



Once I went to a hospice facility to celebrate Last Rites for an elderly dying man. His family told me that he had been uncommunicative for days. At the conclusion of the ritual, we began to recite the Our Father prayer. To everyone’s surprise, his lips moved, clearly mouthing the words to the Lord’s prayer. Stripped of most of his faculties, the man could still pray those precious God-given petitions. A lifetime of prayer had planted the words even deeper than his failing consciousness.

Do we want the Lord’s prayer to be as deeply embedded in us? If we want to be people of hope, we should. Recall that our Lord immediately follows the prayer by saying: “Ask, and it will be give to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you” (Luke 11:9). We only ask, search and knock because we hope that the request is not in vain. Everything we could possibly hope for is contained in the prayer.

Praying the Our Father deepens our hope.

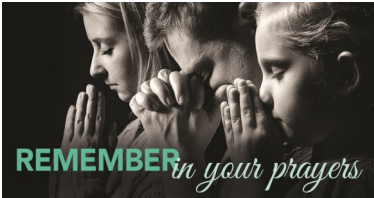
We should consciously pour all our hopes into the Lord’s prayer; we should allow it to be an expression of hope, not simply rote words. Then, over time, it builds up our hope in God. It sinks deep into our souls and bodies. How blessed we are when these words of hope are on our lips, even when everything else seems to fail. — Fr. John Muir

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR AUGUST 2 & 3, 2025
Sat. Aug 2 @ 4:30PM @ St. Nicholas
Reader: Kelsey Bentlage Music: Sally Rehberger
Euch. Min.: Brenda & Marce Tebbe

Sun. Aug 3 @ 8:00AM @ St. Gertrude
Reader: Janice Kormsmeier Music: Nick Worman
Sacristan: Carole Sauls
Euch. Min.: Sue Messerli & Judi Rode
Ushers: Randy & Dianne Leitschuh
Servers: Alissa Kormsmeier & Katie Schwarz

Sun. Aug 3 @10:00AM @ IC
Reader: Tim Schuette
Music: Joy & Angela Winkeler
Server: Parker & Mabry Munie
Euch. Min.: John Dea, Cindy Knebel & Erica Knebel

The organ at St. Nicholas was in need of extensive repair. After doing some research, Father, the Pastoral Council, and the organists were in agreement that the organ be replaced with a new multi-function keyboard making it easier to welcome new musicians. Anyone who has an interest in music is invited and welcomed to join our music ministry as a musician, cantor, or choir member. We look forward to hearing from you! Thank You



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, Taylor Marti, Barry May, Alex McCall, Eleanor Munie, Cody Neal, Royce Nelson, Suzanne Steinbring, Marcia Rowe, Gunner Sadler, Abby Schrage, Bill & Ruth Schroeder, Bertha Voss, Marie Weis, Ginny Werner, Bob Winet.

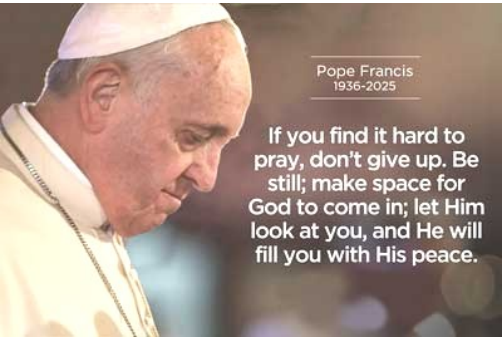
FOR OUR PARISHIONERS IN NURSING HOMES:
Lawrence Frank, Delmar Knebel, Ann Plocher, Barbara Weiss, Helen Wuebbles, Margie Zurliene and special people in our families.

FOR THOSE CURRENTLY SERVING IN THE MILITARY:
Adam Canfield, Tim Doll, Chad Knebel, Michael Knebel, Dustin Korte, Solon McGill, Lt. Abigail Mesaros, Jerriett 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.



God knows us individually by our name. He calls us by our names. He does not love us as a crowd; He does not confuse us with our past. He does not summarize us by our sins; He does not rename us by our failures. He calls us by our original name. Despite the frailty of St. Mary Magdalene, she was entrusted with the greatest message of proclaiming the news of the Resurrection. She boldly proclaimed, “I have seen the Lord”. She became an apostle to the apostles. Have you seen the Lord? Go and make Him known by words and deeds.



Readings for the week of July 27, 2025
Sunday:
Gn 18:20-32/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6-7, 7-8 (3a)/ Col 2:12-14/Lk 11:1-13

Monday:
Ex 32:15-24, 30-34/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23/Mt 13:31-35

Tuesday:
Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28/Ps 103:6-7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13/Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42

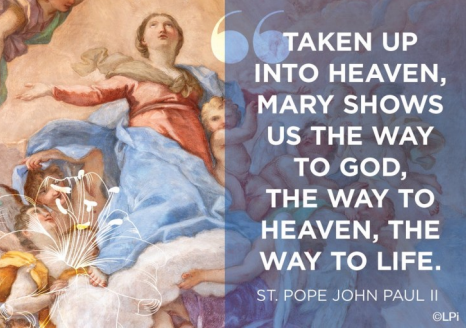
Wednesday:
Ex 34:29-35/Ps 99:5, 6, 7, 9/Mt 13:44-46

Thursday:
Ex 40:16-21, 34-38/Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6a and 8a, 11/Mt 13:47-53

Friday:
Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37/Ps 81:3-4, 5-6, 10-11ab/Mt 13:54-58

Saturday:
Lv 25:1, 8-17/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8/Mt 14:1-12

Next Sunday:
Eccl 1:2; 2:21-23/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14, 17 (1)/Col 3:1-5, 9-11/Lk 12:13-21



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

St. Elizabeth’s Church Picnic
Marine, Illinois
BUFFET STYLE CHICKEN DINNER
With Homemade Dressing & Desserts
Sunday, July 27, 2025
Dinner Service Starts at 11:00 am
Dinner Tickets Sold Until 5:00 pm

Adults: \$15 Children (ages 6 – 10): \$7.00
Children 5 and under: Free
Adult CARRY-OUTS AVAILABLE:
½ chicken, dressing, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, slaw, applesauce and cake or pie (NO SUBSTITUTES)

Refreshments ~ Raffle
Cash BINGO 12:30-7:30 pm ~ Attendance Prizes

Come Rain or Shine ~ Everyone Cordially Invited!

Mass will be at 4:00 p.m. on Sat., July 26th
There will not be a 9:30 Mass Sunday morning!!!

STN Collection	7/19/25
Envelopes/Loose	\$886.00

“Ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.” Luke 11:9

Jesus assures us that if we ask, God will take care of what we need. The problem is that our culture often confuses what we really need with what we simply want. The truth is that many of us need very little. However, we usually want so much more! Stewardship is simply being grateful for all that we are and all that we have been given, and generously sharing all of our God-given gifts with others. Gratitude and generosity are gifts that opens doors to new relationships with others and with God.

“Lord, teach us to pray.” The disciples are asking how to approach God, how to communicate with Him. Jesus’ answer? Have no fear, and have no embarrassment. God waits at the door. Knock. The conversation is yours to start.

Healing Mass with Fr. Matthias Mornah
July 27 Sunday
1065 Highland St. Edwardsville
3pm: Confession
4pm: Mass with anointing of the sick

Tours of the Teutopolis Monastery Museum will be available on Sunday, August 3, 2025.
The Museum is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. Located behind St. Francis Church in Teutopolis, IL, the Museum is on the second floor of the former Franciscan Novitiate building. A collection of articles used by the early pioneers of the area and the Franciscan Friars can be viewed in 38 small rooms. An elevator is available for visitors who have difficulty with stairs.

Admission fee is \$5.00 for adults and \$1.00 for children. The Museum is open on the first Sunday of the months of April through November from 12:30 to 4:00 p.m., except holidays. For more information go to the parish website: www.stfrancischurch.com or to the town website at www.Teutopolis.com and click on “Our Community”; or call (217) 961-6404 ext. 236. Follow us on Facebook this year as we recall the beginnings of the Museum in 1975-76.



STG Collection	7/20/25
Envelopes/Loose	\$999.00
Maintenance Fund	\$10.00

Observances for the week of July 27, 2025

Sunday: 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Tuesday: Sts. Martha, Mary and Lazarus
Wednesday: St. Peter Chrysologus, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Thursday: St. Ignatius of Loyola, Priest
Friday: St. Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Saturday: St. Eusebius of Vercelli, Bishop; St. Peter Julian Eymard, Priest

Next Sunday: 18th 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!



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.

Have you been married 50+ years? Time to celebrate!

On September 21 at 2 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Springfield, all couples married 50 years or more are invited to attend a special Mass honoring their marriage vocation! The Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Thomas John Paprocki. A reception will follow after Mass. Please register for the Mass by going to dio.org/events and clicking on the Sept 21st Mass. The reception will showcase all photos submitted last year. Due to the number of couples attending, please only submit photos if you did not do so last year. Any questions? Call Ruth Staab at 217-698-8500.



BURNING ISSUE:

DO NOT ALLOW SOCIETY TO HYPNOTIZE AND INDOCTRINATE YOU. DON’T GO ALONG WITH CONTEMPORARY DOCTRINES THAT ARE ANTITHETICAL TO CHRIST’S TEACHINGS. I BELIEVE THAT THE EUCHARIST IS THE REAL REAL. THE EUCHARIST IS CHRIST HIMSELF - BODY, BLOOD, SOUL, AND DIVINITY. DO YOU BELIEVE? IF YOU DO, THEN COME TO MASS AND ENCOUNTER CHRIST IN A NEW WAY.

IC Collection	7/20/25
Envelopes/Loose	\$2,095.00
Sister Parish	\$20.00
Building Fund	\$10.00
Candles	\$84.00

Pictures from our Sister Parish, Santa Maria Izabal Parish in Guatemala



Our donations were used for the following:

Purchase of paint for the church

Help to buy medicines

Food for catechist

This parish is VERY rural. The catechist must travel by foot to the main church for training. It is necessary to provide food for them.

Note: Priests in Guatemala typically do not own a vehicle and do not get paid. The vehicle is the property of the parish.

Devotions, Explained! Daily Examen

The daily examen is a spiritual practice derived from the writings of St. Ignatius of Loyola, the founder of the Society of Jesus. A Basque nobleman, Ignatius underwent a series of religious conversions as a young man following a wound sustained in the Battle of Pamplona in 1521. His Spiritual Exercises were first published in 1548 and form the basis of what is known today as "Ignatian spirituality."

Many different versions of the examen have been developed over the centuries, but all are centered on the same five elements which themselves reflect Ignatius' process of self-review and spiritual discernment.

In completing the daily examen, an individual places himself in the presence of God, prayerfully reflecting on the blessings of the day, the actions he took, and the invitation God has for his future decisions. For more information on the examen and to find different variations of it, visit ignatianspirituality.com. ©LPI



Meet Our Seminarians



Padrick Mulligan
Configuration II
Kenrick-Glennon Seminary

One thing I have learned through my discernment is how God has called me in a way that is personal to me. As I let God into the personal relationships and experiences of my life, He transforms spiritually isolated places of my heart into sources of healing, mercy, and a home for Jesus within me.



17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JULY 26 & 27, 2025



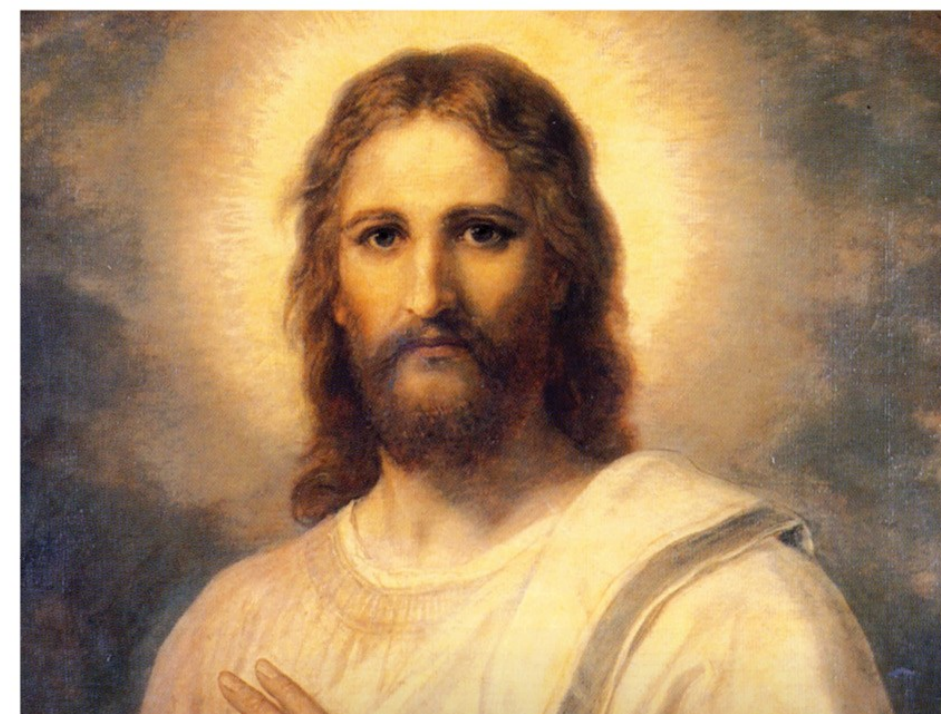
Saint Nicholas - Pocahontas



Immaculate Conception—Pierron



Saint Gertrude—Grantfork



SUNDAY, JULY 27, 2025

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Suppose one of you has a friend to whom he goes at midnight and says, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread,' and he says in reply from within, 'Do not bother me.' I tell you, if he does not get up to give the visitor the loaves because of their friendship, he will get up to give him whatever he needs because of his persistence." - Lk 11:5b, 7a, 8

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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+BISHOP
THOMAS JOHN PAPROCKI
DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD
IN ILLINOIS

✠
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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