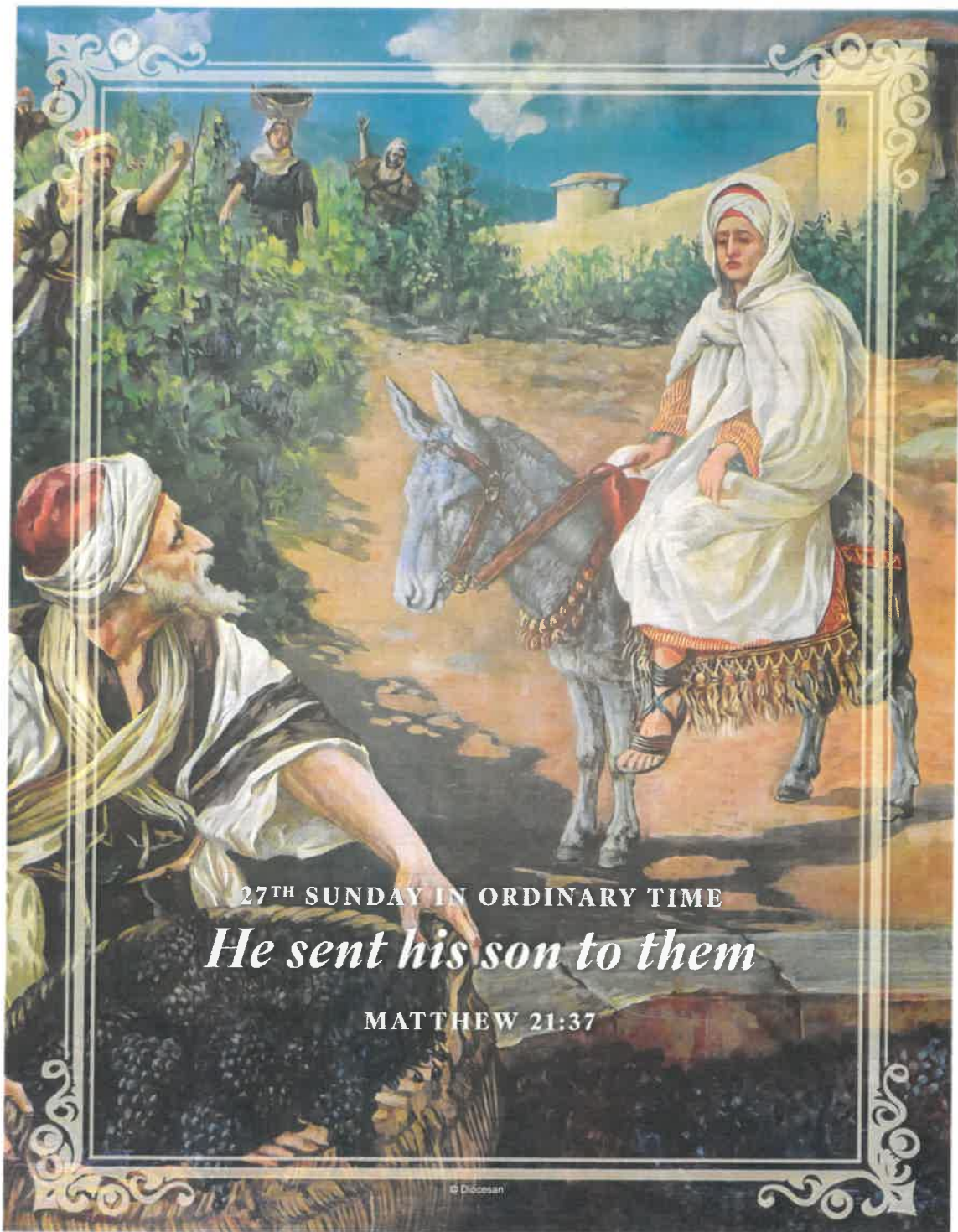




27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

He sent his son to them

MATTHEW 21:37



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
14936 W. Wilmington - Peotone Rd.
Manhattan, Illinois 60442
27th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
October 4, 2026

Most Revered Bishop Dennis Spies
Administrator
Email-stpatrickwilton@aol.com

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

October 3	5:45pm	+Dan Phelan req. by The Family Parish Family of St. Patrick
October 7	5:30pm	+Dan Phelan req. by The Family +Lisa Bernhard
October 10	5:45pm	+Craig Cieply req. by The Family +Jim & +Rita Phelan req. by Ed & Judy Phelan Parish Family of St. Patrick
October 14	5:30pm	+Julia Elkin req. by Ed & Judy Phelan +Dan Phelan req. by The Family
October 17	5:45pm	+Dan Phelan req. by The Family Parish Family of St. Patrick

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Minister</u>
Oct. 3	Jerry Kinsella	C. Kinsella
Oct. 10	Christine Yonker	P. Engler
Oct. 17	Sherrie Ashley	L. Cakora

SERVERS & USHERS

Please volunteer at the Mass you are attending



**Scripture Readings
For the Week of October 4, 2026**

Sunday Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 5:1-7; Ps 80:9, 12, 13-14, 15-16, 19-20; Phil 4:6-9; Mt 21:33-43

Monday Gal 1:6-12; Ps 111:1b-2, 7-8, 9, 10c; Lk 10:25-37

Tuesday Gal 1:13-24; Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 14c-15; Lk 10:38-42

Wednesday Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary
Gal 2:1-2, 7-14; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Lk 11:1-4

Thursday Gal 3:1-5; Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75; Lk 11:5-13

Friday Gal 3:7-14; Ps 111:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6; Lk 11:15-26

Saturday Gal 3:22-29; Ps 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; Lk 11:27-28

Sunday Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Phil 4:12-14, 19-20; Mt 22:1-14 or Mt 22:1-10

**WEEKLY OFFERING FOR
9/27/2026**

**Sunday - \$1,255.00
Maintenance - \$25.00**

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

Please Remember our sick: especially:

Jim Shields, Katie Horath, 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,

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

**HOLY FATHER INTENTION FOR
October**

For mental health ministry
Let us pray that the mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.



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



Undy Sunday 2026

Did you know that new underwear and socks are the most-requested but least-donated items at Catholic Charities? These basic items (new underwear, warm socks, a fresh diaper) are truly treasures to those who are living in poverty.

St. Patrick CCW is helping Catholic Charities, Diocese of Joliet and the individuals and families they serve by collecting the following NEW items for children and adults living in low-income households:

Men's, women's or child's new T-Shirts, sweatshirts, socks, diapers any size will be appreciated

The collection will be held through October 17. Drop off in Church vestibule after mass on Wednesday October 7 or 14 or Sunday October 10 or 17

THANK YOU



**ST JUDE CCW ANNUAL
HARVEST LUNCHEON
& CRAFT SHOW**

Julienne & Taco Salad Bar - \$15
Tickets will be sold in the Parish Office and after Masses
September 26/27 and October 3/4

OCTOBER 9, 2026
CRAFT SHOW - 10:30 AM - 2 PM
LUNCHEON - 11:30 AM - 1 PM

**ANYONE INTERESTED IN
A CARPOOL TO THE LUNCHEON
PLEASE CONTACT
CARMEN AT 815-693-8234**



The Beauty of Life

Lygia Pope, 13 years old

*A human life is not yours to take.
Life or death is nobody's decision to make.*

*Listening to their little hearts beat,
And seeing their little hands and feet.*

*A human life is not yours to take,
A tiny heart, you choose to break.*

*Soft bare skin you will never feel,
With a mother's mind unable to heal.*

*A human life is not yours to take,
The child's faint heartbeat, is not fake.*

*A quiet laugh and a heartwarming smile,
The things you want to last for awhile.*

*A human life is not yours to take,
Seeing their first steps they make.*

*Endless love and constant care,
To a child that will never be aware.*

*Because a human life is not yours to take,
So I take a stand against that great mistake.*

*Never being able to hear that innocent voice,
Should never be someone's freedom of choice.*

Monthly Devotion



OCTOBER Month of the Holy Rosary

The Holy Rosary

Prayer for the Month of the Rosary: O Virgin Mary, grant that the recitation of your Rosary may be for me each day, in the midst of my many duties, a bond of unity in my actions, a tribute of filial piety, a sweet refreshment, an encouragement to walk joyfully along the path of duty. Grant, above all, O Virgin Mary, that the study of your mysteries may form in my soul, little by little, a luminous atmosphere, pure, strengthening, and fragrant, which may penetrate my understanding, my will, my heart, my memory, my imagination, my whole being. So shall I acquire the habit of praying while I work, without the aid of formal prayers, by interior acts of admiration and of supplication, or by aspirations of love. I ask this of you, O Queen of the holy Rosary, through Saint Dominic, your son of predilection, the renowned preacher of your mysteries, and the faithful imitator of your virtues. Amen.



She wasn't alone when she became principal

When Colleen Carroll stepped into her second year as principal of St. Jude Catholic School in New Lenox, she wasn't walking the path alone. Through the Emmaus Mentor Program, supported by your gifts to the CMAA, Colleen was paired with veteran principal Carol Albreski, giving Colleen support and a person to reach out to with the everyday challenges of a first year in the principal's office.



Watch the video and see
the good your donation to the CMAA
brings to our community

The 2026 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal

PARISH GOAL: 10,500.00

AMOUNT PLEDGED: \$10,655.00

AMOUNT PAID: \$10,455.00

DONORS - 24

MASS WILL BE CELEBRATED
WEDNESDAY AT 5:30PM
ALL ARE WELCOME TO
COME AND PRAY
FOR OUR PARISH

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

The sacrament of penance has a long and difficult history. The Church sometimes struggles with how best to be faithful to the image of an all-forgiving God. Once a very public rite with publicly visible participation on the part of the penitent, it became in time a very private matter. By the fourteenth century, when a prayer of absolution and a laying on of hands was still required in sacramental confession, theologians were saying that even that was too much liturgy. All that was required was confession itself, and the sacramental words *Ego te absolvo*, or "I absolve you."

In 1614 the Council of Florence tried to flesh out this bare skeleton, requiring that if possible the priest should wear a stole, that the confession should be in church, and that there be questions about the person's state in life, occupation, and last confession. This is the first time the Church recommended that the penitent and priest be separated by a grill, thereby eliminating the ritual laying on of hands once so central to the sacrament, substituting the priest's raised right hand in blessing. This is the rite that remained in force until the sacrament became the subject of very stormy debates at the Second Vatican Council, leading to a major reform in 1974 that is still only partially received.

— Rev. James Field

Mary, Mother of Life



When the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary to tell her that she would conceive and bear a son, Mary responded with her fiat, “May it be done to me according to your word” (Lk 1:38). Mary conceives Christ in her womb, becoming the mother of God, the mother of Jesus. Jesus himself tells us that he is “the way and the truth and the life” (Jn 14:6). In becoming the mother of Jesus, Mary becomes the *mother of life*. Mary’s acceptance in this unforeseen moment demonstrates how each of us must welcome the gift of new human life, even when that gift is unexpected or calls us to make sacrifices.

Eve was called the “mother of all the living” (Gen 3:20). Unfortunately, her disobedience brought sin into the world. In contrast Mary, through her obedience to God, gives birth to our Salvation. Mary becomes the New Eve—the new mother of all the living. Her fiat gives us an example of perfect docility and cooperation with the will of God.

At the Annunciation, when Mary learns that her elderly cousin Elizabeth is six months pregnant, she travels in haste to visit Elizabeth, spending the next three months at her side, even while pregnant herself. In her selfless service to Elizabeth, the Blessed Mother perfectly models how we are called to accompany expectant mothers as they prepare to welcome new life into the world.

Mary’s role as the Mother of Life extends from the Annunciation all the way to the Crucifixion. On Calvary, Mary stands at the foot of the Cross with Saint John. The Gospel tells us: “When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple there whom he loved, he said to his mother, ‘Woman, behold, your son.’ Then he said to the disciple, ‘Behold, your mother.’ And from that hour the disciple took her into his home” (Jn 19:26-27).

With his final breaths on the Cross, Jesus entrusts Mary and the Beloved Disciple to one another, and by extension establishes a maternal relationship between Mary and the Church. Jesus’ words are addressed not only to Saint John, but to each one of us. In this moment, the physical mother of Jesus becomes the spiritual mother of the Church and all the faithful. Saint John goes on to take Mary into his home and cares for her as she advances in age, demonstrating our responsibility to continue our care for human life, from conception to natural death. Mary, who taught us how to nurture human life, becomes the recipient of that same honor and care.

The life of the Blessed Mother teaches us to respect each human life in every stage and circumstance. Mary is our model for upholding the sanctity of all human life. O Mary, “Mother of the living, to you do we entrust the cause of life.”¹

Life Isn't Fair

Life isn't fair! How many times have we heard or said this phrase in our lifetime? From a young age we think that the world isn't fair and oftentimes, the authority figures in our lives are quick to remind us of that fact. You would perhaps think that it would be different with God. That once we have a conversion and commit our lives to Christ that life would be fair from then on out right?

The first reading today from Ezekiel makes it clear that life does indeed become fair when we commit ourselves to Christ, but maybe not in the way we think of fairness. Like a good and loving Father would do, Ezekial reminds us that when we complain about life being unfair, it is perhaps our attitude that needs a paradigm shift. He reminds us that it is our way of life that is not fair and due to this we have to deal with the consequences of our actions.

It's no secret that the battle cry of the last few generations has been freedom. We want freedom to do whatever we want, whenever we want, to whomever we want, with little to no consequences for our actions. The Lord gives us a new route to true freedom, not the superficial freedom that we think will satisfy but ultimately leaves us enslaved. I would say, and I think Ezekiel confirms this, that true freedom is not so much doing whatever we want to do, but doing what we ought to do. In other words, when we live in accord with how we were created, being made in the image and likeness of God, we are most fully at peace and most fully free.

Think about it, if we believe that God created us, then it is in living in accord with God's laws that we are most fully happy. No different from the child who does as their parents ask is most fully happy and fulfilled. It may seem unfair at the moment because we want what we want, but in the long run we know that this type of freedom that Christ offers will bring us true joy.

Freedom is a tricky thing because in allowing true freedom, God allows the possibility for sin and death. But as the Catechism reminds us in paragraph 1730, "God willed that man should be left in the hand of his own counsel, so that he might of his own accord seek his Creator and freely attain his full and blessed perfection by cleaving to him." God gave us freedom in order that we might fully live in his life, that we might choose it, that we might want it. Let's pray for the grace to use our intellect and will to make the right decisions that ultimately lead us to true peace and joy. - By Tommy Shultz