1-13

Saturday Evening - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday—Dodson—8:30 a.m.

Malta - 10:30 a.m.

Saco— 12:30 p.m.



New to the Parish?

Welcome! We're glad you will be joining us. If you would like to register with the parish, please fill out this form and drop it in the collection basket. You may bring it by the parish office or send it to us.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Email address: _____

You may also use this form for a change of address. Thanks!

Sacraments

Confessions: See page 2 of this week's bulletin for schedule or by appointment.

Anointing of the Sick: Please contact Fr. Felix as soon as possible for anointing.

Baptism: Normally celebrated at weekend Masses. Parental sessions are required.

Marriages: Six month couple preparation period required. Please meet with Fr. Felix before scheduling marriage date.

Please Pray For

Adalyn McCollom, Ramona Kienenberger, Gloria Combs, Corky LaBrie, Kristi Shettle Peterson, Emily Robinson, Ramona Kienenberger, Brian Shevlin, Dianne Salsbery, Ann Enya, Darlene Kolczak, Bob Kaluza, Tammy Peterson, those from our area serving in the military.

For the repose of the souls of Jim Robinson, David Williamson, Lee Stevens, Marie Phillips, Anita Green, Helen Mears, the poor souls in purgatory and for the comfort and peace for their families.

Anyone who needs to have prayers said for someone can call Dianne Salsbery 654-4675. Names will be listed in the bulletin for one month unless specified.

Gospel Meditation

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Luke 10:38-42

One of my close friends is a hermit priest who lives on a desert mountain. Recently I found myself in a group conversation about him. One vehemently objected, “What does he do up there all day? Nothing! Priests are down here working, running parishes, making a difference, and he...he is doing nothing! What a waste.” The words dripped with indignation and resentment. Most of the group quietly nodded in silent agreement. Were they correct?

No! To see why, consider a similar scenario in this week’s gospel. Jesus visits his friends Martha and Mary. A hardworking and exasperated Martha complains to Jesus that her sister is attending to him rather than to urgent household tasks. Our Lord, rather than praising hospitality, explicitly celebrates the less-productive sister for doing the “one necessary thing.” He praises her for she “has chosen the better part” (Luke 10:42). Mary is busy doing what matters.

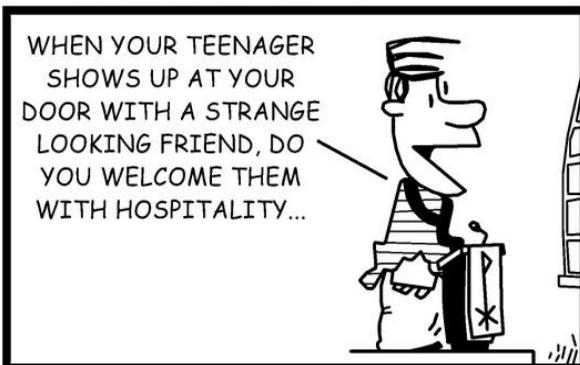
Before we freak out like Martha, consider that all work—domestic, manual, professional, minis-

terial, contemplative—is done to help us (sooner or later) to experience the love that makes us happy. We should be thankful for those who focus on the “better part” of radical, ceaseless prayer. They invite us to remember the purpose of all work is the enjoyment of love. Contemplatives, hermits, anyone fervently committed to prayer—they invite us to cast aside our forgetful, resentful, and self-aggrandizing attitudes in exchange for hearts ready to do what is finally necessary.

Father John Muir



16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Fr. Felix

XVI Sunday Gen 18:1-10, Col 1:24-28, Lk 10:38-42

Dear brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ, The theme of today's liturgy is the divine invitation to both serve and receive grace. It calls us to balance action with contemplation, understanding that true communion with God requires both a welcoming heart and a listening ear.

In the first reading, we hear of Abraham's extraordinary hospitality toward three mysterious visitors. Despite being a man of advanced age and weariness, Abraham rushes to prepare a feast for them. His actions reflect a profound theological truth: when we welcome others, we are in fact welcoming God. Abraham doesn't recognize at first that the visitors are divine, yet his immediate response is one of unreserved openness. This teaches us that God's presence is often encountered through simple acts of kindness and humility. In the same way, our daily acts of service can become moments of divine encounter, where God chooses to make His presence known. Abraham's generosity is a model for us: to serve others as if serving God Himself.

In the second reading from Colossians, St. Paul speaks of the "mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to

His saints." That mystery is Christ in us, the hope of glory. Paul writes that he rejoices in his sufferings for the Church because through his suffering, the body of Christ—the Church—can grow and be made whole. For Paul, suffering is not pointless or aimless; it has a redemptive purpose in building up the Body of Christ. This connects to the message of the first reading: just as Abraham's hospitality prepared a space for God to dwell,

our suffering can become a place where Christ dwells within us, bringing us to greater union with Him. The mystery of God's presence in our lives is not just about personal comfort or joy—it's also about embracing the transformative power of suffering, knowing that in Christ, even our struggles can bear fruit.

Finally, in the Gospel of Luke, we encounter the well-known story of Martha and Mary. Martha is busy with all the preparations, while Mary sits at the feet of Jesus, listening to His words. Jesus gently rebukes Martha, saying that Mary has chosen the better part. Now, it's not that Martha's work is unimportant, after all, service is a central part of Christian life, but the issue lies in her distraction. She be-

comes so consumed by her tasks that she forgets the importance of sitting at the feet of Jesus, of listening to His word and letting it shape her life.

Our work, our service, our responsibilities, they are all important. But they cannot become so consuming that they drown out our relationship with Christ. Jesus isn't asking us to abandon our duties, but to prioritize Him in all that we do. In this, we can see a profound connection to both Abraham and Paul: to serve God and others, to suffer for the Church, and to listen

attentively to Christ's voice are all essential parts of the Christian life.

In these readings, we are called to hospitality, to embrace suffering for the sake of the Church, and to listen to Christ amidst our busy lives. In every moment, whether in service or in stillness, Christ desires to be present to us. Like Abraham, let us be ready to welcome Him. Like Paul, let us find purpose even in our suffering. And like Mary, let us choose the better part—making space for His voice to transform our lives. Amen.

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Sat 7/19 to Sun 7/20

Honor a beloved priest today with the St. John Vianney Priest Tribute!

As Catholics, we know how important priests are in our lives. They are our shepherds and make countless sacrifices to be able to offer us the Sacraments and their pastoral care. Good priests are truly one of God's greatest gifts!

If your life has been touched by one of our many good shepherds, past or present, we invite you to thank him with a gift in his honor (or memory) through the Catholic Foundation of Eastern Montana's St. John Vianney Tribute on Thursday, August 4. St. John Vianney is the patron saint of parish priests!

There's more, on August 4, St. John Vianney's feast day, our Bishop, Most Reverend Jeffrey Fleming, will offer a special Mass for all the priests of our diocese, especially those whom you and others have honored in this way.

The Foundation needs to receive your gift and the name of the priest you wish to honor by July 31. Please donate online by visiting www.catholicfoundationmt.org/priest-tribute or give the Foundation a call at 406-315-1765.



Endowing the Future of Our Faith

Announcements for July 20 , 2025

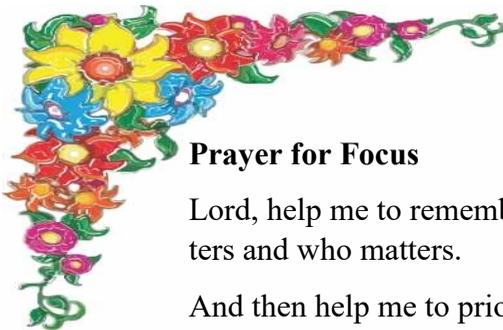
- **Fr. Felix will be out of town July 28-30th. There will not be daily Mass Monday through Wednesday.**



Pray

For

Rain

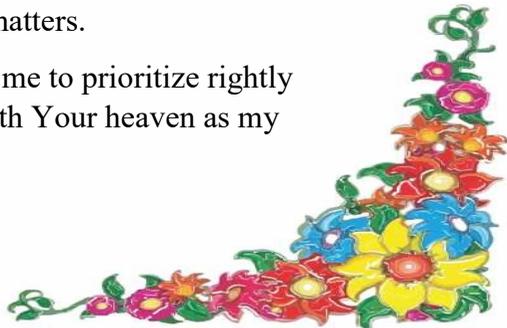


Prayer for Focus

Lord, help me to remember what matters and who matters.

And then help me to prioritize rightly and wisely, with Your heaven as my guide.

Amen



Mass Intentions

As Catholics, we have a long tradition of having Masses celebrated for those we offer up in prayer. The Mass is the ultimate form of prayer, and each Mass is celebrated for an intention. We ask \$10.00 per mass intention.

Please consider having Masses celebrated

for family and friends on special occasions and anniversaries, as well as those who are in need of prayers. Masses are also encouraged in memory of those loved ones who have died, especially on the anniversaries of their deaths. Please contact Fr. Felix for more information.

Offering

Sacrificial Giving for 7-13-2025

7-13-2025

Malta:	\$1,787.50
Dodson:	\$737.00
Saco:	\$ N/A

Finance Council

Deb Sjostrom 406-654-1451, sjostrom@itstriangle.com.

Lance Hould 406-539-5772, lanceh_99@hotmail.com

Mike Ereaux 406-658-2613 (H), 406-654-7803 (C), mfe7195@itstriangle.com

Scott King 406-654-7302, sbking1959@gmail.com

Shyla Sunford 406-399-1484, shylasunford@gmail.com

Bonnie Lankford 406-390-2276, Bonnie4339@hotmail.com

Please send bulletin announcements to brenda@SaintMarysMalta.org by Wednesday evening. Thanks!

(Practicing) Catholic

BENEATH THE SURFACE

Mini reflection: Are you anxious about many things? Then you need to be right where Mary is: at the feet of Jesus, with all your burdens.

Martha's Burdens

It's time to admit it: I've been unfair to Mary in the past. Been a little catty about her. *Oooh, Mary, she's so holy.* Well, do you like to eat, Mary? Who made your lunch? Yeah, that's right: it was Martha. Because you know what? It's the Marthas who get things done in the world while the Marys lounge around reading Aquinas and attending silent retreats and going to Eucharistic Adoration whenever they want.

And there you have it, folks: my bitterness on full display! I tend to identify with Martha, not with Mary, and I need to stop doing that.

Because I am not Martha instead of Mary. I am both. We are all both.

Mary was a woman; she was expected to do the serving, too. She shared that burden; she wasn't abandoning it, heaping her portion on Martha. And it's so wrong to assume that Mary didn't have the same cares and anxieties as Martha — perhaps she even had more!

Here's the difference: Mary, unlike Martha (and me, I guess) knew where to go with them.

We typically see our burdens as an impediment to a relationship with Christ. *I'm so busy. I'm so overwhelmed. There are so many demands on me, on my time, on my person, on my finances. Take a number, Jesus. Get in line.* But we're thinking the wrong way. Burdens aren't an obstacle that stands between us and Christ. Burdens are the straightest path to his feet.

God knows about burdens, okay? Aside from being all-wise and all-knowing, he basically completed a doctorate in suffering, taking on a human form (itself kind of a burden, if you think about it) and for 33 years lived among the hardest and heaviest burdens this world has to offer.

Why did he do this? Well, part of the reason was so that we could finally understand that our burdens aren't a barrier between us and God. On the contrary, they connect us to him.

Are you anxious about many things? Then you need to be right where Mary is: at the feet of Jesus, with all your burdens.

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Parish Council

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Joy DePuydt—674-5560, joyful@itstriangle.com (Saco)

Leona Kienenberger—383-4459, leona_kienenberger@yahoo.com (Dodson)

Everyday Stewardship

Be Ready for God to “Stop By”

In my experience, most people can be divided into two groups: those who are old enough to remember when you kept food on hand for company, and those who aren't.

For those of you in the latter group, let me explain. Before text messaging and social media made us all unconditionally, mercilessly reachable, people would do this thing called “stopping by.” They would be passing by a friend's house, maybe on the way home from work or shopping, and they would just ... stop. With no warning. No notice whatsoever. “I was just in the neighborhood,” they would say. I remember my mother and I would do this on many a Saturday. It wasn't an everyday occurrence, but it was common enough that you had to be ready.

“Crazy,” you might exclaim. “People just appeared on your doorstep? How did you cope with the uncertainty?” Well, most of us had moms who kept a little something on hand to

eat or drink that was extra nice, just in case anyone stopped by. That way, we were always ready.

Today's readings are about a lot of things: prayer, hope, redemptive suffering. They're about what it means to be a Christian, and not just what it means to do Christian things.

Most of all, though, they're about readiness. If God showed up at your door, would you be ready for Him? Would you be ready for what He gives you, or what He takes away? Would you be ready for Him to interrupt the plans you have for yourself? To disrupt the idea you carry in your mind of what a servant or a steward is supposed to be?

Read your Bible. Say your rosary. Go to Mass. Get to Confession. Talk to God — every day, not just when you think you need Him. That way, you are always ready. —

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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This Week on Formed

Week of July 20, 2025



Footprints: The Path of Your Life

Eleven young men from the United States walk the Way of St. James pilgrimage. They are looking for answers, not beautiful scenery: How do you deal with pain and suffering? Do the weak quit, or do they find meaning on the Camino? How much baggage is enough or too much?



Sts. Joachim and Anne | Catholic Saints

Though they never appear in canonical Scripture, Sts. Joachim and Anne—the grandparents of Jesus—hold a place of great importance in the Church's tradition. Discover more about the parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary in this episode of Catholic Saints with Mary McGeehan and Augustine Institute professor Dr. Carl Vennerstrom.



Saint Mary Magdalene | Catholic Saints

Join Dr. Ben Akers and Taylor Kemp for a discussion on the life and witness of St. Mary Magdalene. Who was she, and why is she a saint? Find out in this conversation.

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Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.