

**This Week's Message  
from Fr. Amesse  
August 24, 2025**



I am away visiting my brother up in Canada. It is good to see him. It has been a year. Some ask me, “Father, how is it a vacation if you say Mass and hear confessions while you are away?” It is easy. I would be lost without the Mass. Confessions are just half an hour or an hour. Then I am free to read and walk. It is good. My soul is refreshed.

My brother has a dog, Joey. Do you remember him? I wrote about him last year when I visited. He wanted me to throw his RED ball. He loves his red ball. I would have no patience. This year, Joey still likes me even though I didn’t want to throw the ball just before Mass. In fact, I think he is friendlier than last year. Even though I lost patience with Joey, he does not lose patience with me. What can we learn from animals like Joey? Quite a bit. God speaks to us through animals. Joey reminds me of the words of Saint Francis of Assisi—to be patient and have humility. Last week there was a story in the bulletin about having the sense of a goose. It is good advice.

Saint Francis of Assisi is the patron saint of animals, ecology, and the environment. The Feast of Saint Francis occurs every year on October 4. The past few years we have had the Blessing of the Animals on his feast day. We will again this year. There will be more to come on this when I return.

**I remember you at Mass!**