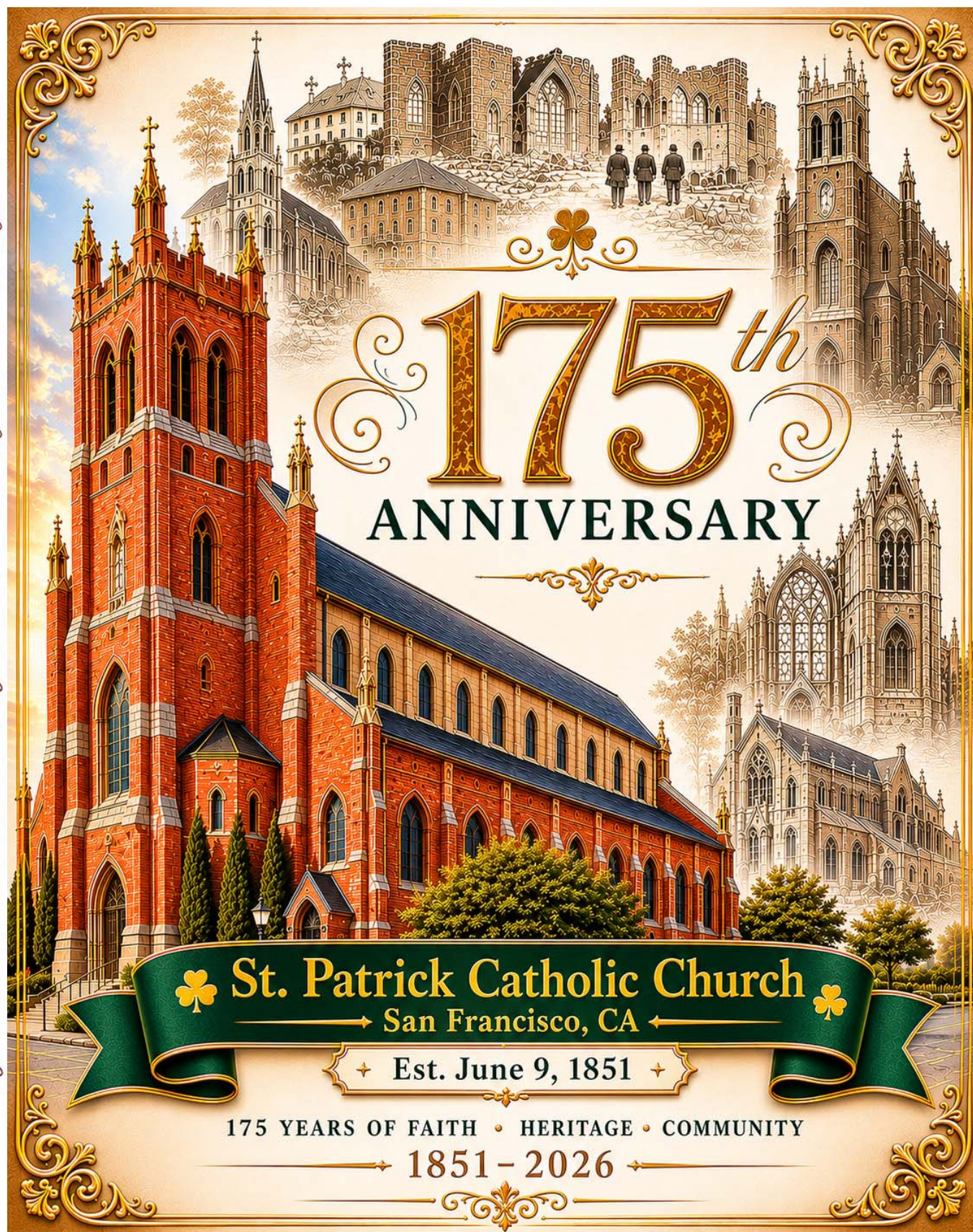


August 02, 2026 • Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



San Francisco's HISTORIC LANDMARK #4

756 Mission St. (between 3rd and 4th Streets) | San Francisco, CA 94103 | (415) 421-3730 | www.stpatricksf.org

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Andrew Spyrow - *Pastor*
Rev. Celestine Tyowua - *Parochial Vicar*
Rev. Bonifacio "Boie" Espeleta - *Parochial Vicar*
Deacon Ferdinand Mariano - *OCIA Coordinator*

Parish Staff

Charles Corpus - *Music Coordinator*
Nora Regaspi - *Office Manager*
Camelle Sudario - *Parish Receptionist*

Mass Times

Monday - Friday: 7:30 a.m., 12:10 p.m., 5:15 p.m.
Saturday: 7:30 a.m., 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m. Vigil Mass
Sunday: 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 12:00 p.m., 5:15 p.m.
Tagalog Mass: 1st Sunday at 2:00 p.m.
Family Mass: 2nd Sunday at 12:00 p.m.
Charismatic & Healing Mass: 3rd Sunday at 2:00 p.m.

Parish Schedule

Parish Office Hours

Monday through Friday
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (in the church)

Monday through Friday
11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help

Every Tuesday after the 12:00 p.m. Mass

Sacred Heart

First Friday of the month at 4:00 p.m..

Sto. Niño Devotion

Every Friday after the 12:00 p.m. Mass

Our Lady of Fatima

First Saturday of the month at 11:30 a.m.

Our Deepest Needs

The word of God serves up a tremendous feast for us today. Isaiah beckons all who hunger and thirst to come to the Lord for satisfaction. The psalmist cries out, "The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs" (Psalm 145:16). Saint Paul tells us that nothing can separate us from the love of God. Finally, in the Gospel, we hear the story of the miraculous feeding of over five thousand people from a mere five loaves and two fish. Most of us have our material needs met on a day-to-day basis. These scriptures, nevertheless, have much to say to the contemporary believer. We must ask ourselves, "Where are my deepest hungers? Where are my thirsts?" After material needs are satisfied and, in some cases, over-satisfied, many people still experience a deep longing for spiritual balance and well-being. As the loaves and fish are multiplied in today's Gospel, perhaps our prayer can be a longing for the satisfaction of the deepest needs that only God can fill.

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Treasures From Our Tradition

Over the last several weeks, the history of confirmation has been set out as a rite following baptism and preceding First Communion. Eucharist was a sacrament of spiritual maturity, attuned to the legal age of majority, which was considered to be fourteen years or so. Medieval bishops were often generous, if not especially pious, in seeing to it that children were confirmed before adulthood.

A pattern more familiar to us surfaced in the Diocese of Toulon in France in 1748, where it was decreed that "children are to be confirmed only after receiving First Communion." This was an amazing shift in practice that undermined centuries of theology and tradition by which confirmation was seen as a bridge between font and table. The innovation swept through France and across Europe, despite constant complaints from Rome. French-trained bishops like Cheverus of Boston and Carroll of Baltimore, founders of the American church, established the practice here. The order of the sacraments was thus disrupted in France and in the United States, and remained an eccentric exception to the rule until big developments in 1910.

~ Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Living God's Word

In the Gospel we hear that Jesus "was moved with pity for them, and he cured their sick" (Matthew 14:14). Then we hear Jesus say to the disciples, "There is no need for them to go away; give them some food yourselves" (Matthew 14:16). How do these statements speak to your heart today?

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Living Stewardship Now

People do not feel they belong unless they first feel welcome. Serve the "uncounted" ones in the parish by participating in a hospitality or welcoming ministry.

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175th Anniversary Souvenir Book

The souvenir St. Patrick Church 175th Anniversary Gala Program is available for pickup in the parish office or the gift shop during normal business hours for everyone who sponsored an ad or made a donation at one of the Benefactor levels. Thanks to everyone who made the event a success.

Happy Birthday!!

Happy Birthday to our Parishioners celebrating a birthday this week.

Elizabeth Real	08/02	Michael Stout	08/05
Athena Bolivar	08/03	Darrien Baldoz	08/06
Naoko Mak	08/03	Aaron Joshua Lenon	08/06
David Joseph Espanol	08/05	Mr. Ricky Joves	08/07
Jean Saint Aubin	08/05	Steven Sampaga	08/08

AAA Update **(as of 14 July 2026)**

2026 AAA Goal	\$43,252
Received	\$15,914
Amount Remaining	\$27,338
% of Goal	37%

St. Patrick Church Lifetime Donors

You can still make a donation by going to our parish website: www.stpatricksf.org. On our homepage scroll down and click Online Giving. Create an account if you don't have one. Once you have created an account, please choose the Lifetime Donor option. We are asking a Lifetime Donor to donate a minimum of \$20 a week or \$80 a month. Your privacy and financial information are safe with us. And we recommend that you use your credit card for an easier and faster transaction.

Thank you for your generosity and support.

For more information,
email us at information@stpatricksf.org
or call us at 415-421-3730

We have 85 Lifetime Donors as of 16 July 2026

In Memory of Nicomedes & Juanita Abello	Dan And Annie Lacap
Cristina Agbayani	Eleanor Lawsin
Marilou Alegre	Felicitas Locsin
Roberto Andrey	Merly Lorete
Kristen Ayer	Fe Macatangay
Joy, Jen & Jackie Bandelaria	Beltran C Marces
Eufemia Barcelona	Corazon Mariano
Evelyn Bird	Loren Masangcay
Dr. Beverly Lynn Bolinger	† Dionisio Mendaros, Si Cora Cuison
Maria Bravo	Evelyn Mendoza
Mercedita Cadiz	Rachelle Morales
Mamerto (Mc) Canlas	Jeff & Nenette Murata
Manuel Casal	Vilma Nangca
John & Judith Casper	Glorina Ochangco
Sandra Cea	Florentina Palacio
Max & Josephine Chin	Jesus & Marilu Paningbatan
Felix Chang	Jun & Emy Pasion
Dan & Katya Coming	Joseph, Joshua, Jordan & Liam
In Memory Of William Cotter, Jr.	Estrellita Perez
Thelma Dancel	Naomi Quioco
Evangeline Viray De Leon	Vince Ramirez
† Rosalinda Del Rosario	Lolita Ramos
Brian Dela Pena	Alma Raymundo
Jiasmin Delago	Hersie Rosales
Justin Edwards	Matthew Rothschild
Joycelyn Espanol	Jaymie Lynn Santiago
Conchita Fabros	Mario, Nelly, & Tracy Sarmiento
Joseph & Maria Fang	Estela Sullivan
Riz A. Novicio Fernandez	Veronica Tayo
Familia Galindo Moreno Y Berziga	† Jo Tjin Thoy
Lilian Gomez	Derek Tillotson
Josefa Gonzales	Precious & Ryan Tizon
Rodil, Ruby Gonzales & Children	Victoriano & Carmen Uchi & Family
Alvin Gonzalez	Laura Vanmunching
Therese Guintu	Boying & Rosie Vasquez
Norma Gumawid	Alden, Mercy Ventigan & Kids
Ina Howard	Vida Ventura
† Ponciano & Marlene Icatar	Josephine Villa
Georgina Jose	Rianty Winarta
Kaiser Permanentesf, 4Center & Oncology	Edwin, Rosalie, Krista, Ezra & Juliana
Agnes Kumi	Cielito Littaua Yoma
Judy Neri Labaria	† Charlie A. Yparraguirre
Tita Labaria	

**An expanded color version of our
printed bulletin, with online-only
content, is available on our website:
www.stpatricksf.org**

Upcoming Events in the Archdiocese of San Francisco

July 31 – Aug 2 Life Giving Wounds Healing Retreat for Adults with Divorced or Separated parents. Life-Giving Wounds is a ministry for adult children of divorced or separated parents. Adult children of divorce or separation often feel alone and lost, and are searching for lasting healing and love. The southern California chapter of LGW is supported by the Dioceses of Orange and San Diego; their next retreat will be in Oceanside, CA. Early-bird registration until June 15. More info/registration at www.rcbo.org/acod

The God Squad Catholic TV Mass

The God Squad Catholic TV Mass, aired every Sunday, provides inclusion for those who are homebound, hospitalized, incarcerated and/or unable to attend Sunday Mass. Monsignor Harry Schlitt began broadcasting the TV Mass in the late 1970s and it has been airing ever since. Please watch the TV Mass on Sunday mornings on the following stations:

In San Francisco

KTSF (CH 26) at 6:00 a.m.; KRON (CH 4) at 5:30 a.m.;

and in Sacramento

KTXL (Fox 40) at 5:30 a.m.

You may also view the Mass at any time by going to FatherHarry.org. You may also find the program beneficial to you, someone in your family, or a friend.

We need your participation and support to continue this valuable ministry.

Feast of Faith

The Preface: Thanksgiving

The preface of the Mass has been called “a poem, the cry of joy and recognition, the song of the world discovering its salvation . . . the certitude of faith making hope spring forth” (Philippe Béguerie, quoted in *The Mass*, Lucien Deiss, The Liturgical Press, Collegeville, MN, 1992, p. 70). The preface takes up the last words of the dialogue, and expresses briefly and simply why we are grateful, why it is right and just to give thanks and praise to God. On feast days, the preface sings of the specific mystery or saint we celebrate; in Ordinary Time, the Sunday and weekday prefaces express our gratitude for God’s gift of the Son, Jesus Christ, in whom we have redemption and newness of life. The prefaces offer a succinct account of what God has done for us in Christ; they express the mystery of faith, always relating it to us, to our lives. “By his birth we are reborn,” we hear in Preface IV for Sundays in Ordinary Time. “By his suffering we are freed from sin. By his rising from the dead we rise to everlasting life.” Yes, we have cause to give God thanks and praise.

Corinna Laughlin, © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

Sing Your Song

Alas for those who never sing, but die with their music within them.

~ Oliver Wendell Holmes

Prayer and Humility

Arm yourself with prayer rather than a sword; wear humility rather than fine clothes

~ St. Dominic

Mass Intentions for Aug 02 - 08

Date	Time	Intention
Sunday 02	7:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 2:00 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	SI All Parishioners of St. Patrick † Marcos & Milagros Gomez † Poor Souls In Purgatory BD Elizabeth Lagade SI Kenneth Kirby
Monday 03	7:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	† Marilyn & Lorenzo Sumulong SI Jeff Byrson † Marlyn Magboo
Tuesday 04	7:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	SI Ryan, Alicia & Luna FH David Sun SI Kenneth Kirby
Wednesday 05	7:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	† Apolinar & Lita De Guzman SI Jeff Byrson SI Kenneth Kirby
Thursday 06	7:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	SI Ryan, Alicia & Luna SI Jeff Byrson SI Kenneth Kirby
Friday 07	7:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	† Luis Platero & All Souls in Purgatory SI Precious & Ryan Tizon SI Kenneth Kirby
Saturday 08	7:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	† Mario Villanueva TG Domingo Ordoveza SI Kenneth Kirby

Relevant Radio

Tune your radio to 1260 AM or 101.7 FM for 24-hour broadcasts concerning Catholic teachings and prayers.



HELPLINES FOR CLERGY/CHURCH SEXUAL ABUSE VICTIMS

(415) 614-5506 This number is answered by Rocio Rodriguez, LMFT, Archdiocesan Pastoral Outreach Coordinator. This is a secured line and is answered only by Rocio Rodriguez.

(415) 614-5503 If you wish to speak to a non-archdiocesan employee please call this number. This is also a secured line and is answered only by a victim survivor.

(800) 276-1562 Report sexual abuse by a bishop or a bishop's interference in a sexual abuse investigation to a confidential third party. www.reportbishopabuse.org

Religious Education Classes

The staff and catechists of St. Patrick Church are dedicated to helping your children grow in faith and be closer to God. As parents, you are the primary educators of your children and are their best teachers. Your children learn the most from the example you set when you pray together and actively participate in Mass and the sacraments as a family.

Our Religious Education Program is designed to assist you in the faith formation of your children. First-time students must provide a valid baptismal certificate. Classes begin on Saturday, September 12th and run through May. Class hours are from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Are You Someone or Do You Know Someone Who...

- ...has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic?
- ...has a child over the age of seven who has not been baptized?
- ...was baptized Catholic as a child, but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist?

The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA) is an opportunity for you to come together in a small group to learn more about the Catholic faith. Sessions focus on the teachings and experience of Church and prepare individuals to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist during the Easter season. You are welcome to participate in the process with your questions, your insights, and your faith story in a warm accepting setting. For information please contact the parish office during normal business hours.



Saint of the Week

St. John Vianney (1786 ~ 1859)

The feast of the Curé de Ars, model and patron of parish priests, is celebrated on the anniversary of his death. He was canonized in 1925 by Pope Pius XI, who also named him patron saint of the parochial clergy in 1929.

Born near Lyons, France, in 1786, of a very devout family, John Vianney was five years old when the reign of terror in Paris was exiling or murdering the Catholic clergy and religious. He received his First Communion at a time when the troops of the French Revolution passed through the region and closed the parish church. His vocation was stimulated by contact with a holy priest and two years later he received his father's permission to study for the priesthood. He was not an outstanding student, but he was finally ordained in 1815 at the age of 29. He was assigned to the parish of Ars, some distance from Lyons, and he remained there for 42 years because the people repeatedly opposed his transfer. He himself tried to leave Ars in order to follow a contemplative life. He refused the appointment as a canon of the diocese and when he received the medal of the Legion of Honor in 1843, he sold it order to give the money to the poor. He died of exhaustion at the age of 74, as he had predicted, peacefully and without fear.

From Saints of the Roman Calendar by Enzo Lodi

**Father of mercy,
You made St. John Vianney outstanding
in his priestly zeal and concern for your people.
By his example and prayers,
enable us to win our brothers and sisters
to the love of Christ
and come with them to eternal glory.**

LEGION OF MARY

— ST. PATRICK CHURCH —

JOIN THE LEGION OF MARY, OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL PRAESIDIUM

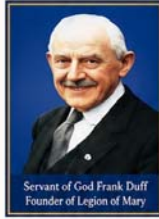


Meeting - Sunday at 1:30 p.m. in Bitanga Hall



The Legion Family Worldwide

- On all continents
- In over 170 countries
- 4 million active members
- 5 million auxiliary members



Servant of God Frank Duff
Founder of Legion of Mary
1889 - 1980



LEGION OF MARY'S HISTORY

The Legion of Mary was founded in Dublin, Ireland on the 7th of September in 1921. It is a lay Catholic organization giving service to the Church on a voluntary basis in almost every country.



LEGION OF MARY'S AIM

The object of the Legion of Mary is the glory of God through the holiness of its members developed by prayer and active co-operation in Mary's and the Church's works.



LEGION OF MARY'S UNIT

The unit of a Legion of Mary is called a praesidium, which holds a weekly meeting where prayer is intermingled with reports and discussions. Persons who wish to join the Legion must apply for membership in a praesidium.



LEGION OF MARY'S ACTIVE WORKS

The Legion sees as its priority the spiritual and social welfare of everyone. The members participate in the life of the parish through visitation of families, the sick, both in homes and hospitals and through collaboration in every apostolate and missionary undertakings sponsored by the parish. The works are more of spiritual works of mercy.



LEGION OF MARY'S ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

This membership is open to all faithfully practicing Catholics. Members attend weekly meetings and engage in prayers and active works. Candidates under 18 years of age can be received in a Junior Praesidium.

"Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee."

— ST. CATHERINE LABOURÉ —

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 02, 2026

All you who are thirsty,
come to the water!

~ Isaiah 55:1a



Letters from Heaven



Start with the letter in the shaded square. Draw a path from letter to letter to complete the Biblical statement. Move one square at a time, up, down, right, left and diagonally until all letters are used once. Ignore any black squares.

Jesus said, "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will ..."



B _ _ _ _ _ .

Answer: *not to you be opened to*

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Excerpt from the NAS © 2010, 1991, 1970, CCD

saint snippets

It is always
springtime in the
heart that loves God.

St. John Vianney

19th-century parish priest in Ars, France known for his love for the Blessed Mother and the Sacrament of Confession. He radically transformed his parish and is known as the patron of priests.

Copyright © 2020, Michael Thimons



August 4

saint snippets



Trust in God
who helps you
in all things.

St. Mary MacKillop

20th-century Australian nun who founded a religious order that focuses on educating the rural poor. In 2010, she became the first Australian to be canonized.

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August 8

saint snippets

Arm yourself with
prayer rather than
a sword.

St. Dominic

The founder of the Order of Preachers (Dominicans) and fervent preacher of the power of the Rosary

Copyright © 2018, Michael Thimons



August 8

Damaged Blessed Items

If you have any damaged blessed items, including statues and Bibles, as well as sacramentals, such as crucifixes and rosaries, please feel free to drop them off in our gift shop. We'll make sure they are disposed of properly and respectfully.

CATHOLIC CORNER

SEVEN SACRAMENTS

The Catholic Church recognizes and celebrates seven sacraments. A sacrament is a sign of God's love and grace, and gives us a share in God's life. Sacraments transform us and strengthen us for the work of building God's kingdom. The seven sacraments are gathered into three groups.

Baptism, confirmation, and Eucharist are **sacraments of initiation**. They bring us into the Church and make us fully participating members.

Reconciliation and anointing of the sick are **sacraments of healing**. They ask God for healing of people's body, soul, and spirit.

Matrimony (marriage) and holy orders are **sacraments of mission**. They acknowledge and honor the ways in which we choose to serve our community and each other.

People celebrate these sacraments at different times during their lives. Which ones have you already celebrated? Ask the adults in your house to name the sacraments they have celebrated. On the lines on this page, name some of the people you know who will be celebrating these sacraments in the coming year. Is someone getting married? Do you know someone who will make their First Communion or be confirmed? Is someone ill who can be blessed and strengthened by the sacrament of anointing of the sick? Every week we all have the opportunity to celebrate the great gifts of reconciliation and Eucharist.

Put the list where you can see it, and remember to pray for your family and friends as they prepare to share in God's life by celebrating the sacraments.

Baptism _____

Eucharist _____

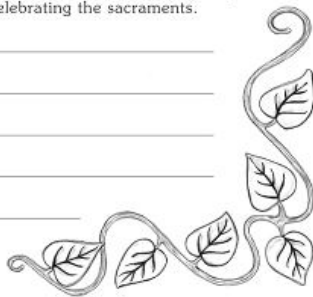
Confirmation _____

Reconciliation _____

Anointing of the Sick _____

Holy Orders _____

Matrimony _____

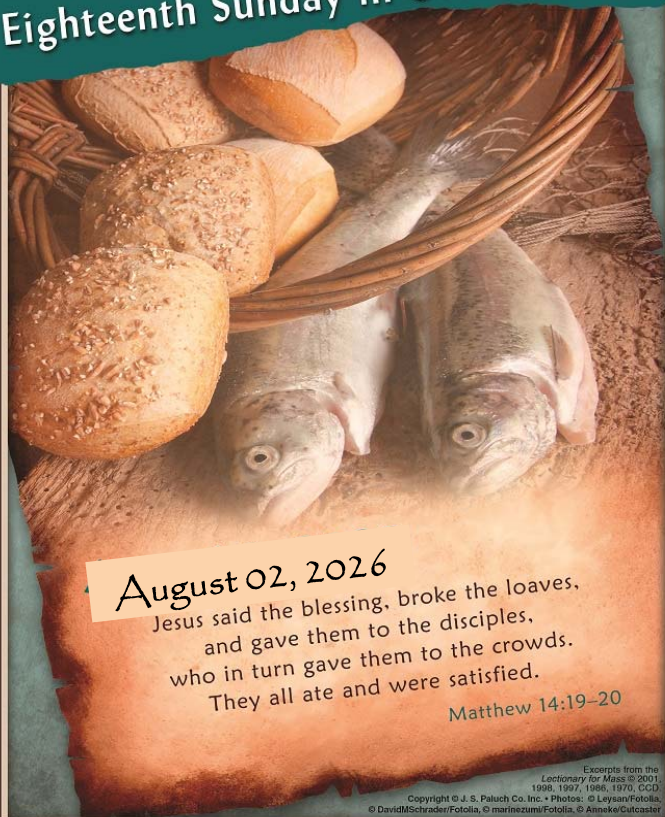


The Little Ones

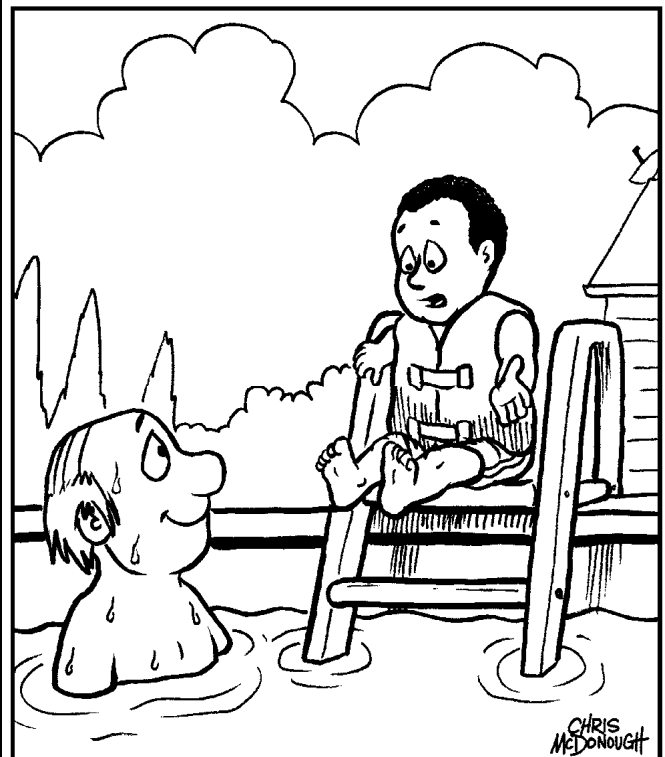
Jim Burrows



Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Pastor Al™



"It was nice that you could come over to our pool, Pastor Al... but is this holy water now?"

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Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Our readings today remind us of our hunger and thirst, and how God works within us. We human beings are created dependent on food and water, and much more. And God deeply desires that our needs be met. Our physical hunger and thirst point to our deeper hungers: our need for meaning, purpose, and belonging; and most of all, for unity with God. In Matthew's Gospel passage today, Jesus' heart is moved with compassion for the people. Jesus not only cures the sick and feeds the multitude, he also establishes bonds of community through the shared meal. Saint Paul shows us that nothing can ultimately separate us from God. Isaiah reminds us of God's ongoing invitation to us to come and receive. God's gifts cannot be earned or purchased. God's grace is offered in abundance. God's nourishment is the very best possible, and we should accept no substitutes.

Nothing Can Separate Us

Today's passage from Saint Paul's letter to the Romans concludes Chapter 8 with a flourish. It is the exclamation point of Paul's teaching on the presence of the Spirit within them and among them. The church in Rome faced great suffering as they were marginalized and persecuted for their faith. Paul names both social and cosmic forces that oppress them, over which they have no control. Their trials likely provoked questions that led them to wonder, "Where is God?"

Paul teaches that God is so deeply present within us that nothing can separate us from God. This includes our own forms of resistance. Even when we find myriad ways to avoid and run away, God is waiting patiently. Even when God seems distant or absent, God continues to invite, to welcome, and to speak to us.

Imagining God's Abundance

When reflecting upon today's Gospel passage from Matthew, the story of the feeding of the multitude, we might consider the role of Jesus' disciples. Unlike the very similar story in Matthew 15, Jesus responds to the disciples by saying, "Give them some food yourselves". Jesus is pushing his disciples to think beyond the apparent scarcity, and to open their imaginations to God's abundance. They are to join in with what God is doing. Jesus then takes, blesses, breaks, and shares the bread (anticipating his action at the Last Supper), and the disciples share the loaves with the crowd.

The stories of the feeding of the multitudes also point ahead to the practice of Eucharist in the Church. The Eucharist itself points ahead to God's banquet at the consummation of the reign of God, when all will share God's abundance. We the Church are called to open our imaginations to God present and active, who continually works toward God's promised future. We are to share in God's passionate desire to feed the people, and join in what God is doing here and now.

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Reflecting on God's Word

Two years ago Michon and her children had gotten their own apartment and left the safety of the women's shelter behind. Three weeks ago she brought the children back for the first time since they had left. They came for the feast celebrating the grand opening of the shelter's new addition. The feast had felt just like old times, only better, with plenty of speeches, laughter, tears, and hugs, and more than enough food to go around. Michon was glad to be able to bring a big chicken salad to share. There had been plenty of meals when she had had nothing to contribute. At the feast everyone commented on how happy Michon's children looked and how much they'd grown. Since then she had already returned to the shelter four times as a volunteer.

A feast could be defined as a large gathering of people to share food and memories in celebration of a significant event or vision. Feasts have an amazing power to heal and nourish our spirits, to bind us together in love, and motivate us to care for one another. The feasts in today's scriptures illustrate the miraculous physical and spiritual nourishment that takes place when we gather for the Eucharist, to celebrate the memory and promise of "the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:39).

~ Virginia Stillwell

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St. John Vianney (1786-1859)

August 04

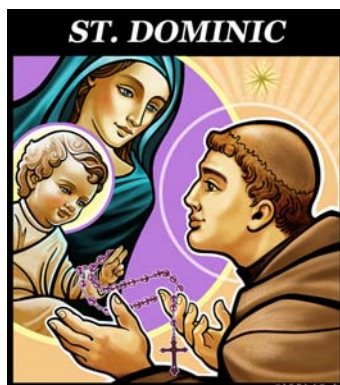
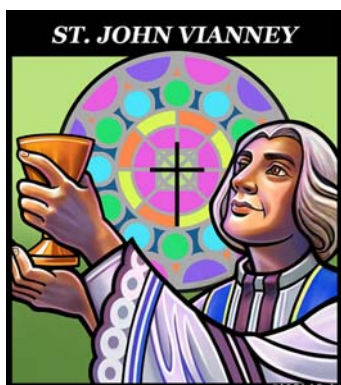
A busy pastor jokingly suggests the secret of John Vianney's holiness: "He died seventeen years before telephones!" Call they didn't, but visit they did, keeping Vianney eighteen hours a day in the confessional. Stories abound of reading hearts and exorcisms, but Vianney's first miracle was getting ordained. Difficulty with studies delayed him, prompting the rector's apology to the bishop, "So far to ordain just one, especially *this* one!" The bishop, who could not know he was ordaining the future patron saint of parish priests, replied, "No burden to ordain one good priest!" In Ars, only an elderly handful attended Mass, "praying," one told Vianney, "for a priest with brains." But he stayed forty-two years, fulfilling the promise he made the day he arrived. In a sculpture just outside the village Vianney points skyward: "Show me the way to Ars," he tells a boy, "and I'll show you the way to heaven." To someone who feared there was no heaven beyond the grave, Vianney smiled, "My child, it would have been heaven enough to have lived as Jesus' disciple on earth."

~ Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Prayer and Humility

Arm yourself with prayer rather than a sword; wear humility rather than fine clothes

~ St. Dominic



Thirst

You have put salt in our mouths that we may thirst for you.

~ St. Augustine



**Eighteenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
August 02, 2026**

All you who are thirsty,
come to the water!

— Isaiah 55:1a

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The word of God serves up a tremendous feast for us today. Isaiah beckons all who hunger and thirst to come to the Lord for satisfaction. The psalmist cries out, "The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs." Saint Paul tells us that nothing can separate us from the love of God. Finally, in the Gospel, we hear the story of the miraculous feeding of over five thousand people from a mere five loaves and two fish. Most of us have our material needs met on a day-to-day basis. These Scriptures, nevertheless, have much to say to the contemporary believer. We must ask ourselves, "Where are my deepest hungers? Where are my thirsts?" After material needs are satisfied and, in some cases, over-satisfied, many people still experience a deep longing for spiritual balance and well-being. As the loaves and fish are multiplied in today's Gospel, perhaps our prayer can be a longing for the satisfaction of the deepest needs that only God can fill.

Admitting Our Helplessness

Jesus' disciples, after a long day of preaching and healing, find themselves confronted with thousands of hungry people who need to be fed. They themselves were no doubt hungry and thirsty. In desperation, they turn to the Lord and ask him to tell the people to go to the towns and villages to buy food. Jesus tells them to give the people food themselves. They admit that they can come up with only five loaves and two fish, hardly enough to feed even themselves. It was only after the disciples admitted their total helplessness in the situation that the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fish occurred. Where is the lesson for us? It is in admitting our helplessness in life's most difficult moments that a miracle may perhaps be waiting for us.

Miracles of Multiplication

Many believers admit that when faced with life-threatening illness, all that can be done in many instances is to throw one's hands up in total helplessness and, in desperation, call upon God. The miracle that can occur is often not a cure of the illness. The miracle may be the strength and courage given by God to move through the pain and grief with hearts of faith. Remember what Saint Paul tells us today. "For I am convinced that neither death, nor life ... nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." When we know deep hunger for meaning and direction, when we are at our lowest, let us heed the words of the prophet Isaiah, and come to the Lord, that we may have life. If five loaves and two fish can be multiplied miraculously to feed thousands, then surely the compassion and love of Christ Jesus can be multiplied again and again for those whose hearts hunger and thirst for healing and wholeness.

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Lessons to be Learned



The miracle of the loaves and fishes is one of the best known in the Gospels. It is also one that people have tried to explain as a myth, or say that Jesus called for people to share what they brought and that turned out to be sufficient. The fact that the story is repeated in all four Gospels (one Gospel says Jesus did it twice) leads us to believe that it is a genuine miracle.

When Jesus performs a miracle, he is not trying to show off his power. He always has a lesson that his action illustrates. This miracle can teach us many things. Let's look at a few of them.

One is the compassion of Christ. He has pity on the crowd and first shows his love by curing their sick. Then he sees they are hungry and feeds them. This reminds us that Jesus knows what we need and cares about us.

The bread reminds us of Jesus' temptation in the desert, where he said "man does not live on bread alone." He meant that mere food is not enough; we need to hear God's word. The people all followed Jesus because they wanted to hear more from him. Just as the miracle satisfied the hunger of five thousand families, so his word will satisfy the spiritual hunger of millions.

Notice the actions of the miracle: he blessed, broke, and gave the bread to the disciples to distribute. These are the actions of the Eucharist where bread is blessed, broken, and given to us, his disciples. So the miracle reminds us that Jesus will give us himself as Bread and Wine to be our food and drink. The miracle of bread and wine becoming the Body and Blood of Christ happens every day.

So the question is, do we learn from this miracle? Do we trust the Lord to care for all our needs? Do we thirst for God's word to inform our lives? Do we try to live by that word? And finally, do we take advantage of the great gift of the Eucharist daily or at least weekly? The miracle may have happened two thousand years ago, but the lessons are meant for us today.

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Grace is Everywhere

Grace is everywhere. People of faith act on this belief. As Christians we are called to reach deeply into ourselves and find God's presence there. We are called to reach outside ourselves and find God there, too.

The reality of grace has sustained and nourished people beyond numbering. The church never tires of telling the story of the loaves and fishes. It is narrated no less than six times in the four Gospels. We imagine the hesitant apostles reaching into the baskets and finding bread, always more bread. We anticipate the ending. The apostles will wear out before the bread runs out.

At another time and place, Isaiah also spoke of an abundance, this time of water, sweet honey, and rich milk. Always, always God is a gift-giver, and we the receivers. Our response is doxology, or praise. In the second reading Paul provides the words and attitude. Praise is everywhere.

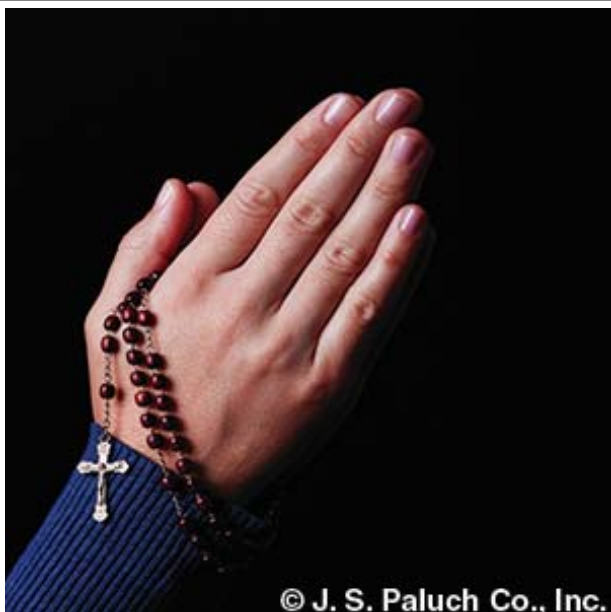
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Treasures From Our Tradition

Most parishes are now aware of the catechumenate and the journey of new faithful in the RCIA, but this form of sacramental initiation disappeared from view in the thirteenth century along with many other ancient practices. Life back then was hard, and often too short, and priests were increasingly insistent about the responsibility of parents to baptize children in danger of death. Since everyone in that society was under unimaginable threat from famine, warfare, and plague, the liturgical rites changed quickly. Everyone was in danger of death all the time. No longer were babies immersed in fonts, being lowered into the water, although the ritual books never backed down from immersion. Infusion was the new way, a simple pouring of a few drops of water on the child's forehead.

The catechumenate collapsed, being reduced to the recitation of the Creed and an Our Father at every baptism. Amazingly, any provision for adult baptism was shelved, so that as late as the 1950s, a person being baptized was presumed to be an infant, unable to answer for him or herself. Questions of creed and commitment were put to the godparents, not to the person being baptized. Even Dorothy Day and Thomas Merton, famous adult converts, remained mute at their baptisms while their sponsors answered for them. In hindsight all this appears strikingly odd, yet it was accepted as the way things were. We have good reason to give thanks for the vigorous reforms of the last fifty years!

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Our Deepest Needs

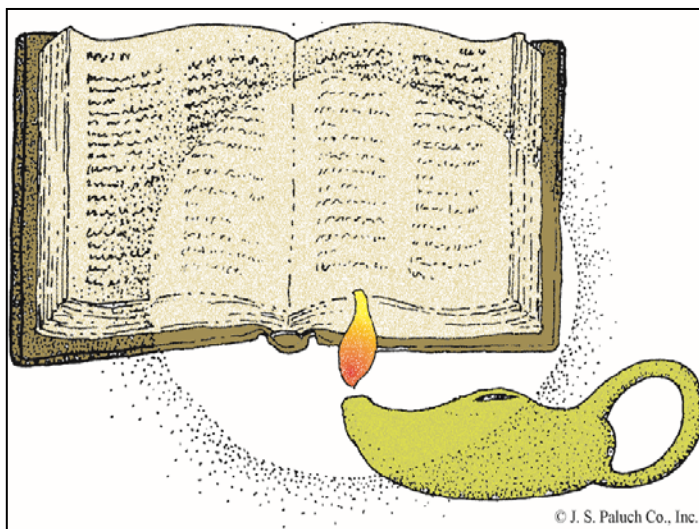
The word of God serves up a tremendous feast for us today. Isaiah beckons all who hunger and thirst to come to the Lord for satisfaction. The psalmist cries out, "The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs" (Psalm 145:16). Saint Paul tells us that nothing can separate us from the love of God. Finally, in the Gospel, we hear the story of the miraculous feeding of over five thousand people from a mere five loaves and two fish. Most of us have our material needs met on a day-to-day basis. These scriptures, nevertheless, have much to say to the contemporary believer. We must ask ourselves, "Where are my deepest hungers? Where are my thirsts?" After material needs are satisfied and, in some cases, over-satisfied, many people still experience a deep longing for spiritual balance and well-being. As the loaves and fish are multiplied in today's Gospel, perhaps our prayer can be a longing for the satisfaction of the deepest needs that only God can fill.

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Hidden in Plain Sight

Today's Gospel is a familiar story. A large crowd gathers to hear Jesus speak, and we learn that there were "about five thousand men, not counting women and children" (Matthew 14:21). If all were counted the actual size of the crowd might have been anywhere from double to triple that number. That makes Jesus' feeding of such a large gathering with only five small loaves and two fish a true miracle. Yet the miracle is not simply, as many people think, Jesus performing some sort of superior magic trick to impress us or to fool us. Instead he is pointing to a greater truth for us to ponder, and he uses signs and symbols to get our attention. Signs and symbols surround us. They are a vital part of every human culture, but they vary in meaning from one part of the world to another. For example, the color red often denotes danger in most Western countries; in the East it is the color of celebration. Similarly, a handshake, a bow, an embrace, or a hug all have different interpretations in different cultures. In this Gospel story the feeding of the crowd is a sign of Jesus' power to feed so many with so little, and a symbol of the eucharistic bread we still share today. At the same time, remember that small gem of phrasing in the story that is worth considering—"not counting women and children." This is significant, for many societies today do not consider women or children equal to men. Who does "not count" or is hidden among the crowd in the community of faith? How can we feed those who are starving—for attention, a kind word, a helping hand? What can we do personally that might make all the difference?

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Listen Heedfully

The invitation to come and satisfy our hunger and thirst in Christ offers a great comfort to us who sometimes ache with longing for God or feel emptiness when we want to feel full of God's love. This longing is God's gift and call to us to withdraw from all the noise and racket of our lives and our world and pay attention to the quiet voice of God within us. How do we respond to such a loving invitation? By paying attention, by stilling ourselves; not by struggling and striving to make some spiritual experience happen, but just by sitting still and listening for God's delicate promptings. Our desire for prayer, even if we feel our prayer to be too distracted and ineffective, is effective because the call is from God and our response is a willingness to hear and be fed by God's holy word to us.

All Ate and Were Satisfied

Jesus fed the five thousand men, "not counting women and children" (Matthew 14:21). We can assume, since women were among his most faithful followers and they tend to bring their children with them everywhere, that the women and children outnumbered the men—a vast crowd indeed! Yet how were they fed with five loaves and two fish? Matthew notes that first, "[Jesus] said the blessing" (Matthew 14:19). He gave thanks to God for what was given: an act of thanksgiving that is always transformative. This act of praise and thanks transforms our bread into his body and blood, and conforms us to Christ for the life of the world. The desire for God is a gift that reflects God's desire for us. It doesn't matter if we feel that our prayer is ineffective, or if we are comforted or not by our images of God. God is working in us by the gift of that desire, and our will to respond is our consent to God's call. Come to the water; come to the feast!

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The Love of Christ

Some of the most comforting words in scripture come to us today in these readings. The passage from Romans is particularly comforting when we are worried about our spiritual life and fretting about it. "What will separate us from the love of Christ?" (Romans 8:35) Of course, nothing can! Christ's love, manifested in his life, death, and resurrection, was wholly for God and us, and he will not permit anything, great or small, to separate us from him. Our longing, our hunger for him is sustained by the Eucharist, and even in the darkest of times, when God seems absent and it is difficult to pray, we know by faith that God is with us. God's fidelity to us is absolute, especially when we are in darkness and confusion.

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Treasures From Our Tradition

As the Latin Mass evolved in the first six centuries, the central prayer, what the Greeks called the *anaphora* and what we call today the Eucharistic Prayer, became fairly standard almost everywhere in the West. What we now know as Eucharistic Prayer I, or the Roman Canon, took a complex shape, not at all like the fluid and spontaneous prayers of early Rome, but a real architectural construction.

The city of Rome was in a terrible condition by that time, and a series of political upheavals, plagues, and invasions swept through. Not much of Rome's former glory was left standing, except for the pope, who became a symbol of protection and hope for the troubled people. The structures of law and administration were swept away in the chaos, and the pope gradually assumed authority to restore and maintain order. Soon, the public liturgy of Rome became the city's only glory. The Romans wanted "good order" not only in their civic life, but in their liturgy. One prayer, increasingly enriched by music (although when the music tried to overtake the prayer the pope banned musical instruments entirely) was the new rule of the day. That one prayer, the Roman Canon, was solidly in place when the first liturgical book we have, the Leonine Sacramentary of 540, was compiled.

—Rev. James Field, © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.



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Everyone is invited
to the monthly

Charismatic and Healing Mass

ST. PATRICK
CATHOLIC CHURCH

756 Mission St.
San Francisco, CA
All are welcome



Every Third Sunday
of the Month
at 2:00 p.m.



IMMIGRANT KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

IN THIS COUNTRY, EVERY INDIVIDUAL HAS RIGHTS, REGARDLESS OF THEIR COUNTRY OF ORIGIN, RACE, LEGAL STATUS, NATIVE LANGUAGE, RELIGION, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, OR GENDER IDENTITY.

1. THE RIGHT TO NOT OPEN THE DOOR

Ask for warrant under the door; verify details first.

2. THE RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT

Give only your name; speak with an attorney present.

3. THE RIGHT TO MAKE A PHONE CALL

Call your attorney or family; keep a number ready.

4. THE RIGHT TO A HEARING BEFORE A JUDGE

You can ask for a judge to hear your case.

5. THE RIGHT TO HAVE YOUR PHYSICAL INTEGRITY RESPECTED

No one can abuse you physically or verbally.

6. THE RIGHT TO NOT SIGN ANY DOCUMENTS

Only sign documents with attorney approval.

7. THE RIGHT TO EVALUATE WHETHER YOU QUALIFY FOR ANY IMMIGRATION PROCESS

Ask an attorney if you qualify for relief program.

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29th Annual Holy Spirit Conference

God's Transforming Mercy

Isaiah 55:6-9

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September 12, 2026

8 AM - 5 PM

Featured Speakers



Fr. Daniel
Klimek, MIC



Fr. Raymund
Reyes

Talks in English, Spanish, & Vietnamese

Contacts

Danny Garza

Sally Yeo

(650)270-8065

(650)773-8145

Doors Open

8 AM

Holy Mass

4 PM (Vigil)

Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption

1111 Gough St. Patrons Hall,
San Francisco, CA 94109

Recitation of the Holy Rosary, Praise &
Worship, Exposition of the Blessed
Sacrament, Confession, Baptism in the Holy
Spirit, Healing Service, Holy Mass

Registration

\$35

Lunch
Included

More Info On
sfspirit.com



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IN COOPERATION WITH THE



ARCHDIOCESE OF

SAN FRANCISCO

Filipino Ministry

C O R D I A L L Y I N V I T E Y O U T O

**The 31st Annual
Celebration of**

**THE FEAST OF
SAN LORENZO
RUIZ
& COMPANION MARTYRS**

**SEPTEMBER 25, 2026
FRIDAY**

**Holy Mass & Procession 5:00 PM
Reception 6:15 PM**



Principal Celebrant:
**HIS EXCELLENCY, THE MOST REVEREND
ANDRES "ANDY" C. LIGOT, JCD**
Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of San Jose



The Mass and reception will be held at
ST. PATRICK SEMINARY & UNIVERSITY

320 Middlefield Road, Menlo Park, CA 94025

To RSVP, please contact 415.595.9248 or email: filipinoministrsf1@gmail.com



Save ^{the} Date

FILIPINO MINISTRY

14th Annual Gala

Honoring the Filipino Priests and Deacons
of the Archdiocese of San Francisco

October 4, 2026
4:00 PM

**Cathedral of
St. Mary of the Assumption**

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San Francisco, CA 94109



ARCHDIOCESE OF
SAN FRANCISCO
FILIPINO MINISTRY

Stay tuned for additional information.
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RESPECT LIFE ESSAY CONTEST 2027

St. Joseph PROTECTOR OF THE HOLY CHILD

ESSAYS DUE FRIDAY, JANUARY 22ND, 2027

For all students in grades K-12 in public school, Catholic school, and home school in the Archdiocese of San Francisco.

For Essay instructions, visit
sfarch.org/essay-contest



ARCHDIOCESE OF
SAN FRANCISCO

Office of
Human Life & Dignity



***Sto. Niño
Devotion***
(every Friday
after the
12:10 p.m. Mass)

*Judy Labaria
Alma Raymundo
Cathy Bohol
Sheila Montemayor
Anonymous*



***Black
Nazarene***
**Feast Day
January 9**

*Rosie Drapiza
Lydia Cagampan
Rene & Elsa Tuazon
Celia & Paul Gravador*



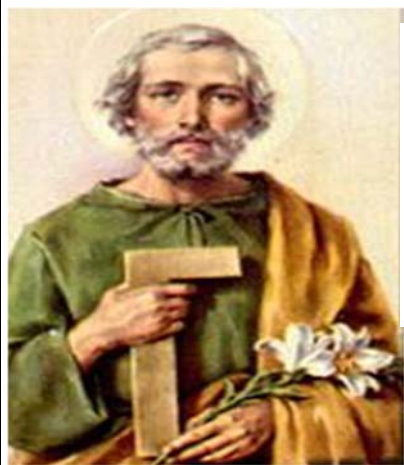
***Our Lady of
Perpetual Help
Devotion***
(every Tuesday
after the
12:10 Mass)

*Raya & Gamboa
Families*



San Lorenzo Ruiz
**First
Filipino Saint
(Sep 28)**

*Fe Macatangay
Jeanette Chafe
John & Gemma O'Donnell
Evelyn Grande
Mely Saavedra*



***Saint
Joseph***

***Feast Day
March 19***

Xenia Villamejor

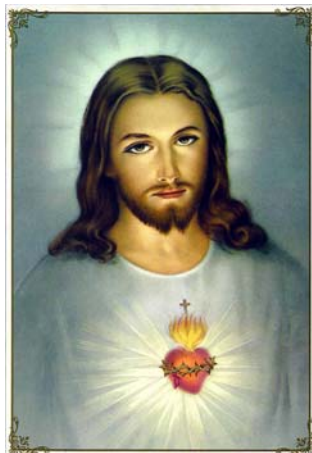
St. Anne
***Feast Day
July 26***



***Sacred
Heart***

***First Friday
Schedule***

***4pm Holy Hour
5:15 Mass***



***OUR
LADY
OF
FATIMA***

***Pray the
rosary***



The Graceful Chapter

Psalm 23

1 The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters,

3 He refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake.

4 Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

6 Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

The Graceful Chapter

Yap Family



St. Patrick Charismatic Prayer Group

Charismatic & Healing Mass:
Every 3rd Sunday at 2:00 p.m.

Matt Dorsey
SAN FRANCISCO SUPERVISOR

I'm proud to represent you in City Hall — and grateful for the faith community we share at St. Patrick's. For help with city matters, feel free to call my office at (415) 554-7970 or email Matt.Dorsey@sfgov.org.

Best,

Matt Dorsey

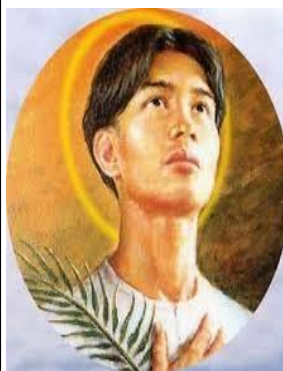


*Our Lady
of Guadalupe*

**Feast Day
December 12**



**St. Pedro Calungsod
2nd Filipino Saint (October 21)**



Elena & Mark Ramoran Gayapa Family,
Romeo & Antonina Real Family,
Dan & Annie Lacap Family,
Jesus, Jr. & Malou Paningbatan,
Vida Ventura,
Nenette Murata,
Cristin Salangang