

PARISH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

MAILING ADDRESS: 7409 W. CLEARWATER AVE., KENNEWICK, WA 99336

PARISH OFFICE: 7411 W. CLEARWATER AVE., SUITE A, KENNEWICK

OFFICE: 509-735-8558

email: office@holyspiritkennewick.org

website: www.holyspiritkennewick.org

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/HolySpiritParishCommunity>

FR. MICHAEL BRZEZOWSKI

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DEACON KEN ELLIS

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DEACON ERIC SHABER

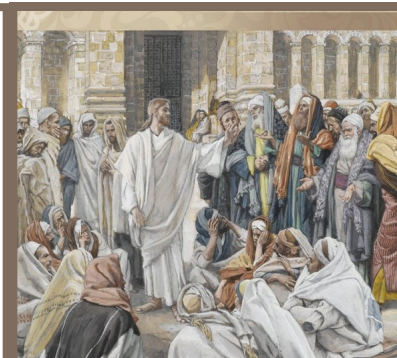
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DEACON MIKE GAULKE

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18th Sunday

IN ORDINARY TIME

[Jesus] said to the crowd, "Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one's life does not consist of possessions." - Lk 12:15

AUGUST 3, 2025

Parish Staff:

Secretary	Debbie Forgette	735-8558
Bookkeeper	Bianca Medina	735-8558
Parish Community Center (PCC) Coordinator	Michele Umemoto	735-1743

Faith Formation:

Pre-school to 5th Grade	Karen Gorham	735-8558
6th to 8th Grades/Edge	Danielle May & Kim Barany	528-9780 308-3328
9th to 12th Grades/Life Teen	Jennifer Moore & Joe Bliss	492-6209 216-402-3118
Confirmation	Deacon Mike & Carol Gaulke	551-7626
Order of Christian Initiation of Adults	Joe & Sherry Schroeder	405-2242

email: lifeteenhs@gmail.com

Ministers of Music:

4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass	Julianne Barnaby	735-2163
9:30 a.m. Mass	Paula Bachelor	375-9019
5:00 p.m. Mass	Perry Kelly	735-8558
Children's Choir	Presently Unstaffed	735-8558

Ministries of Worship:

Scheduler for Liturgical Ministers	Trish Feeney	551-0486
Eucharistic Adoration	Liz Friedrich	783-6223
Prayer Line	Adele Ogryzek	627-0201
Altar Server Training	Zack Rinderer	582-2543

Parish Ministries:

Mary Martha Prayer Group	Camille Henneberry	735-4858
Welcoming Committee	Jan Beardemphl	948-3367
PCC Nursery	Wynona Vaz	222-8982
Ministry to Sick and Shut-Ins	Deacon Eric Shaber & Charlotte Shaber	208-521-7846
Bible Study	Judy Turner	438-7938
Women's Group	Linda Rego	221-1130
Weekend Mass Refreshments	Judy Urrutia	438-5039

Councils and Committees:

Parish Council	Jim Carey	627-0321
Finance Council	Jared Liebert	947-9386
Stewardship	Lenice & Pat Nagle	582-6893
Evangelization	Rob Privette	438-1222
Voice of the Spirit	Dieter Bohrmann	987-3158
Parish Library	Ann Stevens	396-2723

Charter Organizations:

Catholic Daughters	Linda Garner	627-2748
Knights of Columbus	Peter Dreisbach	205-2377
St. Vincent de Paul	Message Line	591-0632
Scout Troop #275	Teddy Herrera	778-0505

Natural Family Planning:

Carol Gaulke 619-5464

Weekend Masses:

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Weekday Masses:

Monday: 9:00 a.m.

Tuesday, August 5: Daily Mass at 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday, August 6: Rite of Distributing Holy Communion Outside Mass with the Celebration of the Word of God at 9:00 a.m.

Thursday through Friday: 9:00 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Tuesday, August 5: No Reconciliation

Sunday: 3:00 - 4:15 p.m.

Please visit our Holy Spirit Facebook page to join livestream events:

<https://www.facebook.com/HolySpiritParishCommunity>

Office Hours: Monday through Friday

8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

The Sacrament of Baptism

Babies and young children are usually baptized during Mass on Saturday or Sunday, or on Saturday at 12:00 p.m. Call the parish office for a list of upcoming Baptism dates and to receive registration information for pre-Baptism classes. (735-8558)



Holy Matrimony

On Being Married at Holy Spirit ... Engaged couples who

wish to be married at Holy Spirit

Parish are asked to contact the parish office at least nine months prior to their desired wedding date. The couple and the priest will then meet to begin the Marriage preparation program. (735-8558)

Deaths

What should I do when there is a death in my family?

Please call the parish office and speak with the office staff and the pastor before making arrangements with the funeral home, to ensure that the church is available at the desired date and time. (735-8558)

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, August 3, 2025

Calendar for the Week: (Note: PCC = Parish Community Center)

Sunday, August 3:

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass with Commissioning of Liturgical Ministers in the church at 9:30 a.m. Mass is also livestreamed on [Holy Spirit Facebook page](#).

Prayer Angels for Peace, PCC hall, 11:00 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation, PCC room 9, 3:00 - 4:15 p.m.

Mass with Commissioning of Liturgical Ministers in the church at 5:00 p.m.



Monday, August 4:

Saint John Vianney, Priest

Mass in the church at 9:00 a.m. Mass is also livestreamed on [Holy Spirit Facebook page](#).

Tuesday, August 5:

Weekday

Dedication of the Basilica of Saint Mary Major

Mass in the church at 9:00 a.m. Mass is also livestreamed on [Holy Spirit Facebook page](#).

Holy Spirit Mommy and Me, PCC nursery, 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

No Sacrament of Reconciliation

Jubilee Mass for Youth, St. Paul Cathedral in Yakima, 5:30 p.m.

Rosary and Dessert, PCC room 6, 6:15 p.m.

Scout Troop 275, PCC hall and room 5, 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.

Knights of Columbus Council 10653 officers, PCC room 9, 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, August 6:

The Transfiguration of the Lord

Rite of Distributing Holy Communion Outside Mass with the Celebration of the Word of God in the church at 9:00 a.m.

Mary Martha Prayer Group, PCC room 5, 1:30 p.m.

Thursday, August 7:

Weekday

Saint Sixtus II, Pope, and Companions, Martyrs
Saint Cajetan, Priest

Mass in the church at 9:00 a.m. Mass is also livestreamed on [Holy Spirit Facebook page](#).

St. Vincent de Paul, PCC room 7, 10:00 a.m.

Friday, August 8:

Saint Dominic, Priest

Mass in the church at 9:00 a.m. Mass is also livestreamed on [Holy Spirit Facebook page](#).

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 9:45 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., in the vestibule. Concludes with *Prayers for Priestly Vocations* and *Prayers for Peace* at 4:30 p.m. and the *Rite of Benediction* at 4:45 p.m.

Saturday, August 9:

Weekday

Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, Virgin and Martyr; Blessed Virgin Mary

Sunday Vigil Mass in the church at 4:00 p.m.

Ice Cream Social sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, following Mass.

Sunday, August 10:

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass in the church at 9:30 a.m. Mass is also livestreamed on [Holy Spirit Facebook page](#).

Ice Cream Social sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, following Mass.

Sacrament of Reconciliation, PCC room 9, 3:00 - 4:15 p.m.

Mass in the church at 5:00 p.m.

Ice Cream Social sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, following Mass.



From the Pastor's Desk ...

POPE LEO'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR AUGUST:

Each month, Pope Leo encourages the Catholic Faithful around the world to join him in praying for a particular intention. The prayers for all the months of 2025 can be found at: <https://www.usccb.org/prayers/popes-monthly-intentions-2025>. Pope Leo's prayer intention for August is **for mutual coexistence** ...

Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious, or ideological reasons.

Pope Leo XIV composed the following prayer specifically for this August intention. Consider praying it daily this month:

*Jesus, Lord of our history,
Faithful companion and living presence,
You who never tire of coming to meet us,
Here we are, in need of Your peace.*

*We live in times of fear and division.
Sometimes we act as if we were alone,
Building walls that separate us from one another,
Forgetting that we are brothers and sisters.*

*Send us Your Spirit, Lord,
To rekindle within us
The desire to understand one another, to listen,
To live together with respect and compassion.*

*Give us the courage to seek paths of dialogue,
To respond to conflict with gestures of fraternity,
To open our hearts to others without fear of differences.*

*Make us builders of bridges,
Able to overcome borders and ideologies,
Able to see others through the eyes of the heart,
Recognizing in every person an inviolable dignity.*

*Help us create spaces where hope can flourish,
Where diversity is not a threat
But a richness that makes us more human. Amen.*

The Pope's prayer describes what is actually happening in our world. We only need to glance at the news on any given day to confirm that, in addition to international conflicts, numerous conflicts are happening within communities because of the rising tensions associated with political, religious, ethnic, and other types of differences. Pope Leo teaches us that we need to constantly remind ourselves of this fundamental truth: that we are all brothers and sisters, children of the same Father.

God's Blessings,

E. Michael

HERE'S
THE
SCOOP!



The Knights of Columbus will be hosting Ice Cream Socials after all Masses next weekend. Plan to join us for fellowship and a sweet treat, totally free! Like in past years, cups and cones will be available.

Holy Spirit St. Vincent de Paul Conference

meets the first and third Thursdays of each month at 10:00 a.m. in PCC room 7. If you are available a few hours each month and are seeking a way to serve the poor, grow spiritually, and make new friends, please join us this Thursday.



Amélie and Marie (born: July 24, 1845) Ozanam, wife and daughter of Frédéric Ozanam, founder of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

HOLY SPIRIT'S PARTICIPATION IN THE UPCOMING JUBILEE MASS FOR YOUTH TUESDAY, AUGUST 5, 5:30 PM ST. PAUL CATHEDRAL, YAKIMA



The upcoming First Tuesday Jubilee Year Mass—at St. Paul Cathedral, Yakima—will be dedicated to honoring the youth of our parish and our diocese. It is scheduled for **5:30 PM on Tuesday, August 5th**. Together with the members of our Parish Council, Fr. Michael is encouraging Holy Spirit's participation at this Mass. As Pilgrims of Hope, let's make a pilgrimage to our diocese's "mother church" on August 5th to ... pray for, recognize, and affirm the young people of our parish who are vital assets to the Church of today and will be the leaders of the Church of tomorrow. Young Catholics under the age of 30 (students, workers, youth in the military, single people, and married people) will all be honored at this Mass, but people of all ages are welcome—and encouraged—to attend.

Fr. Michael will be assisting at this Mass as a concelebrant. Let's start planning NOW to carpool to Yakima with friends and family members on August 5th for this Mass. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available at St. Paul Cathedral at 5:00 PM (1/2 hour before the Jubilee Mass begins). Also, the special Holy Year Indulgence will be granted to everyone who participates in the Jubilee Mass for Youth. All Holy Spirit parishioners who attend the Mass will receive a gift certificate from Dairy Queen, so you can stop for a cone or some fries on the way back to Kennewick. (There's a Dairy Queen on Yakima Avenue in Yakima, adjacent to the Convention Center.)



STEWARDSHIP: Jesus urges us to be rich in what matters to God. The psalmist warns us against hardening our hearts. Are our hearts really open to what matters?

June 29: \$13,686.49 Recorded givers: 123

For online giving, visit:

<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/holy7409270>

Thank you for maintaining your financial support of our parish as you are able. If you'd prefer to mail an offering, please send it to **Parish of the Holy Spirit, 7409 W. Clearwater Ave., Kennewick, WA 99336**. If you are currently using offering envelopes and would like to switch to online giving (or bill-payer from your bank), please call the parish office so we can discontinue your envelope mailings with our printing service. Thank you.



Save the Date:

Women's Group Rummage Sale
Thursday and Friday
September 4-5, 2025

Religious education registration forms have been emailed to those who attended our classes last year. If you did not receive one, or if you are enrolling a student for the first time, please look for a registration form on the table in the vestibule, download one online at www.holyspiritkennewick.org or come into the office and pick one up.

Please register by Tuesday, September 2 so that we can be prepared for your child to participate in our classes. Thank you!

Elementary: Preschool (age 4-5) through Grade 5 - Tuesdays
4:00 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. starting September 16th

Middle School: Edge - Sundays following the 5:00 p.m. Mass through
8:00 p.m. starting September 14th

High School: LifeTeen - Sundays following the 5:00 p.m. Mass
through 8:00 p.m. starting September 14th

You Can Help Your Marriage

Do you feel alone in your marriage? Are you frustrated or angry with your spouse? **Retrouvaille** (pronounced retro-vi with a long i) helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. Retrouvaille is for any couple who would like to rediscover beauty in their marriage and improve communication.

Visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org for emotional testimonials. For confidential information or to register for the August 22-24, 2025 Spokane weekend call (509) 448-4287 or (800) 470-2230 or visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org. Click on the "Find a Weekend" tab, and scroll down to the Inland Northwest link. Retrouvaille also is being offered in Canby, Oregon August 22-24, 2025 in both English and Spanish. **The deadline to register is August 4, 2025.**



The **Seniors Helping All Kids' Education** (S.H.A.K.E.) collection of school supplies in the designated box in the vestibule runs through **August 11th** this year. S.H.A.K.E., a program of Catholic Family and Child Services, will distribute the school supplies to children throughout Benton and Franklin counties. Students need all kinds of supplies including pens, pencils, paper, binders, crayons, glue, markers, backpacks, scissors and more!

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

All dates are tentative.

Monday	August 4	Walsh Family
Tuesday	August 5, 9:00 a.m.	Jim Dugan RIP
Thursday	August 7	Mary Ellen Sisk RIP
Friday	August 8	Bob Walsborn RIP
Saturday	August 9, 4:00 p.m.	Wendy Nelson
Sunday	August 10, 5:00 p.m.	Ron Neu RIP

The Sunday morning Mass is normally offered for the people of the parish.

To have your need added to our parish prayer phone chain,
please call Adele Ogrzyzek at 627-0201.

To have your need added to the list which is published in the bulletin
once each month, please call the parish office.

JOB OPPORTUNITY AT THE PARISH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Our parish is in need of an **Edge Coordinator** to lead the middle school (grades 6-8) catechesis program on Sunday evenings. The coordinator will be responsible to plan, organize, and facilitate middle school religious education, youth activities, and events. The Edge Coordinator is a paid staff position accountable to the Pastor of the Parish of the Holy Spirit for the execution of assigned responsibilities. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

Working to ensure qualified Core Team members staff the Edge program by:

- Recruiting and assigning Edge team members (catechists and volunteers)
- Coordinating training for team members
- Maintaining compliance with diocesan safe environment requirements

Maintaining a fully functional Edge program to include:

- Establishing a calendar of weekly Edge sessions during the school year
- Working with Core Team members to plan Edge Nights
- Leading Edge Nights
- Order and maintain teaching resources
- Prepare a budget for the Edge program.

Maintaining student attendance records, and other documentation as required.

Performing logistical responsibilities:

- Unlocking and locking buildings (church and Parish Community Center)
- Overseeing the set-up of rooms and facilities to be used
- Submitting bulletin notices as required

To express your interest in this position or for additional details, call the parish office at 509-735-8558.

A NOTE FROM ST. SERRA CLUB OF TRI CITIES

"If today, you hear His voice, harden not your hearts."
(Response to Psalm 90) Is God calling you to serve His people as a priest, permanent deacon, brother, monk or nun? Harden not your heart to this possibility.



FAITHFUL CITIZENSHIP

Tuesday, August 5, 2025

Washington Primary Election Deadlines

Ballots were mailed: **July 16**

Register in person (or update voter registration online) by: **August 5**

Election Day: **Tuesday, August 5**

Return ballot by: **August 5, 8:00 p.m.**

Visit VoteWA.gov or <https://www.bentoncountywa.gov/pview.aspx?id=55303> to register to vote or to update your information.

Plan to donate blood at the Holy Spirit Council of the Knights of Columbus sponsored **Blood Drive** from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on **Friday, August 15** in the PCC hall.



Sign up in the vestibule following Mass next weekend or anytime online at www.redcrossblood.org/. Enter "Holy Spirit Kennewick" on the sign-up page.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

God Gives Us What We Need

A few months back, my wife and I helped move my oldest son into his first apartment. He was moving to start his first real job and was excited and cautious at the same time. Moving him in reminded me of when his mother and I were first starting out. We received an old couch from her aunt, some kitchen supplies from my mom, and many other things from friends and relatives so we could begin this new journey in our lives. We didn't have much. But we had one another, and we had love. Looking back, those were great times.

Sometimes, we think material possessions give evidence of a life lived well. Artifacts from our travels, collections that take time to amass and provide clues to our interests, and various pictures and prints that adorn our walls. However, those who have lived lives of hardship and pain also have many of the same items. Not only doesn't all our stuff amount to real evidence of what our life has really been like, but it doesn't always make our lives better either.

What makes a life well lived is the love and compassion that we have experienced, primarily with God who loves us so deeply. Due to that love, God gives to us what we need, not always what we want. More stuff will never amount to anything in comparison to what God provides to us. If we all reflected on that truth more, perhaps we would spend less time accumulating things and more time simply loving—God and others.

On that moving day, I wanted to give my son more material things than was possible. However, what he really needs then, now, and always is my love.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

LPI



COMING UP FRIDAY EDGE/LIFETEEN SUMMER FUN!



Friday, August 8th—Come enjoy a night of fun! Who can get a hole in one? Life Teen and Edge are getting together on August 8th at Tee Time from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Holy Spirit Youth Ministry is paying for food and mini golf. If you would like to play pool, any of the arcade games, or air hockey you will need to bring money for that. There is also shuffle board and corn hole for free! Please text Jennifer Moore at 509-492-6209 to let her know that you will be attending. We need a head count for the night. We are looking forward to seeing everyone! Tee Time is located at 2203 West 4th Avenue in Kennewick.



Please join us for **Rosary and Dessert Night on Tuesday, August 5 at 6:15 p.m. in PCC room 6.** Bring your favorite treat and Rosary beads and pray with us. If you have never prayed the Holy Rosary, we will teach you how! Open to all members of the parish.

Questions? Call/text Stephanie McDaid (509-366-4555) or Wynona Vaz (509-222-8982).



Sponsored by the Holy Spirit Young Adult Group

Bible Study Coming Soon Matthew: The King and His Kingdom

The book of Matthew brings the history of Christ to life. We see Jesus as the awaited Messiah who fulfills the promises and prophecies of the Old Testament, establishes the New Law, and inaugurates the kingdom of heaven. *Matthew: The King and His Kingdom*, a twenty-four-part Bible study, explores how Jesus is challenging and empowering us to a new level of holiness and shows how we must be thoroughly immersed in the kingdom of heaven on earth, the Church, to live-out that holiness.

We will be completing the study in three 8-week sessions. The dates are as follows:

- September 24 – November 12, 2025
- January 28 – March 18, 2026
- September 30 – November 18, 2026

Registration will begin in early September.

This Bible Study will meet Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in the PCC; however, anyone interested in facilitating an evening session of this study, please contact Judy Turner at 509-438-7938.

HAVE FUN AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE VOLUNTEERING IN OUR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Please consider helping in our pre-K through 5th grade religious education classes this fall. Volunteers in this ministry play a vital role in teaching and nurturing faith and spiritual growth in the lives of the young people of our parish. Curriculum and materials are provided and extensive support and guidance is available. Classes meet Tuesdays from 4:00 - 5:15 p.m. September through April. Please contact our Religious Education Director Karen Gorham at 509-735-8558 or karen@holyspiritkennewick.org to see how you can help.



SCHOOL OF HEALING

2-DAY WEEKEND SCHOOL
& HEALING SERVICE

AUG. 29-30

St. Patrick Catholic Church
1320 W. Henry Street Pasco, WA 99301

"...they will lay hands on the sick
& they will recover." - Mark 16:18

Jesus promised, "These signs will accompany those who believe...They will lay hands on the sick and they will recover." (Mark 16:17) Jesus has called us to do what he did, and that includes healing the sick. The event is a two-day conference to teach, impart and activate Christians to be a more effective minister of Jesus' healing in the world! Are you going to give him the chance?



**DR. KERRY
MCMAHON**

*Kingdom
Medicine*



**FR. DIOGO
ESCUDERO**

*Capuchin
Franciscan Friar*

SESSIONS

Faithful to Catholic Teaching.

BAPTISM
OF THE
HOLY
SPIRIT

THEOLOGY
OF HEALING

ROLE OF FAITH
& PRAYER
MODEL FOR
HEALING

OVERCOMING
DISCOURAGEMENT
& UNDERSTANDING
IMPARTATION

THE POWER OF
TESTIMONY
& ACCESSING
WORDS OF
KNOWLEDGE
FOR HEALING

**HEALING
SERVICE***

*This session is
free & open to
the public*

Training Includes:

- Praise & Worship
- Powerful Sessions
- Opportunities to pray for and receive prayer for physical healing



encounterministries.us

Friday, August 29
5:30pm - 9:30pm
Saturday, August 30
9:00am - 10pm

Healing Service*
August 30 @ 7:30pm

**This portion is free and
open to the public*

Fall Catholic Education Series

Sponsored by the Holy Spirit Young Adult Group

All nights will begin with light refreshments.

Events are open to everyone.



Tuesday, September 9, 6:15 p.m. - 7:15 p.m. in PCC rooms 6/8

Do You Know Your Deacons?

Join us as our Holy Spirit deacons share their discernment stories and the ways they serve here in our parish. Light refreshments will be provided. Everyone is invited and families are encouraged to attend.



Tuesday, September 16, 6:15 p.m. - 7:15 p.m. in PCC rooms 6/8

Catholic Beliefs and Questions – Catholic Life in our World Today

Join us as **Father Michael** talks about living a Catholic life in our modern world today, emphasizing the richness of the principles of Catholic Social Teaching. Light refreshments will be provided and all are invited to attend.



Tuesday, September 23, 6:15 p.m. - 7:15 p.m. in PCC rooms 6/8

Scripture and Eucharistic Adoration

Presentation by **Deacon Eric Shaber**

Bring your Bible and a notebook and join us as Deacon Eric introduces us to the practice of Lectio Divina using John 6 and other Scripture verses. This method is a centuries-old Christian practice of prayerfully engaging with Scripture—not just to study it, but to encounter God through it. It's about relationship, inviting you into a quiet, meditative dialogue with the Word. This will be followed by Deacon Mike's introduction to Eucharistic Adoration, with some time spent adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Light refreshments will be provided at the beginning. All are invited to attend.

Introduction to Eucharistic Adoration followed by Eucharistic Adoration – by **Deacon Mike Gaulke**



Tuesday, September 30, 6:15 p.m. - 7:15 p.m. in PCC rooms 6/8

“Why Baptism?” and “Cultivating Holy Habits”

Join us as Deacon Ken talks about the significance of our Baptism in our lives and Meg Mass speaks about the importance of cultivating holy habits. Light refreshments will be provided. Everyone is invited to attend.

Why Baptism? – by **Deacon Ken Ellis**

“Holy Habits: Living a Holy Life” – by **Meg Maas**

Q&A and discussion



Tuesday, October 7, 6:15 p.m. - 7:15 p.m. in PCC rooms 6/8

Rosary and Dessert Night – Feast of the Holy Rosary

In honor of the Feast of the Holy Rosary, join us for a short presentation on “Falling in Love with the Rosary,” followed by the recitation of the Rosary. Feel free to bring your favorite treat to share and your Rosary. If you have never prayed the Rosary, we will teach you how! Everyone is invited and families are encouraged to attend.





[Jesus] said to the crowd,
“Take care to guard against
all greed, for though one may
be rich, one’s life does not
consist of possessions.”

LUKE 12:15

Remember This

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Remember this: Jesus said, “one’s life does not consist of possessions.” But, if not that, what then?

Think back upon your memories: the first warm day of spring, when the fireworks of new life exploded upon you; laughing so hard that your sides hurt, and you and your friends could not stop laughing even to breathe; walking barefoot in the dewy grass; your best friend telling you you’re best friends; learning to finally ride a bike no-handed and thinking that you moved up a rung on the ladder of awesomeness; the first time you dared to risk reaching for the hand of someone you discovered you liked more than anyone else; the unbelievable wonder at the birth of your child; making googly faces at a burbling baby, and the baby googling back; your child snuggling into

bed with you at two in the morning because she’s frightened by the thunderstorm; talking with friends on and on into the night and wishing it could go on for forever; a cold beer, the reward for cutting the grass on a dizzying summer afternoon; being young with an abundance of dreams of what might be; growing old and thinking life was worth it all.

Remember this: there is so much more to life than one’s possessions. We all know this, and yet we forget. Perhaps in forgetting, we might be surprised again and again by the beauty of what cannot be purchased and so recognize the loving touch of our God. ●

Reflect

***What is more important to me than possessions?
Does my life reflect this?***



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

August 2025

Parish of the Holy Spirit

One Minute Meditations

St. Clare of Assisi

Born to a noble family in Assisi, St. Clare was eighteen when St. Francis was invited to preach at the church of San Giorgio. She was so inspired, she renounced everything to serve God in poverty, penance, and simplicity. Others joined, forming the first Order of Poor Ladies (Poor Clares). St. Clare is most famous for protecting Assisi from invasion by displaying the Blessed Sacrament on the fortress walls, causing the enemy to flee in terror.

The promise of the Assumption

This month, we celebrate Mary's Assumption, body and soul, into Heaven. What is often thought of as a "privilege" unique to Mary is actually a "preview" of what we are made for: endless joy, dwelling in the life and love of the Trinity, souls and bodies. It's another reminder that Catholicism isn't just about spiritual truths but concrete, physical, and tangible realities.

"I want to stress what I think that we...need more; the joy and delight in God which meet us in the Psalms...[The Jews] did not know that He offered them eternal joy; still less that He would die to win it for them. Yet they express a longing for Him, for His mere presence, which comes only to the best Christians" C.S. Lewis.

The Saints and the secret to true happiness

The saints understood that real happiness is about knowing where to find peace, perspective, and joy—no matter what life brings. This month, we look at four saints who show us what it takes to live with true happiness.

Simplicity – St. Francis of Assisi. St. Francis gave up wealth and comfort to follow Christ completely. In doing so, he made space in his heart to receive everything from God with peace and joy. While most of us aren't called to material poverty, we can imitate his spiritual poverty—letting go of sin and distractions to focus more fully on our relationship with God.

Trust and Love – St. Thérèse of Lisieux. St. Thérèse's "Little Way" was built on doing small things with great love. Her "humble confidence" in God's mercy gave her strength through illness, loss, and interior suffering. Her path invites us to respond to life's challenges not with fear or striving, but with trust and consistent, simple acts of love.

Holy Humor – St. Philip Neri. St.

Philip Neri understood the spiritual power of joy. Known for his deep prayer life and playful spirit, he used humor to lift others out of gloom, deflate pride, and open hearts to God. He once shaved half his beard just to make

"Thou dost show me the path of life; in thy presence there is fulness of joy, in thy right hand are pleasures evermore."

Psalm 16:11

people laugh. His life reminds us that holiness isn't dour—joy, laughter, and reverence can all go hand-in-hand.

Faithful Friendship – Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati. Blessed Pier Giorgio balanced an active social life with a deep love for the poor and for Christ. He surrounded himself with friends who shared his love for the faith, frequently inviting them to Mass and Eucharistic Adoration. Whether hiking mountains or visiting the sick, he lived with joy rooted in friendship—with others, and above all, with Jesus.

Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics believe in miracles?

The Gospels contain many well-attested accounts of miracles, often witnessed by large crowds. It makes sense that the Creator of the natural order would occasionally suspend it to reveal His power. At the heart of our faith stands the greatest miracle of all—the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

St. Paul wrote, "If Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain, and your faith has been in vain" (1 Corinthians 15:14). God continues to work miracles today to bless those who experience them directly and to strengthen our trust in His providence, love, and divine presence.

The Queen who leads us home

When Jesus entrusted Mary to St. John at the foot of the Cross (John 19:27), He gave us one of His greatest gifts: His own mother. In that moment, we were welcomed into His family. As Queen of Heaven, Mary blesses us in many ways. We look to her as:

As Mother: Jesus gave us the person closest to Him on earth to help draw us even closer to Him. He was not content simply to be our Savior—He wanted to be our Brother. Mary is not a barrier to Christ but a window into His heart. Through her, we come to know Him more intimately.

As model: Mary is also a model of faithful discipleship.

Though sinless, she had no supernatural powers or hidden knowledge. She rejoiced and suffered, worked and traveled, just as we do. Her life shows us how to remain faithful in the face of sorrow, uncertainty, and loss—and that perseverance in faith is always rewarded.

As intercessor: God does not need Mary's prayers or assistance to act on our behalf, yet He chooses to involve her in His work. Her intercession—like ours—finds its power in Christ's perfect prayer to the Father. As Queen, Mary is not passive in heaven; she actively cares for us, her children, with a mother's love.

from Scripture

Luke 14:1, 7-14, Humility is holy "self-forgetfulness"

Fewer things are more awkward than accepting an honor publicly—only to discover it wasn't meant for you. In this Gospel passage, Jesus offers a clear lesson: the safest way to "move up" in God's Kingdom is through humility.

In Jesus' time, a person's status at a banquet was reflected in how close they sat to the host. Like today, not everyone knew who had been invited. If you mistakenly sat too close, you could be asked—publicly—to move down. It was wiser to take a lower seat and be invited higher, if appropriate.

Humility is often misunderstood. It's

not weakness, self-doubt, or putting yourself down.

True humility is honest self-awareness—recognizing your flaws and limitations, but also your gifts, strengths, and constant need for God's grace. The humble person doesn't seek to be the center of attention. Instead, they reflect God's goodness and elevate others.

Jesus isn't giving us etiquette tips. He's showing us the posture of the heart that honors God, protects our soul, and prepares us for the only banquet that matters—the eternal one.

Q & A What is a "rule of life" and why should I make one?

A rule of life is simply a structured way to integrate regular prayer into your day. It's a long-standing practice among priests, monks, and nuns—but it's not just for the consecrated. Everyone needs time each day to be with the One who loves us most. Your personal rule can be as simple or as detailed as you need; what matters is remaining faithful to the time you commit.

At first, the idea of a rule of life might seem intimidating. But in reality, most of us already follow one. Maybe we always wake up at the same time or never skip a morning jog. Prayer can—and should—become part of that rhythm. It's not just a duty; it's an investment that transforms us and blesses those around us.

In the *Introduction to the Devout Life*, St. Francis de Sales encourages us to "begin all prayers... in the presence of God." He emphasized the value of consistency—staying faithful to a few well-chosen prayers is more effective than rushing through many. If, during prayer, you feel God inviting you simply to rest in His love, don't worry about finishing every word. The goal is not to check boxes, but to draw close to Him.

Feasts & Celebrations

August 8 – St. Dominic de Guzman (1221). Born to a noble family in Spain, St. Dominic studied to become an Augustinian canon regular, but left to preach against the widely popular but dangerous Albigensian heresy. He founded the Order of Preachers, or "Dominicans," who successfully defeated this heresy. He's also credited with receiving the Rosary from Our Lady and teaching it to others.

August 15 - The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (1950). Declared a dogma of our faith by Pope Pius XII, the Assumption celebrates Mary being taken up into Heaven body and soul at

the end of her life. It is a Holy Day of Obligation this year.

August 27 – St. Monica of Hippo (387). St. Monica is best known for converting her wayward son and pagan husband by her patience, piety, and prayers. Her son, St. Augustine, became a great saint and Doctor of the Church.

August 29 – The Beheading of St. John the Baptist (1st Century). Today we recall the martyrdom of St. John the Baptist, whose mission was to prepare the Jews for Jesus' coming by calling them to repentance. He was arrested and executed for preaching the truth to powerful enemies. Caving into the pressure of his courtiers, King Herod permitted his niece's request – the head of John the Baptist on a platter.

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Dear Padre,

Sometimes after Mass, I go to the late service at a “Bible church” with the rest of my family. Once a month, this church serves communion, but they make it clear that it is only as a memory of Jesus and the Last Supper, and that Jesus is not present at communion. Is it OK to receive this communion?



RODRIGUEZ PHOTOGRAPHY / SHUTTERSTOCK

The Catholic understanding of Holy Communion includes not only the understanding of Communion as the Body and Blood of Christ, but it includes something more. Communion is a statement of belief and a statement of belonging. When Catholics participate in the sacrament, they are identifying with divinity as well as with the community of believers who are joined together in “one mind and in one spirit.” It is an act of unity, a real “communion.” Even though the Bible church clearly teaches a different theology of communion, it would seem to me that, for a Catholic, the fullest meaning and understanding of Communion is important and worth witnessing to. For this reason, I would refrain from participating in communion at the Bible church. Do so quietly and respectfully, because what is being celebrated is important; it just does not have the full meaning that you understand is necessary. ●

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSSR / DearPadre.org

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
August 4	August 5	August 6	August 7	August 8	August 9	August 10
St. John Vianney, Priest	Weekday	Transfiguration of the Lord	Weekday	St. Dominic, Priest	Weekday	Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Nm 11:4b-15	Nm 12:1-13	Dn 7:9-10, 13-14	Nm 20:1-13	Dt 4:32-40	Dt 6:4-13	Wis 18:6-9
Mt 14:13-21	Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14	2 Pt 1:16-19	Mt 16:13-23	Mt 16:24-28	Mt 17:14-20	Heb 11:1-2, 8-19 or 11:1-2, 8-12
		Lk 9:28b-36				Lk 12:32-48 or Lk 12:35-40




DANIEL IBÁÑEZ / CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE


A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Covetousness of goods, the desire to have goods, does not satisfy the heart, but rather causes more hunger!... Be careful! Love...is the source of true happiness, whereas the exaggerated search for material goods and wealth is often a source of anxiety, adversity, abuse of power, war. Many wars begin from covetousness.

ANGELUS, ROME, AUGUST 4, 2019

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