

 **Mass Intentions**



WHY DO WE DO THAT? - CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

The Giving of Treasure

Question:Why are Catholics required to give money to the Church?

Offering money and other goods to God and the Church is, before all else, a statement of gratitude. We see this when we look at how our spiritual ancestors showed their gratitude to God for the gifts they had received (e.g. Genesis 14:18-20 and Genesis 28:16-22). One of the ways they offered thanks to God was through a practice called “tithing,” in which 10 percent of a person’s goods (crops, livestock, money, etc.) were given back to God. Today, the practice of tithing — giving 10 percent — is still common in many Protestant communities, but it is not required for Catholics. Instead, the Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches us that, “The faithful also have the duty of providing for the material needs of the Church, each according to [their] own abilities” (no. 2043). This means that, although we are not bound to practice “tithing” in the traditional sense, we do share a responsibility to share our money or other resources with our parish communities. Like our spiritual ancestors, we give as a sign of our gratitude for the many gifts that God has given to us. Beyond this, we also share our resources with other Catholic organizations to help them finance their ministries, to continue and grow their outreach to the poor and the needy, and to provide just wages for their employees.

How much we give depends on our individual circumstances, but since we share a responsibility for the programs, outreach, and health of our parish communities and Catholic organizations, this question gives us a wonderful opportunity to ask some important questions about the quality of our giving and what our priorities are. Remember, we are only stewards of our time, talents, and treasures and as the First Letter of Peter reminds us, “As each one of you has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God’s varied graces” (4:10). ©LPi



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

Hospitality

The virtue of hospitality is characterized by kindness and welcome, particularly to those who are strangers. It is the practice of true Christian love — love purely for the sake of the one “who loved us first” (1 John 4:19).

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

1st Reading Question: The Lord grants Solomon’s request to give him a wise and discerning heart so he can rule justly over the people of Israel.

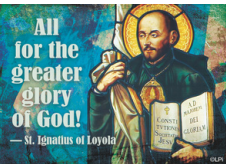
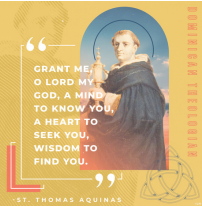
Have you ever had a wish come true?

2nd Reading Question: Paul speaks of God working with believers according to his purposes.

How would you describe your purpose or passion in life?

Gospel Question: Jesus often speaks in parables about the kingdom of Heaven that invite you to imagine how God works in the world.

Where do you see God at work in your family? ©LPi



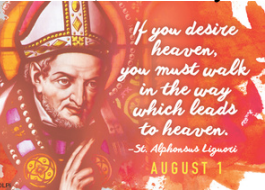
LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Christ compares the kingdom of Heaven to buried treasure — the find of a lifetime, one you would risk everything to keep. Are we doing all we can to hold onto this treasure that we have been lucky enough to discover? What is Heaven worth to us? ©LPi

St. Patrick ©LPi

GOSPEL MEDITATION

Around the time that the gold rushes ended in the nineteenth-century West, a curious phenomenon arose in New England known as money diggers. These were men who roamed the countryside with shovels, divining rods, and superstitious hope, convinced that treasure lay buried beneath their feet. Surely there must be gold under our feet. But there was not. The craze of these wild goose chases caused many to lose farms, families, and sanity.



In this week’s Gospel, Jesus inaugurates a new era of spiritual money digging. He announces, “The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field.” He invites us to become treasure seekers who search in the right place. What is of greatest value is not money beneath our feet, but the infinite treasure hidden deep in the humanity of Jesus himself, God’s own blessed life. The glory of heaven lies veiled in his ordinary life, his teaching, his suffering, his Church.

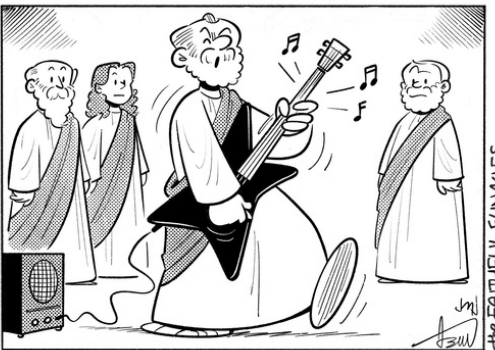
This teaching about the Kingdom changes things. Now we see the Church’s doctrinal and moral teachings are not arbitrary rules. They are a treasure map. Follow them, and we will uncover divine happiness. Ignore them, and we will wander aimlessly, spade in hand, digging in empty fields, discouraged.

Where have we wasted energy seeking treasure in the wrong places? How have we given up on seeking the treasure of truly finding God’s love for us? If so, let us repent of both. Then let us dust off our shovels and get back to digging deep into the field of Christ Jesus and his Church. After all, He never ceases seeking his treasure in us. Father John Muir ©LPi

Catholic Trivia

Who is considered the founding father of the Catholic Church in Ireland?

“What is St. Peter’s favorite kind of music?”



“Rock!”



Jesus renamed Simon to “Peter,” a name that means “Rock.” Biblically, name changes mark a significant moment in a life of faith.

Blessing for Our Parish

Dear God, Pour Your blessing upon our parish, in need of Your renewal and inspiration. Prune the places that need pruning, and pour fresh grace and courage into our midst. Help us to find You and, with great joy, follow You wholeheartedly. Amen. ©LPi

In the gospel of Matthew, we continue to hear--like last Sunday, Jesus teaching his disciples by saying: “The kingdom of heaven is like...” Like one finding that what truly satisfies which cause them to offer up all to obtain it. It got me to thinking: Is it really about “giving up” that which is less important? Or, is it really about embracing that which I already have-- The gift, the priceless gift of Himself??? It sounds like a riddle: what do pearls, fields, and fish have in common? They all get us thinking, questioning, and reaching for God whose hidden presence hovers tantalizingly close. Without God, we have nothing. Having God, we have everything.

Whenever I hear this passage of “the pearl of great price”, I think of a now retired priest (kind of rough around the edges at times) wearing—not a cross around his neck—but one good sized pearl. When I asked, what it that was for; there was a gruff but kind explanation, that he, himself found the Pearl of Great Price, Jesus Christ.



What can I do this week to enjoy and give thanks for that priceless Gift of Jesus Christ in my life?

Enjoy the journey! - Fr. Tom



Prayers for the repose of the souls of Daniel Morrow and Angie Steckley.



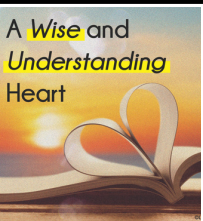
Prep has begun for the fall start of our religious education program. If you have a child that will be new to our program, please contact JoNell DeHaan at 605-680-0870 to register your child.

St. Mark’s needs 2 teachers and substitute teachers. (You may want to consider finding a teaching partner.) If you are interested, contact Fr. Tom.

The Platte-Geddes program will begin on August 26th. The Kindergarten through 5th grade meets after school for a quick snack before classes begin at 4 until 5 PM. Grades 6-12 meet from 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM on Wednesdays. There is a calendar schedule on the bulletin board.

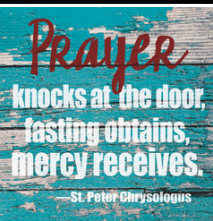
- If another teacher stepped up for Platte-Geddes, we could split the 6/7 grades. The option would be to teach 3rd or 6th.
- An aid is needed in 1st grade.
- Substitutes needed for all grades.
- Fr. Tom needs someone to assist him in walking the kids from the elementary building to the church after school. Possibly monitor kids until 4 PM.
- A volunteer to help serve snacks and monitor kids would be a great help.

Contact Deacon Joe if you can help.



Teachable Moments

Looking for families to bring the gifts of bread, wine and collection to the Altar at Offertory time. Option to do collection.



THE ANNUAL ROBEY

CEMETERY MASS

WILL BE ON, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12TH AT 6:30 pm. Bring your own lawn chairs.

St. Ann Parish, Geddes

Collection \$1114 Kids \$2

August 1st – 6 PM

Lector: Lory DuFrain

EM: Don Millar, Jackie Slaba

Servers: Ty Rolland, McKenzie & Trace Mushitz

St. Mark Parish, Lake Andes

Collection \$1829

Church Cleaning for August: Becky Snyder & Carla Winckler

Sunday August 2nd – 11 AM

Lector: Joe Schultz

EM: Rod Payer

Servers: Emma Swanson & Ella Swanson

Counters: Sue Schultz & Jeanne Payer

Custodians/Ushers/Collection: Rod & Jeanne Payer

Grounds: Rick Bergin

St Peter the Apostle Parish, Platte

Online Giving

<https://onrealm.org/SaintPeterApost/Account/Start>

Reg \$1889 Bldg \$50 Online \$332.50

Sunday, Aug 2nd–9:00am

Lector: Kathy T

Servers: Karsin, Eden and Miley

EMs: Kathy T, Susan

Ushers: Mark & Kathy Hegge

Counters: Jenna and Teresa



Annual Reports are posted on the bulletin boards



St. Ann: Chloe Stlucka(1), Robert Petrik (6), Trace Mushitz (9), Conner Millar (11), Maddison Slaba (19), Marilyn Petrik (21), Ron Pavel (25), Michael Wojciechowski Sr. (25) Richard Strehlow (28), Logan Wojciechowski (28), Finley Burmeister (30)
St. Peter’s: Mark Petersen-3, Katie DeNeui-6, Craig Unterbrunner-6, Jace Bogenhagen-6, Caylee Foxley-6, Killian Kirwan-6, Lawrence Jaeger-10, Christina Kramp-11, Helena Koopal – 13, Matthew Gerlach – 15, Tanner Larson-15, LeAnn VandenBos-15, Cheri Sprik-16, Noah Millar-17, Roslyn Konechne-18, William Sibbel-18, Mila Duffy-20, Glenda Huggins-23, Joey Pranger-26, Brady Sprik-28, Andy Lampy-29, Eleanor Kayser-29, Thomas Konechne-31
St. Mark: Cambria Ronfeldt-3, Sally Florey-16, Jim Simmermon-24, Maxwell Bennett-28