

ST. MARIANNE COPE PARISH

Roman Catholic Churches of St. Thomas of Canterbury and St. Joseph



17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME — JULY 24, 2022

Pastor: Rev. Rees W. Doughty
pastor@stmariannecope.com

Weekend Assistant: Rev. Robert Phelps

Deacons: Leonard Farmer, Anthony Ferraiuolo, Joseph Lieby, John Pelella

Faith Formation Director: Mary Ellen Tiernan
metiernan@stmariannecope.com

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office@stmariannecope.com

Mass Schedule
at St. Thomas of Canterbury Church

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 pm
Sunday: 8 am, 10 am, noon

Daily Mass:
Monday-Saturday, 8:30 am

Confession
Saturday: 9-9:45 am or by appointment

St. Marianne Cope Outreach Ministry
outreach@stmariannecope.com

Prayer Chain: 845.746.8829
prayerchain@stmariannecope.com

Offertory: Thank you for your generosity
and continued support of the parish!

July 16/17: \$5,036.00
Online Giving: \$2,104.00

In addition to cash/checks, envelopes, or
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card or bank account, is available.
Visit the "Donate" tab on the website.

Bulletin Cover Image: "Holy Family with
Sts. Anne and Joachim", Elisabetta Sirani.

The second annual observance of the **World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly** is July 24th. The theme for this year's celebration is "In Old Age They Will Still Bear Fruit (Ps 92:15)". The theme is meant to emphasize how grandparents are a gift both to society and to the Church. Pope Francis is extending the opportunity for a plenary indulgence "to the faithful who devote adequate time to visit, in presence or virtually, through the media, their elderly brothers and sisters in need or in difficulty" on July 24.

We request your support of the **Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa** on August 6/7. Africa faces the economic and social hurdles of enormous debt, epidemic, severe poverty, persecution, and political unrest. Despite these challenges, the Church in Africa has almost tripled in size in the past 30 years. It is difficult for the Church there to sustain its growth and maintain essential pastoral outreach. The Solidarity Fund provides grants to finance pastoral projects including programs, schools, evangelization, and education of clergy and lay ministers. For information, visit usccb.org/africa.



FINLEY JOHN O'CONNOR
was baptized on July 17, 2022.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will next meet on August 1st at 10 am
in the St. Thomas old school.

A study of Dante Alighieri's *Divine Comedy* is being held on
Tuesday evenings at 7 pm in the St. Thomas old school. Visit the
Adult Faith Formation subpage under the Ministries tab at
stmariannecope.com for information.

Need assistance? The **St. Marianne Cope Outreach Ministry**
might be able to help. Have something to donate? Water, fresh fruit,
or individually wrapped snacks are always needed. Email John at
outreach@stmariannecope.com.

Children in fourth grade and above are invited to serve as an **altar
server** at Sunday Masses. Email pastor@stmariannecope.com.

**Did you register your child for 2022/23 Faith Formation
Classes?** Our classes begin in first grade. To register your child for
classes, contact Faith Formation Director Mary Ellen Tiernan at
845.534.2547 (option 2) or metiernan@stmariannecope.com.

Inquiry and the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) and
Teens (RCIT): Formal classes begin in the fall, but this is a time for
"inquiry". For information, email metiernan@stmariannecope.com.

A thank you from Morgan Gagnon... Last week, I participated in
the Capuchin Appalachian Mission in Harlan, Kentucky, thanks to
your generous donations. With our team, we built a 60-foot ramp (in
four days!) for a family with an elderly family member in a
wheelchair who hasn't been able to leave her home because of too
many steps. This mission trip was an amazing opportunity for me to
serve a community and grow closer to God.

THE PASTOR'S CORNER

“IN OLD AGE THEY WILL STILL BEAR FRUIT” Psalm 92:15

Excerpted from Pope Francis's reflection for the Second World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, 2022 which is now celebrated by the Church on the Fourth Sunday of July, coinciding with the Feast of Sts. Anne and Joachim, parents of Mary, grandparents of Jesus. Given in Rome at Saint John Lateran, 3 May 2022.

DEAR FRIENDS,
“In old age they will still bear fruit” (Ps 92:15). These words of the Psalmist are glad tidings, a true “gospel” that we can proclaim to all on this second World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. They run counter to what the world thinks about this stage of life, but also to the attitude of grim resignation shown by some of us elderly people, who harbor few expectations for the future.

Many people are afraid of old age. They consider it a sort of disease with which any contact is best avoided. The elderly, they think, are none of their concern and should be set apart, perhaps in homes or places where they can be cared for, lest we have to deal with their problems. This is the mindset of the “throw-away culture”, which leads us to think that we are somehow different from the poor and vulnerable in our midst, untouched by their frailties and separated from “them” and their troubles. The Scriptures see things differently. A long life – so the Bible teaches – is a blessing, and the elderly are not outcasts to be shunned but living signs of the goodness of God who bestows life in abundance. Blessed is the house where an older person lives! Blessed is the family that honors the elderly!

Old age is not a time of life easily understood even by those of us who are already experiencing it. Even though it eventually comes with the passage of time, no one prepares us for old age, and at times it seems to take us by surprise. The more developed societies expend large sums on this stage of life without really helping people to understand and appreciate it; they offer healthcare plans to the elderly but not plans for living this age to the full. This makes it hard to look to the future and discern what direction to take. On the one hand, we are tempted to ward off old age by hiding our wrinkles and pretending to be forever young, while on the other, we imagine that the only thing we can do is bide our time, thinking glumly that we cannot “still bring forth fruit”.

Retirement and grown children make many of the things that used to occupy our time and energy no longer so pressing. The recognition that our strength is ebbing or the onset of sickness can undermine our certainties. The fast pace of the world – with which we struggle to keep up – seems to leave us no alternative but to implicitly accept the idea that we are useless. We can resonate with the heartfelt prayer of the Psalmist: “Do not cast me off in the time of old age; forsake me not when my strength is spent” (71:9).

Yet that same psalm – which meditates on how the Lord has been present at every stage of our lives – urges us to persevere in hope. Along with old age and white hairs, God continues to give us the gift of life and to keep us from being overcome by evil. If we trust in him, we will find the strength to praise him still (cf. vv. 14-20). We will come to see that growing old is more than the natural decline of the body or the inevitable passage of time, but the gift of a long life. Aging is not a condemnation, but a blessing!

For this reason, we ought to take care of ourselves and remain active in our later years. This is also true from a spiritual standpoint: we ought to cultivate our interior life through the

assiduous reading of the word of God, daily prayer, reception of the sacraments and participation in the liturgy. In addition to our relationship with God, we should also cultivate our relationships with others: first of all by showing affectionate concern for our families, our children and grandchildren, but also for the poor and those who suffer, by drawing near to them with practical assistance and our prayers. These things will help us not to feel like mere bystanders, sitting on our porches or looking out from our windows, as life goes on all around us. Instead, we should learn to discern everywhere the presence of the Lord. Like “green olive trees in the house of God” (cf. Ps 52:10), we can become a blessing for those who live next to us.

Old age is no time to give up and lower the sails, but a season of enduring fruitfulness: a new mission awaits us and bids us look to the future. “The special sensibility that those of us who are elderly have for the concerns, thoughts and the affections that make us human should once again become the vocation of many. It would be a sign of our love for the younger generations”. This would be our own contribution to the revolution of tenderness, a spiritual and non-violent revolution in which I encourage you, dear grandparents and elderly persons, to take an active role....

Dear grandparents, dear elderly persons, we are called to be artisans of the revolution of tenderness in our world! Let us do so by learning to make ever more frequent and better use of the most valuable instrument at our disposal and, indeed, the one best suited to our age: prayer. “Let us too become, as it were, poets of prayer: let us develop a taste for finding our own words, let us once again take up those taught by the word of God”. Our trustful prayer can do a great deal: it can accompany the cry of pain of those who suffer, and it can help change hearts. We can be “the enduring ‘chorus’ of a great spiritual sanctuary, where prayers of supplication and songs of praise sustain the community that toils and struggles in the field of life”.

The World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly is an opportunity to proclaim once more, with joy, that the Church wants to celebrate together with all those whom the Lord – in the words of the Bible – has “filled with days”. Let us celebrate it together! I ask you to make this Day known in your parishes and communities; to seek out those elderly persons who feel most alone, at home or in residences where they live. Let us make sure that no one feels alone on this day. Expecting a visit can transform those days when we think we have nothing to look forward to; from an initial encounter, a new friendship can emerge. Visiting the elderly who live alone is a work of mercy in our time!

Let us ask Our Lady, Mother of Tender Love, to make all of us artisans of the revolution of tenderness, so that together we can set the world free from the specter of loneliness and the demon of war.

To all of you, and to your loved ones, I send my blessing and the assurance of my closeness and affection. And I ask you, please, not to forget to pray for me!

Francis

THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE



HAGGAI BRINGS US TO THE 44TH BOOK OF OUR

BIBLES. Haggai wrote in the year 520 B.C. and his book is only 2 chapters long. He points out the failure on the part of the people and their need to shape up spiritually if they want their lives and their world to change for the better.

His main challenge to the people is to rebuild the temple (both the physical building and the interior disposition within each of them). He points out that they had sown, eaten, drunk, clothed, and earned, but gotten little by way of return: the temple rebuilding will help to rectify this situation (ch. 1); he then focuses on the future glory of that temple, consults the priests, and promises great

agricultural prosperity—a timely prophecy, as he was speaking thus during the growing season of the local region (ch. 2).

When you finish this book, you will have read 44 (60.3%) of the 73 books of the Bible, yet 1,057 (79.2%) of the 1,334 chapters of the Bible.

Permission granted by Rev. Robert J. Schrader (based on Timothy Schehr's book, The Bible Made Easy: A Book-by-Book Introduction).

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon, July 25: St. James

8:30 +Siner family by Linda Siner

Tues, July 26: Sts. Joachim and Anne

8:30 +Anne Campbell by Crispo family

Wed, July 27

8:30 +John O'Mara by Kathy Kissel

Thurs, July 28

8:30 +Michael and Lillian Crispo by Crispo family

Fri, July 29: St. Martha

8:30 +Mamawal family by Linda Siner

Sat, July 30: St. Peter Chrysologus

8:30 +John Staples by Carmela

4:30 +Dec Mbrs of Rogan & Pelella families by family

Sun, July 31: 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 +Patricia Etz by Natalie and Jim Brooks

10:00 +Mary L. Faller by Sandra Mirabile

12:00 For the People of the Parish

The Sunday Mass at noon will ALWAYS be offered only for the People of the Parish. The offering for an unannounced Mass is \$10; for an announced Mass—\$15.

READINGS FOR THE 17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Reading I – Genesis 18:20-32

After God announces His plan, a dialogue follows between Him and Abraham, in which Abraham is a bargainer. He makes daring proposals to God, but along the way he models persistence in prayer.

Reading II – Colossians 2:12-14

Paul instructs the community of the fact that by their union with Christ, there is forgiveness of sin. This in turn is connected with their baptism, in which they died and rose with Christ.

The Gospel – Luke 11:1-13

Jesus provides a catechism on prayer which stresses persistence as an essential component. This is particularly difficult for First World citizens, surrounded by a glut of "time saving" gadgets.



Scan the QR code to visit the **Worship Aid** page for the readings, antiphons, and music for the Sunday Mass.

To watch a streamed Mass from St. Patrick Cathedral via the Catholic Faith Network, visit catholicfaithnetwork.org/masses.



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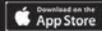
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