

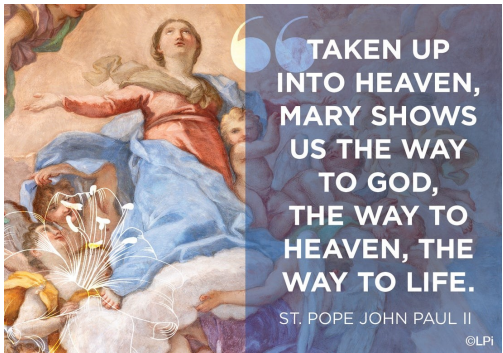


There was a young mother in my parish community who was depressed due to financial strain. She prayed for help. One morning before Mass, she placed on the counter a zip-lock bag filled with jewelry and old coins. Smiling, she explained she had been fixing an old cabinet and found the items hidden deep within the walls of her home. One particular coin could be worth as much as \$900,000. The contents of the bag—previously unknown to them—were now their prized possession. Their plans changed that week. They had to learn how much it was worth. This week, the Lord tells us, “For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be” (Luke 12:34). Our lives revolve around what we treasure. When we discover the treasure the Father gives us—the kingdom of God—everything changes. We might not know its precise value, but we rearrange our lives around it. The joy of this discovery should never be far from our minds. Sometimes we go through times when we can’t find this treasure. It seems hidden. Or it appears like dirty old coins and worthless jewelry in a Ziploc bag. But how crazy would my parishioners be if they tossed it away without knowing the cash value? How much crazier are we if we center our hearts on any treasure except that of Jesus and His kingdom? Remember, the Father is pleased to give it to us. That’s why we put our hearts there, even when it is hidden. — Fr. John Muir

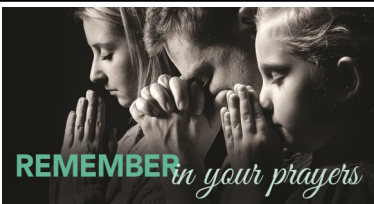
LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR AUGUST 16 & 17, 2025
Sat. Aug 16 @ 4:30PM @ St. Nicholas
Reader: Don Cureton Music: Sally Rehberger
Euch. Min.: Brenda & Marce Tebbe

Sun. Aug 17 @ 8:00AM @ St. Gertrude
Reader: Carole Sauls Music: Nick Worman
Sacristan: Gail Ohren
Euch. Min.: Jane Deiters & Karen Knackstedt
Ushers: Bryan Rutz & Kevin Schwarz
Servers: Teagan & Aubrey Barr

Sun. Aug 17 @10:00AM @ IC
Reader: Terry Potthast
Music: Joy & Angela Winkeler
Server: Jentry Lobello
Euch. Min.: Rick & Ruth Zurliene & Erica Knebel



The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
August 15th Masses
8AM at St. Gertrude
4:30PM at St. Nicholas
7PM at Immaculate Conception
This is a holy day of obligation



Members of our parish families who are recovering in the hospital & at home, for their strength and patience each day, and for all those who ask for our prayers for health or other issues. Brayden Baer, Pat Beard, Ana Cantrell, Sharon Cantrell, Steve Crawford, Don Dapkus, Adrian Clark, Dave Deiters, Teresa Dickman, Jean Fields, Scott Frank, Gabriel Frey, Jerry Fyke, Ed Gagen, Karen Grabowski, P.J. Hereford, Gene Jolliff, Pat Kalous, Val King, Barrett Korte, Randy Korte, Ruth Korte, David Kuehn, Sue Luber, Christopher Marti, Taylor Marti, Barry May, Alex McCall, Eleanor Munie, Cody Neal, Suzanne Steinbring, Marcia Rowe, Gunner Sadler, Abby Schrage, Bill & Ruth Schroeder, Bertha Voss, Marie Weis, Ginny Werner, Bob Winet.

FOR OUR PARISHIONERS IN NURSING HOMES:

Lawrence Frank, Delmar Knebel, Ann Plocher, Barbara Weiss, Helen Wuebbles, Margie Zurliene and special people in our families.

FOR THOSE CURRENTLY SERVING IN THE MILITARY:

Adam Canfield, Tim Doll, Chad Knebel, Michael Knebel, Dustin Korte, Solon McGill, Lt. Abigail Mesaros, Jerritt Mettler, Jimmy O’Boyle, Sgt. Joseph Patterson, Rickie Schuster, Joseph Schatte, Greg Spina, T.J. Waddington, Sgt. Tyler Wegman, Sgt. Zach Weiss.

If you would like to have someone added or removed from the prayer list please call the parish office.



You fool, this night your life will be demanded of you. The rich fool in the Gospel had a lot of possessions and was tragically possessed by them. Daily, we labor and toil, amassing wealth, and some eventually become attached to it, failing to store up treasures for themselves in heaven. Let us invest in the Lord by showing love that serves, generosity that shares, compassion that heals, and faith that endures beyond the grave. When God blesses us, let us build longer tables rather than bigger barns. Learn from the mistakes of the rich fool. Do not be foolish.

New parish office Email: icpierron@parish.dio.org

St. Nicholas Parishioners: Please note in the August envelope mailing you should have received an envelope marked “Capital Improvement” which will take the place of the annual “Picnic Letter” that was sent out in previous years to defray the cost of the property/building insurance.

Mon. (Aug11)
Tues. (Aug12) 8:00am (St.G)
Wed. (Aug13) 8:00am (IC)
Thur. (Aug14) 8:00am (St.N)
Fri. (Aug15) 8:00am (St.G)
Fri. (Aug15) 4:30pm (St.N)
Fri. (Aug15) 7:00pm (IC)
Sat. (Aug16) 4:30pm (St.N)
Sun. (Aug17) 8:00am (St.G)
Sun. (Aug17) 10:00am (IC)

† **Mass Intentions** †
No Mass

For the People of St. Gertrude, St. Nicholas & Immaculate Conception
† **Seminarian Stephen Na’ Aman Danlami** — Int. of Bill & Denise Trickey
† **All Souls**
† **Nancy Zaloga** — Int. of Emily Schwarz & Family
† **Walt Spihlman** — Int. of Ginny Werner
† **Cy & Dolores Weis** — Int. of Brad & Rozann Steinkoenig
† **Jess & Clara Knebel** — Int. of Don Cureton
† **Mary Frank** —Int. of Matt & Patsie Benhoff
† **Archie & Darlene D’Amico** — Int. of Bill & Denise Trickey
† **Weakie, Ellie & Tammy Potthast**— Int. of Dale & Diana Richey

August 9 & 10, 2025

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings for the week of August 10, 2025

Sunday:
Wis 18:6-9/Ps 33:1, 12, 18-19, 20-22 (12b)/Heb 11:1-2, 8-19 or 11:1-2, 8-12/Lk 12:32-48 or 12:35-40

Monday:
Dt 10:12-22/Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14/Mt 17:22-27

Tuesday:
Dt 31:1-8/Dt 32:3-4ab, 7, 8, 9 and 12/ Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14

Wednesday:
Dt 34:1-12/Ps 66:1-3a, 5 and 8, 16-17/ Mt 18:15-20

Thursday:
Jos 3:7-10a, 11, 13-17/Ps 114:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/ Mt 18:21—19:1

Friday:
Vigil: 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2/Ps 132:6-7, 9-10, 13-14/1 Cor 15:54b-57/Lk 11:27-28 Day: Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Ps 45:10, 11, 12, 16/1 Cor 15:20-27/Lk 1:39-56

Saturday:
Jos 24:14-29/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 11/ Mt 19:13-15

Next Sunday:
Jer 38:4-6, 8-10/Ps 40:2, 3, 4, 18 (14b)/ Heb 12:1-4/Lk 12:49-53



God created you on a special day. Please let us know when your birthday is, it’s special and so are you. Starting in August, we shall include in the bulletin and pray in a special way for all those born in the month of August. We ask that you reach out to the parish office and let us know the month and day of your birthday. May God bless you abundantly, especially on your birthday!
Happy Birthday to Mary Korte on August 9th!

Men’s Leadership Summit taking place in Edwardsville Oct. 18

Do you feel like just another guy in a pew? You’re not alone. The Diocese of Springfield in Illinois has invited John Edwards from [Just a Guy in the Pew](#) to host a Men’s Leadership Summit on Saturday, **October 18th** at St. Boniface Church in Edwardsville (110 N Buchanan St.) to bring single & married men together to support one another, get inspired by their faith, gain and enhance leadership skills, & discuss best practices for men’s ministry. John is a dynamic, inspirational spiritual leader who has a powerful witness story of hard drug use to finding Christ in a radical way. Register at dio.org/events. Cost: \$30. Includes materials/food & drink. Deadline to register is Oct. 1. Contact: Gracie Ortiz, Dir. of Marriage and Family Life at gortiz@dio.org or 217-321-1124 for questions.

STN Collection	8/2/25
Envelopes/Loose	\$1,647.00
Assumption of Mary	\$105.00
Sister Parish	\$55.00
Capital Improvement	\$680.00

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be.” Luke 12:34

Jesus encourages us to build up our treasure in heaven. The world encourages us to build up our treasure in real estate, investments, and material goods. How much time are you investing in building up a worldly treasure? How much time are you investing in building up a heavenly treasure? To invest more in the things of heaven, you must let go of some of the things of this world.

We are the servants and God is our master. He has told us His will, and given us all that we need to carry out His directions. Do we have the courage to act as our master desires? Do we have what it takes to be stewards of God’s grace?

"It's hypocrisy to call yourself a Christian and chase away a refugee or someone seeking help, someone who is hungry or thirsty, toss out someone who is in need of my help... If I say I am Christian, but do these things, I'm a hypocrite." – Pope Francis



St. Gertrude Parish Council discussed adding a flag pole to the STG Cemetery at their last meeting. We have an Eagle Scout interested in doing this for his project. Anyone who is interested in attending an informational meeting about the flag pole can meet after Mass on Sunday, September 7th at 9:30AM at the cemetery. In case of inclement weather, we will meet at the parish hall. Any questions, call Judi Rode at 618-791-8204.

Next St. Nicholas council meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 19th at 7:00PM



STG Collection	8/3/25
Envelopes/Loose	\$1,589.00
Assumption of Mary	\$25.00
Sister Parish	\$25.00
Maintenance Fund	\$80.00
Cemetery	\$70.00

Observances for the week of August 10, 2025

Sunday: 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: St. Clare, Virgin
Tuesday: St. Jane Frances de Chantal, Religious
Wednesday: Sts. Pontian, Pope, and Hippolytus, Priest, Martyrs
Thursday: St. Maximilian Kolbe, Priest and Martyr
Friday: The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Saturday: St. Stephen of Hungary
Next Sunday: 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

August Pantry Needs: Canned Mixed Fruit & Canned Pears

HACSM can always use monetary donations to allow them to purchase additional items as needed. All food donations will still be accepted no matter the above assignment each month. We appreciate your support! Thank You!

We are collecting for the Food Pantry in Pocahontas at St. Nicholas Church. There will be a box that you can put your donations in. The Food Pantry needs non-perishable foods, such as canned veggies, fruit, meat (tuna), cereal, and chicken noodle soup. This pantry serves the people in Pocahontas, Millersburg & Old Ripley. Check or Cash is also accepted; checks written to “Pocahontas Food Pantry”. The pantry is available to all on the 1st Monday of each month from 9AM to 11:30AM year-round.



Grantfork PSR
Registration for 25-26 is now open. Please scan the code to complete the google registration form by August 3rd. If you have any questions, contact Karen Straube at 618-806-5472.

Classes will begin September 3rd.

Clinton County HCE Presents: “Basic Bread and Beyond!”

Join us for a special presentation by Fr. Dominic Garramone, Benedictine monk and PBS TV host, on **Saturday, August 23 at 10:00 a.m.** at Mater Dei Catholic High School in Breese, IL. Fr. Dominic is known for his high-energy, entertaining, and educational cooking demonstrations. His cookbooks and other specialty items from Saint Bede Abbey will be available for purchase. Tickets are \$20.00, and pre-registration is requested. Proceeds will support community projects through Clinton County HCE. To purchase tickets or for more info. call 618-594-3669, contact any HCE board member, or visit the Clinton County Extension Office in Breese.

IC Collection	8/3/25
Envelopes/Loose	\$2,980.00
Assumption of Mary	\$20.00
Sister Parish	\$25.00
Building Fund	\$60.00
Candles	\$72.00

August 9 & 10, 2025

Saint Charbel 1st Class Relic

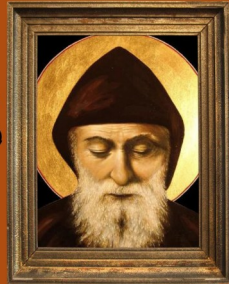
October 7-8, 2025

Mass @ 5pm each Day

Doors open at 4pm

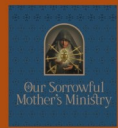
Veneration Following Mass Until 8pm

Don't Miss
the Chance
for Prayer,
Hope &
Miracles!!



Location

Sanctuary of the Sorrowful Mother
318 N. 8th
Vandalia, Ill. 62471



More Than 33,000 Recorded Miracles!

St. Charbel relic is being brought to the USA

For the First Time

Directly from Lebanon!

Also 1st Class relics of:

Blessed Anna Marie Taigi, Blood of Padre Pio,
Fr. Peter Rookey's Cross with a piece of the true Cross,
St. Andre Bessette, the 3 Fatima Children, & Carlo Auctis

Questions: KeckVanessa7@gmail.com
OSMM.org

The next UFO (United For Others) meeting will
be held at Grantfork UCC at 7PM on Tuesday
August 12th. Members are to bring a school
picture of themselves!

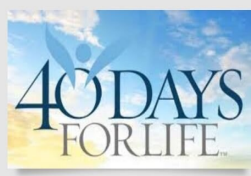


Devotions, Explained! House Blessing

Catholics who move to a new place of residence often wish to have their dwelling blessed, to call the favor and help of God upon all those who live in the house and all those who will enter it. The Roman Ritual (Book of Blessings) provides two formats for house blessings: one during the Easter or Christmas season (specifically for the Epiphany) and one for Ordinary Time. Those who live in the home must be present for a house to be blessed. A priest, deacon or lay person can administer the blessing, although if a lay person does so they must use the rites accorded to lay ministers in the Roman Ritual. A house blessing includes Scripture readings, intercessions and a prayer of blessing. ©LPI

Prayer for Generosity

God who has gifted me every good thing,
Help me to remember what truly matters.
To treasure love above all else,
and to serve readily.
Amen.



From September 24 to November 2, we are uniting with many others for another major simultaneous pro-life mobilization – the 40 Days for Life campaign. The mission of

40 Days for Life is to bring together the Body of Christ in a spirit of unity during a focused 40 day campaign of prayer, fasting and peaceful activism, with the purpose of repentance, to seek God's favor to turn hearts and minds from a culture of death to a culture of life, thus bringing an end to abortion. We (Immaculate Conception, St. Gertrude and St. Nicholas parishes) chose to Adopt a Day in the 40 Days for Life Granite City campaign to end the demand for abortion. We were assigned Sunday, September 28th as our adopted day, and we need prayer warriors join us in this important mission. We need prayer warriors to pray at the facility in Granite City, and we need some to pray from work, home, etc. too! 40 Days for Life works because prayer works! If you would like to pray for an hour or two on September 28, 2025, please contact Denise Trickey at 314-495-9080. Thank you for standing up for life!

Meet Our Seminarians



Thomas Marten
Configuration II
Kenrick-Glennon Seminary

One thing I have learned in discernment is that I have found that you must jump in with trust when the Lord speaks to you. He asks me to lay down my self-reliance and take up sonship.



Through Mary, we come to our second birth, our spiritual birth, because when she became the Mother of Christ, she was made the source of our life too, our life in Christ. At the cross, she is declared to be the spiritual Mother of all of us.

Servant of God Ida Peterfy
(from the meditation of August 16)

19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME AUGUST 9 & 10, 2025



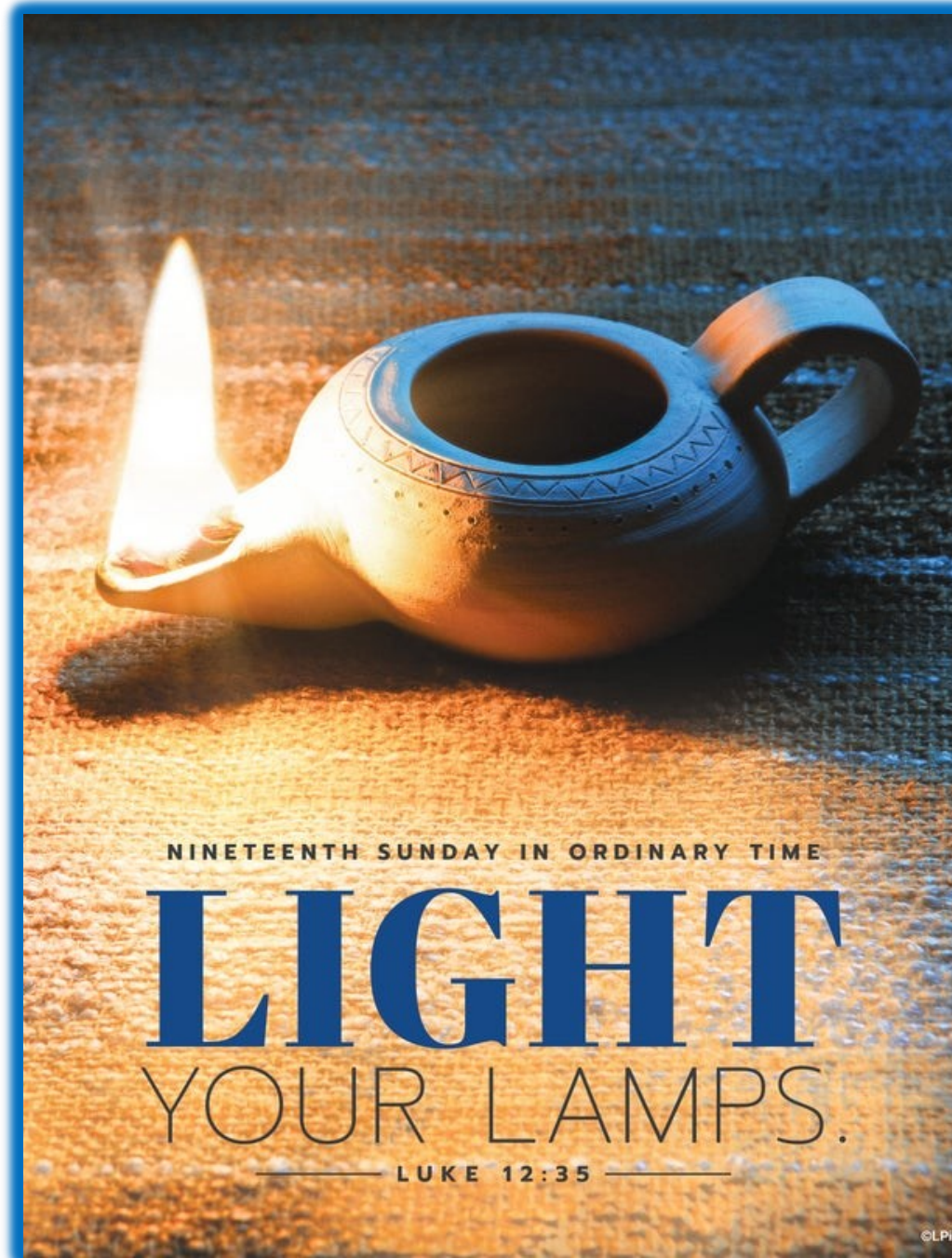
Saint Nicholas - Pocahontas



Immaculate Conception—Pierron



Saint Gertrude—Grantfork



+BISHOP
THOMAS JOHN PAPROCKI
DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD
IN ILLINOIS



REV. CALLISTUS OSIAGA
PASTOR

SONYA CURRY
SECRETARY

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Website:
www.icstnsta.org
Office: 618-669-2391
Rectory: 618-654-2789

Office Address:
401 E State Street,
Pocahontas
Office Hours:
Mon.—Thurs. 9am to 4pm
Fridays 9am to 1pm

Mass Times
Immaculate Conception
Wed. & Fri. —8:00am
Sunday —10:00am

Saint Nicholas
Thursday — 8:00am
Saturday — 4:30pm

Saint Gertrude
Tuesday — 8:00am
Sunday — 8:00am