Saint Columban Catholic Church

Christi simus, non nostri

We belong to Christ, not ourselves

St. Columban Parish

506 First St. S. Yelm, WA 98597

360-458-3031

Office Hours
Monday—Thursday 9:00AM –2:00PM
parishoffice@saintcolumbanyelm.org
Website: www.saintcolumbanyelm.org

FORMED

Mass Schedule
Saturday Vigil: 5:00PM
Sunday: 10:30AM
Daily Mass: Tues—Fri 9AM ***except 1st Fridays**
Rosary is said 30min prior to each Mass

Sacraments
Anointing of the Sick: Following First Friday Devotions or by Appointment
Confession: Saturdays 3:30—4:30PM
First Friday Devotions: 6:30PM
The church may be opened upon request during office hours for private prayer.

See Calendar on Page 3 for current schedule and updates

St. Columban Prayer Chain: Confidential and private prayer chain. Please contact the parish office to submit a request.

St. Vincent De Paul
Providing emergency assistance for those in need.

Help Line: 360-458-1904
Please leave your name, phone number, and details of your need.

St. Peter Mission

149 Keithahn St. S, Tenino, WA 98589

For administrative assistance please contact St. Columban

Mass Schedule
Sunday 8:00AM
Rosary is said 30min prior to Mass

Sacraments
Confession: Sundays 7:30 -7:45AM
Daily Mass (First Fridays): 9:00AM
Anointing of the Sick: by appointment

August 14, 2022

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's Readings

Entrance Antiphon: *Turn your eyes O God our shield, and look on the face of your anointed one.*

1st Reading: Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10

Responsorial Psalm: *Lord, come to my aid*

2nd Reading: Hebrews 12:1-4

Gospel Acclamation: *My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord. I know them, and they follow me.*

Gospel: Luke 12:49-53

Communion Antiphon: *Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides, says the Lord.*

We are a Catholic faith community that seeks to place God first, to know Him, and to grow in holiness together. We strive to live the Gospel through the Eucharist, in our teaching and way of life.

Fr. Thompson's Reflections

Matrimony

The last two sacraments are the sacraments of service: Matrimony and Holy Orders. As the name may suggest, these sacraments take us outside ourselves and empower us to use the graces we have received from the other sacraments for the sake of others.

The sacraments of service configure us to serve and build the Kingdom of God in a special and more specific way. For spouses in the Sacrament of Matrimony, it is the sanctification of the spouses and the procreation and education of their children; for clergy in Holy Orders, the call is to serve the people of God through teaching, sanctifying and governing. Being a particular calling to a particular mission, unlike the other 5 sacraments, not everyone is called to the sacraments of service and no one has the right to demand them from the Church, or from God.

The Sacrament of Matrimony is peculiar on an additional level, in that its sacramental state is an elevation of a natural reality. Matrimony preceded Christ in a way the other 6 sacraments did not. Sure, some Jewish rituals prefigured—and were eventually surpassed and replaced by—the sacraments (especially Baptism and the Eucharist), but Matrimony as a reality was written into nature by God from the Beginning and is a reality shared by all humanity; the life-long and faithful union of a man and a woman predates the Original Sin. Indeed, in the Nuptial Blessing said over the Bride at a Christian wedding, Matrimony is noted as the one gift from Eden that was not lost when Adam and Eve sinned against God.

Between Baptized Christians, the Sacrament of Matrimony is (and can only be) a supernatural addition to the natural reality: the privilege and challenge and grace of being a sacramental metaphor for the union of Christ and the Church (which is why it has to be solemnized by and celebrated in the Church to be valid), but the natural reality of Matrimony still exists independent of the Sacrament.

Note that I keep saying Matrimony rather than Marriage. There is a reason for that. Marriage is an insufficient turn to capture the whole of the reality I am writing about. Marriage puts the focus on the joining of the spouses, which is part of the reality, but Matrimony implies the broader reality that such a union establishes. Matrimony comes from the Latin word for mother (mater) in the same way that the word patriotic comes from the Latin word for father (pater). *Patria* is one's homeland, shared with fellow citizens, but *Matria* is one's more personal and intimate place of origin shared only with those bound by the closest human ties: blood (and adoption, the point of which is to create a bond by will that is a close as blood). Matrimony, then, means "the establishment of a household/family." Marriage is indeed what binds the spouses to each other, but the reason why they're bound to one another is to constitute new and unique family. Even if they are never blessed with children, the man and the woman have left their own mothers and fathers, and live as one flesh--meaning not just sexual intimacy, but more importantly that this union is now *matria*, and no longer the *matriae* of their births. Spouses are and will always be connected to their families of birth, but their proper family is now the one they have founded together.

In Christ,
Fr Thompson

Financial Stewardship

Week of July 31, 2022		
Ordinary Income	**St Columban**	**St Peter**
Weekly Goal	$5,800.00	$1,000.00
Collection (Cash & Envelopes)	$2,384.35	$315.00
Online Giving	$626.81	$15.00
Net	($2,788.84)	($670.00)
Special Funds		
St Vincent DePaul	$180.70	$0.00
Sacramentals (Candles, Beeswax tapers, Salt)	$4.00	$0.00
Flowers	$25.00	$0.00
Building Fund	$259.38	$0.00
Called to Serve as Christ	**Last Reported**	14-Mar
Total Pledged	$117,259	$26,997
Total Received	$80,047	$15,917
Total Rebate (15%)	$12,307.12	$2,387.55

Annual Catholic Appeal

Goal for St. Columban: $24,555

Total Pledged as of: July 25, 2022
$31,256.66 122% of Goal
27% Participation

Goal for St. Peter: $ 3,984

Total Pledged as of: July 25, 2022
$8,343.34 236% of Goal
61% Participation

Thank you for your pledge or donation!

PARISH STAFF

Fr. Brian Thompson *Priest Administrator*
Ext.6 frthompson@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Holly Dodd *Bookkeeper*
Ext. 4 holly@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Katie Hennigan *Faith Formation*
Ext. 2 katie@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Jennifer Langham *Music, Liturgy & Admin Support*
Ext. 1 jennifer@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Chad Lucero *Youth Ministry*
Ext. 3 chad@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Steven Slater, *St. Columban Maintenance*
steven@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Gilberto Espino *St. Peter Maintenance*
gilberto@saintcolumbanyelm.org
En Espanol Ext. 5

SAINT COLUMBAN PASTORAL COUNCIL
Judith Cusick (Chairperson), Sheila Johnson, Jerome Didier, Joseph Judge, Dennis Stumpf

parishoffice@saintcolumbanyelm.org

SAINT PETER ADVISORY COMMISSION
Sherry Bachmann (Chairperson), Marilyn Ritter, Bernie Schwarz, Bob Bacon, Diane Weston,

Faith Formation

Safe Environment Training

Safe Environment training is necessary for all adults who wish to work with children and/or vulnerable adults within our parish community. We recommend all parishioners attend this training in order to create a safe environment at all times, not just those who volunteer in our programs. The training is free, just a few hours of your time. Please help us protect the vulnerable people of our community.

The next in-person training is
Thursday, August 25, 2022
6:00-9:00PM
in the Parish Hall.

Please contact Katie Hennigan in the parish office for more information.

In Our Prayers

Loving God, we join with others of your people here asking you to hold in Your hands all of our homebound brothers and sisters and those who have asked for our prayers:

Jessica Nash
Paul Hennigan
Pam Henslee
Mary Taylor
Maria Teresa Siegemund
Pat Meyers
Marcella Thornton
Robert Fisher
Theresa Gonzales

+ All those in harm's way.
+ For the people of Ukraine

Rest In Peace

William Gonzales

All the souls in purgatory, especially those who have no one to pray for them.

To add a name please contact the parish office.

All submissions must have permission from the named individual or an authorized family member for privacy purposes.

RCIA is open to all adult learners and those seeking the Sacraments of initiation: **Baptism, Eucharist, and/or Confirmation**. Classes will resume Tuesday, September 20 at 6:30 in the Religious Education Building. Contact Katie Hennigan to register.
katie@saintcolumbanyelm.org
360-458-3031x2

Faith Formation: Grades K-12

- Please see our website to register your child (ren) for the 2022-2023 catechetical year. Classes begin in September.
- Remember that preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation begins in 6th grade. All students entering middle school or above fall of 2022 and have not begun their preparation, will be enrolled in our Confirmation and Youth Group programs. See our website for more information.
- Don't forget to give your input on the parish surveys regarding additional Faith Formation and Youth Ministry opportunities beginning in the Fall. See your email for a flocknote message from Father Thompson.

PARISH MINISTRIES

Daughters of Mary

St.Columban Catholic Church Yelm. WA
daughtersofmary@saintcolumbanyelm.org

September 13 **Monthly Meeting** zoom
10:00AM Religious Ed Bldg
September 11 **Coffee Hour**
11:45AM Parish Hall

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 17152

August 17 **Council Meeting** zoom
6:00PM Parish Hall
August 28 **KofC Breakfast**
11:45AM Parish Hall

St. Vincent de Paul

August 18 **Monthly Meeting**
7:00PM Parish Hall

St. Peter's Circle

September 13 **Bi-Monthly Meeting**
9:30AM St. Peter Mission

ALTAR SOCIETY

Cleaning the Church
Every Thursday after Daily Mass

Gardening the Church Grounds
Every Tuesday around 1PM

Please contact the parish office for more information, the latest updates, and schedule changes. Unless otherwise noted, all events are considered to be held at St. Columban.

MONDAY **August 15**
Rosary Prayer Group
7:00PM *Church*

TUESDAY **August 16**
Daily Mass @ St. Columban **9:00AM**
Intentions of: Pam Walker
Cantor Practice & Music Theory Class
6:00PM *Church*
Spanish Prayer Group
6:30PM *Parish Hall*

WEDNESDAY **August 17**
Daily Mass @ St. Columban **9:00AM**
+In Memory of: Jose Luis Fregoso RIP

THURSDAY **August 18**
Daily Mass @ St. Columban **9:00AM**
Intentions of: Elsy Tovar

FRIDAY **August 19**
Daily Mass @ St. Columban **9:00AM**
Intentions of: Dean Walker

SATURDAY **August 20**
Confession
3:30PM St. Columban
Vigil Mass
5:00PM St. Columban

20th Sunday O.T. **August 21**
ST. PETER MISSION TENINO
7:30-7:45AM Confession
8:00AM Mass
ST. COLUMBAN
10:30AM Mass

Bonus Bulletin Content!

To save on printing, some extra bulletin content will now be exclusively found in the online edition of our bulletin, which is also emailed weekly to parishioners. Sign up at flocknote.com/saintcolumbanyelm or visit our website saintcolumbanyelm.org

Thanks to our advertisers listed on the back of this bulletin! They make this publication available to the Parish at no cost to us.

Knights of Columbus®

ST. COLUMBAN COUNCIL 17152
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO OUR

FAMILY PIZZA PARTY

& OFFICER INSTALLATION

In recognition for an awesome membership year in 2022, we are inviting all Parish groups and their families and any men interested in joining the Knights to come celebrate with us!

THIS WEDNESDAY! AUGUST 17
OFFICER INSTALLATION 6:30 PM,
PIZZA PARTY FOLLOWS

PLEASE RSVP!
CONTACT PGK
DARREN JOHNSON
darrenjohnson61@gmail.com

Annual Parish Picnic & Ministry Fair

Sunday August 14th

following the 10:30AM Mass

Water Balloon Toss

Games for Kids

Gift Basket Raffle

Need not be present to win

PRIZES!

Join us for food, fellowship, games, and learn more about our ministries and volunteer opportunities!

Admission is free and we are not using private vendors for this event.

DUNK TANK

DRIVE FOR MARY

HELP US REPLACE OUR MARY STATUE!

We are raising funds to replace our beloved Mary statue between the Rectory and the Church that was vandalized back in 2020.

All profits from the Dunk Tank will go towards the estimated cost of $300 to replace it.

$1.00 = 1 Throw

Cash Only Please

Starting at 12:00PM during the Annual Parish Picnic!

Friday-Saturday, August 19-20

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Shrine Annual Pilgrimage, August 19-20

Join St. George Byzantine Catholic Church (off of Yelm Hwy) in honoring both the Virgin Mary at her Shrine, as well as Saint Michael the Archangel and the Work of the Holy Angels through liturgical worship, dynamic talks, music, activities, great fellowship and food

Learn more on their wesbite

Register Now for Children's and Youth Faith Formation

All Programs begin Sunday September 18!

Children's Ministry (Gr. K-5) & Sacramental Prep (All grades)

Our Religious Education program begins in Kindergarten with classes for every grade level. Sacramental Preparation for 1st Reconciliation and 1st Communion is normally offered starting in the1st grade with reception at the end of the 2nd grade year. Consult with registrar if your student is older. Classes for grades K-5 meet from 9AM-10:15 AM until May, on most Sundays.

Youth Ministry (Gr. 6-12)

Join us for fellowship & discipleship! We meet monthly for a mini-retreat and weekly for drop-in Bible Study & faith sharing. Additional outside outings and offerings happen throughout the year. All youth must be registered with Religious Education to join.

Confirmation (Gr. 6-12)

Sacramental Preparation for Confirmation in the Seattle Archdiocese now starts in the 6th grade with reception at the end of the 7th grade year. All older teens may also enroll with reception of Confirmation at the end of their second year of preparation.

Contact us 360-438-3031 or stop by the Parish Office

Registration available on our website: www.saintcolumbanyelm.org

Katie Hennigan, PA for Faith Formation katie@saintcolumbanyelm.org
Chad Lucero, PA for Youth Ministry chad@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Remember! Registering your child for Faith Formation precludes the entire family's participation in Holy Mass every Sunday here at St. Columban Parish. Children in Sacramental Preparation (1st Reconciliation/1st Communion & Confirmation II) must sign in for Mass.

CURIOUS ABOUT CATHOLICISM?

Are you or interested in becoming Catholic? Are you Catholic and would like to learn more about your faith?

Do you have questions about what Catholics believe and how Catholics practice their faith?

Are you, or someone you know, not Catholic but would like to learn more about the teachings of the Catholic faith?

Are you a Catholic adult seeking the Sacraments of Initiation (Eucharist and/or Confirmation) because you did not receive them when you were younger?

We invite you to look deeper into the Catholic faith.

Starting September 20th 6:30PM in Room 103 of the Religious Education Building, we will begin weekly inquiry sessions to share with you the truths of the Catholic faith and the fellowship of our Church family.

We invite you to learn what Catholics believe in an open and welcoming environment.

Inquiry sessions are opportunities for you to ask those perplexing and difficult questions you may have about the Catholic Church. Come join us for one or all of the sessions!

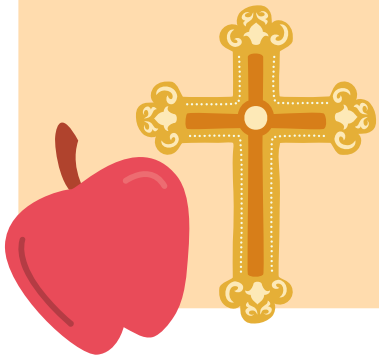
Please contact Katie in the Faith Formation Office more information
360-458-3031x2 katie@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Do you have a gift for teaching the faith?

We're looking for new catechists, classroom assistants, and youth ministry volunteers to help with Faith Formation classes on Sundays and Youth Ministry activities throughout the year

Tuition is waived for parents with a child enrolled in Faith Formation
Safe Environment training and background check required

Contact katie@saintcolumbanyelm.org or chad@saintcolumbanyelm.org (Youth Ministry)

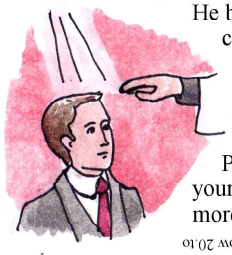


Fire in Our Hearts

In today's Gospel reading Jesus says that He has come to set the earth on fire. Of course He didn't mean that He wanted everything to burn up. He meant that He wanted the flame of the Holy Spirit to burn in the hearts of people all over the world.

What do you think happens when the Holy Spirit is in someone's soul? The Holy Spirit pulls us closer to Himself and God the Father and Jesus. When we are closer to God that means we love Him more, and the more we love God the more we will love other people too. We were made to love God and be happy with Him, so we want the Holy Spirit to live in us and bring us close to Him!

How does the Holy Spirit come into our souls? When we are baptized the Holy Spirit comes into us for the first time. He will stay with us unless we sin and close our hearts to Him. But when we go to Confession He comes back, and in Holy Communion and the other Sacraments He becomes even stronger in us. He comes in a special way in the Sacrament of Confirmation, when He gives us grace and strength to live as grown-up Christians and soldiers for God. Pray to the Holy Spirit to live in your heart and make you love God more every day!

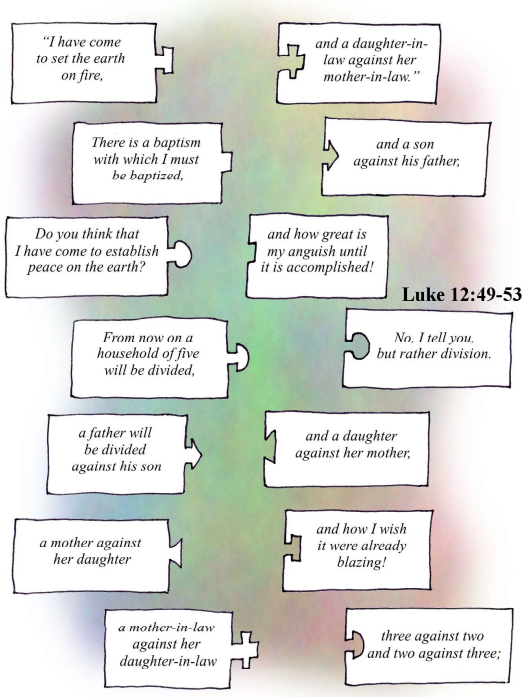


Answers to Assumption Cross-Word: Across: 4.be 5.He 6.Mary 7.sing 9.Assumption 13.out 15.raise 17.love 19.womb 20.total 21.go Down:1.Jesus 2.sin 3.saint 4.by 8.Son 10.soul 11.pure 12.imitate 14.tomb 16.evil 18.now 20.to

www.thekidsbulletin.com

The Kids' Bulletin

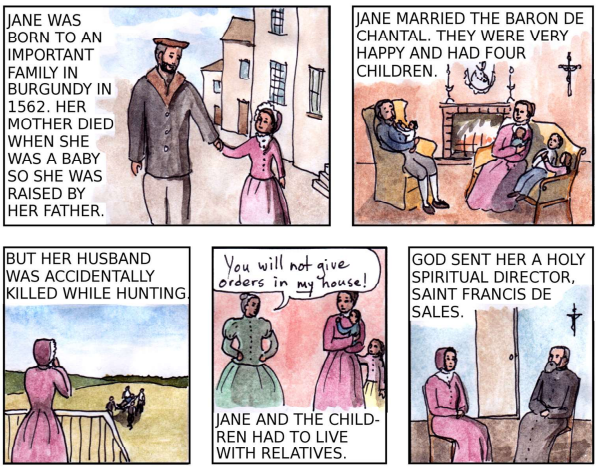
20th Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 14th, 2022



What did Jesus say in today's Gospel reading?
Match the parts to find out!

Saint Jane Frances de Chantal

August 18

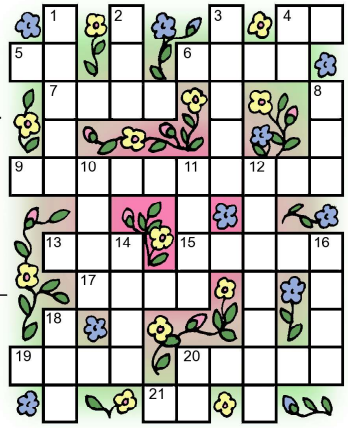


SAINT JANE WAS A CHEERFUL PERSON WHO MADE THE PEOPLE AROUND HER HAPPY, EVEN DURING HER HARD TIMES. JANE WAS ALWAYS HAPPY TO GIVE FOOD TO THE POOR. IF THEY CAME BACK SHE WOULD GIVE THEM MORE. AFTER ALL, SHE SAID, GOD KEEPS GIVING TO US EVERY TIME WE COME BACK!

thekidsbulletin@gmail.com

Assumption Cross-Word

This Monday, August 15th, we celebrate the Assumption of Our Lady into Heaven!



Across:
4. God chose a holy young woman to ____ His mother.
5. ____ wanted her to be perfect.
6. Her name was _____.
7. We _____ hymns about her.
9. Today we celebrate her _____ into Heaven.
13. God took her body _____ of the tomb
15. so He could _____ it up into Heaven.
17. She had lived a life of _____ for God.
19. "Blessed is the fruit of thy _____, Jesus."
20. Mary had given herself as a _____ sacrifice to God.
21. When we die, we hope to ____ to Heaven too.

Down:
1. She was the mother of _____.
2. Mary never committed any _____.
3. She is the greatest _____ in Heaven.
4. She proved her love of God ____ her obedience to His will.
8. Her _____ was God.
10. Mary's _____ went straight to Heaven
11. because she was so _____ and free from the stain of sin.
12. We should try to _____ her virtues.
14. God would not permit His mother's body to decay in the _____.
16. Mary's obedience to God overcame the _____ of Eve's sin.
18. _____ Mary is in Heaven with her Son.
20. We will try ____ love and obey God like Mary did.

FORMED®

PICK OF THE WEEK

August 14, 2022

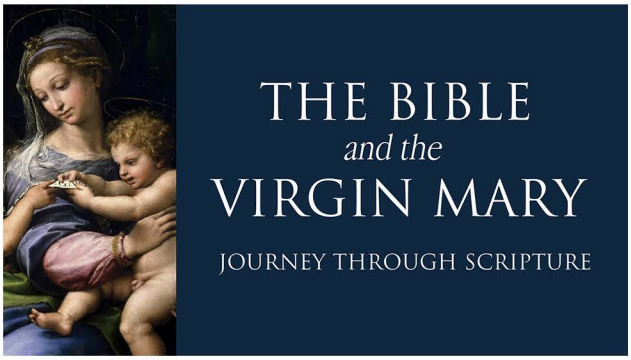
WATCH

THE WOMAN

In the Gospels we hear Jesus refer to his mother Mary as "Woman." This reference should draw our attention to both Genesis and Revelation. But who is this "Woman," and why is she so central to salvation history? This powerful film presents the Catholic teaching about Mary and her important role in the life of the Church today. On this Solemnity of the Assumption, let us ponder Mary's role in our own lives!

LEARN

THE BIBLE AND THE VIRGIN MARY: EPISODE 11: THE ASSUMPTION

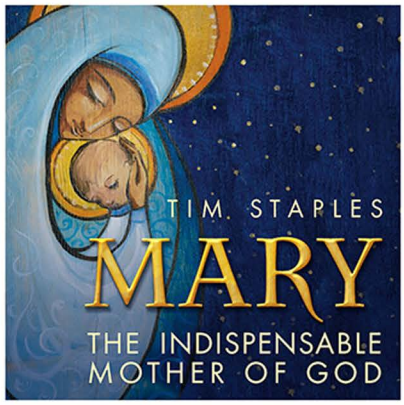


In this session of "The Bible and the Virgin," we explore both the teaching of Mary's Assumption and the identity of the mysterious woman in the book of Revelation. This epsiode also reveals how John's apocalyptic visions are the dramatic fulfillment of the promise God made back in the Garden of Eden!

LISTEN

MARY: THE INDISPENSABLE MOTHER OF GOD BY TIM STAPLES

In this Lighthouse Talk, Tim Staples explains the incredible impact that the Church's understanding of Mary has on our spiritual lives, and the profound way that Marian doctrines elevate the faith. With his memorable insights and humor, Tim shows how correct knowledge of our humble Mother reveals our own identity in Christ and empowers us to say "Yes" to God!



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To set up your free account visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.

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Sacrifice for Eternity
August 14, 2022
20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

ARCHDIOCESE OF SEATTLE

At Home with Faith

St. Maximilian Kolbe modeled a powerful courage that enabled him to dedicate his heart and mind to God. He shows us an example of how to surrender the temporary to choose joy that lasts forever.

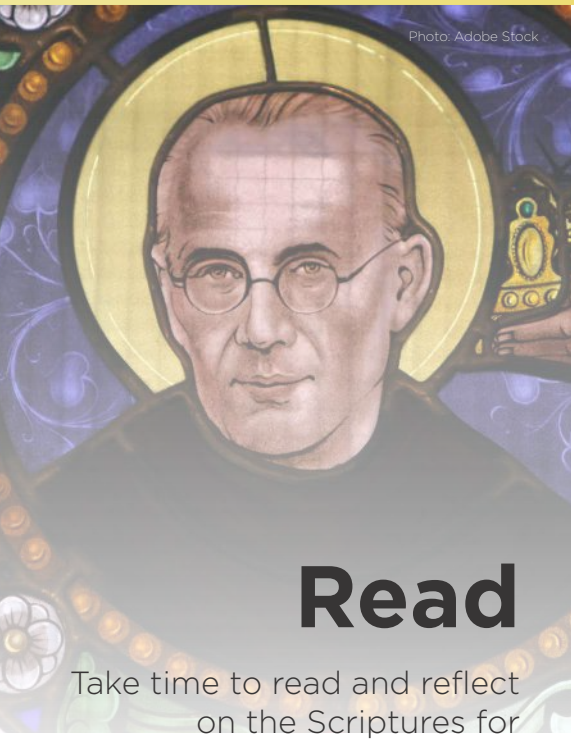


Photo: Adobe Stock

Read

Take time to read and reflect on the Scriptures for this day.

Don't have access to a Bible?
Visit www.usccb.org/bible/readings or download an app such as *Laudate* or *iBreviary* to access the Mass readings.

Today is the feast day of St. Maximilian Kolbe, a Catholic priest who, while imprisoned in the Auschwitz concentration camp during WWII, bravely offered his life to save the life of another prisoner. Throughout his life, this saint focused his heart and his mind on better understanding God and encountering the Holy Spirit through a devotion to Mary. Maximilian Kolbe knew how to choose the good, even when it was hard.

As Sunday's readings demonstrate, faith takes a willingness to sacrifice. Sometimes we sacrifice by disciplining our minds to see the true, good and beautiful. Sometimes we must give up something dear to us. Nevertheless, a temporary sacrifice made for the love of God leads to a joy that lasts forever.

Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10

Jeremiah suffers at the hands of the king's men.

Psalm 40

Though I am afflicted I trust in the Lord.

Hebrews 12:1-4

Let us endure before the cloud of witnesses.

Luke 12:49-53

Followers of Jesus must endure division.

Talk

Here are some reflection questions to help you have **Great Conversations** with the whole family.

Reflect and share a story of a great sacrifice:

- **Share the story of St. Maximillian Kolbe.** Take a moment with your family to share the video on www.athomewithfaith.org about St. Maximillian Kolbe or share the story in your own words. Let your family know about how the saint's confidence in God's love and care, even in hard times, gave him the courage to make such a sacrifice.
- **Tell your children about sacrifices in hard times.** We are blessed to live in a time so much more safe than that of WWII. Nevertheless, every person faces real challenges at some point and sometimes we have to make a sacrifice to honor our faith either by having the self-control to give up something we want or the courage to endure something very hard. If you know a story from the life of your family, share about how you or someone in your family had to make a real sacrifice to honor what God calls us to do.
- **Remind your child about St. Paul's cloud of witnesses.** In his letter to the Hebrews, St. Paul talks about the cloud of witnesses, all the saints and our loved ones in heaven who watch us from above and cheer us on to make the right decision. They know that life can be hard, but they are cheering for us and praying for us, knowing if we are prepared to choose our love for God, we will join them in a joy that lasts forever.

Check out these resources to learn more about Saint Maximilian Kolbe and the extraordinary life he lived:

St. Maximilian Kolbe (Real Life Catholic)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KsHiBTLo3aw

A 2½ minute video by Real Life Catholic tells the story of St. Maximilian Kolbe and his brave sacrifice.

Biography of St. Maximilian Kolbe
https://saintmaximiliankolbe.com/biography/

Biography of St. Maximilian Kolbe on a website dedicated to his life and spirituality.

Resources on FORMED.org

Life for a Life: a movie about Maximilian Kolbe
https://watch.formed.org/life-for-life-maximilian-kolbe

Lukas Storyteller (for younger children):
https://watch.formed.org/lukas-storyteller/season:1/videos/lukas-storyteller-st-maximilian-kolbe

Please check with your parish to see if you have access to these programs.

For more resources, visit us online at:

https://marriagefamilylife.seattlearchdiocese.org/athomewithfaith

SUNDAY, AUGUST 14, 2022

20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"There is a baptism with which I must be baptized, and how great is my anguish until it is accomplished! Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. From now on a household of five will be divided, three against two and two against three." - Lk 12:50-52

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

©LPi

WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 14, 2022

Sunday: Jer 38:4-6, 8-10/Ps 40:2, 3, 4, 18 [14b]/Heb 12:1-4/Lk 12:49-53

Monday: Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Ps 45:10, 11, 12, 16/1 Cor 15:20-27/Lk 1:39-56

Tuesday: Ez 28:1-10/Dt 32:26-27ab, 27cd-28, 30, 35cd-36ab/Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday: Ez 34:1-11/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Mt 20:1-16

Thursday: Ez 36:23-28/Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19/Mt 22:1-14

Friday: Ez 37:1-14/Ps 107:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 22:34-40

Saturday: Ez 43:1-7ab/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Mt 23:1-12

Next Sunday: Is 66:18-21/Ps 117:1, 2/Heb 12:5-7, 11-13/Lk 13:22-30

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 14, 2022

Sunday: 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time; St. Maximillian Kolbe, Priest and Martyr

Monday: The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Tuesday: St. Stephen of Hungary

Friday: St. John Eudes, Priest

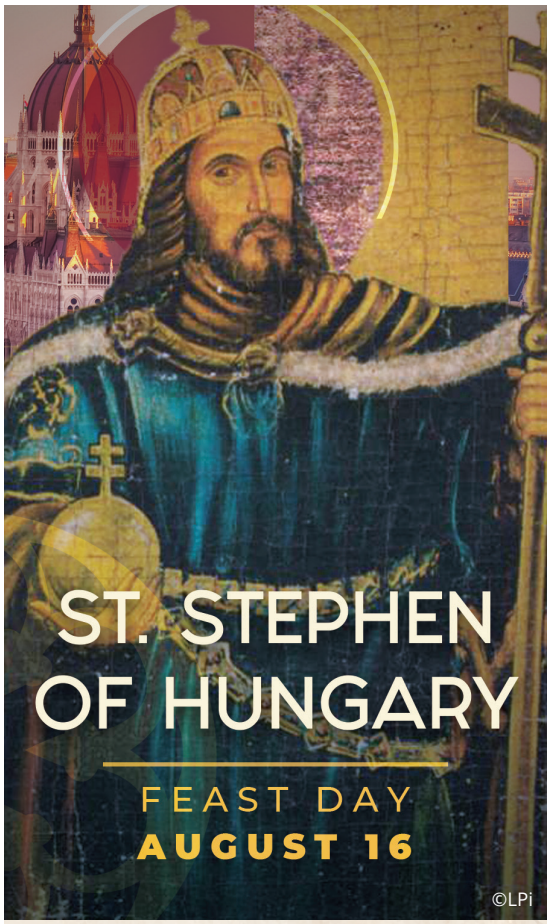
Saturday: St. Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church

Next Sunday: 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time; St. Pius X, Pope

LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the week

There is a "great cloud of witnesses" found in the official saints of the church and in ordinary people we meet every day. They are faith-filled inspirations who, by their example, help us to persevere in our faith. Living in a sea of conflict, change, challenge, and confusion, it is easy to grow tired and get weary. With so many things in competition for our attention, it is challenging to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus and the Kingdom of God. We have to keep running the race and continue proclaiming the Good News. This message is not always welcome. It can cause division, challenge accepted mindsets, ruffle peoples' feathers, and cause some folks to become defensive. God's ways are not always our ways. Even though often rejected by the world, the message of God in Jesus Christ must continue to be preached. We can rely on the examples of faith before us and around us and not lose heart. As Jesus endured the voices of opposition, so too can we.



SAINT OF THE WEEK

Born a pagan in the 10th century Saint Stephen was baptized as a boy when his father converted to Christianity. Saint Stephen married Gisela, daughter of Duke Henry II of Bavaria who would become Saint Henry II. He succeeded his father as leader and began to transform the nation into a Christian kingdom.

Pope Sylvester II proclaimed him the first king of Hungary in 1001, sending him a crown and gold processional cross. The crown, made in the Byzantine style, has become a symbol of Hungarian nationhood.

King Stephen's reign was a relatively peaceful and prosperous time. He outlawed paganism, mandated church building, and tithing for support of the parish, and commanded all to marry except clergy and religious. He founded a Benedictine monastery, and Hungary became an important place along the route to the Holy Land for many pilgrims.

Unfortunately, Stephen's son and heir died in a hunting accident, causing much conflict over the succession when the saint died. Eventually the kingdom was won back for Christendom and father and son were canonized in 1083 by Pope St. Gregory VII. Saint Stephen I is now patron saint of Hungary.

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WORSHIP & MEDITATION

FIRST READING

Then the king ordered Ebed-melech the Cushite
to take three men along with him,
and draw the prophet Jeremiah out of the cistern
before he should die. (Jer 38:10)

PSALM

Lord, come to my aid! (Ps 40)

SECOND READING

Let us rid ourselves of every burden and sin that clings to us
and persevere in running the race that lies before us
while keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus.
(Heb 12:1-2)

GOSPEL

"Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth?
No, I tell you, but rather division."
(Lk 12:51)

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GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

An inward transformation occurs in a person who decides to follow Jesus Christ. Things change. They see the world differently, understand their journey more deeply and profoundly, have their sights fixed on eternity and union with God and hold themselves to higher standards and virtues. It requires a conscious choice to be a Christian, and this choice must be renewed at least daily. While the basic premise of Jesus' message may appear heartwarming and straightforward: love of God, neighbor, and self, the implications of doing so are challenging. The true disciple is called to live radically, and often finds themselves at odds with the world or even with those in their own homes.

Holding ourselves to higher standards comes with a price. We have to leave other things behind. It is difficult to be people of faith, hope, and love in a world often fixated with its own fulfillment and self-absorption. Justice, temperance, prudence, and fortitude require sacrifice if they are to be lived with integrity. God's ways are not ours. This becomes crystal clear to those who have enough courage to stand against the tide. Putting love into action requires that we challenge accepted modes of doing business and fight complacency. This is what makes the saints stand out as witnesses. They are simply sinners, just like us, who persevere.

People do not want to be told that they're sailing their ships in the wrong direction. Clinging to their insistence and need to be correct, they can become defensive when challenged. This can happen even with those closest to us. As much as the Gospel calls us to unity, it also can easily create division. When we love seriously, we encounter more than feelings of warmth and acceptance. "What does love look like? It has the hands to help others. It has the feet to hasten to the poor and needy. It has eyes to see misery and want. It has the ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of men. That is what love looks like (St. Augustine)." Love also has the courage and honesty to tell people what they may not want to hear but need to, and model, without wavering, a life of humble, loving, and faithful service. Don't lose heart! There are many examples of faith before us and around us. If Jesus endured the voices of opposition, so too can we. There is no need to apologize for speaking the truth.

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LITURGICAL LIFE

RESPONDING to the Call

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments

A Steward's Growing Pains

Have you ever written a check or seen the charge on the credit card machine that had far too many zeros on it for your comfort?

The brakes finally give up on the car you were hoping to nurse through the season. The water heater dies on the coldest week of the year. A medical procedure wasn't totally covered by insurance. We've all been here in this place, being asked to part with a not-so-small sum of money for a not-so-fun reason.

It's a little easier to bear when you're forking over dollar signs for a fun vacation or even a worthy cause like your child's education. But when it's something you weren't expecting, something negative, that uneasiness in the pit of your stomach can quickly become despair.

The next time this happens to you, embrace it. Celebrate it. Wrap your arms around it and welcome it as a growing pain.

We are often asked, in life, to give more than we wish. Our loved ones demand greater patience than we think we have. Our prayer life is stalling, and we feel God isn't holding up His end of the communication bargain. The daily grind seems to be grinding us down. We feel that uneasiness in the pit of our stomach, just as we do when we part with money we thought belonged solely to us.

That place of uncertainty propels us in life, in stewardship, in relationship. All forward motion comes from that feeling. Put out your hands and let yourself be thrust into the pit — He will stoop to take you out from the mud. Spread your arms on your cross — joy is waiting for you.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

Our parish is grateful for your continued support. Thank you!

WHY DO WE DO THAT?

Catholic Life Explained:

Question:

My neighbor is just beginning to explore the Catholic faith but was raised agnostic. I grew up believing in God, praying, and attending Mass. How does one start from scratch as an adult to develop a relationship with God?

Answer:

Start on a personal level! How did you and your neighbor become friends? How did you begin to discuss such a personal topic as faith? Communication, spending time together, and getting to know each other are essential to forming the bonds of a relationship. Personal prayer is essential to our relationship with God. We can't be close to someone we don't know! Invite your friend to explore the stories of Jesus in the Bible. Introduce them to the lives of the saints, especially ones you think they might be interested in.

Your neighbor might also have questions about the Catholic faith that you don't know how to answer. If your friend hasn't yet enrolled in RCIA classes, invite them to Mass at your parish. Introduce your friend to the faith formation director to make a connection. Personal support can be helpful as well, especially if few of your neighbor's current friends are practicing their faith. Connect your neighbor to other people in your parish living their faith well. The good examples of other faithful people could help your neighbor to feel welcomed and supported. Our Church is vibrant and alive!

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Jesus said to his disciples: "I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing! ... Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division."

- Lk 12:49, 51

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LITURGICAL LIFE

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading

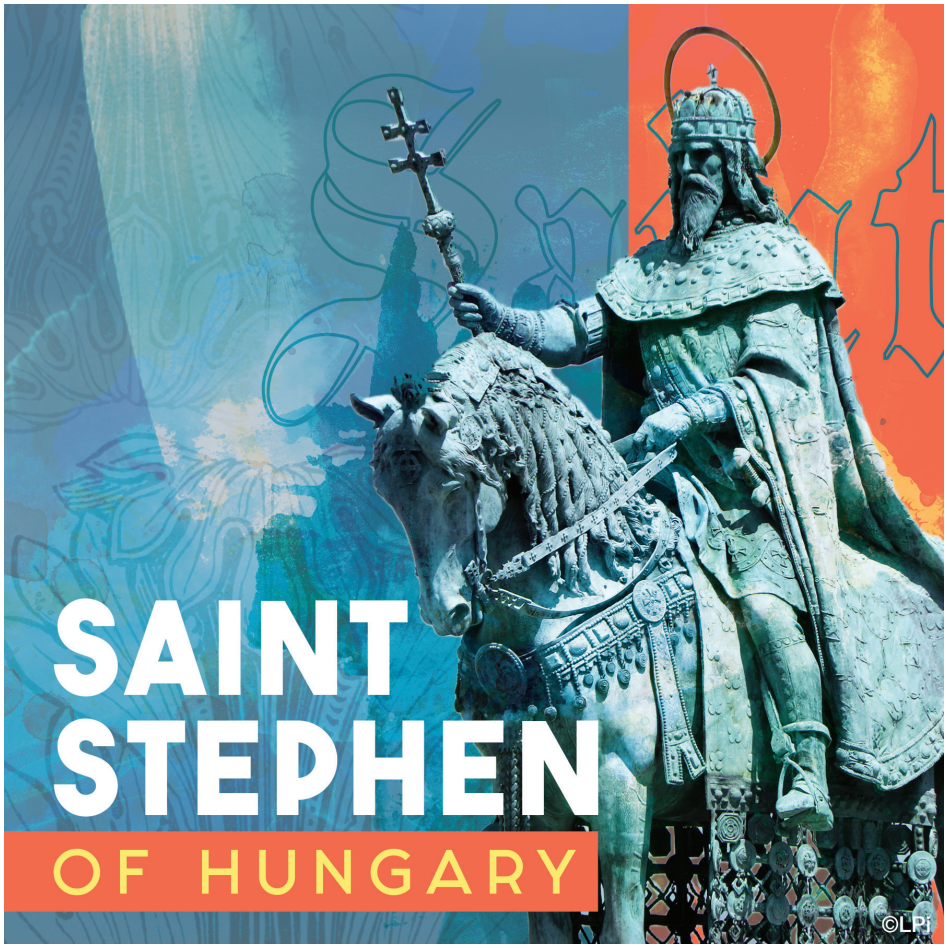
The court official, Ebed-melech, courageously advocated for the prophet Jeremiah, having him recused from the muddy cistern. When have you defended someone being ridiculed for their faith?

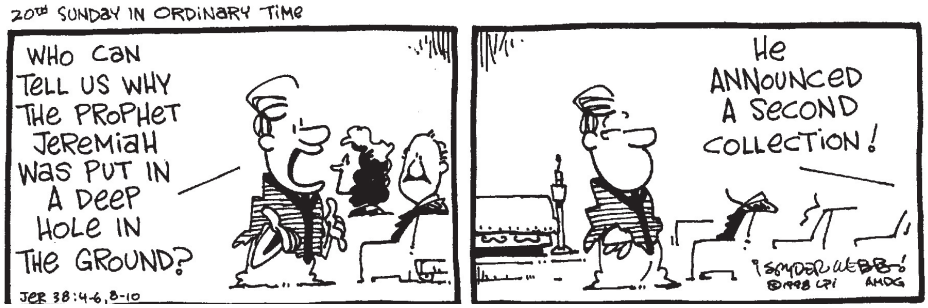
Second Reading

The author of Hebrews encourages his community to remain strong in their faith in Jesus. What or who helps you when you feel spiritually discouraged?

Gospel Reading

Jesus forewarned his disciples that his message would bring division, even within families. How does your family deal with this type of tension?





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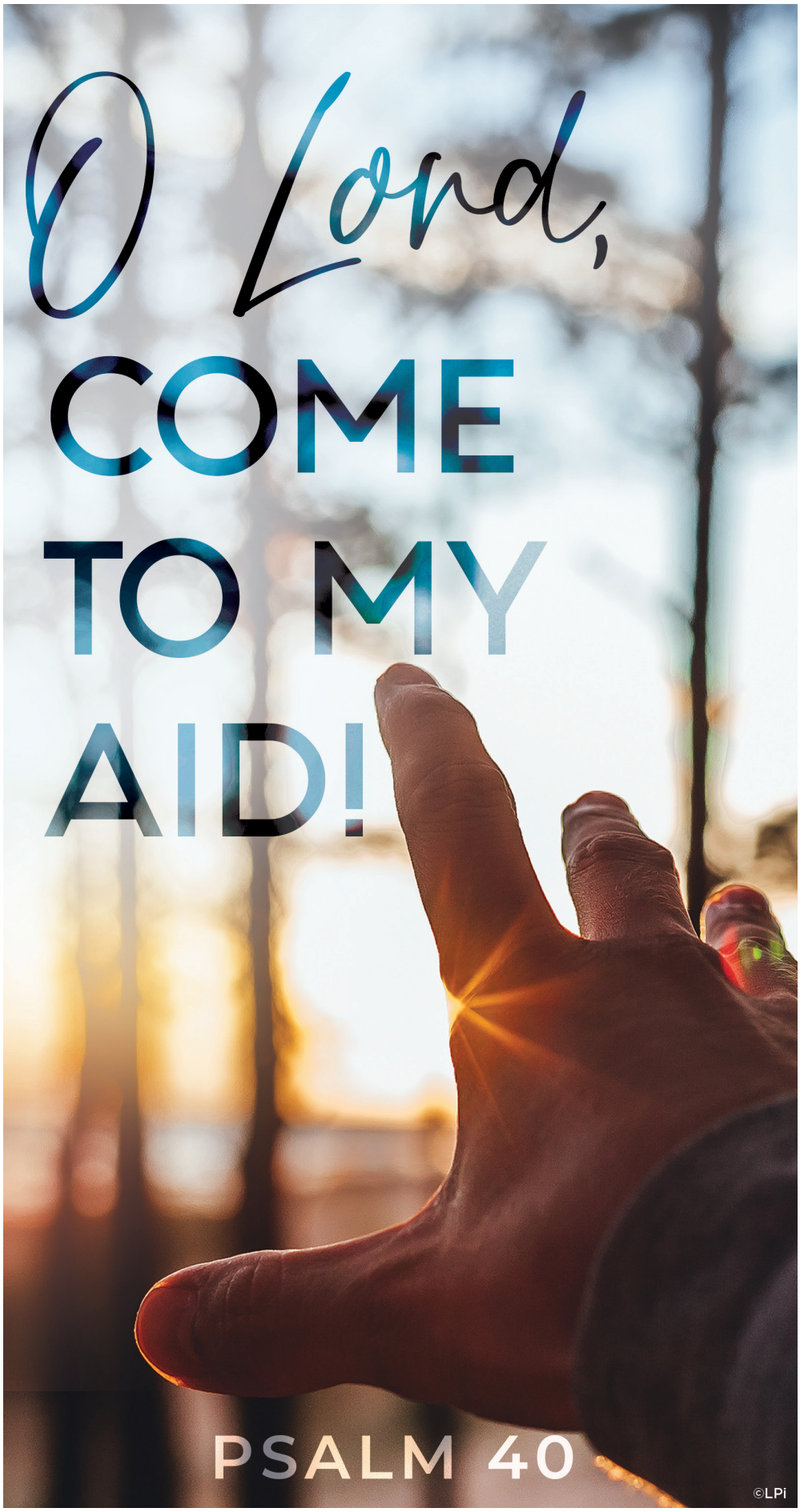

"There is a baptism with which I must be baptized, and how great is my anguish until it is accomplished! Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. From now on a household of five will be divided, three against two and two against three."

- Lk 12:50-52

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass
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READ THE GOSPEL AND COMPLETE A PUZZLE!

SHARING THE GOSPEL

When you talk about Jesus, you will probably get a strong reaction from people. Some people love Jesus with their whole heart, and their lives really show it. Other people don't want to follow Jesus, and talking about him may even make them angry. Families and friends can be torn apart by that anger. No matter what, stay close to Jesus, and he will stay close to you.

PRAYER

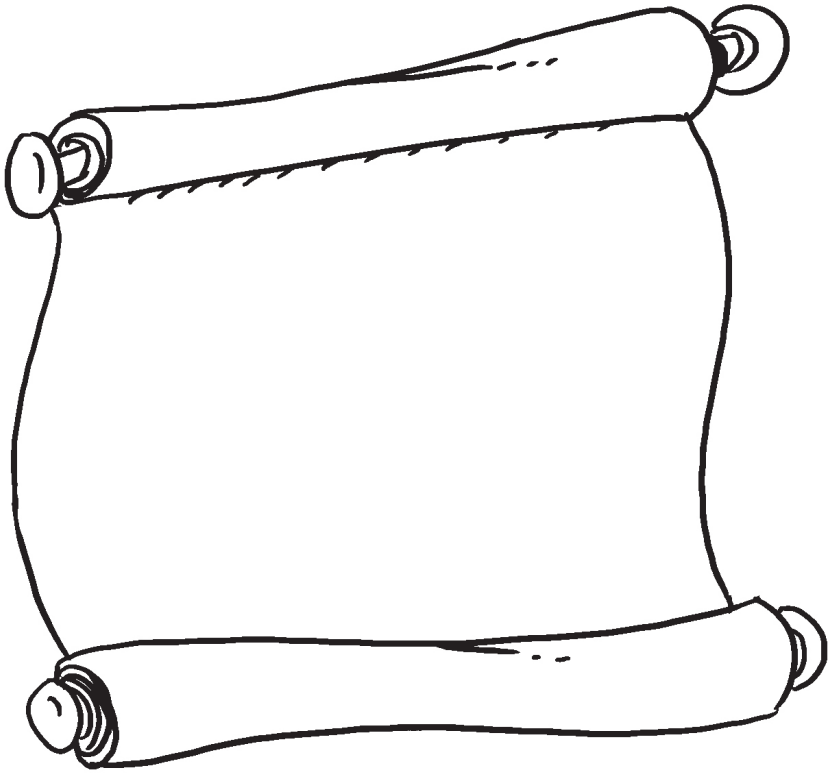
Dear Jesus, help me to stay close to you always.

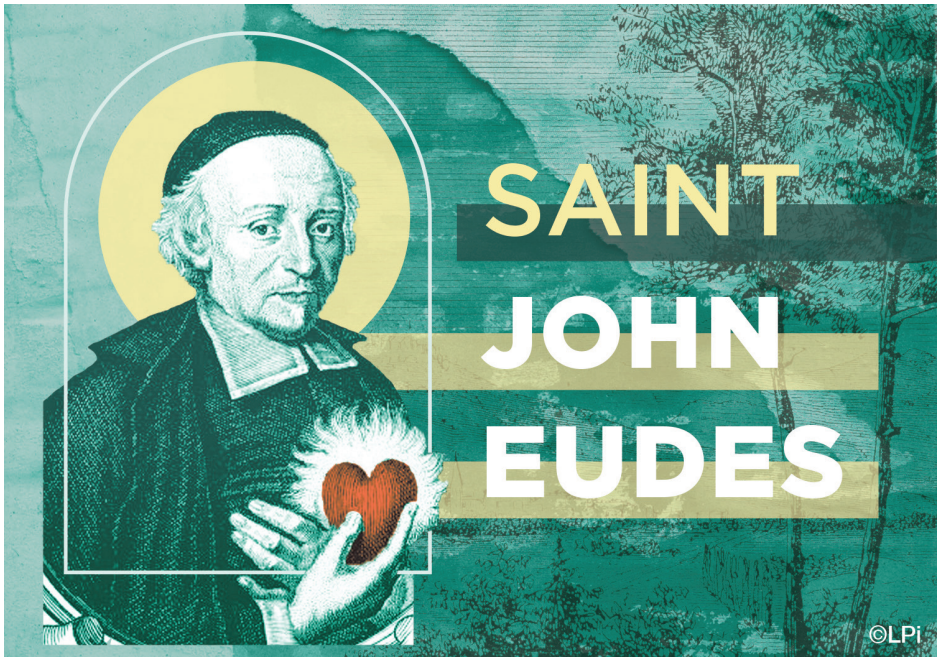
MISSION FOR THE WEEK

Be very loving when you tell others about Jesus.

KIDS CORNER

Write a little poem for Jesus





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