

Dear friends in Christ,

While I am away until July 25, I will be leaving you with a number of writings from Pope Leo. I hope you all had a joyous and relaxing 4th of July celebrations. Pope Leo wrote a letter on this occasion which is well worth reading:

**LETTER OF POPE LEO XIV ON THE 250<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to all Americans on the occasion of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. This semiquincentennial marks that defining moment in the history of the United States of America, July 4, 1776, that gave enduring voice to the ideals of liberty, equality, the pursuit of happiness, justice and democratic self-government. For two and a half centuries, generations of Americans have worked together to carry these principles forward — through sacrifice, service, innovation and civic participation. This anniversary stands as an invitation not only to celebrate the nation's remarkable journey, but also to reflect upon the responsibilities that the sons and daughters of this country bear to one another, and to the generations who will inherit the nation that is being shaped today.

Among the most cherished of these principles is religious freedom — the right of every person to worship according to conscience and to practice their faith openly, without coercion or fear. In marking this anniversary, it is important to recognize that freedom of religion has long been central to the American promise, protecting both individual dignity and the peaceful coexistence of a diverse people.

This same freedom has permitted the Catholic Church to take root and flourish within the United States, to the advantage not only of her own members, but of the entire nation. As faithful sons and daughters of the Church, Catholics are called to imbue every dimension of their existence with the charity of Christ (cf. 2 Cor 5:14), living out the Gospel in the circumstances of daily life. Such a way of living has given rise to the many benefits that the Church has provided over the years to the development of this nation. In particular, I bring to mind her service in areas of education, the preferential care of the poor, healthcare and basic social services, to name a few.

In the Encyclical *Sapientiae Christianae*, my predecessor Pope Leo XIII wrote that “no better citizen is there... than the Christian who is mindful of his duty” (no. 7). In fact, faith — far from standing in opposition to the responsibilities of citizenship — lends new vigor to the pursuit of justice, peace and the common good, bringing to perfection every natural gift bestowed by the Creator. Saint Paul himself encouraged the early Christians to pray for those in positions of authority in order to live a peaceful life in accord with the will of God (cf. 1 Tim 2:2).

In this regard, it is in the faithful fulfillment of duty — to God and country — that Catholics are called to continue to serve the nation, as leaven for the growth of a civilization of love (cf. Mt 13:33).



Also among the principles that have guided the development of this country is the God-given dignity of every human life, each person being endowed with an inherent worth that calls for reverence, protection and care. In this spirit, a full understanding of this dignity leads to recognizing the importance of safeguarding human life from its beginning at conception until natural death, and of building a society in which the vulnerable, the suffering and the forgotten are always met with compassion, solidarity and love. Defending human life also includes welcoming, protecting and assisting immigrants, whose hopes, sacrifices and contribution have formed part of the history of this country from its very beginning. In every generation, those who have arrived seeking freedom, opportunity and a place to belong have helped to shape the nation's character. To receive them with compassion and generosity is not only an act of charity, but also a recognition of the dignity that belongs to every human person.

In my recent Encyclical Letter, *Magnifica Humanitas*, I wrote about working together for the common good. “Building a world in which everyone can flourish requires shared responsibility and courage. No one can single-handedly bear the weight of the challenges the world is facing” (no. 13). We need one another, and we need to work together in unity to confront the challenges that the world is facing today.

May this milestone renew the shared commitment to the promise of freedom, justice, opportunity and democracy. May Americans honor the courage and vision of those who came before them by strengthening their communities, respecting their differences and working together toward a more perfect union. Congratulations on this extraordinary national anniversary. May the spirit of 1776 continue to inspire hope and unity as the United States of America moves into the future. In assuring all of you of my prayers in your renewed efforts to strengthen the nation in the principles that guided its Founding Fathers, I entrust you to the intercession of the Immaculate Conception, patroness of this country, that she will continue to watch over America and protect all who dwell therein. POPE LEO XIV

Many thanks to Fr Raphael and Fr Williams who are covering for me while I am away.

Blessings on your week!  
Fr. Johnson

## HAPPENING THIS WEEK

### ST JUDE Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9AM-4PM, Friday 9AM-12PM

| Mon<br>July 13                                                                                       | Tuesday<br>July 14                                 | Wednesday<br>July 15                                                                                                       | Thursday<br>July 16                                                                                                                                                        | Friday<br>July 17                                                                                                                                                      | Saturday<br>July 18                                                                     | Sunday<br>July 19                            |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| 9:00am Daily Mass<br>9:00am - 12:30pm<br>Vacation Bible<br>School Day 1<br>10:00am Women of<br>Faith | 9:00am - 12:30pm<br>Vacation Bible<br>School Day 2 | 8:30am Confessions<br>9:00am Daily Mass<br>9:00am - 12:30pm<br>Vacation Bible<br>School Day 3<br>7:00pm House of<br>Prayer | 9:00am Daily Mass<br>9:00am - 12:30pm<br>Vacation Bible<br>School Day 4<br>12:15pm Steps to<br>Freedom<br>1:00pm Rosary<br>Cenacle<br>7:00pm St Vincent<br>de Paul meeting | 9:00am Daily Mass<br>9:00am - 12:30pm<br>Vacation Bible<br>School Day 5<br>9:30am - 1:00pm<br>Adoration<br>3:30pm Feeley-Nuss<br>Wedding<br>5:00pm-9:00pm<br>Adoration | 2:30pm Stevans-<br>Zhang Wedding<br>3:30pm Confessions<br>5:00pm Saturday<br>Vigil Mass | 9:00am Sunday Mass<br>11:00am Sunday<br>Mass |

### HOLY INNOCENTS Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9AM-4PM, Friday 9AM-12PM

| Mon<br>July 13                        | Tuesday<br>July 14                                      | Wednesday<br>July 15                                 | Thursday<br>July 16 | Friday<br>July 17                                                                              | Saturday<br>July 18                    | Sunday<br>July 19                                                                                                             |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7:00pm St. Vincent<br>de Paul Meeting | 9:00am Daily Mass<br>3:00-6:30pm Food<br>Pantry<br>Open | 10am-12noon Food<br>Pantry Open<br>6:00pm Daily Mass | 9:00am Daily Mass   | 9:00am Daily Mass<br>6-6:45pm<br>Confessions<br>6-8pm Adoration of<br>the Blessed<br>Sacrament | 5:30pm WoW<br>Marriage Prayer<br>Group | 8:00am Sunday Mass<br>10:30am Sunday<br>Mass<br>11:30am Information<br>Meeting on<br>Becoming Catholic<br>(starts after Mass) |

### ST ANTHONY Office Hours: July 13, 2026 Monday 9AM-12PM

| Tuesday<br>July 14           | Wednesday<br>July 15      | Thursday<br>July 16 | Friday<br>July 17 | Saturday<br>July 18           |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| 6:00pm<br>Adoration & Rosary | 7:30-9:30pm<br>AA Meeting | 6:00pm Bible Study  |                   | 5:00pm Saturday<br>Vigil Mass |

### ASSISTANCE TO THOSE IN NEED

#### ST VINCENT DE PAUL

- Holy Innocents: King County Crisis line at 211
- St. Jude SVdP: Helpline assistance: 206-767-6449
- To learn more or to join the ministry contact:
  - Connie Dunn at Holy Innocents: [connie@conniedunn.com](mailto:connie@conniedunn.com)
  - Diane Murphy at St Jude: [svdp@stjude-redmond.org](mailto:svdp@stjude-redmond.org)
- To donate furniture or household items email: [svdpfurniture@stjude-redmond.org](mailto:svdpfurniture@stjude-redmond.org)

## PARISH FAMILY FINANCIAL UPDATES

### HOLY INNOCENTS YEAR TO DATE 2026 - 2027



#### OPERATIONS

Actual \$6,364  
Goal \$10,192  
Ahead/(Behind) **(\$3,828)**

#### BUILDING

Actual \$4,716  
Goal \$5,585  
Ahead/(Behind) **(\$869)**

### ST JUDE YEAR TO DATE SUNDAY COLLECTIONS JULY 5, 2026



#### St Jude

Actual \$19,084  
Goal \$16,850  
Ahead/(Behind) **\$2,234**

#### SAFE PARKING AT ST JUDE

Safe Parking Helpline: 425-658-4982  
[safeparking@stjude-redmond.org](mailto:safeparking@stjude-redmond.org)

#### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Holy Innocents:  
Contact George Doty 360-668-2224  
[Dotyga@aol.com](mailto:Dotyga@aol.com)  
St Jude:  
[knightsforcolumbus@stjude-redmond.org](mailto:knightsforcolumbus@stjude-redmond.org)