QUEEN OF PEACE

CATHOLIC PARISH

JULY 12, 2026 | 15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Welcome!

OUR WORSHIP SITES:

Our Lady, Mother of the Church

8747 W. Lawrence Avenue
Chicago, IL 60656

Masses:

Tuesday:	7:00 am
Thursday:	7:00 am
Sunday:	10:00 am

St. Eugene Church

7958 W. Foster Avenue
Chicago, IL 60656

Ph. (773) 775-6659, (773) 775-6660
(773) 775-6694

Rectory Office Hours

Mon.- Thur.:	9:00 am - 7:00 pm
Friday:	9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Saturday:	9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Masses

Monday:	9:00 am
Wednesday:	9:00 am
Friday:	9:00 am
Saturday:	8:30 am
Sunday Vigil Mass:	4:30 pm
Sunday:	8:30 am
	11:30 am

Confessions 3:30 pm on Saturday

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday	4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Benediction	5:45 pm



15th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"The seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold." - Mt 13:23

OUR MISSION

We, the Catholic community of Queen of Peace Parish, centered in the Eucharist, strive to grow in our faith and our relationship with God as a welcoming people, working for peace and justice through service to others.

PASTORAL STAFF:

PASTOR
Rev. Richard M. Yanos | ext. 112
ryanos@st-eugene.org

ASSOCIATE PASTOR
Rev. Jacek A. Dada | ext. 108
jdada@st-eugene.org

Rev. Robert Carlton | ext. 107
rcarlton@archchicago.org

PASTOR EMERITUS
Rev. James J. O'Brien
benbradagh@aol.com

RETIRED RESIDENT ASSISTANT
Rev. Gregory A. Rom | ext. 114
grom@archchicago.org

DEACONS
Ted & Mrs. Mary Marszalek
tmarszalek@archchicago.org

Chris Virruso



ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

St. Eugene Church
Mondays 4 - 6 pm.
Benediction at 5:45 pm.

CHURCH ETIQUETTE
In order to fully partake in the Mass, the Priest should be the last one in and the first one out.

Dress Appropriately ~ remember, you are in God's house.



FROM THE DESK OF FR. RICH

Today we celebrate the Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time.

Because the Israelites were exiled in the pagan land of Babylon, the assuring words that God had previously spoken to them now seemed empty. In today's passage, the prophet Isaiah will use an image from nature to describe how God's word always bears fruit and comes true no matter how unlikely it may seem.

As we continue reading from the eighth chapter of Paul's letter to the Romans, he tells us that sin affected not only human beings but also all creation, and the coming of Christ had a healing effect on both. It is evident that Paul is not pessimistic about this world.

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Believe it or not it was four years ago last week that the merging of our three parishes of Divine Savior, Our Lady, Mother of the Church and St. Eugene took place on July 1st, 2022. I thought it would be interesting to look back at what I wrote in my bulletin column four years ago.

"To all in our parishes of Divine Savior, Our Lady, Mother of the Church, and St. Eugene...this weekend begins a new chapter in the history of our newly uniting parish. Welcome aboard! The days, weeks and months ahead will be filled with much activity, new information and hopefully new opportunities for growth, renewed hope, and a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ and one another. I so look forward to participating in and sharing this new journey with us all. I hope you do as well. There may be mistakes made along the way, but hopefully we can learn something about ourselves as we pick ourselves up and recover from them. Rather than being frightened, fearful and afraid of what is to come I pray that we look to our future together with openness, anticipation, honesty, excitement, and enthusiasm. As I have said so many times before, with the Lord at our side we can move mountains together. Today, we begin this journey as we take our first steps!"

Well, it's now been four years, and we are all still here! To be honest with you I am so pleased and proud of the transition and progress we have made working with one another in bringing our three parishes together. It certainly hasn't been easy, but little by little, one step at a time, we have moved forward in our understanding and appreciation of one another and all that is yet to be discovered and experienced. Thank you all for your cooperation and willingness to make this journey together.

****

Many have asked how our trip to Poland was. To tell you the truth, I think it was truly a memorable and, moving experience for us all. There were 42 of us fellow pilgrims who experienced a truly beautiful country filled with life, energy and examples of so much faith put into action. Of course, we visited some of the significant religious sites, but also enjoyed dining on delicious Polish Cuisine either in culturally decorated restaurants or outdoors along the beautiful river front cafés that Poland has to offer. Two of the highlights of our journey together were our rafting experience along the Dunajec River and the unbelievable Salt Mines of Wieliczka, both near Krakow. This was truly an experience to be remembered. Many new friends were also made along the way.

By the way, our next trip in 2027 will take us to Ireland. It will be from May 2 – May 13, 2027. After speaking to quite a few people about where they would like to go next year, it was decided that we would be headed to visit the beautiful country of Ireland. Because so many have expressed a desire to go to Ireland, I'd like to let you know early about the destinations and places we will be visiting on this tour. We will be flying from Chicago to the city of Dublin. This twelve-day trip will truly be an all-inclusive and extensive tour throughout the beautiful countryside, shrines, pubs, sites, castles, cities and towns of Ireland – north, south east and west including Belfast and Northern Ireland.

If you would like a copy of the brochure, they are now available in the kiosks at both Our Lady, Mother of the Church and St. Eugene as well as at the parish office. You can also email me at ryanos@archchicago.org or send me a request to mail you one at: Fr. Rich Yanos, 7958 W. Foster Ave., Chicago, IL 60656, and I'll be glad to send or email you a copy of the brochure.

This trip will also be filled with free time for exploring on your own in a beautiful and relaxing environment.

We will be having an informational meeting for this trip coming up in July or August. As soon as the date is set, I will let everyone know All are welcome to join us on this upcoming trip! Feel free to pass along the word about this trip and invite your family or friends for what I promise will be an educational and fun-filled experience. Hoping you can join us! This trip will probably fill up quickly so if you're sure you will want to join us, simply send in your reservation form contained in the brochure to hold your spot.

Looking forward to our next adventure together!

Fr. Rich Yanos



OUR MILITARY PARISHIONERS

Major Adamczyk
Ghaleb Azroui
Matthew Calderisi
Timothy Emmett Carolan
Melissa Rose Cortese
Andrew Dale, USMC
James Vincent Degrazia
Patrick Edward Dillon
Zbigniew Dudkowski
Matthew Scott Forrest
Dominic John Guerrieri, Jr.
Major Dirk Haller
Andrew Hopkins
Christopher Jenkins
Bernard Edward Kusinski
Lt. Radoslaw Korzeniak
Antonio James Lim
Payne Manczko
Chris Marchiori
Daniel McLenighan
Daniel Meaney
Keith Miller
Michael Morales
Mike Mroszczak
Thomas Neuhengen
Eric Norwood
Vincent Page
Jasmine Poffenbarger
Chad Pritchard
Nicholas Ranch
Adam Roberts
Joseph Saineghi, Jr.
Holly Schippers
Michael Schippers, Jr.
Sean Sherlock
Sharon Sherlock
Phillip R. Simonsen
Tony Strzalka
Anthony Vanhanselaere

Saturday, July 11, 2026
8:30 am Mass at SE Church
People of the Parish
4:30 pm Saturday Vigil Mass at SE Church
Armando Abdon, Sr., John Dudek
Denis Egan, Wayne Greco
Bernice Hujar, Donna Mietus
Joseph Reyes, Mirno Della-Santina
Tony Parisi - Birthday Remembrance
Stanley & Frances Purchla

Sunday, July 12, 2026
8:30 am Mass at SE Church
People of the Parish
Elzbieta Chojnowska
Antonio Di Brita
Joseph John Marsillo
Biagio Minelli
Jozef & Genowefa Pawula
10:00 am Mass at OLMC Church
Lois Costabile - Birthday Remembrance
Speranza Di Paolo, Maria Evola
Donato Donald Parente
Giovanni Rossi
Jozef & Stefania Rebacz
Wanda Rzepka, Barbara Snow
Therese M. Thurber
11:30 am Mass at SE Church
S.I. For Vittorio Brunetti Familly
Bridget Byrne, Teresa Casey
Angela Chiavetta
Deceas.Memb. of the D'Avino & Esposito Fam.
Yvonne De Gennaro
Pearl & George Giovannoni
Joseph Marzullo, Lily Nowicki, Frank Scalise

Monday, July 13, 2026
9:00 am Mass at SE Church
Belanger, Wells & Decaro Families
Giuseppe Marsillo, Teodora Martelli
Tony Welninski - 5th Anniversary

Tuesday, July 14, 2026
7:00 am Mass at OLMC Church
Souls in Purgatory, Bobby Abdon
Roberta Margaret Finland
Janina & Waclaw Godlewski
Anthony J. Lupo, Sr.
Martha Wrobel - Birthday Remembrance

Wednesday, July 15, 2026
9:00 am Mass at SE Church
Mary Jozwik
Alex Mattew

Thursday, July 16, 2026
7:00 am Mass at OLMC Church
Carmella Calace, Juan Diaz
Philip John Finland, Frank Mandile

Friday, July 17, 2026
9:00 am Mass at SE Church
Hopkins, Zepplyn & Nate Families
Christine Mc Inerney

Saturday, July 18, 2026
8:30 am Mass at SE Church
Jude, Minn & Killmer Families
4:30 pm Saturday Vigil Mass at SE Church
Thanksgiving For All Blessings
Living & Deceased Mem. of the Blaszczak & Skoskiewicz Families
Maria Burzawa
Carmella Calace - Birthday Remembrance
Stanislaw Godlewski
S.I. For Deborah S.
Caridad Delicana
Wayne J. Greco
Joseph Mugnaini
Frank Pecora

Sunday, July 19, 2026
8:30 am Mass at SE Church
Jan & Stanislawa Bazula
Alice Maestranzi
Sister Ester Santucci, Mary Sparacino
Regina Swiecilka - Death Anniversary
Margie Szajowski
10:00 am Mass at OLMC Church
People of the Parish
Speranza DiPaolo
Joe Troia & Laura Dolcimascolo
Stanley Jachym, Stanislaw Kurda
John J. Lupo, Sr., Alice Maestranzi
S.I. For Ruben Melendrez - Healing
Samuel Moretti, John Nicosia
Jack Schneider
11:30 am Mass at SE Church
Andrew P. Bujdasz
Angela & Christina Greco
Mary Kloss
Hillard Mike Michalek
Michael Michalek
Patrick Murphy
Mary Lou Oberheim
Rev. Ed Pacocha
Frederick Tomzik
Miroslaw Woch

	Celebrant	Extraordinary Minister	Altar Server	Lectors
Saturday, 07/18/26 4:30 PM - SE	Rev. Greg Rom	L. Feist - WB C. Lim - B Rev. Rom / M. Lim - C M.B. Glynn - O J. Jesiolowski - WO F. Klus - Cup B T. Crivlare - Cup O	H. Wyszkowski T. Janus W. Janus	C. Bobka
Sunday, 07/19/26 8:30 am - SE	Rev. Jacek Dada	D. Duszynski - WB B. Czubek - B Rev. Dada / M. Cozzo - C C. Mikucki - O R. Sparacino - WO J. Cardella - Cup B P. Draniczarek - Cup O	A. Czubek B. Villena C. Czubek	S. Sparacino
Sunday, 07/19/26 10:00 am - OLMC	Rev. Robert Carlton	S. Melendrez - T T. Molas - T Rev. Carlton / J. Summers -C R. Molas - Cup A D. Sese - Cup T	G. Pilch J. Pilch	1st reading - T. Macek 2nd reading - J. Molas
Sunday, 07/19/26 11:30 am - SE	Rev. Rich Yanos	B. Berggren - WB P. Tomzik - B Rev. Yanos / M. Holder - C C. Giacalone - O S. Melendez - WO M. Zurek - Cup B J. Mroszczak - Cup O	C. Brown C. Brown M. Brown M. Brown	J. Moretti



Second Vatican Council

We invite all members of the parish to take part in a four-part series exploring the rich and transformative documents of the Second Vatican Council.

Together, we will reflect on the Council's teachings, deepen our understanding of the Church's mission in the modern world, and consider how these insights continue to shape our faith and daily lives.

Whether you are new to these documents or revisiting them with fresh eyes, this series offers a meaningful opportunity for learning, discussion, and spiritual growth.

Join us as we journey together into the heart of the Church's vision for renewal and unity.

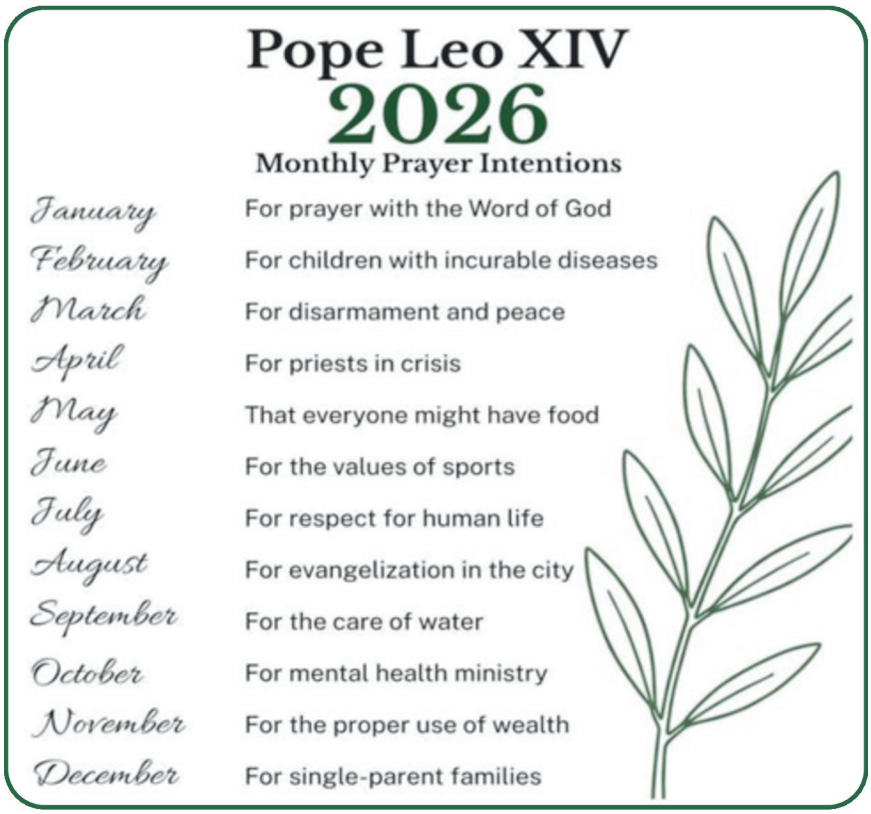
The classes will meet on Wednesdays in July - July 8, 15, 22 and 29 from 7-8pm.

Please contact either the rectory or Fr. Carlton to register.

ROSARIES FOR THE POPE'S JULY PRAYER INTENTION

"Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God." Our Rosary Guild members include: Emily A., Lori G., James H., John I., Lita J., Evelyn K., Terri K., Lonnie M., Mary M., Ted M., Josephine N., Emilie P., Stefania P., Jean R., Demi S., and Shirley S.





LIVING ROSARY

Pray a daily decade for the triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, for the glory of the Most Holy Trinity, and in honor of Saint Philomena, patron of the Living Rosary.

Joyful Mysteries:
Annunciation - Lori G.
Visitation - Barb R.
Nativity - Josephine N.
Presentation - Karen R.
Finding the Temple - Mary M.

Luminous Mysteries
Baptism of Jesus - Barb R.
Wedding at Cana - Mary M.
Proclaim the Kingdom - Terri K.
Transfiguration - Emily A.
Institution of Eucharist - Emily A.

Sorrowful Mysteries
Agony in the Garden - Jean R.
Scourging at the Pillar - Jean R.
Crowning with Thorns - Mary M.
Carrying of the Cross - Mary M.
Crucifixion - Demi S.

Glorious Mysteries
Resurrection - Lita J.
Ascension - Marsha G.
Descent of Spirit - Terri K.
Assumption - Camille C.
Coronation - Camille C.

OCIA - ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS.

WHO IS OCIA FOR?

- Non-Catholics who want to find out more about the Catholic Faith.
- Those who want to join the Catholic Church through Baptism, or Profession of Faith
- Those who were baptized Catholic as infants but never received religious education, Confirmation, or First Eucharist.

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE AT 773-775-6660 OR FR. CARLTON AT RCARLTON@ARCHCHICAGO.ORG.



OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

The origins of this feast reach all the way back to the Old Testament. In the book of Kings, we read the story of the prophet Elijah. Much of his prayer, fasting, and public ministry occurred from Carmel, a mountain in Israel. Christian hermits -- seeking solitude -- made their homes on the mountain during the first millennium. Over time, the hermits assembled into a community and were given a Rule of Life. They named their church after Mary -- Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Political upheaval forced the Carmelite order out of the Holy Land and into Europe, where they established monasteries for both men and women across the continent. Many great saints and doctors of the Church have come from the Carmelite order, including St. Teresa of Avila, St. John of the Cross, St. Therese of Lisieux, and St. Edith Stein. Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Pray for us!



ST. EUGENE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Mission Statement
St. Eugene School prepares and inspires students to achieve their full potential and lead meaningful lives, grounded in the teachings of our Catholic faith.

Vision
To be celebrated as a school where we recognize and celebrate the uniqueness of each child, which is affirmed through our instructional strategies, methods, and materials utilized to promote the continuous academic, spiritual, moral, emotional, and physical development of the whole child.

SCHOOL ADDRESS
7930 W. Foster Ave.
Chicago, IL 60656
ph. 773-763-2235

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL
Mrs. Margaret Kinel

www.steugene-school.org

VERBUM DEI SISTERS

7920 W. Foster Ave.
Chicago, IL 60656
ph. 224-280-8395
verbumdeichicago@gmail.com

verbum dei Chicago

We are Verbum Dei, a Catholic Missionary Community in Chicago. We bear the Living Word of God through the charism of prayer and preaching. Our world is evolving so fast that there is an urgency to respond according to the needs of all walks of life. We provide the space for people to have a personal Encounter with Jesus Christ through the School of the Word, retreats and other initiatives. Our very diverse groups: English, Polish, Hispanic and Filipino communities, are very welcoming and will suit your spiritual needs. You'll never walk alone wherever you are. The Verbum Dei Missionary Family can be found in many parts of the world. We act on a global scale, but we respond on a local scale!
Come and be part of this wonderful adventure!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

If you are interested in joining the Knights of Columbus, please contact Joe Marley at 708-702-2726 Marley-j@comcast.net

THE FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The Friendship Club will be off for the summer but we will return in September. Enjoy your Summer! See you soon!

Please contact Debra at dltimmreck@gmail.com or call 773-398-4472 if you have any questions.

The Friendship Club is going on an adventure on Sunday, December 20, 2026. The bus will leave the south parking lot of Our Lady, Mother of the Church at 12:00 and return at approximately 4:00.
We will be traveling to Lake Zurich to see The Real Story of Christmas - the entire life of Jesus from manger to resurrection-a Shepherd who saw it all. You will be transported back in time to Bethlehem for the very first Christmas. Cost of the trip is $72.00. For more information and to make a reservation, please call Debbie at 773-631-6330.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Come join us to make a difference in peoples lives.
We crochet:

- shawls,
- lap robes,
- baby blankets,
- crosses
- and even scarves
- and hats when there is a need.

We are meeting on 1 & 3 Wednesday of the Month from 12pm-3pm at Our Lady, Mother of the Church.

Please call Pam Hoffelt at 773-848-4586 for more info.



Bible Study

Please join us on Wednesdays in St. Eugene School-room 110 from 10:00am to 12:00pm. Questions or comments please feel free to email Frank at fjlizak@comcast.net
Hope to see you there!



Bulletin Submissions

Bulletin requests must be sent 2 weeks prior to the desired bulletin weekend to mgeurtsen@archchicago.org. We reserve the right to edit. Submissions will be placed in the bulletin if space allows and pending administration approval. Please call the parish office for the holiday schedule. Thank you.

Religious Education Program

Please contact St. Eugene School at 773-763-2235 for information about our Religious Education Program or go to the school website and click on the Religious Education Tab to read or register your child.

Please contact the Rectory Office for:

- Information about Sacraments of Baptism (Parents requesting Baptism for their child at Queen of Peace must be registered and active members of the Parish), Marriage, Anointing of the Sick, Funerals.
- Order of Christian Initiation (OCIA)
- Request sacramental records such as baptism, confirmation, marriage, or other certificates.
- To register as a new parishioner.
- To schedule a Mass intention (Mass Intentions can be scheduled only in person at the rectory office).
- Make a donation or set up financial support options
- Get general information like office hours, event schedules, or directions to the church facilities.

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IN OUR HEARTS THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

† Queen of Peace Deceased Parishioners
† Sandra Romeo Power
† Julius Silva



May the souls of the faithful rest in peace.



Pat Apida
Annabella Amato
Ralph J. Amelio & Victoria Amelio
Patricia Basili
Judy Bauer
Don Bellisario
Ludwika Bialo
Bronislaw Bialo
V. Bischof
Gabriella Bongiorno
Frank Bucaro
Johnmar Castillo
Gracie Carey
Karen Cazolas
Mary Ciliak
Mark Corrado
Camile Conrick
Jacqueline Connoly
Sharon Crowley
Susan Curtin
Angela D'Alessandro
Joseph Duna
Mary Fazio
Kurt Feiereisel
Scott Feiereisel
Frank Feist
Carol Fijalkiewicz
Matthew Fijalkiewicz
Tony Fiore
Rich Garcia
Bob Gasiorek
Harry Gelardi
Patricia Gelfond
Evelina A. Habacon-Hilado
Susan Hennessy
Jeff Herden
Bonnie Herden
Renee Holm
Amani Holder
Sophia Kakish
Terry Katz
Arthur Kopeck
Harry Krawczyk
Thomas Landeck
James LaPietra
Abagail Lim
Allie Lim
Frank Lizak
Liam Logan
Rose Mary Maratto
Dcn. Ted Marszalek
Stanisław Mazek
Azucena Melendrez
Lena Menconi
Dolores Michalek
Judy Mitrenga
Linda Morton
Norman Mosk
Michael J. Muscarello
John Murphy
Joan Nicosia
Joey Notaro
Anthony Notaro
Lola & Belle Nuccio
Rev. James J. O'Brien
Donie Odulio
Catherine O'Hara
Catherine O'Keefe
Blanca Pacia
Camille Pavlis
Myles Pavlis
Karen Pavlis-Karasawa
Kevin Pemberton
Jackie Pomis
Maria Pulice
Rita Rogers
Jean Rogers
Bill Ruhl
Nunzio Rizzo
Tom Ryan
Diane Rizzuto
Luis A. Sanchez
Shirley Schindler
Peter Schroeder
Robert Shelton
Maria Slomski
Anita Sison
Daniel Staniec
Henry Staniec
Emily Steckiewicz
Sharon Stipta
Rachael Stowe
Mae Stryker
Lavergne Suchor
Dave Tudron
Ernesto Vergara
Jack Wagner
Nancy Wesclitz
Dolores Wilk



STEWARDSHIP

07/06/2026

4:30pm SE	$1,770.00
8:30am SE	$3,176.50
10:00am OLMC	$3,582.00
11:30am SE	$2,496.00
Online Collection	$3,221.01
Mail	$2,397.00
Sunday Total	**$16,642.51**
Food Pantry	$ 3,032.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED GENEROSITY!

You can scan QR code to go directly to GiveCentral and support our Parish.

SCAN ME

If paying by check, please make the check payable to Queen of Peace Parish. Thank you.

SECOND COLLECTIONS

July 12

Sacred Heart/St. Eulalia Sharing

July 19

School Support

July 26

Summer Mission Appeal

SHOP OUR ADS!

This bulletin is printed with the help of our advertisers. Show your support for us by supporting them.

QUINN CENTER OF ST. EULALIA

HEAT AND HUMIDITY DON'T STOP GROCERY DISTRIBUTION



Tuesday, June 9 was hot and humid with no breeze, but that didn't stop the distribution of groceries at St. Eulalia's Quinn Center. People were moving a little slower, but a steady stream of 117 families (representing roughly 500 people) came by for groceries and bagged suppers. Some of the families who came were quite large – 8 to 10 people.

That previous Sunday, June 7, a large crew of volunteers from Queen of Peace assembled to pack 110 bags of groceries. To demonstrate what experience and organization can do, they packed all 110 bags in 17 minutes.
Of course, that's not counting the time it took to bring the groceries in from the cars, shelve them, and tidy up. Set up and clean up actually take longer than assembling the bags. It also takes a lot more muscle!

Our next bagging session will be on **Sunday, July 12** – same time (**2:00**), same place (**Door 4 off the St. Eulalia parking lot**). If you have any questions or would like to join us, please feel free to contact Jan Magnuson at jan7744@comcast.net or at 312-806-7210. You don't have to commit to coming every week; we know people have many demands on their time. Come join us when you can and feel good while doing good!



Here's the assembly line in action ...



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

SAMUEL GROUP

Discernment for young adults

Meets monthly on Sunday afternoons at St. Benedict.

Register:
vocations.archchicago.org/events/samuel-group

More info: Katie Hazen, **khazen@archchicago.org**



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO | DIOCESE OF JOLIET

QUO VADIS DAYS

Sunday, July 26 – Thursday, July 30, 2026
Mundelein Seminary, Mundelein, IL



Quo Vadis Days is a 5-day/4-night camp for young men cosponsored by the Archdiocese of Chicago and the Diocese of Joliet and led by the seminarians.

The camp is filled with dynamic talks, small group discussion, prayer experiences, as well as plenty of fun – sports, board games, fires and smores, and much more.

The camp is open to all middle school graduates over the age of 13 through age 18 who want to grow in their relationship with the Lord and learn more about the priesthood.

QVD

More information and registration is available at:
chicagopriest.com/events/quo-vadis-days.

Questions? Contact Katie Hazen at **khazen@archchicago.org**.

SOWN

"The seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it."

MATTHEW 13:23

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:
My word shall not return to me void,
but shall do my will,
achieving the end for which I sent it. (Is 55:11)

Psalm:
The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest. (Ps 65)

Second Reading:
I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us.
(Rom 8:18)

Gospel:
Amen, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see but did not see it,
and to hear what you hear but did not hear it. (Mt 13:17)

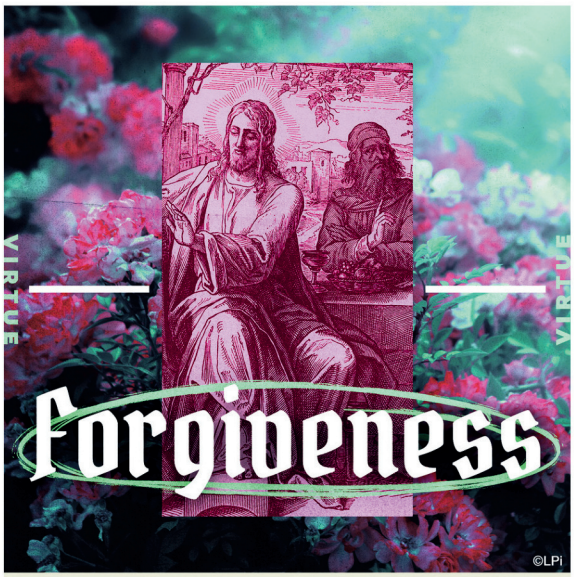
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Live The Liturgy
Inspiration of the Week

Our hearts are fertile ground for the Word of God, but we must be careful gardeners. Be conscious of what damages and depletes the soil of your heart. Pay attention to what nourishes it, so that the goodness of the Word can bloom forth into the world.

Observances for the week of July 12, 2026

Sunday:	15th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday:	St. Henry
Tuesday:	St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin
Wednesday:	St. Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Thursday:	Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Saturday:	St. Camillus de Lellis, Priest
Next Sunday:	16th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Virtues, *Explained!*

Forgiveness is love in action. It is mercy extended for no other reason than a desire to be like God, who forgives us out of sheer goodness. The Catechism says that forgiveness proves that "love is stronger than sin."

Blessing for Abundant Growth

Dear God,
Bless our efforts in Your Name.
Help us to understand Your will.
Allow us to follow the invitation You have provided.
We want to be rich soil — help us respond
deeply and abundantly to every place You call.
Amen.

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of July 12, 2026

Sunday:
Is 55:10-11/Ps 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14/
Rom 8:18-23/Mt 13:1-23 or 13:1-9

Monday:
Is 1:10-17/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/
Mt 10:34-11:1

Tuesday:
Is 7:1-9/Ps 48:2-3a, 3b-4, 5-6, 7-8/
Mt 11:20-24

Wednesday:
Is 10:5-7, 13b-16/Ps 94:5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 14-15/Mt 11:25-27

Thursday:
Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19/Ps 102:13-14ab and 15, 16-18, 19-21/Mt 11:28-30

Friday:
Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8/Is 38:10, 12abcd, 16/
Mt 12:1-8

Saturday:
Mi 2:1-5/Ps 10:1-2, 3-4, 7-8, 14/Mt 12:14-21

Next Sunday:
Wis 12:13, 16-19/Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16/
Rom 8:26-27/Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Sometimes I feel capable of absorbing almost anything except God's Word. My mind soaks up song lyrics, sports trivia, and endless online content. But what was the reading at Mass this morning? I struggle to recall. That realization discourages me, and it leads to an uncomfortable question. What is my heart really for? Is it shaped for constant information and distraction, or is it truly designed for God? Am I capable of deeply receiving His Word?

Jesus speaks directly to this today with a simple image. **"The seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it."** By comparing the Word of the Kingdom to a seed, Jesus reveals something hopeful about us. The human heart is made for that seed. Soil and seed belong together. No matter how compacted, rocky, or overgrown the ground has become, the Sower never stops sowing.

God loves our hearts. He sees them as a farmer sees his fields, full of potential. Human hearts can indeed **"understand the Word."** Understanding does not mean mastering information. It means letting the Word sink in, interacting with it, and giving it a home. It means trusting that, beneath the surface, God is at work in quiet and hidden ways.

When we allow the Holy Spirit to loosen the soil of our hearts through prayer, repentance, and simplicity, the same Word that created the universe begins to bear fruit in us, 30, 60, even a hundredfold.

Lord Jesus, Sower of life, soften the soil of my heart. Let Your Word take root in me again, and bring forth the fruit You desire. Amen.

— Father John Muir

Liturgical Life

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

The Gardener and the Soil
I began writing this piece by googling "how do you make soil fertile?" which should tell you everything you need to know about my own abilities as a gardener.

I remember seeing a packet of seeds in the store one summer as a child and convincing my mother to buy them. They were delphiniums, which bloom into a beautiful cone shape if you know what you're doing. Alas, I didn't. I chose for my garden a particularly dry spot of earth right next to my backyard playset, scattered the seeds, congratulated myself, and went on my merry way. I returned occasionally to water the area, but only when I remembered to.

Nothing grew, not even a little sprout. I was more than heartbroken — my faith was shaken. I had planted these seeds! I had watered them! (A little.) There was sunlight! All my childhood books and rhymes said this was all you needed. Was it all a lie?

Of course it wasn't a lie. Seeds need soil, sunlight, water, and oxygen — good soil, adequate sunlight for whatever the plant is, and consistent water.

So what seeds need more than anything is a gardener. (At least, delphiniums do.)

When I hear the parable of the rich soil and the rocky ground in the Gospel of Matthew, I often miss the point. I think Jesus is trying to give me a message about how I should be. "Be better." That's what I think he's telling me.

I forget that I am only the soil. I cannot enrich myself; all my efforts to do so will come to nothing. What he is telling me is to ask the gardener: "Make me what I need to be."

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman





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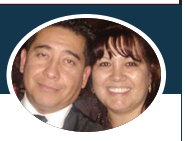
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