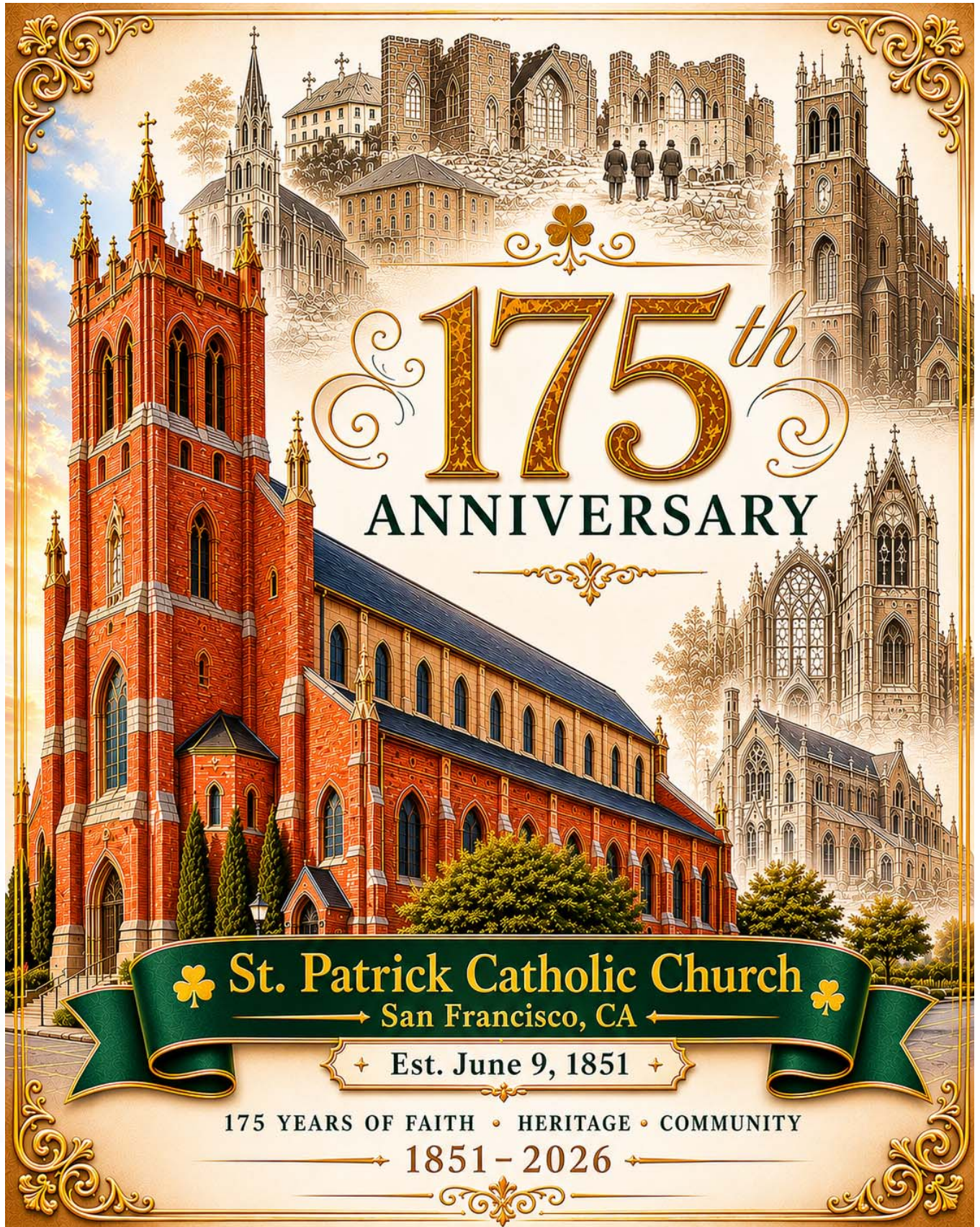


July 26, 2026 • Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



St. Patrick Catholic Church
San Francisco, CA

✦ Est. June 9, 1851 ✦

175 YEARS OF FAITH • HERITAGE • COMMUNITY

✦ 1851 - 2026 ✦

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.

Compassion

If you love the justice of Jesus Christ more than you fear human judgment, then you will seek to do compassion.

~ Mechtilde of Magdeburg

Only One

God loves each of us as if there were only one of us.

~ St. Augustine

Happy Birthday!!

Happy Birthday to our Parishioners
celebrating a birthday this week.

Mark Oliver Mendoza Belocura	07/27	Janette Palaganas	07/29
Riley Dolback	07/27	Hanz Aeron Raymundo	07/29
Ken Venancio	07/27	Thomas Bolls	07/30
Ma. Theresa Del Rosario	07/28	Roel Caburao	07/30
Lydia Eusebio	07/28	Melissa Cayco	07/31
Kenneth Paul Reyes	07/28	Demy Duldulao	07/31
Cristin Salangsang	07/28	Thomas Miles	07/31
Daniel Agregado	07/29	Fe Macatangay	08/01
Isaic Baldoz	07/29	Justin Salangsang	08/01

Making Wise Choices

An old expression admonishes, "Be careful what you wish for." Another one warns about money "burning a hole in your pocket" as you try and determine all the possibilities about how you will spend it. If God were to grant you a wish, what would it be? Our readings are about making wise choices and following God's ways. When Solomon is given this opportunity, he does not make a rash or selfish decision but requests an "understanding heart" so that he might better govern the people with justice. The responsorial psalm is part of a long acrostic poem about the beauty of following God's law. Saint Paul speaks to the Romans about God's master plan, in which we each have a special calling and purpose. The Gospel provides several parables about the kingdom of heaven, and how we might take right action and necessary steps in order to obtain it.

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Our Fascinating Faith

The Documents of Vatican II—The Sacred Liturgy

The Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy (*Sacrosanctum Concilium*) is the first document approved by the Council—by a vote of 2,147 to 4 on December 4, 1963. Built on a foundation of strong liturgical and biblical scholarship, *Sacrosanctum Concilium* proclaims the primary place of the liturgy (the "source and summit") in the life of the Church. In insisting on the central role of the faithful in the celebration of liturgy, the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy set the tone for the rest of the Council, which would continue to address the baptismal dignity and mission of the laity in future documents. The goals of the Constitution were to reinvigorate the Christian life of the faithful, to adapt—where possible—to the needs of today, to encourage the union of all Christian believers, and to promote the mission of the Church to all people. The reforms proposed by *Sacrosanctum Concilium* would touch the life of every Catholic in profound ways: by emphasizing the importance of sacred scripture, by opening the door to inculturation of the liturgy—especially by its celebration in the native tongue of the people—and by stressing the participation of all believers in the Paschal Mystery (the passion, death, and resurrection of Christ) here and now. The Council could not have started with a stronger message to the Church and the world that the winds of change were blowing through the windows opened by Pope Saint John XXIII.

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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.

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. Yparraquierre
Tita Labaria	

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 *Father-Harry.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 Dialogue

"Lift up your hearts." "We lift them up to the Lord." "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." "It is right to give him thanks and praise." With this ancient dialogue we enter the Eucharistic Prayer, the heart of the Mass. These venerable words have been part of the Christian liturgy almost from the beginning—by the time of Hippolytus of Rome (c. 215) they were already fixed in the liturgy.

Several times during the Mass the priest has invited us to pray. There is something different here. We are invited to be "lifted up," to ascend, to climb the Lord's mountain, as it were, to go to a new place for this most solemn part of the Mass. And we are invited to a new frame of mind, a sense of joy, of focused dedication: our hearts must not be cast down, but lifted up, and lifted to the Lord. Why? Because we are going to give thanks—we are going to "eucharist!" It is right and just that we do this.

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

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.

True Beauty

People are like stained glass windows; they sparkle and shine when the sun is out, but when the darkness sets in their true beauty is revealed only if there is a light within.

~ Dr. Elizabeth Kubler-Ross

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

Mass Intentions for Jul 26 - Aug 01

Date	Time	Intention
Sunday 26	7:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	SI Kenneth Kirby & Grandkids FH Orlando Jr. Florendo Pelejo † Asterio Felix Navasca, Jr. SI All Parishioners Of St. Patrick
Monday 27	7:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	† Marilyn & Lorenzo Sumulong † Lourdes Villanueva FH Alicia
Tuesday 28	7:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	† Mina M. Ventayen TG Cecilia Abaoag FH Ryan
Wednesday 29	7:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	SI Kenneth Kirby & Grandkids FH Alicia FH Ryan
Thursday 30	7:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	SI Kenneth Kirby & Grandkids FH Alicia FH Ryan
Friday 31	7:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	† Aniceto & Ignacia Macatangay FH Alicia FH Ryan
Saturday 01	7:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	BD Fe Macatangay BD Vic Fabros SI Kenneth Kirby

Catholic Prayer Corner

The Suscipe Prayer

Take, Lord, and receive all my liberty,
my memory, my understanding,
and my entire will,
all I have and call my own.

You have given all to me.
To you, Lord, I return it.

Everything is yours; do with it what you will.
Give me only your love and your grace,
that is enough for me.

~ Saint Ignatius of Loyola



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St. Martha (first century)

July 29

Whether you find Martha Stewart admirable or annoying, she has the perfect patron saint. Luke describes Martha—saint, not Stewart—as “burdened with much serving” (Luke 10:40). About Mary, seated, listening to Jesus, Martha complained, “Do you not care that my sister has left me by myself to do the serving?” Jesus’ response, “Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things . . . Mary has chosen the better part” (10:41, 42), suggests to some the superiority of the contemplative life, leaving the rest of us, supporting families, earning livings, (helping others?), as second-class Christians. But Luke introduces Martha and Mary immediately after Jesus’ parable of the Good Samaritan, whom Jesus recommends as a model of practical compassion, concluding, “Go and do likewise” (10:37). Go and do! Sit and listen! Discipleship is never either/or but both/and. Jesus ministered in prayerful silence *and* hospitable service. Monastic calendars add Martha’s sister, Mary, and brother, Lazarus, calling all three “hosts of the Lord,” recalling their welcome of Jesus to their home in Bethany, reminding us Whom we welcome whenever we extend summertime hospitality!

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

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.

Beware of Scams

Please be informed that no priest from St. Patrick will ever ask for gift cards, checks, or any form of personal financial assistance. Be aware that scammers may use our email addresses or impersonate our clergy in an attempt to deceive you. If you receive any suspicious messages requesting money or personal information, do not respond and report immediately. Your safety and security are our priority. Thank you for your vigilance.

LEGION OF MARY

— ST. PATRICK CHURCH —

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

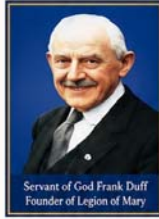


Meeting - Sunday at 1:30 p.m. in Bitanga Hall



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 —

Relevant Radio

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



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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, "Stop condemning and you will ...

D	N	M	
E	T	E	D
E	B	O	N
	C	O	N

N _ _ _ _ _

Answer: *not be condemned*

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

saint snippets

He who wants to win the world for Christ must have the courage to come in conflict with it.

Bl. Titus Brandsma
Dutch Carmelite priest and philosophy professor who was outspoken against Nazi ideology. He was murdered in the Dachau concentration camp in 1942.
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July 27

saint snippets

"Martha, Martha, you are worried and anxious about many things; there is need of only one thing."

— Luke 10:41-42

St. Martha
The sister of Lazarus and Mary of Bethany. She witnessed Jesus raising her brother from the dead.
Copyright © 2019, Michael Thimons

July 29

saint snippets

The poor stretch out the hand, but God receives what is offered.

St. Peter Chrysologus
5th-century Italian Bishop known for his powerful homilies; his reputation led the Emperor to give him the surname "Chrysologus", meaning "golden-worded"
Copyright © 2018, Michael Thimons

July 30



Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 26, 2026

All things work for good for those who love God.

— Romans 8:28a



SACRED HEART OF JESUS

Catholics have a long tradition of attending Mass on the first Friday of each month. This devotion in memory of Good Friday is a way to give thanks for the great love of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is usually celebrated nineteen days after Pentecost.

Think about the symbol of a heart. When we see a picture of a heart we think of the people we love and who love us. When we are sad or missing someone we say, "My heart is breaking." Our beating heart gives us life by sending blood throughout our bodies. If our human hearts can do such marvelous things, how much more wonderful is the Sacred Heart of Jesus, who gave his life for us and who still loves us completely.

The Litany of the Sacred Heart contains many descriptions of the love of Jesus. Some of the prayers of the litany are listed here. Think of a few other ways you can describe this great love. Say the prayer this Friday and every first Friday to remind yourself and your family of how much Jesus loves us. You can find the entire prayer online or in a book of Catholic prayers.

Heart of Jesus, aflame with love for us, have mercy on us.

Heart of Jesus, worthy of all praise, have mercy on us.

Heart of Jesus, patient and full of mercy, have mercy on us.

Heart of Jesus, generous to all who turn to you, have mercy on us.

Heart of Jesus, our peace and reconciliation, have mercy on us.

Heart of Jesus, _____, have mercy on us.

Heart of Jesus, _____, have mercy on us.

Excerpt from the English translation of A Book of Prayers © 1982, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

The Little Ones

Los Más Pequeños

Jim Burrows



Brothers and sisters: For those he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, so that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. Rom 8:29

Hermanos y hermanas: Porque a los que de antemano conoció, también los predestinó a ser hechos conforme a la imagen de su Hijo, para que El sea el primogénito entre muchos hermanos y hermanas. Rom 8:29

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The Kingdom of heaven

is like a merchant searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it.

Matthew 13:45-46

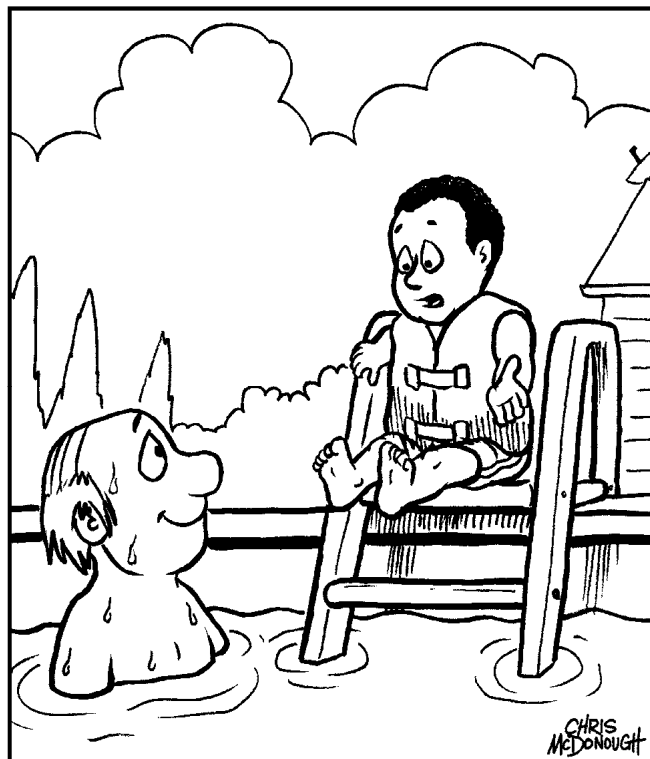


Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 19, 2026

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Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass © 2001, 1989, 1997, 1986, 1970, CCB.

Pastor Al™



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

CHRIS McDONOUGH

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Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

An old expression admonishes, "Be careful what you wish for." Another one warns about money "burning a hole in your pocket" as you try and determine all the possibilities about how you will spend it. If God were to grant you a wish, what would it be? Our readings are about making wise choices and following God's ways. When Solomon is given this opportunity, he does not make a rash or selfish decision but requests an "understanding heart" so that he might better govern the people with justice. The responsorial psalm is part of a long acrostic poem about the beauty of following God's law. Saint Paul speaks to the Romans about being God's master plan, in which we each have a special calling and purpose. The Gospel provides several parables about the kingdom of heaven, and how we might take right action and necessary steps in order to obtain it.

The Revelation of Your Word Sheds Light

Jesus is speaking in parables and offers three different images for the kingdom of heaven. Remember that popular line from a phone commercial: "Can you hear me now?" Jesus is trying to teach and basically says, "Do you understand me now? Do you get it now? Then let me explain it another way." He is shedding light on just how very important his mission is, that the kingdom of God is the most important thing, and that we must make every choice, every effort to strive for it. To use a sports metaphor, Jesus is telling us we must not look for immediate satisfaction, but we must "play the long game" because in the end, this is the only thing that really matters.

Giving Understanding to the Simple

This message again seems very countercultural. We live in an age of instant gratification. Consumer debt is at an all-time high. Houses get bigger and bigger and more luxurious. Instead of saying "I can't afford a new car," people stretch payments out over six or seven years in an attempt to afford the unaffordable. Today we are called to put it all in perspective, to follow the "pearl of great price," to put all things aside that we might seek the kingdom of God and reach our heavenly goal, our salvation. This may require a paradigm shift and making radical changes in our lifestyle, in how we spend our time, our money, our energy, how we define what is important to us. May each of us find the wisdom of Solomon to guide us in making the right choices.

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Saint of the Week

Ignatius, † 1556; soldier, founded the *Compañia de Jesus* (Latin: *Societas Iesu*), today numbers some 20,000 members; approved by Paul III, 1540; authored the *Spiritual Exercises*; founded the Roman College; at his death, the Society numbered 1,000 members in seventy-six houses in twelve provinces, including Brazil, Japan and India; devoted *ad maiorem Dei gloriam*; patron saint of retreatants and soldiers.

Wisdom

Nine-tenths of wisdom consists in being wise in time.

~ Theodore Roosevelt

Go

Go forth and set the world on fire.

~ St. Ignatius of Loyola

A Truly Wise Person



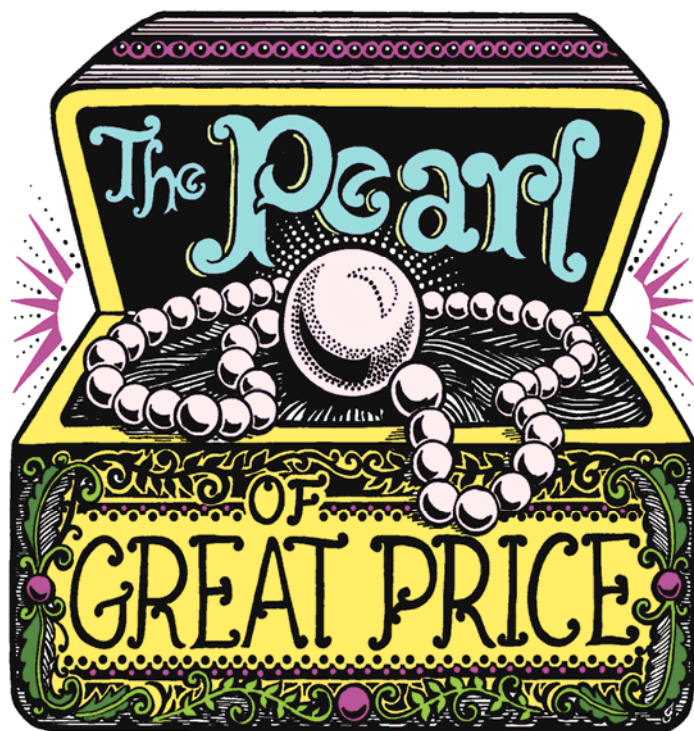
The ending of today's Gospel speaks about "the new and the old." Jesus is saying that a person "instructed in the kingdom" has wisdom both old and new; in other words, that person learns from the past as well as from the present. Let's look at each of those.

We learn from the past by studying it. So the wisdom of the Kingdom comes first from the scriptures. The more familiar we are with the word of God, the more wisdom we possess. Along with studying the scriptures, we must pray over them and ask the Spirit to show us how they apply to our lives. We can also learn from the lives of the saints and writings of the Church. The saints may have lived extraordinary lives, but they all began as ordinary people who gave their lives to Christ. The writings of the Church, though sometimes very technical, contain the wisdom of centuries of living the faith. If you only have time to go to Mass on Sunday, just listening to the homily can help to apply the scriptures to your life.

One way we can learn from "the new" is to learn from our mistakes. That includes learning from our sins. When we are truly sorry, we make an effort to change our ways. You might say we have to learn a new way to respond to that situation. In the Bible, the word repentance itself means a change of heart, a new way of seeing and doing things.

We can also learn from the mistakes and the successes of our friends. As we share our faith with them, we share the stories of our lives, both good and bad. These stories can teach how to live our faith (or how not to!). One of the advantages of having friends whom we trust enough to confess our faults to is that we do not have to figure out life on our own. God can speak to us through a friend or relative whose advice we seek. A truly wise person is one who has received a lifetime of good advice.

~ Tom Schmidt, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



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Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

If God were to speak to us and tell us to ask for anything we want, what would we say? A financially secure life? Health for ourselves and our families? Safety from all the dangers of the world? To how many of us would it occur to ask for wisdom? We just don't think about it much. We think we know how to run our families, our work, our politics, but how many mistaken ideas do we really have, and how do those work out? Do we treat others, even those we dislike, with kindness and understanding? Solomon asked God for the wisdom to know right from wrong and how to govern God's vast people. God was pleased with this request, and granted it to Solomon in abundance. Can we ask for the same in our lives? Would our lives be happier if we were wiser? "We know that all things work for good for those who love God" (Romans 8:28).

The Kingdom of God is Like...

Parables and more parables. What have we to learn about the reign of God from so many parables? The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field. The kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls. The kingdom of heaven is like a net thrown into the sea. These parables are not hard to understand, for they all point to something valuable being searched for: a treasure, a pearl, good fish. Those who search for these things give up what they have to acquire these precious things. Those who search are praised for their wisdom in valuing what they find more than what they already have. Even the fishermen can distinguish what is good from what is useless and to be discarded.

The kingdom of heaven is something precious to be sought, even above the good things we have in this world. It is more important than anything we already have and treasure. Jesus says that at the end of the age when the good shall be separated from the bad, the good will enjoy the happiness of the kingdom of heaven.

The New and the Old

It is holy wisdom that allows us to realize how valuable the kingdom is. One more parable ends this reading: "Then every scribe who has been instructed in the kingdom of heaven is like the head of a household who brings from his storeroom both the new and the old" (Matthew 13:52). It is like the Church, which knows what to keep from the traditions of the past and what to cherish in the present time. Tradition is something passed down from generation to generation, but not necessarily unchanged. For example, we always have cake to celebrate birthdays. And yet, perhaps in the past that always meant a white or yellow cake with vanilla frosting. Today, it can mean a chocolate cake, an ice cream cake, or even a fruit pie! It can have the number of candles of the birthday person's age, or a candle for each decade and one for each subsequent year, or one big candle. It can even have, as once seen in a catalogue, Roman numeral candles to spell out the years! Traditions can change and still convey the truths they represent. So it is with the Tradition of the Church. The wise leaders bring forth both the new and the old, and seek in the kingdom what is good.

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Frolicsome

Anyone who wishes to frolic with the devil cannot rejoice with Christ.

~ St. Peter Chrysologus

What I Know

As for me, all I know is that I know nothing.

~ Socrates

A Share in God's Kingdom

Today concludes a three-week series of Gospel texts in which we have listened to a total of seven parables about the Kingdom. The believer is asked to consider the request that God made of Solomon in today's first reading: "Ask something of me and I will give it to you" (1 Kings 3:5). Today's parables about the treasure buried in the field and the pearl of great price should prompt us to answer, "A share in your kingdom, O God!" Today we discover that the kingdom of God is beyond value, a priceless treasure. Unfortunately, our culture bombards us with things that it believes are priceless treasures—the bigger and better SUVs, anti-aging and anti-balding creams and salves, miracle diets, and so much more. Having a share in God's kingdom and helping to bring about that kingdom are the greatest treasures that we can ever hope to gain.

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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!

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

Diving and Dragnets

The image of the dragnet is a good one for our unconscious mind. Hidden there is everything we experience, good and bad, that influences us in our lives. Hidden there also is the Holy Spirit, at work sorting the good from the bad, the treasure from the dross, and freeing us to begin to know our deepest desires for God. Great saints like John of the Cross and Teresa of Ávila, both doctors of the Church, wrote about our deepest selves being the dwelling place of God. While our active minds prance around all kinds of ideas and distractions, our deepest selves dwell in wordless contemplation of God. To have this revealed to us is a great gift, a priceless treasure. Because the Holy Spirit is at work in us, purifying and drawing us closer, it does not mean we do nothing. We are given free will to seek God and to pay attention to these inner workings, as God strips away whatever impedes us. This is not always comfortable. When we willingly allow God to work in us, being attentive to what the Spirit is doing, we will find God. The treasure and the pearl are real. One was found by accident, the other by much searching. It doesn't matter which we use. If we are attentive, we will find God, for God waits to be found!

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Listen to Your Dreams

God visits Solomon in a dream, and the scripture story nowhere tells us that Solomon awoke to have this conversation with God! So, still in his dream, Solomon answers God's question about what he desires most, and God grants his request for wisdom in abundance.

In our waking hours, we are much distracted by work, home, family, traffic, entertainment, and many worries. When we try to think about what we really want out of life, we have trouble even imagining what that might be. But deep inside, our real longings dwell, known to God and to the Holy Spirit. Our dreams, unencumbered by defenses, may hold clues to what our deepest needs are, or what bothers us most. They could be God speaking.

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Treasures From Our Tradition

The achievement of the late 1960s and early 1970s in enriching the "euchology" or "words of thanksgiving" available in the Church's prayer is important on many levels. Ecumenically, it means that the Latin Rite now reflects the wealth of the East in having more than one prayer available to the Church. Pastorally, it actually acknowledges the place of the assembly in prayer, which is particularly clear in the Masses with Children. In fact, the traditional prayers of the Eastern Church served as models for our new prayers.

In the East, what we call the Eucharistic Prayer is called the *anaphora*, and there are three main families of *anaphora*. Each family has a different "recipe" for arranging the usual parts of these prayers. All *anaphora* have "intercessions" included, but the Churches of Antioch place them toward the end of the prayer, Alexandria prefers them at the beginning before the "Holy, Holy," and Syria puts them at the very end. One branch of the Syrian family is unique in not mentioning the words of Jesus at the Last Supper. The Roman Canon we once prayed exclusively has some connection with the Alexandrian family, but once the signal for creativity was given, all the wealth of every prayer tradition was on the table, and our Sunday Mass has been greatly enriched.

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

God's Word Today

"Ask something of me and I will give it to you." The first reading tells us that this is what God said to Solomon in a dream. Solomon asks not for long life or riches. He asks for an understanding heart. If God appeared to you and said the same thing, what would your response be? There is a certain wisdom in placing this first reading side by side with today's Gospel. Once again we hear parables about the kingdom of heaven. Jesus used images of great wealth—buried treasure, a pearl of great price, and a large catch of fish—to describe the kingdom. For the believer, the kingdom of heaven is the greatest treasure, for to inherit this treasure is to attain eternal life with God. Again, back to the question posed above. What would your response be if God appeared like a genie and gave you one wish? God does appear today, through the living word, and asks us to continue to formulate a response to the question. The formulation of this response is part of what it means to travel the journey of faith. What is the treasure you seek this day? What is your response to God's question?

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Communion in the Home

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are available to bring Communion to those who are unable to attend Mass. Please call the office at 415-421-3730 for more information.

Treasures and Pearls

The Gospel of Matthew continues with parables that hint at what the reign of God might be like. The first parable doesn't tell us what the man was doing digging in a field that was not his, but it doesn't matter. He stumbles upon a great treasure, and recognizing its value, gives up everything he has for it. The same is true of the pearl merchant. Pearls were very rare and expensive up until the twentieth century. They are found in oysters, deep in salt or fresh water, and divers, then without any air tanks, had to dive for them and collect many thousands of oysters to find good pearls. Enough beautiful, matched pearls for a necklace were a rare and expensive find. A single rare, large pearl was a king's ransom!

Diving and Dragnets

The image of the dragnet is a good one for our unconscious mind. Hidden there is everything we experience, good and bad, that influences us in our lives. Hidden there also is the Holy Spirit, at work sorting the good from the bad, the treasure from the dross, and freeing us to begin to know our deepest desires for God. Great saints like John of the Cross and Teresa of Avila, both doctors of the Church, wrote about our deepest selves being the dwelling place of God. While our active minds prance around all kinds of ideas and distractions, our deepest selves dwell in wordless contemplation of God. To have this revealed to us is a great gift, a priceless treasure. Because the Holy Spirit is at work in us, purifying and drawing us closer, it does not mean we do nothing. We are given free will to seek God and to pay attention to these inner workings, as God strips away whatever impedes us. This is not always comfortable. When we willingly allow God to work in us, being attentive to what the Spirit is doing, we will find God. The treasure and the pearl are real. One was found by accident, the other by much searching. It doesn't matter which we use. If we are attentive, we will find God, for God waits to be found!

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What Do You Want? What Do You Need?

Imagine wearing the same dress, day in and day out, for one whole year. A Seattle woman, Alex Martin, did exactly that. She made the biodegradable brown dress and wore it with different sweaters, jackets, hose, and a little jewelry. She washed it every couple of days and hardly anyone noticed that she was wearing the same dress every single day. Martin said she wanted to protest over-consumption and the intensive marketing directed especially to women about what makes a person good, attractive, and interesting. Clothes, accessories, and makeup are a big part of this image, and the investment of time, effort, and money in personal appearance is immense. While Alex Martin is right in one respect—we are pushed and prodded to buy "stuff," often to imitate a certain lifestyle portrayed in the media by many celebrities—most of us aren't going to stop shopping altogether or make our own biodegradable clothing. Yet we still need to ask ourselves why we feel compelled to expend so much effort on our outer appearance. How does that stack up against the attention we give to our inner self? Whom do we aim to impress? Ourselves? Other people? Why? In today's first reading King Solomon, already a rich man, could have asked God for more riches, the defeat of his enemies, or a long life. Instead, he asks for an understanding heart that knows right from wrong, so he can better fulfill his responsibilities as king. God grants him wisdom, and he uses the gift not for himself alone but for the good of all. Perhaps you dream of winning the lottery or making a fortune. Pray, rather, for the inner gifts you need to help build the kingdom of God.

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Jackpot

In our lottery- and sweepstakes-obsessed culture, it is common to ask ourselves or others what they would do if they won. In today's first reading, Solomon certainly hits the jackpot. What prize could be greater than having God Almighty agree to give you whatever you ask for?

Out of all the things he could have asked for, Solomon chose to ask for understanding, and was rewarded with it. We would do well to wonder what we would ask for if God made us the same offer. Actually God does make us the same offer each and every day, by granting us another day of life, a bit of the earth's goods, some gift or ability, some call to goodness, some portion of the divine will. Each of these is a "prize." We should stop and examine what we are going to do with our prize: keep it or use it selfishly, or put it at the service of the spread of the gospel?

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Reflecting on God's Word

In his book *Live and Learn and Pass It On*, H. Jackson Brown, Jr. has published some lists of the lessons that people have learned in life. These contain one-liners that capture the wisdom gained by youngsters and oldsters through their everyday adventures. Clearly these sayings give expression to the voice of experience.

So why does it take so long to come upon such wisdom? Why can't it be issued to us when we're born? It would be so much easier. But that's not how it happens. The wisdom has to find us.

The reign of God, too, seems to find us rather than the other way around. At least that's what the Gospel this Sunday seems to suggest when it compares the reign of God to a treasure found buried in a field. Treasures tend to find us, sometimes even when we're actually searching for them, as in the Gospel's tale of the fine pearl. That's why Solomon needed to lean on God for some wisdom, because he couldn't come to it on his own. It's also why parents can't make their children believers, because faith finds us. In fact, some folks would suggest that most of the really valuable things we wait for are all part and parcel of God's reign, things like love or wisdom or the joy that comes with the perfect job or the child you've been waiting for. In one way or another, God's reign finds us.

~ Rev. Joseph J. Juknialis

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Treasures From Our Tradition

By the dawn of the fourteenth century, the sacrament of confirmation was ripe for a rescue, since vast numbers of the faithful never received it, and when it was celebrated, it was done so in isolation from baptism and Eucharist. A bishop named William Durandus set out to reclaim this liturgy, but he had a creative touch and added some things into the mix that had never been thought of before. One was a slap. Oddly, he replaced the kiss of peace at the end of confirmation with a slap on the cheek that endured to modern times. This "wake-up call" was related in his imagination to a custom in the military, wherein ceremonies of knighthood and investiture involved a symbolic wound as a sign of willingness to suffer.

Within every congregation today there are people who have memories of fretting through their confirmation liturgies, anxious to know how enthusiastic a slap the bishop would bestow. Durandus loved symbolism and had a reason for every ritual and practice, but his creative spin on the celebration shows how sadly adrift confirmation was from its anchorage in baptism, how far off-course from its home port of the eucharistic community.

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

*The kingdom of heaven is like
a merchant searching
for fine pearls*



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Living God's Word

There is little in life that we can control, and certainly not faith or a sense of God's presence or wisdom or any such things. They all require patience, and they are all discovered with a sense of pure gift. It's almost as if God plans it that way.

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Living Stewardship Now

"Cure yourself of the affliction of caring how you appear before others. Concern yourself only with how you appear before God."

~ Miguel de Unamuno (1864–1936), Spanish man of letters

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Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 19, 2026

All things work for good
for those who love God.

~ Romans 8:28a



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Did You Know...

...there are now 38 Doctors of the Catholic Church, including four women? The title *Doctor of the Catholic Church* is an official designation that is bestowed by the Pope in recognition of the outstanding contribution a person has made to the understanding and interpretation of sacred Scriptures and the development of Christian doctrine. There are three requirements that must be fulfilled by a person in order to merit being named a *Doctor of the Catholic Church*:

- 1) holiness that is truly outstanding, even among saints;
- 2) depth of doctrinal insight;
- 3) an extensive body of writings which the church can recommend as an expression of the authentic and life-giving Catholic Tradition.

Doctor of Unity (*Doctor unitatis*)

- St. Irenaeus of Lyon, c.130-c.202 (promoted on 01/22/2022)

The Four Great Doctors of the Western (Latin-speaking) Church

- St. Ambrose, 340-397
- St. Jerome, 345-420
- St. Augustine, 354-430
- St. Gregory the Great (Pope), 540-604

The Four Great Doctors of the Eastern (Greek-speaking) Church

- St. Athanasius, 295-373
- St. Basil the Great, 330-379
- St. Gregory of Nazianzus, 330-390
- St. John Chrysostom, 345-407

The eight other Doctors from the patristic period:

- St. Ephraem the Deacon, 306-373 (Syriac)
- St. Hilary, 315-368 (Latin)
- St. Cyril of Jerusalem, 315-387 (Greek)
- St. Cyril of Alexandria, 376-444 (Greek)
- St. Leo the Great (Pope), 390-461 (Latin)
- St. Peter Chrysologus, 400-450 (Latin)
- St. Isidore of Seville, 560-636 (last of the Latin Fathers)
- St. John Damascene, 676-749 (last of the Greek Fathers)

The eleven Doctors (Latin) from the Middle Ages:

- St. Bede "the Venerable", 673-735
- St. Gregory of Narek, 951-1003 (promoted on 04/12/2015)
- St. Peter Damian, 1007-1072
- St. Anselm, 1033-1109
- St. Hildegard of Bingen, 1098-1179 (promoted on 10/07/2012)
- St. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1090-1153
- St. Anthony of Padua, 1195-1231
- St. Albert the Great, 1200-1280
- St. Bonaventure, 1217-1274
- St. Thomas Aquinas, 1225-1274
- St. Catherine of Siena, 1347-1379

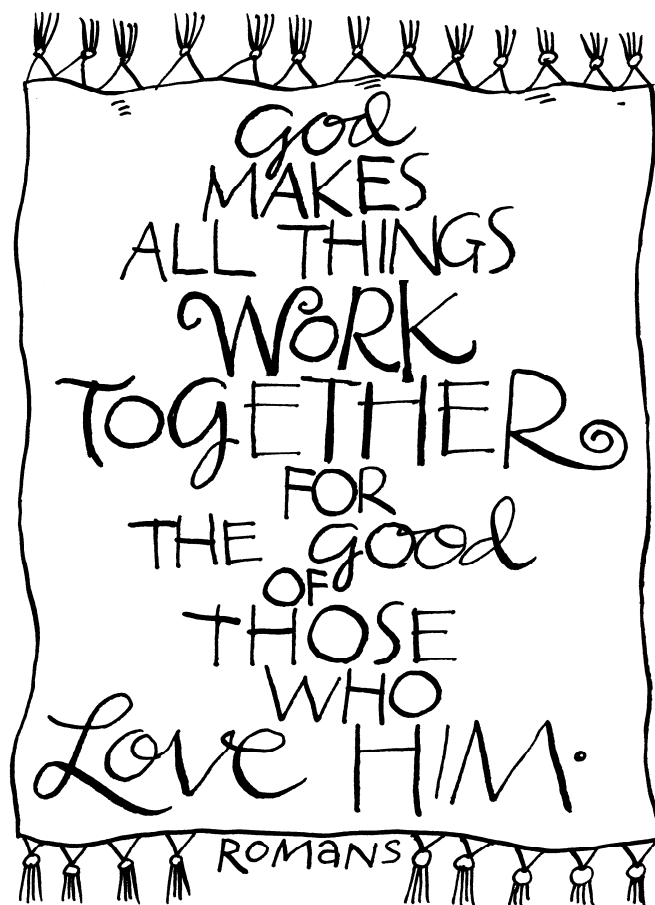
The seven Doctors who were prominent in the 16th century Catholic Reformation, all from the Latin Church:

- St. John of Ávila, 1499-1569 (promoted on 10/07/2012)
- St. Teresa of Ávila, 1515-1582
- St. Peter Canisius, 1521-1597
- St. John of the Cross, 1542-1591
- St. Robert Bellarmine, 1542-1621
- St. Lawrence of Brindisi, 1559-1619
- St. Francis de Sales, 1567-1622

The three Doctors from the modern era, both from the Latin Church:

- St. Alphonsus Liguori, 1696-1787
- St. Thérèse of Lisieux, 1873-1897
- St. John Henry Newman, 1801-1890

<https://www.crossroadsinitiative.com/media/articles/doctors-of-the-catholic-church/>
<https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2022/01/21/220121b.html>

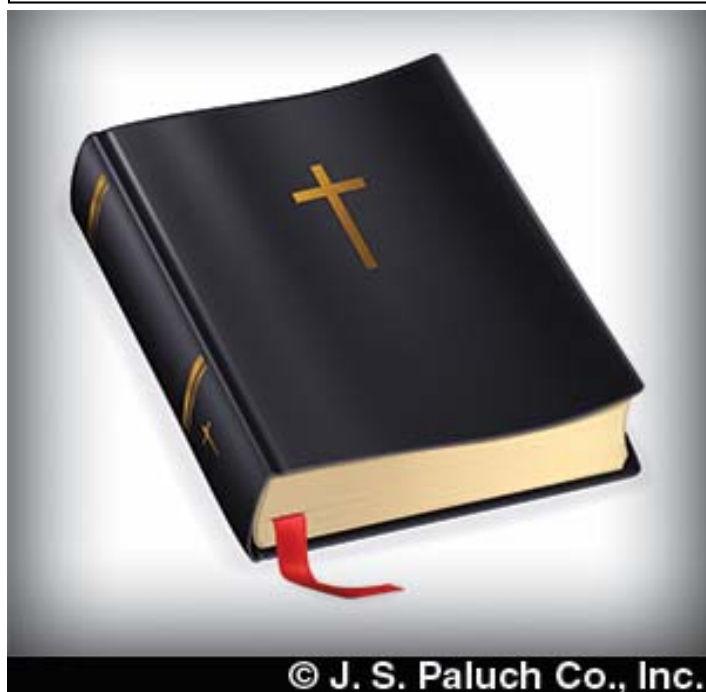


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Snap Judgment

While on a walk one day, I was surprised to see a man hoeing his garden while sitting in a chair. "What laziness!" I thought. But suddenly I saw, leaning against his chair, a pair of crutches. The man was at work despite his handicap.

The lesson I learned about snap judgments that day has stayed with me for years now: the crosses people bear are seldom in plain sight.



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Everyone is invited
to join the monthly

Charismatic and Healing Mass



ST. PATRICK
CATHOLIC CHURCH



756 Mission St.
San Francisco, CA



— 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.

ADDITIONAL RIGHTS

There are additional laws and policies in place for Immigrant Tenants and Workers in CA. To learn more, please contact us!



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MORE ABOUT YOUR RIGHTS AND
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29th Annual Holy Spirit Conference

God's Transforming Mercy

Isaiah 55:6-9

Save the Date

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



Archdiocese of San Francisco Catholic Charismatic Renewal

sfspirit.com



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**

1111 Gough Street
San Francisco, CA 94109



ARCHDIOCESE OF
SAN FRANCISCO
FILIPINO MINISTRY

Stay tuned for additional information.
www.filipinoministrsf.org | filipinoministrsf1@gmail.com



***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



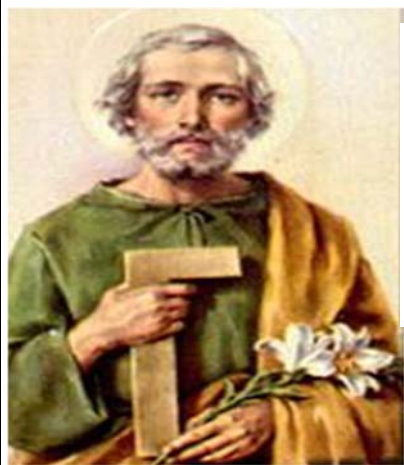
***Our Lady of
Perpetual Help
Devotion***
(every Tuesday
after the
12:10 Mass)

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

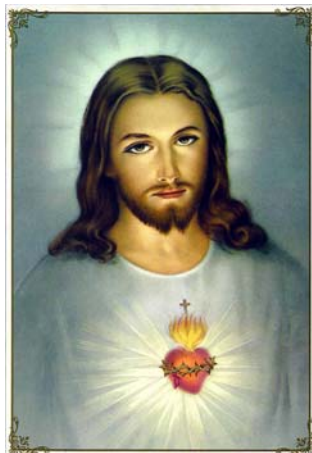
St. Anne
Feast Day
July 26



***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

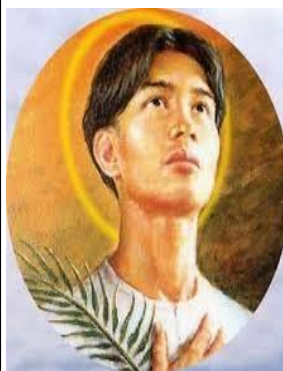


Our Lady of Guadalupe

**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