

Meditation on this Week's Gospel

August 2, 2026

A Reflection by Father John Muir, ©LPi

In his song, "Lose Yourself," the artist Eminem raps, "the mood all changed."

We all know that moment when the mood changes, when life turns from lighthearted to deadly serious. That happens in today's Gospel.

Jesus has just heard that John the Baptist, his cousin, forerunner, and friend, has been murdered. As Matthew tells us, "When Jesus heard of it, he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself." Until now, he had been teaching in parables and healing quietly. But John's death signals a new phase. The shadow of the Cross begins to fall. Evil shows its teeth.

And how does Jesus respond? Not with rage or despair. He goes to a lonely place to go into deep communion with his Father. From that silence comes action. He feeds the multitude.

Out of grief comes generosity. Out of sorrow, life.

This is the rhythm of every disciple's life. When tragedy or violence breaks our hearts, we face a choice. We can react, or we can retreat into prayer — like and with Christ.

This is the hidden place where pain becomes compassion and compassion becomes self-gift.

Lord Jesus, when life intensifies, draw me into Your quiet strength. In that hidden place with You and the Father, turn my heartbreak into the bread of love for the world. Amen.



PARISH MISSION STATEMENT:

KNOW and celebrate our Catholic Faith,

LOVE God and our neighbor,

SERVE as disciples of Jesus Christ.

K of C Cor, Men of the Cross

**Saturday, Aug. 8 at 7:30 AM
in the Community Room**

We welcome all men over 18 years old to attend this gathering of the Knights of

Columbus Cor,
Men of the Cross. All men are welcome.
Beverages and light breakfast treats will be provided.



2nd Collection Next Weekend

Our second collection for August will support members within our parish who are currently working full-time in apostolic mission work. This would include mission organizations like SPO, FOCUS, NET and others. The collection will contribute to their efforts to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with young people and support their personal financial needs as they respond to God's call to share the Good News!

Please use your designated 2nd Collection Envelope included in your envelope packets or mark your donation as 2nd Collection.

Get Your Raffle Tickets!



Our Harvest Festival Weekend is Sept. 19-20!

Saturday Night: Oktoberfest for adults

Sunday: Fun for the whole family

Raffle tickets are available with the Grand Prize of **\$10,000!** Parishioners, please pick up your tickets in the Gathering Space. If you are unable to locate them, contact the parish office at 763-425-2210 or email marybush@saintvdp.org. We need your help to make this raffle a success—thank you!

CONTACT

Online: saintvdp.org

E-Mail: General: churchinfo@saintvdp.org

Prayer Line: prayerrequests@saintvdp.org

Parish Office: (763) 425-2210

School Office: (763) 425-3970

SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday at 7:30 AM;
Wed. at 4:45 PM; Saturday from 3:30-4:15 PM

Baptisms: Please call the office at 763-425-2210.

Matrimony: Please call the office at 763-425-2210.

WORSHIP

Location

9100 93rd Avenue North, Brooklyn Park, MN, 55445

Masses

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday at 8 AM

Wednesday at 5:15 PM

Saturday at 5 PM & Sunday at 7:30 AM, 9 AM, 11 AM

Called to Motherhood Small Group

Mondays 7-8:30 PM
twice/month,
starting on Sept. 21
and continuing
through May

Registration is now open
for a new Year 1

Canamotherhood small group!
Join other Catholic mothers
twice a month on Monday
evenings. Grow in faith,

build meaningful friendships, and be encouraged in your vocation
as a mother. Learn more and register at canafamilyinstitute.com.



Join

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Mothers

Pre-Baptism Class

Monday, August 3 from 7-8:30 PM

Registration is required (call the office at 763-425-2210)
for this class. We recommend attending before the birth of
your child. Both parents are required to attend. Parents are
encouraged to attend for each child and are required to attend
if it has been 5 years or longer since attending a session.

BIZAA Informational Gathering

BIZAA, our parish international outreach
ministry, will hold an info gathering after the 11
AM Mass on Aug. 9. If you're a current sponsor or
supporter, or if you'd simply like to hear about



the good things
happening
in Nigeria,
stop by the Community Room
immediately following Mass.



Additionally, make sure you save the date for
our Annual Celebration!

BIZAA's 2026 African Taco Tuesday
will be on October 20 at 5:30 PM.

Additional information will be coming soon.

Opportunity at our Parish School

**Kindergarten
Long-Term
Substitute Teacher**

Join our team during a maternity
leave from late October/
early November 2026 through
the end of March 2027.

The ideal candidate will be enthusiastic about working with our
youngest students, committed to academic excellence, and
supportive of our school's mission and Catholic identity.
Visit school.saintvdp.org/career-opportunities and learn more!



Parish Office Hours

Monday-Thursday: 8 AM – 3 PM & Friday: 8 AM – Noon

Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration



To sign up or to be a sub, call JoAnne Newman
at 763-420-4089 or login to saintvdp.org/perpetual-adoration.

Adorers are urgently
needed for:

Sundays at 3 AM,

Thursdays at 2 AM, Fridays at 11 AM, & Saturdays at 3 PM.

Mass Intentions for August 3-9

Monday	8:00 AM	† Dolores Banzhaf
Tuesday	8:00 AM	The Seven Sisters
Wednesday	5:15 PM	† Bill Hartkopf
Thursday	8:00 AM	† Chris Bruno
Friday	8:00 AM	† Beatrice Doig
Saturday	5:00 PM	† Rita Goth
Sunday	7:30 AM	† Marguerite & Jerome Lund
	9:00 AM	† Mary Janke Kline
	11:00 AM	Parishioners

Readings for this Week

Monday:	Jer 28:1-17/Ps 119:29, 43, 79, 80, 95, 102/ Mt 14:22-36
Tuesday:	Jer 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22/Ps 102:16-18, 19-21, 29, 22-23/Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14
Wednesday:	Jer 31:1-7/Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13/Mt 15:21-28
Thursday:	Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9/ 2 Pt 1:16-19/Mt 17:1-9
Friday:	Na 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7/Dt 32:35cd-36ab, 39abcd, 41/Mt 16:24-28
Saturday:	Hb 1:12-2:4/Ps 9:8-9, 10-11, 12-13/ Mt 17:14-20
Next Sunday:	1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Rom 9:1-5/Mt 14:22-33

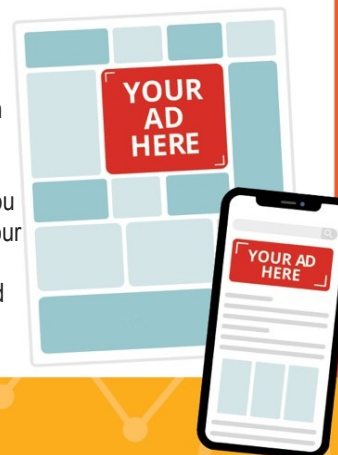
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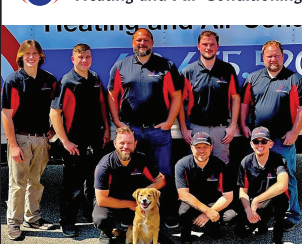


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