

Dear Padre,

At Mass during the Our Father, should we hold hands, lift our hands up, or keep our hands to ourselves?

Among many ancient religions, it was common to extend one's hands toward heaven while praying. This practice has continued in the Mass, where the rubrics indicate that the priest should extend his hands at certain points, including during the Our Father. The celebrant represents all the people with this gesture. The deacon is expressly forbidden to hold his hands up in prayer. There is no particular gesture assigned to the rest of the congregation. Some may be holding hands, some lifting their hands, some standing with arms crossed.

The variety of postures is not a problem in itself. The problem is when people become distracted or judgmental of others. As a rule of thumb, I suggest doing what the rest of the congregation does. As stated in the "Order of the Mass," written by the Bishops' Committee on the Liturgy in 2003, "The people are called as members of an organic whole, not as disparate individuals. A Christian assembly that worships 'with one heart and mind' (Acts 4:32) naturally moves toward and consciously chooses a common posture as a sign of its unity. Such common posture 'both expresses and fosters the intention and spiritual attitude of the participants'" (28). The gestures at Mass are not as important as the essence of the Mass, and part of that essence is our unity in the body of Christ. ●

Fr. Gary Lauenstein, CSsR / DearPadre.org



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

The disciples were sent two by two, not individually.... Let us ask ourselves whether we have the capacity to collaborate; whether we know how to make decisions together, sincerely respecting those who are alongside us and taking into account their point of view; whether we do so in community, not by ourselves.

ANGELUS, ROME, JULY 3, 2022

Monday

July 7
Weekday
Gn 28:10–22a
Mt 9:18–26

Tuesday

July 8
Weekday
Gn 32:23–33
Mt 9:32–38

Wednesday

July 9
Weekday
Gn 41:55–57;
42:5–7a, 17–24a
Mt 10:1–7

Thursday

July 10
Weekday
Gn 44:18–21,
23b–29; 45:1–5
Mt 10:7–15

Friday

July 11
St. Benedict, Abbot
Gn 46:1–7, 28–30
Mt 10:16–23

Saturday

July 12
Weekday
Gn 49:29–32;
50:15–26a
Mt 10:24–33

Sunday

July 13
Fifteenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
Dt 30:10–14
Col 1:15–20
Lk 10:25–37

Our Parish COMMUNITY

July 6, 2025

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Isaiah 66:10–14c / Galatians 6:14–18 / Luke 10:1–12, 17–20 or 10:1–9



Bloom Where You Are Planted

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

If you could change one aspect of your life, what would that be? Financial instability? Arthritis? Addiction? A disruptive family member? Work's daily grind? Finding love? No doubt the answers are as varied as the people who answer the question.

Though the old poster advises us to "bloom where you are planted," sometimes we can feel as if we've been planted among weeds—the people we've been given, the problems that continually pop up, the conflicts that all too often shut out the peace we seek. Just as Jesus sends disciples into every place he intends to visit, the reality for us may very well be that he sends us into the very lives we live even though we wish we could change them. Where we are is where we've been sent. It is in the lives we have that we

work out our salvation, for Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is at hand for you" (Luke 10:9).

St. Paul emphasized how important it is for disciples of Jesus to live out their identity as a new creation. British artist and sculptor Henry Moore made the observation that, in life, it is most important that we give ourselves over to a goal or dream, something so all-consuming that we live it morning, noon, and night. And the most important aspect of it, he said, is that it must be something we cannot possibly accomplish. For the followers of Jesus, it is the lifelong task to bloom where we've been planted. ●

Reflect

What is the hardest part of my life right now?
What is the most blessed?



The Lord appointed seventy-two others whom he sent ahead of him in pairs to every town and place he intended to visit.

LUKE 10:1



St. Paul Catholic Church

713 CRAWFORD STREET
VICKSBURG, MS 39180

14th Sunday O. T.

July 5 & 6, 2025



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Parish Announcements

New Office Manager

We are please to announce our new office manager Ashley Roesch. The Roesches have been members of the parish for many years, and we are excited to have her in the office. She will be full time in the office. She began at the beginning of July and is already off to a great start. We are excited to have her and look forward to her being in the office.

Lunch and Scripture

12:00 PM, July 23 at Billy’s
Speaker: Josh Statham
Pizza and salad lunch paid for by St. Paul’s; donations are greatly appreciated.
RSVP at 601-636-0140 or reply to the St. Paul Lunch & Scripture post on Facebook.

New Office Assistant

We also want to announce the addition of an office assistant Janis Koestler. She began her position at the end of April. It is a part time position. Her main role is to assist the office manager and pastor in their responsibilities as well as being the main contact in the office for parish hall events. We welcome Janis to our parish staff.

Fr. Rusty’s Vacation

Fr. Rusty will be out of town July 7th and will return later in July. Fr. Curley will celebrate the weekend Masses for July 12&13 and July 19 &20. There will be no Daily Mass, and the office will remain open.

Offertory Summary

Weekly Budget.....\$7,700

Online Giving

June 23—June 29 \$1,867

Weekend Offertory

June 28 & 29..... \$_,____

July 5 & 6..... \$_,____

July 12 & 13..... \$_,____

July 19 & 20..... \$_,____

July 26 & 27..... \$_,____

Special Collections

June 28-29: Peter’s Pence \$_,____

Sign up for automatic online giving at www.osvhub.com/st-paulscatholic-church

Weekend Mass Schedule†

Saturday

#Confession 3:15-3:45 PM

Mass 4:00 PM

Sunday

#Confession 9:45-10:15 AM

Mass 10:30 AM

Daily Mass Schedule†

Monday 7:00 AM

Tuesday 12:00 PM

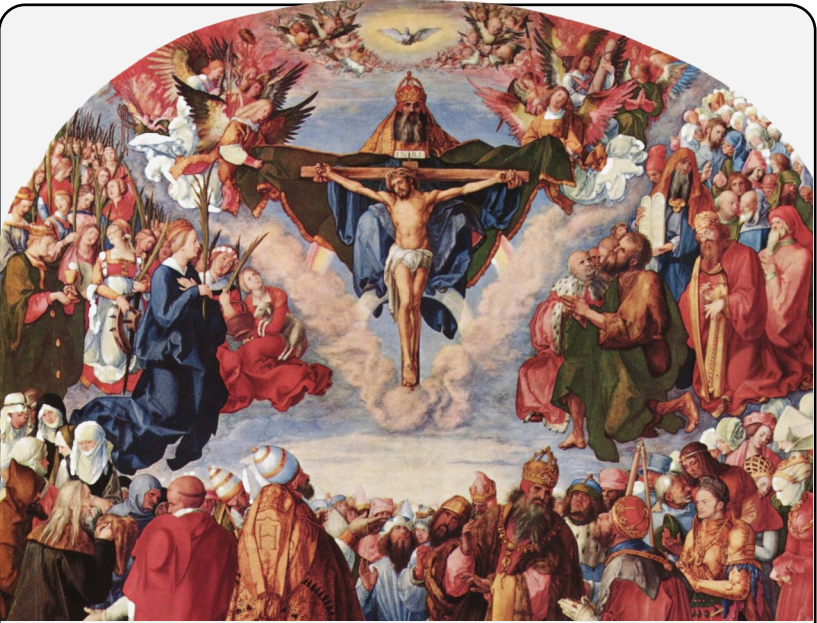
Wednesday 7:00 AM

Thursday 12:00 PM

Friday 7:00 AM

† All schedule updates can be found in the Parish Calendar section of the bulletin.

‡ For Confessions during the week, please call the Parish Office.



Adoration of the Trinity, Albrecht Dürer, 1509-1511

Today’s Readings

Visit bible.usccb.org or scan this QR code to find the readings



Check out our Social Media!

St. Paul Catholic Church

@stpaulvicksburg

@stpaulvicksburg

@frrustyvinct

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers placed at the ambo are in memory of Mary Elizabeth Moffet.

Parish Calendar

JUL 7, MON

Offertory Counters:
Pam Melsheimer and Marie Renaud

No Daily Mass during the weeks of July 7th, 14th, and 21st

JUL 20, SUN

Storehouse Community Food Pantry Drive

JUL 23, WED

Lunch and Scripture: 12:00 PM at Billy’s

Knights of Columbus

<https://facebook.com/kc898>
www.ms-kofc.com/898

Become a KNIGHT.
Scan this QR code to join the Knights today!



July 8 Rosary @ 6:30 PM followed by Recruitment and Retention Social, all Catholic men welcome

July 10 Ladies' Auxiliary Meeting @ 6 PM. All Catholic women welcome.

Mass Intentions

JUL 7, MON No Daily Mass

JUL 8, TUE No Daily Mass

JUL 9, WED No Daily Mass

JUL 10, THU No Daily Mass

JUL 11, FRI No Daily Mass

To request a Mass Intention for a Daily Mass or the Saturday Vigil Mass, please call, email, or visit the parish office. Each Mass with no intention is offered for all St. Paul’s parishioners.

St. Paul Parish Staff

Pastor Office Manager Office Assistant
Fr. Rusty Vincent Ashley Roesch Janis Koestler

Bookkeeper Maintenance Organist
Beverly Connelly Charles Hahn Karen Harrison

Leadership & Ministries

Parish Council President Finance Council Chair
Kevin Mahoney Bill Fulcher

Bereavement RCIA Meals On Wheels
Story Ebersole Connie and David Jan Jackson,

Altar Flowers and Bruce Ebersole Christy Guizerix,

Cynthia Montalbano and Rae Perry
Baptism Prep Homebound Children’s Church
Barbara Hill Janis Koestler Mary Katherine Ellis