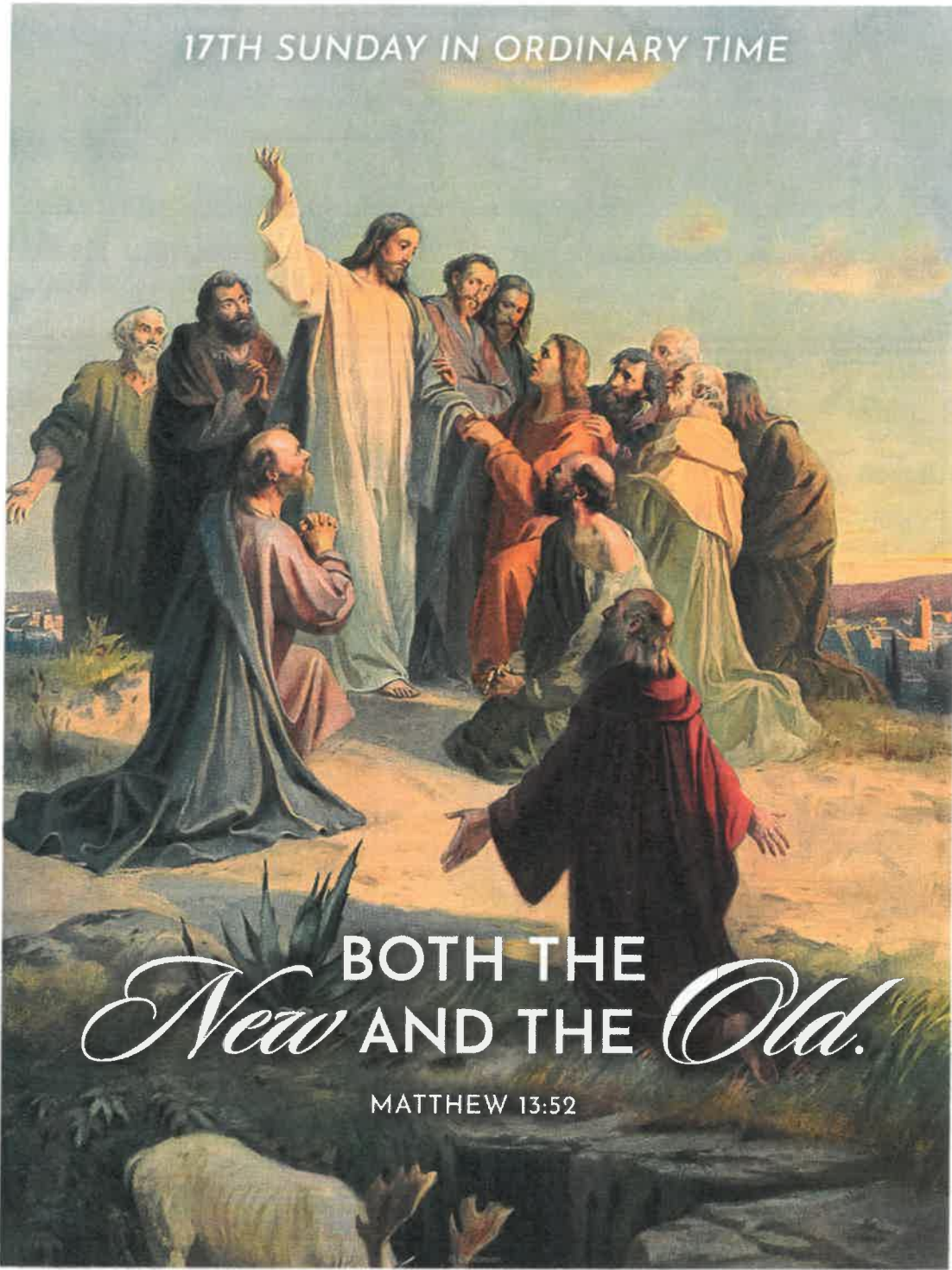




17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

BOTH THE
New AND THE *Old.*

MATTHEW 13:52



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
14936 W. Wilmington - Peotone Rd.
Manhattan, Illinois 60442
17th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
July 26 , 2026

Most Revered Bishop Dennis Spies
Administrator

Office Phone 815-478-3440

Facebook St. Patrick Church of Wilton Center

Website: www.stpatrickwiltoncenter.org

MASS INTENTIONS

Mass is celebrated on Saturday evening only

July 25	5:15pm	+Dan Phelan req. by The Family +Steve & +Grace Niemiec req. by The Family Parish Family of St. Patrick
July 29	5:30pm	+Dan Phelan +Judy Stromski req. by The Family
August 1	5:45pm	Special Intention Carmen & Jerry Kinsella— 50th wedding Anniversary +Dan Phelan req. by The Family Parish Family of St. Patrick
August 5	5:30pm	+Dan Phelan req. by The family Deceased Members of the Ulman Family
August 8	5:45pm	+Dan Phelan +Steve & +Grace Niemiec Parish Family of St. Patrick

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Minister</u>
July 25	Sue Nugent	C. Smith
August 1	Jerry Kinsella	C. Kinsella
August 8	Mark May	L. Cakora

SERVERS & USHERS

Please volunteer at the Mass you are attending



**Scripture Readings
For the Week of July 26, 2026**

Sunday Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary

Time 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12; Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130; Rom 8:28-30; Mt 13:44-52 or Mt 13:44-46

Monday Jer 13:1-11; Dt 32:18-19, 20, 21; Mt 13:31-35

Tuesday Jer 14:17-22; Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13; Mt 13:36-43

Wednesday Memorial of Saints Martha, Mary, and Lazarus Jer 15:10, 16-21; Ps 59:2-3, 4, 10-11, 17, 18; Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42

Thursday Jer 18:1-6; Ps 146:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6ab; Mt 13:47-53

Friday Memorial of Saint Ignatius of Loyola, Priest Jer 26:1-9; Ps 69:5, 8-10, 14; Mt 13:54-58

Saturday Memorial of Saint Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church Jer 26:11-16, 24; Ps 69:15-16, 30-31, 33-34; Mt 14:1-12

Sunday Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary

Time Is 55:1-3; Ps 145:8-9, 15-16, 17-18; Rom 8:35, 37-39; Mt 14:13-21

**WEEKLY OFFERING FOR
7/26/2026**

Sunday - \$1,885.00

Maintenance - \$40.00

**Our weekly budget goal is \$1,346.15
Thank you for your faith filled support.**

Please Remember our sick: especially:

Ralph Kuntz, Greg Harnois, Jim Kreske, Ann Marie & Tori, Jasinski, Lisa Price, Barbara Schriver, Joe & Carol Price, Bernice & Dominick Marino, Tom Lane, Peggy Schiesow, Ken Smith, Laura Hanson,, Nancee Long, Shay Phelan, Lisa Bernard.

**PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE TO HAVE A
LOVED ONE ADDED TO THE PRAYER LIST.**



**Our Blessed Mother
Candle Is burning for
THE PARISH FAMILY
OF ST. PATRICK**

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

N	P	S	C	R	I	B	E	D	G
X	F	Z	G	P	E	A	R	L	S
J	O	Y	W	W	I	G	R	S	E
N	E	W	G	C	E	X	D	M	A
S	O	S	E	L	L	S	A	N	N
F	X	E	A	F	T	A	D	C	O
K	W	I	C	K	E	D	D	E	L
M	C	S	E	J	R	E	I	T	D
U	T	R	E	A	S	U	R	E	C
R	I	G	H	T	E	O	U	S	P

Treasure
Joy
Sells
Pearl
Sea
Wicked
Righteous
Scribe
New
Old



SUNDAY

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Most parishes are now aware of the catechumenate and the journey of new faithful in the RCIA, but this form of sacramental initiation disappeared from view in the thirteenth century along with many other ancient practices. Life back then was hard, and often too short, and priests were increasingly insistent about the responsibility of parents to baptize children in danger of death. Since everyone in that society was under unimaginable threat from famine, warfare, and plague, the liturgical rites changed quickly. Everyone was in danger of death all the time. No longer were babies immersed in fonts, being lowered into the water, although the ritual books never backed down from immersion. Infusion was the new way, a simple pouring of a few drops of water on the child's forehead.

The catechumenate collapsed, being reduced to the recitation of the Creed and an Our Father at every baptism. Amazingly, any provision for adult baptism was shelved, so that as late as the 1950s, a person being baptized was presumed to be an infant, unable to answer for him or herself. Questions of creed and commitment were put to the godparents, not to the person being baptized. Even Dorothy Day and Thomas Merton, famous adult converts, remained mute at their baptisms while their sponsors answered for them. In hindsight all this appears strikingly odd, yet it was accepted as the way things were. We have good reason to give thanks for the vigorous reforms of the last fifty years!

—Rev. James Field



God can't be outdone

Years ago, Chris and Nena Lavoie began welcoming seminarians into their home for a meal and a blessing. Over time, 10 or 12 young men gathered around their table. They couldn't have known that this simple hospitality was planting a seed in their own son, Joshua, now a priest for the Diocese of Joliet, ordained just a few weeks ago. The diocese walked with Fr. Josh through eight years of formation. For the Lavoies, giving to the Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal is one way to walk with the next young man, and the next.



The 2026 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal

PARISH GOAL: 10,500.00

AMOUNT PLEDGED: \$5,585.00

AMOUNT PAID: \$5,150.00

**MASS WILL BE CELEBRATED
WEDNESDAY AT 5:30PM
COME AND PRAY
FOR OUR PARISH**

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
A Truly Wise Person

The ending of today's Gospel speaks about "the new and the old." Jesus is saying that a person "instructed in the kingdom" has wisdom both old and new; in other words, that person learns from the past as well as from the present. Let's look at each of those.

We learn from the past by studying it. So the wisdom of the Kingdom comes first from the scriptures. The more familiar we are with the word of God, the more wisdom we possess. Along with studying the scriptures, we must pray over them and ask the Spirit to show us how they apply to our lives. We can also learn from the lives of the saints and writings of the Church. The saints may have lived extraordinary lives, but they all began as ordinary people who gave their lives to Christ. The writings of the Church, though sometimes very technical, contain the wisdom of centuries of living the faith. If you only have time to go to Mass on Sunday, just listening to the homily can help to apply the scriptures to your life.

One way we can learn from "the new" is to learn from our mistakes. That includes learning from our sins. When we are truly sorry, we make an effort to change our ways. You might say we have to learn a new way to respond to that situation. In the Bible, the word repentance itself means a change of heart, a new way of seeing and doing things.

We can also learn from the mistakes and the successes of our friends. As we share our faith with them, we share the stories of our lives, both good and bad. These stories can teach how to live our faith (or how not to!). One of the advantages of having friends whom we trust enough to confess our faults to is that we do not have to figure out life on our own. God can speak to us through a friend or relative whose advice we seek. A truly wise person is one who has received a lifetime of good advice.



The Pearl of Great Price

What would you ask for if God appeared to you tonight and said, "Ask something of Me and I will give it to you"? It is a question worth sitting with honestly, because the answer reveals a great deal about the condition of our hearts.

When that very moment came for Solomon, he did not ask for wealth, for long life, or for victory over his enemies. He asked for wisdom. He wanted an understanding heart to lead God's people and to distinguish right from wrong. The Lord was pleased, we are told, not simply because wisdom is a noble thing to wish for, but because Solomon's request revealed a heart already oriented in the right direction. He recognized his own smallness in relation to God and turned toward Him as opposed to the resources the world offers. The gift he received was extraordinary precisely because what he asked for was not for himself, but for his people and for the sake of justice.

This is the thread that runs through all of today's readings: the reorientation of desire. In the Gospel, Jesus offers His disciples three parables about the Kingdom of Heaven, and at the center of each is a figure who discovers something of incomparable worth and then acts with total abandon in response. The man who finds treasure in a field does not hesitate. The merchant who discovers the pearl of great price does not negotiate or delay. Both sell everything they have. There is no grief in parting with lesser things once the greater thing has been found.

This is what conversion looks like. Conversion is not primarily a turning away from something bad, but a turning toward something so profoundly good that everything else is willingly released. The invitation Jesus extends is not to deprivation but to reordering. He is asking his disciples: have you discovered yet what is truly worth everything? And if you have, does your life reflect that discovery?

Paul draws this vision even wider. He reminds us that for those who love God, all things work together for good. Not just the comfortable things, not just the successes, but all things. This is a staggering claim that only makes sense once we realize that God has called us, justified us, and is in the process of glorifying us, conforming us into the image of his Son. Every thread of our lives, including the painful and confusing ones, is being woven into that story.

The question today is not whether the Kingdom of Heaven is worth everything. It is. The question is whether we have truly encountered it yet, and whether we sincerely see it as the pearl of great price that we would give up everything to obtain.

By Tommy Shultz