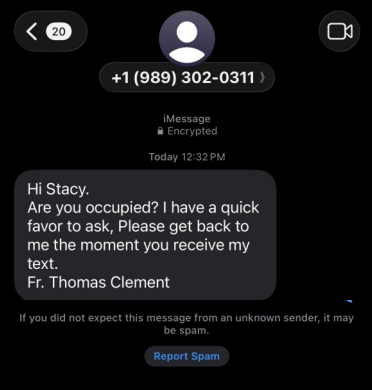
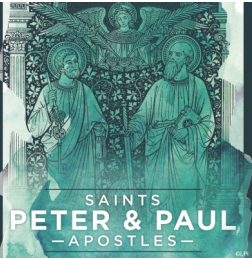






*This scam message is going around. It is not Fr. Tom's contact information. Different phone numbers are being used each time the message is sent which is an indicator that it is spam. It is a good idea to report it. Don't respond to the sender. It would not hurt to change the password on your account.*

We prayed in the psalm response: “Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.” What a simple reminder to look, to recognize and to give praise for the good things of the Lord even when we may feel like we are carrying a cross. As Jesus says in the Gospel today: “...whoever does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me.” So many faithful who have gone before us-- or still on the journey--are wonderful witnesses to this; a deep seeded joy amid trail and struggle.



On Monday, we celebrate the great feast of Saints Peter & Paul. As a person walks into Vatican City you are greeted by two larger statues, St. Peter on one side of the court yard and St. Paul on the other; the two men are often pictured in Church art with keys (Peter) and a sword (Paul). Saints. Peter and Paul are two great saints who guided the church in its earliest days, and they who continue to do so today via their intersession for us and by their letters and teachings that they left behind. As they sought to walk in step with their Master teacher, Jesus Christ, so are we called by the virtue of our baptism.

Help Pope Leo continue his and the church's outreach to people around the world by giving to the Peter's Pence Collection. If you already done so, Thank You!

Peace and Blessings – Fr. Tom



### WHY DO WE DO THAT? CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

#### Works of Mercy

I've heard of the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. What are they, and what's the difference? As God has shown us mercy, so too are we called to show mercy to those we encounter. We see mercy throughout the Gospels, but the parable in Matthew 25 forms the foundation for the first set of Works of Mercy. This parable of the last judgment shows each person being asked how well they cared for those around them, and being reminded that this care for those in need is care for God Himself. Each person is asked if they have fed the hungry, given drink to the thirsty, clothed the naked, sheltered the stranger, cared for the sick, and visited the imprisoned. These — along with burying the dead — are the Corporal Works of Mercy, as they primarily concern the physical life of a person. The list of the Spiritual Works of Mercy developed later. These actions of love primarily concern the inner life of a person. They are instructing the ignorant, counseling the doubtful, admonishing sinners, bearing wrongs patiently, forgiving offenses, comforting the afflicted, and praying for both the living and the dead. All of these actions are concrete ways of bringing the love of God into the world. ©LPi

#### GOSPEL MEDITATION

I still remember the first homily I ever preached as a new deacon. It was at the seminary, and the Gospel was this one: **“Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me.” (Matthew 10:37-38)** Standing before more than 200 classmates and professors, I stumbled awkwardly through my words and realized how strange — almost insane — this teaching sounded. If anyone else said it, we would call it narcissistic or cultish. And that is the point. I felt the weight of those words in my own heart then, as I still do today. Am I willing to live as though Christ's claim on my love is absolute? Are you?

Over the years, I've learned that the more I do, the more everything else makes sense. Family, friendships, vocation, even my very self: all of it falls into place when my love for Jesus comes first.

That is why he dares to speak this way. Our Lord is not a cult leader hungry for control. He is the Son of God, the source of life and love itself. To put him before everything else is not to lose, but to find...everything, and everyone, in him.

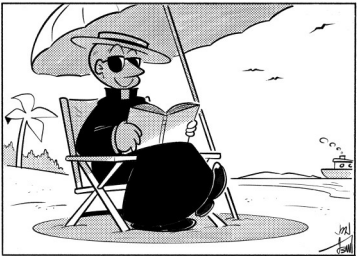
This week, name one thing or one person you are tempted to place before the Lord. Then consciously offer it back to him in prayer. —

Father John Muir ©LPi

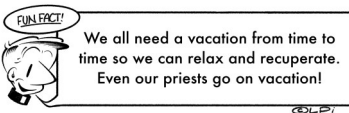
#### Readings for the week of June 28, 2026

Monday: Acts 12:1-11/ Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18/Mt 16:13-19  
Tuesday: Am 3:1-8; 4:11-12/Ps 5:4b-6a, 6b-7, 8/Mt 8:23-27  
Wednesday: Am 5:14-15, 21-24/Ps 50:7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13, 16bc-17/Mt 8:28-34  
Thursday: Am 7:10-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11/Mt 9:1-8  
Friday: Eph 2:19-22/Ps 117:1bc, 2/Jn 20:24-29  
Saturday: Am 9:11-15/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Mt 9:14-17  
Next Sunday: Zec 9:9-10/Ps 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14/Rom 8:9, 11-13/Mt 11:25-30

“What do you call it when a priest spends the weekend at the beach?”



“Sancti-Vacation!”



**St. Mark Parish**  
**Secretary:** JoNell DeHaan  
**Cell:** 605-680-0870  
**Email:** office@holypostlessd.org

Reg Support \$822

**Church Cleaning for July: Jeanne Payer & Margaret Reiser**  
**Sunday July 5<sup>th</sup> – 11 AM**

Lector: Larry Lucas  
EM: Rita Svatos  
Servers: Tate Bennett & Taryn Bennett  
Counters: Margaret Reiser & Jeanne Payer  
Custodians/Ushers/Collection: Larry & Deb Lucas  
Grounds: Josh Kaczor

**Council meeting moved to July 16 @ 4:30 PM**



After 10 years of serving as coordinator of our annual Fall Supper, I have decided to step down from this role. I am grateful for the support, friendships, and teamwork that have made this event such a success year after year.

As I step aside, we will need a new volunteer to serve as coordinator. If you are interested I helping continue this wonderful parish tradition, please contact Margaret Reiser, Altar Society President.

Thank you to everyone who has helped make the Fall Supper possible over the years. It has truly been a blessing to serve. Jeanne Payer



**CATHOLIC TRIVIA:**  
What is the “Holy See”?



**St. Peter the Apostle Parish**  
**Secretary:** JoNell DeHaan  
**Cell:** 605-680-0870  
**Email:** office@holypostlessd.org  
**Online Giving:** <https://onrealm.org/SaintPeterApost/Give>

**2026 CFSA Goal \$22,500/\$705remaining**  
Reg Support \$1251 Online \$383

**Sunday, July 5–9:00 am**

Lector: JoNell D.  
Servers: Nate D., McKenzie & Linden D.  
EMs: JoNell D., Jennifer F.  
Ushers: Keith & Jane A.  
Counters: Anderson, Kemnitz

Thank you to all who helped with the cleaning!

**Altar Society Meeting:** July 12 following the 9 AM Mass

**Joint Council meetings moved to July 15 @7 PM**

*We could still use more Greeters/Ushers.*



**St. Ann Parish**  
**Secretary:** Jackie Slaba  
**Cell:** 605-680-1944  
**Email:**office.stanngeddes@sfcatholic.org

Reg Support \$1501 Kids \$7

**JULY 4<sup>TH</sup> - 6 PM**

Lector: Lory DuFrain  
EM: Sandy DuFrain, Don Millar  
Servers: Max & Ty Masur, Oakley DuFrain



Marriage Blessings and Congratulations to Elliot Cwach and Maddison Slaba.

**Joint Council meeting is July 21 @ 6:30 PM**

#### JULY BIRTHDAYS

**St. Mark:** Robert Bennett-7, Carol Durham-11, Rod Payer-11, Holden Ronfeldt-14, Chloe Florey-24, Taryn Bennett-28

**St. Ann:** Tom Schulte (1), Wesley Millar (1), Sandy Gant (2), Ken Schulte (3), Charles Slaba (5), Don Millar (6), Bryan Pope (7), McKenzie Mushitz (10), Bill Schulte (14), Roberta Strehlow (14), Adam Mushitz (16), Lois Slaba (16), Dan Stuart (17), Anthony Slaba (20), Tyson Mushitz (20), Vicky Horst (21), John Fuerst (23), Max Masur (23), Pat Westendorf (24), Mark Gant (29), Brenda Millar (31)

**St Peter:** Haley Stluka-2, Dave Holzbauer-3, Ruth Lucas-4, Linden DeHaan-4, Montana Petersen-7, Hadli Holzbauer-7, Jenna Bopenhagen-8, Allie DeHaan-11, Jimmy Foxley-13, James Larson-15, Roxane Dyk-17, Carol Carter-18, Shay Petersen-18, Declan Gerlach – 21, Judy Maresh-22, Stacey Larson-23, Jordyn Kirwan-24, Halie Kirwan-24, Blakely Turnis – 28, Colt Bopenhagen -29, Hudson Bopenhagen-29, Jessica Hoeksma-30, Rhemesin Nachtigal-31



#### **VIRTUES, EXPLAINED! – CONNECT WITH TRADITION AND GROW YOUR FAITH**

##### Discernment



We most often hear the term “discernment” when a man or woman prayerfully considers a religious vocation. This is a helpful context in which to think of the virtue of discernment, which all Christians are called to develop, lay and religious alike.

When a person hears a “call,” he cannot simply *go* — he must first figure out where the call is coming from. It's not enough to simply have an idea of becoming a priest, a sister, a missionary, a husband, a wife — the idea needs a good, thorough background check. This is discernment, which “unmasks the lie of temptation, whose object appears to be good...when in reality its fruit is death,” says the Catechism. (CCC 2846)

We run this background check of discernment on our feelings, our intentions, and our inclinations under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and through a diligent regimen of prayer and reflection. “The Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius” is highly regarded as a useful tool for spiritual discernment. ©LPi

The Pope, the Diocese of Rome, and sometimes the papal government. . LPi