

DISCIPLES CALLED TO WITNESS

St John the Evangelist Parish / St. Mary Parish

Bellaire - Neffs - Shadyside - Powhatan Point

www.bnspcatholic.org

Mission Statement : Inspired by the Holy Spirit and our Lord Jesus Christ, we strive to grow in faith, love and service to God and our neighbors.

19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AUGUST 9TH, 2026

St John Church (SJ) - 415 37th St, Bellaire, OH 43906
St. Mary Church (SM) - 240 E 40th St, Shadyside, OH 43947

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 4:00 PM - SM Saturday 5:30 PM - SJ
Sunday 11:00 AM - SM Sunday 9:30 AM - SJ

WEEKDAY MASS

5:15 p.m. (Mon.) SJ 8:00 a.m. (Wed. & Fri.) – SJ 8:00 a.m. (Tues. & Thurs.) - SM 8:00 a.m.



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 3:00 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. - SM
Sunday: 8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. - SJ
Monday: 4:30 p.m. - 5:00p.m. - SJ
Tuesday & Thursday: 7:30 -7:45a.m. - SM
Wednesday & Friday: 7:30 a.m. - 7:45a.m. - SJ

CENTRAL OFFICE

3745 Tallman Ave., Bellaire, OH 43906
Phone - (740) 676-0051 - Fax - (740) 671-9776
Email: office@bnspcatholic.org

**Office Hours: M,W,F -
8:00am- 12:00pm / 1:00pm-4:00pm**

Fr. Daniel Heusel, Pastor (SJ), Pastor (SM)

Cell: (740) 298-4158

Email: dheusel@diosteub.org

Mrs. Tonya Grimm, Secretary
(740) 676-0051

Email: office@bnspcatholic.org

St. Mary Central Grade School, Martins Ferry
(740) 633-5424

Mrs. Theresa Young, Principal



We use Flocknote to connect with you!

1. Text MISSION2LOVE to 84576 or 2.Go to StJohnandStMaryparishes.flocknote.com and sign up there! Receive updates, including the weekly bulletin, via email and text message!



www.fb.me/stjohn.bellaire.neffs
www.fb.me/stmary.shadyside.powhatan



19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Peter said to him in reply, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus.
- Mt 14:28-29

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

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Almighty ever- living God, whom, taught by the Holy Spirit, we dare to call our Father, bring, we pray, to perfection in our hearts the spirit of adoption as your sons and daughters, that we may merit to enter into the inheritance which you have promised. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Collect of The 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time



QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK - REFLECT AND RESPOND TO SCRIPTURE

1st Reading Question Elijah finds the Lord not in the wind, earthquake or fire, but in a light, silent sound. *When or where do you hear God's voice?*

2nd Reading Question Paul grieves over the unbelief of his fellow Jews. *How can you help family members or friends who do not believe in Jesus?*

Gospel Question Peter musters the courage to step out onto the water when Jesus calls him. *What are some fears the Lord could help you face?* ©LPi

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES FOR AUGUST 15/16

St. John's

August 15th EM: No Mass Lector: No Mass

August 16th EM: M.A. Young Lector: M. A. Young

St. Mary's

August 15th EM: I. Louda Lector: I. Louda

August 16th EM: J. Ferrelli Lector: M. Kernik

Fr. Dan's Intentions for the Week

Saturday, August 8th, 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00p.m. (SM) + Larry Phillips

5:30p.m. (SJ) + Jolene Hodorowski (Bob & Marie Berher)

Sunday, August 9th, 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30a.m. (SJ) + Jane Vasey (John & Wanda Vasey)

11:00 a.m. (SM) + For the People of St. Mary's & St. John's

Monday, August 10th, St. Lawrence

5:15p.m. (SJ) + Paul Paolucci (Dad, Mom & Sister)

Tuesday, August 11th, St. Clare of Assisi

8:00a.m. (SM) + Donahue Family (Betty Cope)

Wednesday, August 12th, St. Jane Frances de Chantal

8:00a.m. (SJ) + Tom Strussion (Bellaire High Class of 1964)

Thursday, August 13th, St. Pontian & St. Hippolytus

8:00a.m. (SM) + Mark Crail (Terry Magyar)

Friday, August 14th, St. Maximilian Kolbe

8:00a.m. (SJ) + Dorothy Fahey (Family)

Saturday, August 15th, 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00p.m. (SM) + David A. Smith (Kathi)

No 5:30pm Mass at St. John's due to St. Mary's Festival

Sunday, August 16th, 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30a.m. (SJ) + Deceased Members of the St. John Central Class of 1976

11:00a.m.(SM) + For the People of St. Mary's & St. John's



Lord, bless and protect those serving our country, especially:

Lt. Col. Brian Zeno, Airmen 1st Class Curtis McElfresh, Sgt. Christopher Wetzell, Lance Corporal Zachary Knowlton, SSG Kayne Melko, HTF Kory Melko, Sgt. Joshua Hall, SSG Aaron Loeffler, Tech Sgt.

Craig DeBeni, Lt. Col. Trey Vasey, Capt. SSG Josh Pempek, Mitchell Rataiczak, MSG Chris Dipold, Sgt. Ryan James, Sgt. Dylan Frizzi, Sgt. Jake Foster, Pvt William Clegg, Petty Officer Alex Rader, SFC Shawn Selmon, SSG Colton Selmon, Seaman Brooke Selmon, 1st Lt. DJ Olexa, SSG Kelsey (Ryncarz) Turner, Senior Airman Cameron Opic, PFC D'eondre Burney, Petty Officer Brody P. Halenar, Major Alex Beveridge, Lance Cpl. Keenan Cook, Petty Officer 1st Class Meleah (Tiber) Hernik, Seaman Joshya D. Nelson, E - 4 Specialist Luke G. Bell, SSG John Workman, Corporal Dane Miscovich, E-4 Specialist Wyatt L. Robertson



IT'S ST MARY'S FESTIVAL TIME!

St. Mary's Festival will be held August 14-16th. There will be live entertainment, Rotisserie Chicken Dinners, Beer & Wine Garden, Chinese Auction, 50/50 drawing, Texas Poker, Kids Zone and much more! **We need donations of pop, water, baked goods, gift cards, Chinese Auction items, and, ... your Time!**



Congratulations To Our Newly Married!

Isaiah & Megan (Staley) Dyer
8/1/2026 ~ St. John's Church

HE CAME TOWARD THEM WALKING ON THE SEA
— Matthew 14:26

Offertory Collection

For the Weekend of August 1/2

St. John's: Adult (118env) \$5,836, Loose \$316, Assumption (1env) \$10, St. Vincent de Paul (1env) \$50, Grade School (3env) \$95, Building Fund (4env) \$220

St. Mary's: Adult (57env) \$2,100, Loose \$379, Assumption (2env) \$60, Grade School (4env) \$60, Building Fund (4env) \$85, Food Pantry (12env) \$252, Candles \$66



Please Note: *This prayer list is an important part of our love for our brothers and sisters in need. Names will be included on this list for four weeks at a time. After four weeks a person's name will be removed but can be added again the next week simply by calling the office. Please*

pray for the following: Lindy & Don Freed, Jax McCort, Jeremy Chirpas, Tyce Hughes, Dominic Alexander, Lou Ann Kinder, Mgrs. Gene Mullett, Fr. Tom Petronek, Quentin Scott Coyne, Baby Everett Sommers, Joe Boston Jr., Bob, & Tom, Mary Kay Hanasky, John Hanasky, Beverly Kolenich, Sandy Bass, Anthony De Genova, Magan Nichole Sechrest, Monroe DeLuca, Albert DeBlasis, Mary Jo Garner, Camden Thomas, Ainsley Oliniski, Beth Baker Phillips, Tom Kucera, Brian B., Joanne Dantrassy, Rita Kovalov, Susan Gray, Danielle Watt, Paula St. John, Mary Stegman, John, Mary & Heidi Patt, Raisa Rodsky, Tom Waligura, Shari Taylor, Gerald Paolucci, Mark Barker, Ernest Kiss, Rose Reeher, Lou "Weegee" Bennington, Jean Morgan, Bill Shepherd, Peggy Byles, Janet (Rose) Green, Carol Zemba, Donna Richards, Jack Selmon, Jamie Ellis, Tom & Margie Merryman, Beau Boston, Emily LeMasters, Dalisay Donato, Adrienne Forbes, Stacey Gilli, Max Townsend, Julie, Brian, Patricia, Diana McCulley, Janet Green, Darla Schau, Ella Karst, Richard Gates, Liz Gates, Peggy Gress, Kyle Beaver, Eileen Penyak, JoAnn Rankin, Sandina Leonard, Dick Johnson, Connor Hanasky, Brode Brown, Xander Wilson, James (Cracker) Graham, Gary DeVendra, Liz M., David Arnold, Tom Lengyel, Joe Munjas, Fr. Tim Shannon, Bill West, Johnny Rushman, Linda Tylka, Patty Smith, Martha Rollandini, Marty Strussion, Waneta Janosik, Jarrett Burga, Joseph Weyrick, Cathy Cilles, Henry Boston, Bubba Kapral, Jan West, Joe Weyrick, Marlene Workman

LABOR DAY CAR SHOW



This Labor Day, Monday September 7th, St John's Church will be hosting our 2nd annual cruise-in-style car show. It will be from 10am -4pm and free to spectators. There is a \$10 entry fee. Thanks to your generosity last year our profit was \$7,500 that we were able to divide between the Salvation Army Emergency Center, St. Vincent de Paul, Bellaire Local Schools Weekend Food Program, the Living Bread Pantry & the Coat Closet at the Bellaire Presbyterian Church!

We are in need of Gift Cards for the Car Show. Please drop them off at the parish office by Wednesday Aug. 30th. Thank You! Any questions please call Dom at 740-579-6867



Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

This solemnity, August 15, is usually a holy day of obligation, which means that it's such an important celebration that we need to go to mass, to give thanks for God's gift. In the U.S. the

obligation is often lifted if the celebration falls on a Saturday or Monday. So, there is no obligation (and the consequence of committing a grave sin if we do not attend mass) attached to the holy day this year, but we will still have two masses available, Friday, August 14 at 4:00pm at St. Mary's, and Saturday morning at 9:00am at St. John's.

Festival Workers Needed

Our St. Mary's Festival is this Friday, Saturday and Sunday. We still need **a lot of help!** Please text or call (740) 298-4158 today if you could volunteer. We especially need help on the food line for Sunday. We really need everyone's help and it really builds community when we work together. Whether you are a member of St. John's parish or St. Mary's parish please help out, we need you! Thank you for your generous response!



St. John the Evangelist / St. Mary Parishes

Faith Formation Program 2026-2027

Classes Pre-K through Adult begin Sunday, September 13, 9:30am-10:45am, St. Mary's Church Religious Education Building. There will be other times available for adults to attend class together during the week. Please return

the registration form, found at the entrances to church, to the parish office by Monday, August 17th. You can place in collection basket, mail it to 3745 Tallman Ave, Bellaire, OH 43906, take a picture of the

completed form with your cell phone and text to (740) 298-4158, or Email it to office@bnspcatholic.org. Questions? Call or text (740) 298-4158. To sign up online you can find the a link on our website, bnspcatholic.org, or scan the QR Code to find the link for online sign-up!



MASS SCHEDULE CHANGE NEXT SATURDAY!

There will be no 5:30pm Mass at St. John's NEXT Saturday, August 15, due to the St. Mary's Festival. The only Saturday evening mass on that day will be the 4:00pm Mass at St. Mary's!

19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



GOSPEL MEDITATION

As a young, newly ordained priest, I admired a senior priest who was gifted, beloved, and had changed countless lives. But soon I learned that he had fallen in catastrophic and destructive ways. The painful juxtaposition of good and evil was complex to process.

How could someone so seemingly good also be so broken and deceptive? It forced me to confront a sobering truth: leadership in the Church is no guarantee against weakness or sin.

Peter teaches that truth in this week's Gospel. When he sees Jesus walking on the sea, Peter does what leaders do. He goes first. **"Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water."** But when he sees how strong the wind is, he becomes frightened and, beginning to sink, cries out, **"Lord, save me."** Immediately, Jesus stretches out his hand and catches him.

St. Thomas Aquinas observes that Peter overcomes the greater danger of the waves but falters before the lesser threat of the wind. This is the paradox leaders often face. It is not always the great trials that undo us, but the smaller, quieter temptations, such as subtle fears and compromises, that lead us to sink.

The good news is that Jesus does not abandon Peter. He saves him before it is too late. Our frail humanity lives within a rhythm of grace, risk, failure, and mercy. Jesus helps Peter overcome both the obvious and hidden sources of fear, and he promises to do the same for us. So, let us pray for all, especially our spiritual leaders. — *Father John Muir* ©LPi



The Caring Crafters sponsored a 9 year old boy from Shadyside and a 9 year old girl from Bellaire through **Heart of Belmont County**. You can find the site on Facebook. We purchased coats, shoes, pants shirts and other items.

Family's have wish lists on the FB site through Amazon. Items are shipped directly to their homes. This is due to Belmont County doing away with the clothing vouchers. Anyone wanting to help please visit the FB page. We also donated school supplies to the Presbyterian Church, in Bellaire and the supplies will be given out to students in need on August 11th.



LIVE THE LITURGY- INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

In the midst of life's greatest storms, Jesus comes to us, but we may not recognize him. We may test him. In doing so, he will test us — and likely, we will fail. But when we falter, his saving hand is there. ©LPi

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Sunday, August 9th, 2026, 10:00a.m.—2:00p.m., St. Mary's Church Marian Hall, St. Clairsville. \$7.00 (Adult) \$5.00 (Children) 3 and under Free.



This Week on Formed

Week of August 09, 2026



Triumph of the Heart

In the harrowing confines of Auschwitz's starvation cell, Catholic priest St. Maximilian Kolbe volunteers to die in place of another prisoner, joining nine others condemned by the Nazis.



The New Eve | Lectio: Mary | Episode 1

The Book of Genesis begins with the story of Adam and Eve, whose sin of disobedience breaks their relationship with God. God does not abandon his people, but gradually prepares them for the coming of his Son, Jesus Christ. Jesus, the promised "seed" of Genesis 3:15 is the "New Adam," and his mother, the promised "woman," is the "New Eve."



Clare and Francis

This outstanding movie is unique among films about St. Francis because of the historical accuracy of the story and its authentic spirit of joy and piety so characteristic of Francis, as well as the major role played by Clare. Both founded major religious orders, and together they inspired many to follow their radical call to live the Gospel.

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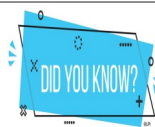
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6. You will be prompted to set up a password for your account.
7. Enjoy! Download the app!



CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Question: Which artist was commissioned to paint the ceiling and wall behind the altar in the Sistine Chapel?

Answer: Michelangelo ©LPi



MASSTIMES.ORG

Travelling? Never miss a weekend mass by finding mass times near your destination. Just go to masstimes.org and enter the city, state or zip code of the place you'll be visiting. And bring Fr. Dan back a bulletin!

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS AND THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time / August 16, 2026

First Reading: Thus says the LORD: Observe what is right, do what is just; for my salvation is about to come, my justice, about to be revealed. (Is 56:1)

Psalm: O God, let all the nations praise you! (Ps 67)

Second Reading: For God delivered all to disobedience, that he might have mercy upon all. (Rom 11:32)

Gospel: Then Jesus said to her in reply, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." (Mt 15:28)

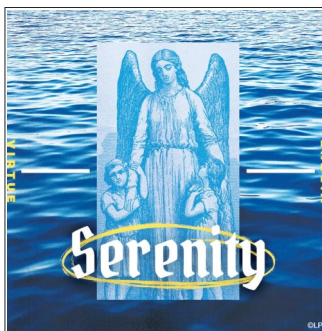
Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.
The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

CCC 543-544: Kingdom first to Israel, now for all who believe

CCC 674: Christ's coming hope of Israel; their final acceptance of Messiah

CCC 2610: power of invocation with sincere faith

CCC 831, 849: the catholicity of the Church



Virtues, Explained!

Serenity, Explained!

The word "serenity" is only found once in the Catechism of the Catholic Church: in the section describing the effects of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, quoting the Council of Trent when it declared that a good

confession "is usually followed by peace and serenity of conscience." (CCC 1468)

This may give the impression that serenity is not a foremost Catholic virtue, but the succinctness of the Catechism's reference is actually proof of serenity's importance.

What is serenity? It is an attitude of calm, one that can only be identified when contrasted with turmoil. It is stillness in a storm. It is Christ, walking steadily across the raging waves.

That the Catechism links it exclusively with reconciliation to God tells us all we need to know about this virtue. Where can we find calm in turmoil, stillness in storm? Where can we find serenity?

There is only one place: the merciful embrace of God in His sacraments. ©LPi

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Looking for God

What do we think when we see Jesus coming to save us?

The first thing the Apostles scream is “Ghost!” when they catch sight of Jesus walking towards them on water. That always makes me laugh. After all they have witnessed thus far as the companions of the Messiah, they see someone walking on water and they still react like extras in a bad episode of Scooby-Doo.

We are always more quick to believe a bad thing than a good thing. We can easily believe gossip and hearsay about a friend, but we fear being taken for a fool when it comes to faith. We would rather look cynical than stupid.

“Save me, God, for the waters have reached my neck,” reads Psalm 69. “My eyes fail, from looking for my God.”

I think back on my life, on all the various ways that God has rescued me from slipping beneath the surface. Rarely did it ever occur to me, in the midst of it, that I was being rescued. In fact, I usually thought I was being held underwater. Did I hear His voice directing me, or did I only hear my own despairing? “Save me, God.” Was I looking for Him, or were my eyes shut in fear? “My eyes fail, from looking for my God.”

It’s never until after the fact — sometimes years after, or decades — that we see things clearly. That we see Christ in the situation, making his way toward us, hand outstretched.

©LPi

**PRAYER – FOR EVERYDAY AND EVERYBODY****Prayer in Faith in Trial**

Dear God,

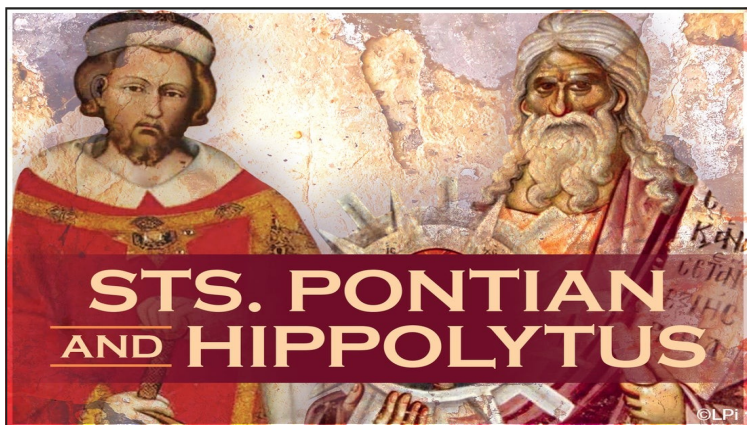
In this time of difficulty, be with me.
When I don’t feel Your presence or
hear Your voice, sustain me.

When I don’t see the path ahead, guide me.

When I don’t know the next step, support me.

In every day and in every moment, be my strength.

Amen. ©LPi

**WHY DO WE DO THAT? - CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED**

Jesus Is Light of the World

Question: *Why do we call Jesus “the light of the world”?*

Answer: In cultures around the world, light and darkness are chief symbols of good and evil, order and chaos, clarity and confusion, hope and despair. These symbols tap into something essential about the nature of things. God has given us the created world as a gift. His first work, as we see in Genesis 1, is to create *light*, giving meaning and insight to the abyss. It is in the light that the rest of creation comes to be. A gathering darkness emerges in Genesis 3. Adam and Eve hide, shrouding themselves from the sun’s rays and the gaze of God. While God offers a promise of salvation and establishes a covenant with His people, the sense of fog and dim understanding still remains. The Hebrew people repeatedly betray the promises they have made to God, and all around them the nations actively worship idols.

The promise of God is not in vain, however. In John 1, we see a depiction of Christ as primordial goodness, order, clarity, and hope. “*The true light, which enlightens everyone was coming into the world ... this life was the light of the human race*” (John 1: 9, 4). Think of the last sunrise you witnessed (if you could wake up for it!). As you watched the lavender brighten to rose edged with gold, did your heart swell? Did you recall the goodness of the world? Did you feel rekindled hope? Such is the role of Christ in the soul. Such is his coming Incarnate in our world.

©LPi

**Devotions, Explained!****House Blessing, Explained!**

Catholics who move to a new place of residence often wish to have their dwelling blessed, to call the favor and help of God upon all those who live in the house and all those who will enter it.

The Roman Ritual (Book of Blessings) provides two formats for house blessings: one during the Easter or Christmas season (specifically for the Epiphany) and one for Ordinary Time. Those who live in the home must be present for a house to be blessed. A priest, deacon or lay person can administer the blessing, although if a lay person does so they must use the rites accorded to lay ministers in the Roman Ritual.

A house blessing includes Scripture readings, intercessions and a prayer of blessing. ©LPi



Feast Day—August 8. Founder of the Order of Preachers, commonly known as the “Dominicans”, a religious order of priests, religious brothers and sisters.



St. Clare

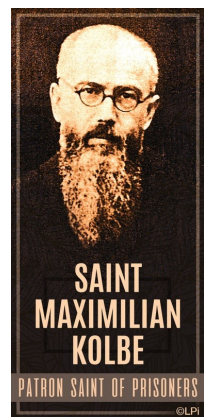
St. Clare of Assisi, (1194-1253), was born into a wealthy, politically influential, Catholic family in Assisi, Italy. When she was 12, her family decided she should marry. She begged them to allow her to wait until she was 18 and they eventually agreed.

As a teen, Clare learned of a priest named Francis (St. Francis of Assisi). After hearing him preach, she decided that her calling was to “live for the Gospel.” She admired how Francis lived — in poverty, community, and service to the poor. After receiving permission from the bishop of Assisi, she left her family join Francis and his followers. Once with them, Clare left her fancy life behind, donning a plain robe, simple veil, and cutting her hair short, a symbol of her desire to reject marriage and live a religious life.

Studying early on with the Benedictines, she was joined by her sister. Fearing for their safety from Clare’s family who were determined that the daughters return, Francis and his followers built a home for them next to a church they restored, San Damiano, for their protection. While there, Clare and Francis established the Order of the Poor Ladies of San Damiano.

Daily Mass, adoration, and the Eucharist were integral to the lives of Clare’s Poor Ladies. The growing community’s radical devotion to strict poverty set them apart from other congregations. Following her order’s eventual approval by the Pope, she wrote the order’s Rule of Life based on the teachings of St. Francis — the first monastic rule known to be written by a woman.

After St. Clare died, the Poor Ladies were renamed the Order of St. Clare or, the Poor Clares, in her honor. She passed away at the age of 59, one day after her Rule was approved. St. Clare, pray for us! © LPi



St. Maximilian Kolbe—August 14

Courage and sacrificial love mark the life of St. Maximilian Kolbe. He became a priest of the Franciscan order. Dedicated with evangelization, he published a magazine to teach the Catholic faith and encourage devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. During the Nazi occupation of Poland, Fr. Kolbe was arrested and sent to Auschwitz. One day a prisoner escaped from the camp. The Nazi punishment was harsh. For one escapee, 10 must die in his place. The guards picked 10 men at random. One began to beg for his life on behalf of his family, and another man stepped forward and offered to take his place. Fr. Kolbe was sentenced, along with the other nine men, to death by starvation. For this “martyr of Auschwitz,” a life of devotion culminated in one heroic, Christlike act. © LPi



BUILDING A CULTURE OF LIFE

Abortion is our problem, and the problem of every human being. We are one human family. Nobody can be neutral on abortion. It involves the destruction of an entire group of human beings! Just as we cannot be indifferent to the killing of a new born baby, so we cannot be indifferent to the killing of a preborn baby. We all share the responsibility for people who are in danger. Injustice to any person in this world is injustice to every person! - *Abortion: None of Your Business?* Frank Pavone, National Director, Priests for Life

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Being Human is to Doubt

Humans doubt. It’s what we do. We doubt ourselves and we doubt others.

Before any of us say anything about Peter’s doubting the words of Jesus that told him he could get out of his boat and walk on water, we need to get real with ourselves: How would I respond in the same situation? I remember when I was child taking swimming lessons. One day I simply tightened up my muscles and sank. The lifeguard pulled me up and asked what happened. I said I did not know. The truth is that I was sinking under the weight of my own doubt. I did not believe I could do what clearly, I was told I could. That was only in five feet of water in a pool! Now that I’m older, I can look back and laugh. But an adult, the swimming pool is life, and I would be lying if I said that there are no longer times I find myself sinking due to new doubts.

Much of our doubt comes about because of a lack of trust in God. We place our trust in material things, wealth, or imperfect people instead of the One who is worthy of our trust 100 percent of the time. Our stewardship is often hampered by our doubt that God will provide all that we need. If I give more, I may not have enough to survive! When we place all our trust in God, not only do we find that we have been given all we need – our doubt that cause us to sink in the pool of life fades away. We don’t suddenly become perfect in our trust, and there will be times when we find ourselves with concerns again. However, it is in those moments we find that He is still there, speaking the words we need to hear: “Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid.”

– Tracy Earl Welliver © LPi

ASSUMPTION



EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

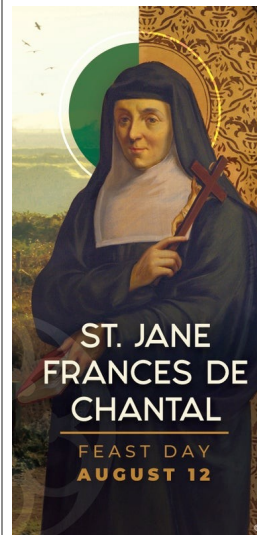
Strive for Holiness

I remember when all three of my children were learning to swim. In the beginning, it seemed like no matter how much assurance I gave them, they were certain they would drown. Even after watching me float in the water, they were pretty sure their bodies were created to sink. In time, they grew more comfortable in the water. Eventually, they could even swim the length of the pool. But this did not happen overnight. They had to grow in their faith that swimming was possible, not just for others, but for them as well.

Too many of us who are Christians believe that holiness is for someone else. We believe that the stories of the saints are about super humans who had something in greater supply than us. When our faith is weak, we assume that we can never have the faith of these holy men and women.

On the contrary, faith and holiness are not things only possible for a few. But we must practice our faith to grow in our faith. We must strive for holiness if we are to become holy.

Like a child fears the water before learning to swim, we often fear the path that leads to greater faith or holiness. We are not convinced that God can work in our lives to create a saint. Yet except for Mary, the Immaculate Conception, every saint was a sinner. God called every saint to exit the boat and walk toward Jesus on the water. In time, with practice and trust in God, they found they did not sink either. *Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS* ©LPi



St. Jane Frances de Chantal

St. Jane Frances de Chantal was born to a noble family in Dijon, France, on January 28, 1572. Her mother died when she was an infant. Her father raised her and provided for her education. In 1592, she married the Baron de Chantal; the couple was devoted to each other. They had six children, three of whom died in infancy. As Baroness, St. Jane Frances restored the custom of daily Mass and was famous for her charitable works. Unfortunately, her husband died in a hunting accident only eight years after their marriage.

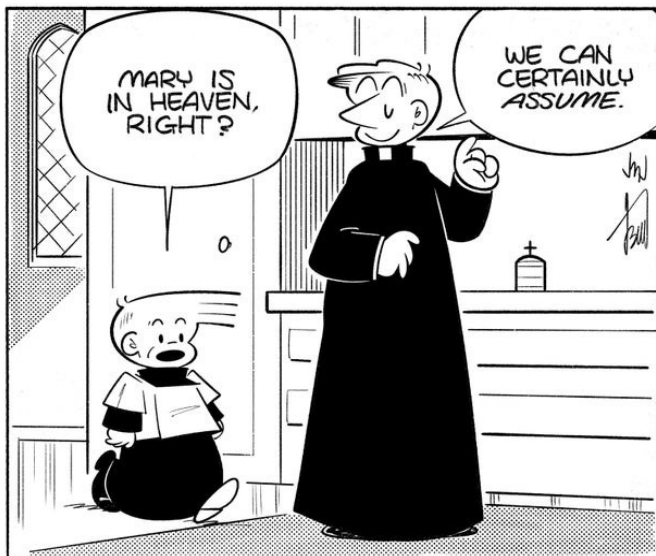
Devastated, St. Jane Frances was forced to live in her father-in-law's strict household, where she took a vow of chastity.

In 1604, while visiting her father in Dijon, she met St. Francis de Sales, and he became her close friend and spiritual director. Although few of their epistles have survived, the pair had a lively correspondence that lasted until St. Francis died.

Under the direction of St. Francis de Sales and with his partnership, she established the Congregation of the Visitation at Annecy in 1610. This was a unique order, without the extreme ascetical practices typical in other religious orders, accepting women and girls and those rejected by other orders because of poor health or age. The new order was also unusual in its public ministry, rather than a strictly cloistered life. St. Jane Frances transformed her convent at Annecy into a hospital during the plague of 1628.

The saint died at the Visitation Convent in Moulins on December 13, 1641. At the time of her death, there were 86 convents of Visitation nuns. She was canonized in 1767 by Pope Clement XIII.

St. Jane Frances de Chantal, pray for us! ©LPi



Happy Feast of
the Assumption!



The Assumption: A Sign of Hope

Is the resurrection a concept or reality? For many of us, the resurrection of the dead may be a stray idea recite in the Nicene Creed. Heaven we discuss. But resurrection? The feast of the Assumption is a reminder to us that heaven gets even better! We pray that the souls of the faithful departed would soon be united to God in heaven. The truth is, the separation between our souls and our bodies was not God's original plan for things. It's one of the results of the Fall, of original sin. At the end of time and Jesus' second coming, our bodies and souls will be reunited. Lest we forget, Mary's Assumption is the reminder. Today, we celebrate that Mary is enjoying what we, too, hope to participate in — complete joy in heaven with our God, experienced body and soul. Today and every day, let's pray for those who have died and that we may meet them again in the heavenly kingdom. ©LPi

The Assumption OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



The Assumption

Question: *What lessons should I learn from the Assumption of Mary?*

Answer: Growing in holiness is similar to training in a sport. We need someone to show us how we can live our faith well. Mary is a model of sanctity. She shows us how to be faithful to God's will, living each day with confidence in God's mercy and love. At the Nativity, in Jesus' public ministry, and at the Crucifixion, we see her steadfast trust. She allows the Lord to use her life to accomplish

his plan for her and for all of us. In the Preface of the Mass for the Assumption of Mary, we pray: "For today the Virgin Mother of God was assumed into heaven as the beginning and image of your Church's coming to perfection and a sign of sure hope and comfort to your pilgrim people."

It is this image of holiness that we strive to imitate. In the office, at home, or in our community, we look for signs of God's grace that call us to an ever greater love of him and each other. A greater awareness of God is a sign of our conversion of heart that lives the lessons Mary teaches.

©LPi



EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

WWMD?

WWJD bracelets were all the rage about 25 years ago in Christian circles. I've always wondered if a WWMD bracelet might not make just as much sense, and maybe more. What Would Mary Do?

I would argue that Mary was the most exemplary steward who ever lived. Her answer was always "Yes." Yes, Lord, I am Your handmaiden. Yes, I will visit Elizabeth, and help her in the last difficult months of pregnancy. Yes, I will bring my son up in the Mosaic law and present him at the Temple of Jerusalem. Yes, I will give him to the crowds and to public ministry. Yes, I will offer him on this Cross, if it is Your will.

Yes, yes, yes.

Well, I can't be like Mary, we think to ourselves. There's an intimidation factor with the Blessed Mother and Catholics sometimes — one that almost exceeds that of Christ. Perhaps it's because we are in awe of the fact that she was not divine in any way — she was a mere creation, like us — but somehow, she always had the courage to say yes. How could she do it, when we find it so hard?

Well, God certainly lavished on Mary extraordinary graces. Her lack of original sin liberated her to conform her will to God's.

But God is impatient to give us, too, all the graces we need to be a steward in the example of Mary. He's waiting for us simply to ask. Just as in Adam we died, so in Christ — through Mary — we live.

What can we say yes to today, in Mary's example?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi



Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand and caught Peter, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" (Mt 14:31)



ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST PARISH / ST MARY PARISH : BELLAIRE, NEFFS, SHADYSIDE, POWHATAN

Readings for the week of August 9, 2026

Sunday: 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Rom 9:1-5/Mt 14:22-33

Monday: 2 Cor 9:6-10/Ps 112:1-2, 5-6, 7-8, 9/Jn 12:24-26

Tuesday: Ez 2:8-3:4/Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131/Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14

Wednesday: Ez 9:1-7; 10:18-22/Ps 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 18:15-20

Thursday: Ez 12:1-12/Ps 78:56-57, 58-59, 61-62/Mt 18:21-19:1

Friday: Ez 16:1-15, 60, 63 or 16:59-63/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6/Mt 19:3-12

Saturday: Vigil: 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2/Ps 132:6 7, 9-10, 13-14/1 Cor 15:54b-57/Lk 11:27-28 27/Lk 1:39-56

Next Sunday: Is 56:1, 6-7/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8/Rom 11:13-15, 29-32/Mt 15:21-28

THIS WEEK

Sunday: 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Tuesday: 9: 00a.m.— 5:00p.m. Eucharistic Adoration

Friday: 4:00p.m. Vigil Mass for the Assumption (SM)
5:00p.m.— 11:00p.m. St. Mary's Parish Festival

Saturday: 9:00a.m. Mass for the Assumption (SJ)
5:00p.m.— 11:00p.m. St. Mary's Parish Festival

Next Sunday: 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time
12:00p.m.— 5:00p.m. St. Mary's Parish Festival



In Loving Memory of The
Westlake, Gress & Novy Families
By Terry & Linda

~ 50 Year Reunion 1976 ~ 2026 ~
In Loving Memory of the Deceased &
In Honor of the Living
SJC Class of 1976 Members.
In Remembrance of the Deceased & In
Honor of the Living Teachers we
had Growing Up!
The SJC Class of 1976



In Loving Memory Of
The Sharpe & Cerasoli Families
By Anita & Jeannine

In Loving Memory Of
John, Rose & Cathy Magistro
By Bruce & Mary Ann

In Loving Memory of
The Masciarelli & Smigill Families
By Sunny & Anita Smigill

In Loving Memory of the
Kuchinka, Teasdale & Stolz Families
by Marion & Jeff

In Loving Memory Of
The Boston & Donahue Families
By Cheryl Boston

In Loving Memory of
Joseph, Patricia & Erin
Padyjasek ~ Peter &
Frances (Pronishun)
Stemkowski ~ Andrew & Helen
(Ashmanas) Padyjasek.
Love Son~Brother~Grandson
~Peter



In Loving Memory of
Bill Kahl *by Wife Karen*
George, Bud, Murph & Jerry Snider
By Sister & Family



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