

Church of the Incarnation

240 Main Street, Mantua, NJ 08051

Parish Office 856-468-1314 * PREP Office 856-468-7566 * Fax Number 856-468-4886

Visit us at www.incarnation-church.org



Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time * July 6, 2025

We come together as a Christian community to minister the Gospel of Christ

PARISH STAFF

Reverend Stephen J Rapposelli
Pastor

Reverend Shaji Muttathottil
Parochial Vicar

Thomas F. O'Brien
Deacon

Peter Traum
Deacon

Phil Curran
Deacon

Mr. & Mrs. Casey Corigliano
Directors of Music

Mr. Gerald Voltura
Director of Faith Formation

Mrs. Patricia Houwen
Business Manager

PARISH MEMBERSHIP

Welcome!

Please register at the parish office or online by visiting our website at www.incarnation-church.org.

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday - Friday.....7 a.m. and 8:30 a.m.

(No 7 a.m. Mass from Memorial Day through early September)

Saturday.....8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Vigil Mass)

Sunday.....7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m..

Holy Days.....5 p.m. (Vigil Mass)

7 a.m., 8:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Holy Day

Eucharistic Adoration.....Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

BAPTISM

Baptisms are held every Sunday and some Saturdays at 1:00 pm. Baptism Preparation Sessions are held on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month via Zoom. Please call the office for an appointment.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Confessions are heard Monday through Saturday following the 8:30 A.M. Mass and on Saturdays from 4:00 P.M. to 4:30 P.M. in church or by appointment.

CARE OF SICK

Arrangements should be made through the parish office for home visits with the Eucharist for the sick and elderly. The office should be contacted for the Sacrament of the Sick.

SACRAMENTAL SPONSORSHIP

Sponsors for Baptism or Confirmation must:

Be a registered member of a Catholic parish

Be at least 16 years of age

Received Sacraments of Initiation:

Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation

If married, according to the laws of the Catholic Church

Sunday, July 6 ***Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time***

Luke 10:1-12, 17-20

Jesus sent forth seventy-two disciples to preach his good news, telling them "the harvest is rich, but the workers few." He also gave them detailed instructions on how to act towards the people. Jesus then reminded them not to be happy because of their power over evil, but to rejoice in the salvation they would achieve.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, July 5

8:30am Ofelia & Teresita Magnaye r/b Arlene Magnaye
5:00pm Joe Gehousky r/b Knights of Columbus #6364

Sunday, July 6

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30am John & Craig Forsman r/b Wife & Mother
9:30am Dot Evans & John Evans r/b sister Marylou
Fred & Alice Sweeney r/b Richard & Anna Sweeney
Isadore Randazzo & Santina Bellace r/b Chris Bellace
Carlo Casella r/b Henry & Barbara Szwak
Marianna Karpinska r/b Betty Blessing
Aniceto Santo Domingo r/b Jacqueline Lagunda
11:30am Jorge Perez r/b Carmen Perez

Monday, July 7

8:30am Living & Deceased Members of the Parish
Martha Rastelli (7th Anniversary) r/b Rastelli Family

Tuesday, July 8

8:30am Tom Tompkins r/b St. Vincent dePaul Society

Wednesday, July 9 – St. Augustine Zhao Rong

8:30am Fr. Brian O'Neill r/b Sharon Previtera

Thursday, July 10

8:30am Paul Jones Sr. r/b Lucille & Paul Jones Jr.

Friday, July 11 – St. Benedict

8:30am For the Intentions of Salvatore Mannino
r/b George & Marsha Yates

Saturday, July 12

8:30am Renz J. Silan r/b Arlene Magnaye
5:00pm Nick Aquino r/b his Family

Sunday, June 13

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30am Patricia Gambogi r/b Bob & Peg Kaledas
9:30am John Romeo r/b wife Grace
11:30am Peter & Terry Caso r/b Christina McNasby
Robert Wilson r/b Peg Wilson r/b Family
Margaret A. Burgo r/b Janet Mitchell
Rosario, Rose & Mary Gulotta and All the Faithful
Departed r/b B. Petrellis & Family

Readings for the Week

Monday, July 7	Gn 28:10-22a; Mt 9:18-26
Tuesday, July 8	Gn 32:23-33; Mt 9:32-38
Wednesday, July 9	Gn 41:55-57, 42:5-7a, 17-24a; Mt 10:1-7
Thursday, July 10	Gn 44:18-21, 23b-29, 45:1-5; Mt 10:7-15
Friday, July 11	Gn 46:1-7, 28-30; Mt 10:16-23
Saturday, July 12	Gn 49:29-32, 50:15-26a; Mt 10:24-33

Prayer for Religious Vocations

Priest:

Let us pray for vocations

All:

O God, we earnestly beseech you to bless the Church with many priests, deacons, seminarians and religious who will love you with their whole strength, be faithful to their vocation and gladly spend their entire lives to teach your truths, serve your Church and make you known and loved.

Priest:

Bless our families, bless our children.

All:

Choose from our homes those who are needed for your work.

Priest:

O Mary, Queen of the clergy,

All:

Pray for us. Pray for our priests, deacons, seminarians and religious. Obtain for us many more.

All:

Amen.

Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise You. We bless You. We adore you. We glorify You. We give You thanks for Your great glory. Lord God, heavenly King, O God almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only-begotten Son. Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father: you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. You take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. You are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord, You alone, are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Reading 1 - Isaiah 66:10-14c

Thus says the LORD: Rejoice with Jerusalem and be glad because of her, all you who love her; exult, exult with her, all you who were mourning over her! Oh, that you may suck fully of the milk of her comfort, that you may nurse with delight at her abundant breasts! For thus says the LORD: Lo, I will spread prosperity over Jerusalem like a river, and the wealth of the nations like an overflowing torrent. As nurslings, you shall be carried in her arms, and fondled in her lap; as a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you; in Jerusalem you shall find your comfort. When you see this, your heart shall rejoice and your bodies flourish like the grass; the LORD's power shall be known to his servants.

Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20

Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Reading 2 - Galatians 6:14-18

Brothers and sisters: May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither does circumcision mean anything, nor does uncircumcision, but only a new creation. Peace and mercy be to all who follow this rule and to the Israel of God. From now on, let no one make troubles for me; for I bear the marks of Jesus on my body. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen.

Gospel - Luke 10:1-12, 17-20

At that time the Lord appointed seventy-two others whom he sent ahead of him in pairs to every town and place he intended to visit. He said to them, "The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest. Go on your way; behold, I am sending you like lambs among wolves. Carry no money bag, no sack, no sandals; and greet no one along the way. Into whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this household.' If a peaceful person lives there, your peace will rest on him; but if not, it will return to you. Stay in the same house and eat and drink what is offered to you, for the laborer deserves his payment. Do not move about from one house to another. Whatever town you enter and they welcome you, eat what is set before you, cure the sick in it and say to them, 'The kingdom of God is at hand for you.' Whatever town you enter and they do not receive you, go out into the streets and say, 'The dust of your town that clings to our feet, even that we shake off against you.' Yet know this: the kingdom of God is at hand. I tell you, it will be more tolerable for Sodom on that day than for that town." The seventy-two returned rejoicing, and said, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us because of your name." Jesus said, "I have observed Satan fall like lightning from the sky. Behold, I have given you the power to 'tread upon serpents' and scorpions and upon the full force of the enemy and nothing will harm you. Nevertheless, do not rejoice because the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice because your names are written in heaven."

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven: and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.

**To everything there is a season and a time
for every purpose under heaven.**

Ecclesiastes 3:1

“...a time to be born...”

Jayce Paul Czajczynski Makenna Rose Cerase-Lynn
Kennedy Ann Hale Perrie Maxine McCarthy
Giana Rose Merlino Desmond James Pietroforte
Luke Franklin Seibert

“...a time to welcome...”

Serock Family

“a time to be married...”

...a time to be healed...”

Sam Amaradio, Bernadette Andrews, Chase Atkinson,
George Austin, Joyce Bailey, Chase Bell, Joseph
Brickley, Rita Bruno, Charli Burke, Jennie Cantagallo,
Christine Cassell, Colleen, Bob D'Alessio, Roxanne
Day, Robert Deegan, Alberta & Tony DiFabio, Lucyna
Dinces, Mirinda Donnian, Rich Donofrio, Kristine
Ebright, Ellie & Les Edwards, Barbara Facchine, Anna
Forsman, Keith & Linda Franchetti, Marylou Furfari,
Linda Gerwatoski, John Gilmore, Brenda Gordon,
Richard Grant, Dave Griffith, Michael Groody, Ben
Groves, Donovan & John Gura, Kathy Heisinger, Karol
Hennessey, Marie Ianoale, Carol Iannotti, Jason,
Adalynne Johnson, Susan Kane, Karen, Carol Taylor-
Kearney, Fred Krumm, Judy Longo, Joe Lumpkin,
Richard Maloumian, Michelle Marhefka, Barbara
Marker, Elwood Martz III, Dorothy McKeever, Anne
McMenamin, Peter Myers, Caroline Keenan, Barbara
& Ira McManus, Christina McNasby, Tim McSorley,
Hannah McStay, Joan Morlachetta, Katie Mutek, Frank
Nowak, Lorene Newman, Cathy Noakes, Nicole P.,
Megan O'Leary, Anthony & Denise Palestini, William
Pappernek, Lee Peters, Giovanni Poloney, Helen
Powell, Rose Quigley, Janet Rainier, Teri Reed, Joan
Reilly, Mary Reilly, Patti Roberts, Jim Roche, Ivey
Caruso Rupert, Marguerite Sadler, Caterina Saya, Santi
Saya, Loretta Scardino, Joe Schiavo, Nicholas Simeo,
Sr., Linda Sesko, Eda Shannon, Jason Shipman, Frank
Smith, Dominic Spano, Chris Stalker, Nick Stansbury,
Janie Talemal, Jason Tallarida, Karl Tomaszewski,
Evelyne & Tom Tull, Lou Underwood, Rosemarie
Villari, Kathy Voelmle, Darlene & John Voll, William
Walsh, John Werner, Shannon Whyte, Nancy Taylor-
Williams, Dianne Williamson, Richard Wilson Theresa
Woods, Lois Worthington, Lori Wotypka, Lois
Wunsch, Maria Wyzykowski, Catherine Zabrodski,
Francesco Zarzycki, their caregivers, all others in need
of our prayers.

“...a time to die...”

Joan Nowak

2026 MASS BOOK

The 2026 Mass Book will open on Tuesday, July 15 at
9:30 AM. Please have your dates, intentions and
offered by names ready.

STEWARDS CALLED

***“He said to them, ‘The harvest is abundant,
but the laborers are few...’”***

-LUKE 10:2

As Catholics we are all called to Stewardship. Each of
us has been given “charisms” otherwise known as gifts
from the Holy Spirit to help build God’s Church. Our
charisms can only be used for good. We know that we
are using them in the right ministry when we are filled
with joy and we want to share stories about our
charitable works. Discern how God is calling you to
use your charisms. Say “yes” to what God is calling
you to do and then do it! Share your joy and invite
others to do the same.

June 16 through June 23 - \$16,342.95

FORGOT YOUR ENVELOPES? OR NEW TO THE PARISH?

If you forgot your envelopes, are new to the parish or
are visiting the parish and would like to make a
donation, you can do so here. Be sure to select one-time
gift – as recurring is default.



STEPHEN MINISTRY

“Pull Yourself Together.”

You’ve heard it a million times. But things just aren’t
coming together. You’re still hurting. You need
someone to listen and to care, without judging or
pushing you to get better. A Stephen Minister can be
this person for you. To request a Stephen Minister, call
856-468-5536.

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our
defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil.
May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O
Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, cast
into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about
the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

JOSEPH HOUSE

We will deliver to Joseph House on Monday, July 7. Casseroles & paper products are always welcome! Please call Jerry at 856- 579- 7004 or email jerbotemple@comcast.net with any questions. Thank you for your continued support.

RETROUVAILLE:

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vy). If you know anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next two programs are the weekend of August 1 - 3 and October 3 - 5 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register, visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.



Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform in our time of need. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen. We pray for all in our armed forces, especially:

Francis M. Duras, Greg Giordano, Dane Kozlosky, James Tingle, Johnny McGowan, Vincent McManus, Vincent W. Abruzzese, Mitchell Luckman, John Robinson, Sean Owens, Matthew Cottrell, David Nahas, Michael Nahas, Colin Wexler, Liam Wahl, Ty Thuston, Brian Guzzetti, Leonard Puggi, Daniel Golden, Brett Govern, Ryan Lisle, Devin Kozlosky, Cory Carpenter, Christopher Hansen, Luke Wordelmann, Ryan Gilroy, Tyler L. Novak, Danielle Davis, Jesse Nester, Adam Stetser, Joseph Vaccarella

CALIX SOCIETY

The Calix Society (www.calixsociety.org) is a national association of Catholics in 12-Step recovery and their family and friends who are affected by alcoholism and other addictions.

Calix (Latin for “Chalice”) is no substitute for AA, NA, or AlAnon. We recommend that you continue attendance at your regular 12-Step group. Nor is this program for the newly clean and sober. One must have achieved a degree of sobriety to benefit from Calix.

If you are currently active in a 12-Step group and would like to talk with other Catholics about how they’ve incorporated their Catholicism into their Steps, and how they’ve become better Catholics by doing so, consider attending one, or more, of our meetings. Meetings are held Mondays via ZOOM – please call the parish to register at 856-468-1314.



**The Calix Society**
We substitute the cup that sanctifies for the cup that stupefies



The Calix Society Annual Retreat

“Great is Our God”

Saturday, August 2, 2025 from 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM
Church of the Incarnation, 240 Main St., Mantua, NJ 08051

Agenda:

- 9:30 AM - Introductions & Continental Breakfast
- 10:00 AM - Retreat begins (livestream)
- 12:00 Noon - Lunch
- 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM - Retreat (livestream)
- 4:00 PM - Confessions
- 5:00 PM - Mass (optional)
- All are welcome
- No cost - free will offering
- Registration is required
- Call parish office to register at 856-468-1314

Calix is an organization for Catholics in recovery
Presented by the Calix International Society - Hosted by Church of the Incarnation - Sponsored by Catholic Charities of South Jersey Addictions and Healing Services

LIVING AS MISSIONARY DISCIPLES

In Sunday's Gospel passage, (Luke 10:1-12, 17-20), Jesus sends out the seventy-two disciples to continue His mission. Jesus is very clear about what their first action should be. After explaining the huge work they have to do, The Lord simply commands them to "Pray." Prayer is essential in the life of a disciple and is necessary before we begin an effort so that whatever work we do may be in accord with God's will and guided by the Holy Spirit. It does not matter what we accomplish if it is not in accord with God's will. In fact, disciples sometimes act with good intentions but end up working against the Gospel rather than for it. Prayer keeps us focused on our purpose, open to the Lord's inspiration, and aware of the sacredness of our efforts. Without prayer, we risk doing our own will rather than God's will. Jesus sent the disciples to proclaim the Kingdom of God and in order to do that, the disciples had to know clearly what the Lord wished to occur in every situation they faced.

Think about it: "Lord, may everything we do begin with Your inspiration, continue with Your saving help, and come to completion in Your Kingdom." How does this prayer speak to me?

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Your support of the *South Jersey Catholic Ministries Appeal* ensures the vitality of essential Diocesan ministries and programs that sustain the healing, teaching and redemptive Presence of Jesus Christ throughout Southern New Jersey.

Support the South Jersey Catholic Ministries Appeal at www.camdendiocese.org/sjcma or by completing and returning the form below.

I would like to Support the South Jersey Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal with:

(Please check all applicable boxes for Gift and Payment Information)

- ☐ A One-time gift of: \$_____ Paid by: (Please circle) Check / Credit Card, **OR**,
- ☐ A Pledge to gift a total of: \$_____
- ☐ With a down payment of: \$_____ & remaining Pledge Balance of: \$_____, **OR**,
- ☐ Without a down payment.

My Pledge Balance will be paid in: _____ Monthly Installment Payments of: \$_____

Total or Down Payment paid by check #: _____ with the check dated: ____/____/____

<input type="checkbox"/> Use my credit card for payment of my one-time gift or monthly installment payments.	Type: (Please circle) MasterCard, Visa, Discover, Amex
Cardholder Name: _____	Expiration: _____
Card #: _____	Security Code: _____, OR ,
<input type="checkbox"/> Use my included voided check to direct debit monthly installment payments.	

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Signature:	Date:	



THE DIOCESE OF CAMDEN PRESENTS

SUMMER *in the city*

August 10th - 16th

Join young people throughout the diocese for week-long service immersion experience in response to the Gospel's call to put love and faith into action!

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Questions? Contact: Michael Sims

856-583-2910

Michael.Sims@CamdenDiocese.org

**REGISTRATION
FEE**

fee covers:
meals, lodging and
program materials

\$170

***REGISTRATION IS ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVED BASIS – SPACE IS LIMITED**



Discovering **hope** and **joy** in the Catholic faith.

July 2025

Church of the Incarnation, Mantua, NJ

Rev. Stephen J. Rapposelli, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

St. Elizabeth of Portugal

St. Elizabeth followed the footsteps of her great-aunt and namesake, St. Elizabeth of Hungary: she was born to royal parents, practiced fervent spirituality, great generosity and penances. She married King Denis of Portugal. Despite a difficult marriage and family conflicts, she remained patient and charitable. She is known for her care for the poor and sick, and for resolving political conflicts peacefully. After her husband's death, St. Elizabeth entered the Third Order of St. Francis.

Prayer is a response to Love

God wants a relationship with us. This is a central truth of our faith. "The living and true God tirelessly calls each person to that mysterious encounter known as prayer. In prayer, the faithful God's initiative of love always comes first; our own first step is always a response" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #2567). So, next time you feel called to pray, say, like Samuel, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening" (1 Samuel 3:10).

"By mercy you have washed us in the Blood, and by mercy you desire to converse with your creatures... Loving Madman! ...Your mercy constrains you to give even more to mortals, namely, to leave yourself to them in food."

St. Catherine of Siena

Step out and let Christ meet you where you are

"Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water" (Matthew 14:28). St. Peter showed remarkable courage when he stepped out of the boat in the middle of a storm. While God may sometimes call us to follow Him in dramatic or difficult moments, more often He invites us in the quiet, ordinary circumstances of daily life — to step out of what's comfortable and meet Him in our prayer, our relationships, and our service.

Prayer: The greatest challenge in deepening your prayer life is often just beginning. Start with a Gospel passage, read slowly, reflect, respond, and rest in God's presence. Light a candle. Sit in front of an icon. Play sacred music. Let beauty draw your heart to God. Ask the Holy Spirit to renew your desire, focus, and love for God. Step out of the boat — and you'll find Christ waiting.

Relationships: The virtues — patience, self-control, fidelity, honesty — aren't just about personal growth; they're about

loving others well. Show kindness to someone who frustrates you. Have a real conversation with someone with whom you disagree. Forgive, even if it's undeserved. These small choices shape us into Christ's likeness.

Service: "...the Son of Man came ... to

"Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid" (Matthew 14:27).

serve" (Matthew 20:28). Loving service doesn't require grand gestures. True holiness is forged in everyday acts: give away a piece of clothing you love but don't need. Help with the dishes, even when it's not your turn. Offer a break to a tired parent by watching their children. When service flows from love, it transforms both the giver and the receiver — and conforms our hearts to Christ's.

Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why Do Catholics Believe in Purgatory?

The Church teaches that many souls, though destined for Heaven, undergo purification after death, a process called Purgatory. Purgatory prepares us to see God clearly.

Scripture supports this: Judas Maccabee offered prayers for the dead (2 Maccabees 12:43-46), and Jesus mentioned sins forgiven in the next life (Matthew 12:32). St. Paul described a

judgment in which a person is saved, but their works are tested by fire. This fire isn't Hell (since they are saved), but a purifying fire, which aligns with the idea of Purgatory (1 Corinthians 3:13-15).

Purgatory is mercy. The souls there benefit from our prayers — and they pray for us in return. It's part of God's loving plan to make us truly ready for His presence.

Outsmart temptation with grace in action

When temptation strikes, the first line of defense is often simple: say “no” or avoid the situation entirely. But when that’s not enough, there are deeper, proven strategies that can help us respond with grace and strength.

First, think of temptation as an opportunity for holiness. God always gives us a choice, and when we say “yes” to Him and “no” to sin, He responds with even more grace. If another person is involved, pray for him or her. That small act of charity not only pleases God but disarms the enemy. As Scripture says, “Resist the devil, and he will flee from you” (James 4:7).

Second, don’t just resist temptation—replace it. Trying

not to think about sin often leads us right back to it. Instead, follow the advice of Philippians 4:8: focus on what is true, honorable, and good. For example, swap out gossip for words that build others up, or replace a bad habit with a holy one.

Finally, don’t overlook small victories. Faithfulness in little things strengthens us for bigger battles. Telling the truth in a pressure situation, showing patience in traffic, or keeping a promise all train the soul for harder moments. “Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities” (Matthew 25:23). Grace builds on effort. Use every moment well.

from Scripture

Luke 11:1-13, The Our Father is a school of prayer

If you’ve ever found yourself thinking, “I want to pray better,” this Scripture reading is for you. In it, Jesus teaches His disciples the Our Father — a masterclass in prayer, compact and profound. It’s not just one prayer, but four in one.

First, it’s a prayer of praise and thanksgiving, placing God above all. Second, it’s a petition, where we ask for our daily needs — spiritual and material. Third, it’s a plea for mercy, as we ask for forgiveness and the grace to forgive others. And finally, it’s a declaration of trust in God’s providence, a surrender of our will to His.

Praying the Our Father well means acknowledging that God knows what’s best for us — even when His will challenges ours. It’s an invitation to deeper faith.

God always answers prayer — but not always how or when we expect. Sometimes the answer is “Yes.” Other times, it’s “No” or “Wait — I have something better.” Jesus also makes it clear that persistence matters. Like the neighbor in the parable who keeps knocking at the door, we’re called to ask, seek, and knock with confidence. Prayer isn’t just about getting what we want — it’s about drawing closer to the One who loves us most.

Q & A

Can we console Jesus?

If you saw a close friend in deep pain, you wouldn’t walk by thinking, “She will get over it — I’m busy.” You’d drop everything, run to her, and ask, “What can I do?” This is the logic — and the love — behind consoling the Heart of Jesus. It’s not just a pious tradition; it reaches into the very core of our faith.

Jesus is fully human. He felt real emotions — joy, grief, betrayal, and sorrow. He understands our pain, and we can share in His, since He is also fully God, He stands outside of time. In the Garden of Gethsemane, He saw not only every sin but also every act of love, repentance, and faith. That means your love today can truly console His Heart in His Passion.

Words like “consolation” or “reparation” might sound outdated, but they mean something simple and powerful: to love Jesus where He has been wounded, to bring gratitude where there was ingratitude, and to respond with compassion where He was abandoned. Even small acts of love — a kind word, a prayer, a moment of sincere repentance — touch Him deeply.

Feasts & Celebrations

July 9 – St. Augustine Zhao Rong and Companions (1648-1930). This feast honors St. Augustine Zhao Rong, a soldier-turned-Catholic priest, and his martyred companions, forming a group of 120 Chinese Christians and Catholic missionaries. They were canonized by Pope St. John Paul II in 2000.

July 16 – Our Lady of Mt. Carmel (1251). The Blessed Mother appeared to St. Simon Stock in England, carrying the brown scapular, a sign of her favor of the Carmelite Order, and promised whoever wore the scapular until death would avoid the fires of Hell.

July 18 – St. Camillus de Lellis (1614). Born in Italy, St. Camillus aimed for holiness despite battling a gambling addiction and a hot temper. After gambling away his possessions, including his shirt, Franciscan brothers gave him a job. He was ordained a priest, and later founded the Order of the Camellians, caring for the grievously sick, prisoners, and the plague victims.

July 31 – St. Ignatius of Loyola (1556). Ignatius spent several years defending Spain and suffered serious injuries. While recovering, he began a religious conversion and a lifelong dedication to education. He wrote spiritual exercises and started a community of priests now known as the Society of Jesus (Jesuits).

Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible - Revised)

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