



One of my close friends is a hermit priest who lives on a desert mountain. Recently I found myself in a group conversation about him. One vehemently objected, “What does he do up there all day? Nothing! Priests are down here working, running parishes, making a difference, and he...he is doing nothing! What a waste.” The words dripped with indignation and resentment. Most of the group quietly nodded in silent agreement. Were they correct? No! To see why, consider a similar scenario in this week’s Gospel. Jesus visits His friends Martha and Mary. A hard-working and exasperated Martha complains to Jesus that her sister is attending to Him rather than to urgent household tasks. Our Lord, rather than praising hospitality, explicitly celebrates the less-productive sister for doing the “one necessary thing.” He praises her for she “has chosen the better part” (Luke 10:42). Mary is busy doing what matters. Before we freak out like Martha, consider that all work—domestic, manual, professional, ministerial, contemplative—is done to help us (sooner or later) to experience the love that makes us happy. We should be thankful for those who focus on the “better part” of radical, ceaseless prayer. They invite us to remember the purpose of all work is the enjoyment of love. Contemplatives, hermits, anyone fervently committed to prayer—they invite us to cast aside our forgetful, resentful, and self-aggrandizing attitudes in exchange for hearts ready to do what is finally necessary

— Fr. John Muir

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR JULY 26 & 27, 2025
Sat. July 26 @ 4:30PM @ St. Nicholas

Reader: Brenda Tebbe Music: Sally Rehberger
Euch. Min.: Brenda & Marce Tebbe

Sun. July 27 @ 8:00AM @ St. Gertrude

Reader: Brenda Knackstedt Music: Nick Worman
Sacristan: Brenda Knackstedt
Euch. Min.: Sue Dickman & Karen Knackstedt
Ushers: Terry Dickman & Michael Sauls
Servers: Elizabeth Schwarz & Morgan Dressler

Sun. July 27 @10:00AM @ IC

Reader: Terry Potthast
Music: Joy & Angela Winkeler
Server: Jentry LoBello & Emma Winte
Euch. Min.: Rick & Ruth Zurliene & Mary Korte

St. Gertrude Chicken Dinner Wrap-Up Meeting will be held this Tues., July 22 at 7pm in parish hall.

Note from our Sister Parish; pictures will be put in the next few bulletins.

Santa María Izabal Parish, Pataxte, El Estor, Izabal, Guatemala,
To: Sister Church: Immaculate Conception in Pierron and St. Nicholas in Pocahontas
Receive a warm and affectionate greeting. May our Lord Jesus Christ and the Virgin Mary fill you with many blessings in your daily work.

This note is to thank you for your valuable help to the Santa María Izabal Parish. Your contribution has been of great use in the pastoral service and training of pastoral workers. You have also provided support by purchasing a solar inverter, since our Parish House has no electrical system.

Your contribution has helped us with vehicle maintenance, retreats, training, and other activities. Thank you very much for your generosity. With your help, we can continue to move forward in the task of evangelizing our communities. Always hoping you take us into account for new contributions, I subscribe to you as your attentive servant. Padre Freddy

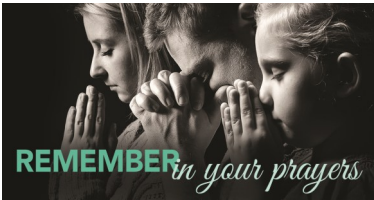
Mon. (July21) 8:00am (St.G)
Tues. (July22) 8:00am (IC)
Wed. (July23) 8:00am (St.N)
Thur. (July24) 8:00am (IC)
Fri. (July25) 4:30pm (St.N)
Sat. (July26) 8:00am (St.G)

Sun. (July27) 10:00am (IC)
16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

† Mass Intentions †
No Mass

† **All Souls**
† **May Forth** — Int. of Bill & Denise Trickey
† **Gloria Williams** — Int. of Mark Williams
† **Firmin & Thelka Pierron** — Int. of Jane & Dale Grieser
† **Bill Klostermann** — Int. of Tom & Bonnie Goesten Kors
† **Skip Dickshot** —Int. of Linda Merkle-Neumann
For the People of St. Gertrude, St. Nicholas & Immaculate Conception
† **Terri Munie** — Int. of Eleanor Munie & Family
† **Julian & Loretta Frey** — Int. of the Frey Family

July 19 & 20, 2025



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 Joliff, 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, Royce Nelson, Suzanne Steinbring, Marcia Rowe, Gunner Sadler, Abby Schrage, Bill & Ruth Schroeder, Bertha Voss, Marie Weiss, 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.



Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things. In our daily lives, like Martha, we are constantly overburdened about things that are not necessary, slowly allowing anticipated future challenges to rob us of our present joyful moments. Many things are not necessary; all that is required is the blessed assurance that God is with us. So seek first the kingdom of God, and the rest shall be added unto you. Don't Worry! Be Happy!

IC Parishioners: We are replacing the locks at the rectory and the church. If you have a key, please let the parish office know so that we can get you a replacement key.



Readings for the week of July 20, 2025

Sunday:
Gn 18:1-10a/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 5 (1a)/Col 1:24-28/Lk 10:38-42

Monday:
Ex 14:5-18/Ex 15:1bc-2, 3-4, 5-6/ Mt 12:38-42

Tuesday:
Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

Wednesday:
Ex 16:1-5, 9-15/Ps 78:18-19, 23-24, 25-26, 27-28/Mt 13:1-9

Thursday:
Ex 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Mt 13:10-17

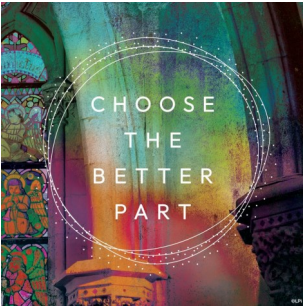
Friday:
2 Cor 4:7-15/Ps 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6/Mt 20:20-28

Saturday:
Ex 24:3-8/Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15/ Mt 13:24-30

Next Sunday:
Gn 18:20-32/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6-7, 7-8 (3a)/ Col 2:12-14/Lk 11:1-13

St. Gertrude Chicken Dinner Results 2025

Donations to Raffle:	\$3,099.00
Ticket Sales before Dinner:	\$1,382.00
Sales Day of Dinner:	\$ 764.00
	\$5,245.00
Less Prizes Paid	\$ 750.00
	\$4,495.00
Proceeds from Dinner	\$14,600.00
Food Sold	\$ 287.00
	\$14,887.00
Less:	
Advertising/Printing	\$603.40
Food	\$6,138.81
Miscellaneous	\$555.61
	\$7,297.82
FINAL PROFIT:	\$12,084.18



STN Collection	7/12/25
Envelopes/Loose	\$972.00

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

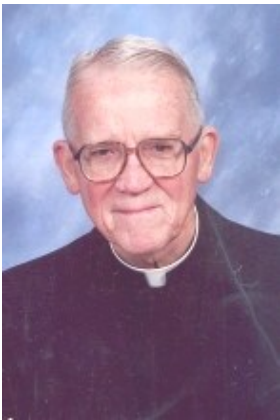
"...I am a minister in accordance with God's stewardship given to me to bring to completion for you the word of God." Colossians 1:25

We are all called to evangelize – to convert individuals and society by the divine power of the Gospel. Our faith is more attractive to others by our actions than by our words alone. We may not be called to evangelize like St. Paul, but we should look for opportunities to share our faith through our actions and words, especially with those closest to us, like our family, friends, and neighbors.

In life, there are so many “Marthas”— people and situations that distract us from God. But if we imitate Mary and sit calmly at the feet of Jesus, His Word will guard our hearts from the anxiety of the world.

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

Please pray for the priests from our parishes who have passed away, including Monsignor Paul Sheridan, who passed away on January 12, 2014. "Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May the souls of the faithfully departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen."



Monsignor Paul W. Sheridan

November 26, 1931 - January 12, 2014
Pastor at Immaculate Conception Church in Pierron, IL. and St. Nicholas Parish, Pocahontas, IL (1989-2005)



STG Collection	7/13/25
Envelopes/Loose	\$1,292.00
Sister Parish	\$50.00
Maintenance Fund	\$120.00

Observances for the week of July 20, 2025

Sunday: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: St. Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Tuesday: St. Mary Magdalene
Wednesday: St. Bridget, Religious
Thursday: St. Sharbel Makhlûf, Priest
Friday: St. James, Apostle
Saturday: Sts. Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Next Sunday: 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

HACSM is asking for donations of the following items to fill their Back-To-School backpacks. They are due by July 15th. Any size donation is appreciated!

Post-it Notes, Colored Pocket Folders (3-ring), Red & Green Pocket Folders, Index Cards

July 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.



IC Collection	7/13/25
Envelopes/Loose	\$2,575.00
Sister Parish	\$5.00
Building Fund	\$15.00
Candles	\$49.00
Cemetery	\$10.00

July 19 & 20, 2025

The Diocese is in the process of implementing a new program for couples interested in getting married. If you are interested in being on the Committee, please call or email the parish office.

ATTENTION ALL LADIES: Please join us for a gathering hosted by the ladies of Holy Family Parish, 2606 Washington Ave., Granite City, on Tues., July 22nd.

Mass will be celebrated by Fr. Stephen Thompson @ 10.00 a.m., followed by the installation of the new Deanery Board. We will proceed to the meeting room for registration and a brief meeting regarding upcoming events. Fellowship and luncheon will follow. (A decision has been made by the Deanery Board, to suggest a \$5 donation to assist parishes hosting events to cover expenses). Reservations are requested by Thurs., July 17th for food purchase. Please notify Sue @ 618-304-2916 or email: schwegelsue@gmail.com.

Afternoon program: Jan Copeland will share the "Quilt of Valor" program honoring blankets to veterans.

This July kicks off our annual Summer Hunger campaign that helps to fund Catholic Charities Mobile Food Pantry Program. The Mobile Food Pantry reaches out to feed disadvantaged people facing poverty in rural communities across our 28-county diocese. Our 7 Mobile Food Pantry trucks deliver meat, fresh produce, dairy and nonperishable food items all year long to those in need. We humbly ask you to consider a gift to help us continue to feed God's children through our mission to "extend to all the healing and empowering presence of Jesus." Every gift you give, no matter how small, makes a difference. Donate today at: https://cc.dio.org/ways_to_give/donate or scan the QR code.



Devotions, Explained! St. Bridget Prayers

St. Bridget of Sweden (d. 1373) was a noblewoman of the Middle Ages whose renowned mysticism centered on the passion of Christ. A mother of eight and an attendant at the royal court in Sweden, as a widow she founded the Order of the Most Holy Savior, advocated for reform in the church and for the return of the Pope to Rome from France.

The St. Bridget Prayers refer to 15 prayers attributed to Bridget which evoke the imagery of Christ's suffering and death, plead for the forgiveness of the supplicant's sins, for a happy death, for fear and love of the Lord, and for a renunciation of worldly desires.

For many years, these prayers were associated with divine promises, though in 1954 the Catholic Church declared that it could not be said that these promises were of supernatural origin. The prayers themselves remain beloved and popular devotions to Christ's passion.

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Devotions, Explained!

The St. Bridget Prayers evoke the imagery of Christ's suffering and death, plead for the forgiveness of the supplicant's sins, for a happy death, for fear and love of the Lord, and for a renunciation of worldly desires.

Prayer for Focus

Lord, help me to remember what matters and who matters. And then help me to prioritize rightly and wisely, with Your heaven as my guide. Amen.



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:
1/2 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
BL50065

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!!!



Meet Our Seminararians



Joshua Freund
Propaedeutic
St. Meinrad Seminary

One thing I have learned about discernment is that there is safety in listening to Jesus. His desires and plans for us may scare us at first, but they are for our good and he will "be with us always" (Matt. 28).

Mid-life Singles: Are you looking for a renewed sense of purpose & belonging? Register today for a life-changing REFLECT weekend retreat at the Pallottine Renewal Center, Florissant, MO (30 min from downtown St. Louis), on August 15-17, 2025. Take a chance and get involved... you won't regret it! Cost is \$290 including meals. Visit www.ReflectRetreat.com, e-mail reflect.stlouis@gmail.com, or call (630) 222-8303 for details.



**Pancake Breakfast & Open House
September 27th to celebrate 146 years
of service. Come tour our home and
discover what we do.**

DIVE DEEP PODCAST: New Hope for Fulton Sheen's Beatification After Couple Talks To Pope Leo – Why is there new hope for Archbishop Fulton Sheen's Beatification after a Peoria couple talks with Pope Leo XIV about Sheen's cause, which has a pause on it right now? What did the Holy Father say? Go to youtube.com/diospringfield or search "Dive Deep" on all the major podcast platforms to listen and subscribe. Dive Deep is the podcast of the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois.

"The next time you receive Jesus in the Eucharist, treat it as if it's the last time you'll ever receive him. You will be amazed at how your appreciation for him will grow."

GARY ZIMAK
Find a Real Friend in Jesus

DynamicCatholic.com

16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JULY 19 & 20 2025



Saint Nicholas - Pocahontas



Immaculate Conception—Pierron



Saint Gertrude—Grantfork



SUNDAY, JULY 20, 2025

16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The Lord said to her in reply, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things. There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part and it will not be taken from her." - Lk 10:41-42

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

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+BISHOP
THOMAS JOHN PAPROCKI
DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD
IN ILLINOIS



REV. CALLISTUS OSIAGA
PASTOR

SONYA CURRY
SECRETARY

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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