



God, Death, and Us

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

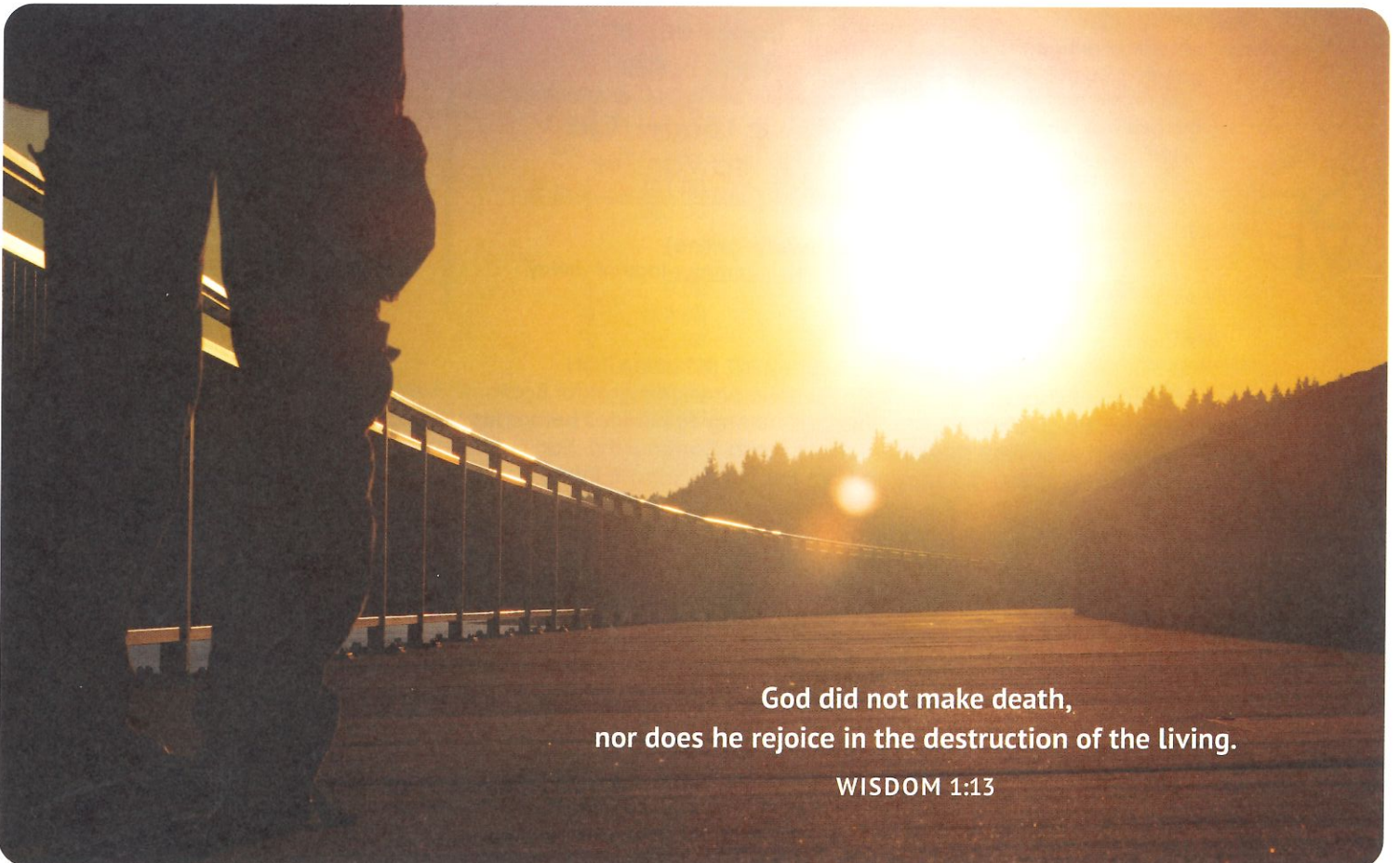
The hospital called, saying a young man had been in an accident and wanted to see a priest. As it turned out, I found him in a coma, and it was his parents who sparked the phone call. His girlfriend was there, and so the two of us talked about the accident and what happened, then about Michael and his interests and gentleness, and eventually his faith and goodness. She didn't understand, she told me, why God would do this to someone so good and how God certainly must have wanted this to happen.

I wanted to tell her I didn't believe God did this sort of thing, orchestrating traffic accidents. I hesitated, but then said so, only I tried to say it gently and kindly so it might be less like a lecture in Spirituality 101. I mumbled something about not believing in that sort of God, that I didn't believe God handed out death or suffering to folks. With her head hanging down, she just said, no—she thought God did.

Well, it seemed to me that that was not the time for any theological debate on questions about God, so I simply said no more about it. Then she and I prayed for Michael, or rather I prayed aloud, and she just sat there holding my hand and maybe praying silently or maybe not praying at all—I really wasn't sure. After I left I found myself wondering if she thought as much about my response as I thought about her answer. ●

Reflect

*Where do you find God
when bad things happen?*



God did not make death,
nor does he rejoice in the destruction of the living.

WISDOM 1:13

Catholic Communities

Parish Pastor

Rev. William Pifher

419-446-9288



Our Lady of Mercy

409 E. Main St.
Fayette, OH 43521

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday 8:30 a.m.
Thursday 9:00 a.m.

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Ron Eisel
Pat Eisel
Ray Hollstein
Mike Burkholder
Traci Maginn
Barbara Roby

Clothing items can be donated via our drop off site on the east side of the building. Our store is open on Thursdays from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Contact Rhonda Monahan at 517-306-7986 for information.



OLM PARISH OFFICE

P.O. Box 429
Fayette, OH 43521

Phone: 419-237-2441

Hours: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Tuesday and Thursday

PARISH STAFF

Secretary: Sherry Renner

OLOMFayette@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com

Bookkeeper

Tami Baker

OLOMBookkeeper@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com

Youth Leader/CRE

Anita Van Zile

OLOMCre@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com

Website (bulletin online)

stpeterarchbold.com/our-lady-of-mercy



St. Peter

614 N. Defiance St.
Archbold, OH 43502

MASS SCHEDULE

1st Saturday of month 8:30 a.m.
Saturday 4:30 p.m.
Sunday 10:30 a.m.
Tuesday 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday 9:00 a.m.
Friday 9:00 a.m.

Parish Secretary

Kim Garrow 419-446-2150
email-stpeter@rtexpress.net

Religious Ed

Deb Herring

Parish Council President

Stephen Bernath

SACRAMENT INFORMATION

- * **Baptism:** Please call Father Pifher at 419-446-9288 to make arrangements for Baptism. A month's notice would be helpful.
- * **Reconciliation:** Father will be available for confessions **starting 30 minutes before Mass each week.**
- * **New Parishioners:** A warm welcome as you enter our Parish Community! You are asked to register at the parish office or see the pastor as soon as possible. If you are moving from the parish, please inform the office so we may remove your name from our parish records.
- * **Anointing of the Sick:** Those who can participate: Anyone who is seriously sick or suffering a grave illness (not a cold, or flu) which is treated or medicated for by a doctor. Also for those of old age which often brings morale or depression factors (body, mind, or spirit). Please make arrangements with Father or call the parish office.
- * **Matrimony:** Please contact the Parish Office *six months* ahead of your planned wedding date, for Marriage Preparation and scheduling.

RCIA : The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a series of classes designed to bring new members into the Catholic church. Weekly sessions begin in September. People who have not been baptized, who have not been practicing or who have been raised in another faith are all welcome to register. Parishioners are encouraged to invite interested family members and friends. There is no obligation to join the church. This is simply an opportunity to learn more about the Catholic faith. Contact Fr. William Pifher at 419-446-9288.

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Please note that the bulletin deadline is **Tuesday, Noon.** Please either call or email at

OLOMFayette@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com or put in the collection basket any announcement for the following week's bulletin.

SUNDAY, JUNE 30, 2024

13th Sunday of Ordinary Time

ROSARY WILL BE PRAYED SUNDAY'S AT 8 A.M.

ALTAR ROSARY

There will be an Altar Rosary meeting today after Mass. We will be finalizing the Bull Thistle Breakfast (August 3, 2024, 8 a.m. – 10 a.m.) agenda. If anyone would like to help with the Bull Thistle Breakfast please join us for the meeting.

OFFICE HOURS

Office hours will be Tuesday, July 2, 2024 and Wednesday, July 3, 2024, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. The office will be closed on Thursday, July 4, 2024 in observance of the holiday.

SAVE THE DATE

On Sunday, July 14, 2024, after Mass to 12:00 p.m., Our Lady of Mercy will be hosting a display of Veronica's Veil relic for veneration.



SAVE THE DATE

Our Lady of Mercy, Altar Rosary Society, Bull Thistle Breakfast, August 3, 2024, 8 a.m. – 10 a.m. Please join us for breakfast or if you would like to lend a helping hand.

THE WISDOM OF THE SAINTS – Introduction by Matthew Kelly

“You will never be happy if your happiness depends on getting solely what you want. Change the focus, get a new center, will what God wills, and your joy no man shall take.” – *Blessed Fulton Sheen*

DIARY OF SAINT MARIA FAUSTINA KOWALSKA

Notebook 1

289 My happiest moment are when I am alone with my Lord. During these moments I experience the greatness of God and my own misery. Once, Jesus said to me, **Do not be surprised that you are sometimes unjustly accused. I Myself first drank this cup of underserved suffering for love of you.**

290 Once, when I was deeply moved by the thought of eternity and its mysteries, my soul became fearful; and when I pondered about these a little longer, I started to be troubled by various doubts. Then Jesus said to me, **My child, do not be afraid of the house of your Father. Leave these vain inquires to the wise of this world. I want to see you always as a little child. Ask your confessor about everything with simplicity, and I will answer you through his lips.**

ST. PETER NEWS

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Every Tuesday starting at 8 a.m. ending with Mass at 7 p.m.

Did you know that Deacon Larry Zachrich is also available for Baptisms and Weddings? Contact Larry at 419-966-7091.

FAYETTE/SURROUNDING AREA COMMUNITY EVENTS

---May 4 – Sept. 28 – Farmers Market, Opera House parking lot 9 am – 1 pm
---July 17 – Community Dinner – 5 – 6 p.m. Methodist Life Center
---Aug. 3 – Fayette Bull Thistle Festival
---**St Richard Craft show in Swanton.** Would you like to share your special talent with a local parish community? If so, this is just the event for you! St. Richard is going to also have a **TEEN ZONE** at our next craft show, Saturday, **September 28**. If you enjoy baking, sewing, pottery, jewelry making or any other crafty work please call/text Amanda for details. 419-438-2346

If you know of any Fayette Community events, please either call or visit the office or email to OLOMFayette@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com

Prayer chain-ANYONE wishing to submit prayer requests can email Anita Van Zile at vanzilejn@hotmail.com or call Pat Eisel at 419-737-2163.

Privacy Issues for Parish Office:
IMMEDIATE FAMILY – must contact the parish office for all prayer requests to be posted in the parish bulletin. Please submit with the exact verbiage requested. Contact Sherry Renner at the parish office at 419-237-2441, no later than Thursday at noon. By law, the parish office does not divulge private information we receive from hospitals.

July

2024

Our Lady of Mercy

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4 Happy Birthday USA	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Veronica's Veil Relic After Mass - Noon	15	16	17	18 Finance 5:45 pm	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Saints of the Day

(www.morningoffering.com)

Week of June 30 – July 6

Sunday, June 30 – Blessed Gennaro Sarnelli - Bl. Gennaro Sarnelli (1702 – 1744) was born to a noble family in Naples, Italy. He was very well educated, and completed his doctorate in civil and canon law at the age of 20. He gave much of his time to caring for the incurably sick, through which he discerned a call to the priesthood. He was ordained in 1732. He became good friends with St. Alphonsus Liguori, founder of the Redemptorists. Shortly afterward, Blessed Gennaro became a Redemptorist priest. Gennaro's special work was preaching to those who were the most spiritually deprived, while also caring for the temporal needs of impoverished children. He was a great defender of the dignity of women, and worked intensely to free women and girls from forced prostitution. Blessed Gennaro was also a talented writer, penning over 30 books ranging in subjects such as theology, law, prayer, spiritual direction, and contemporary moral issues. He worked so hard that his health suffered, and he died when he was only 42 years old. He was beatified by Pope St. John Paul II in 1996. His feast day is June 30.

Monday, July 1 – St. Junipero Serra - St. Junipero Serra (1713 – 1784) was born to a farming family on the Spanish island of Majorca. He was baptized the same day he was born, and was later sent to be educated by the Franciscans. In 1730 he joined the Franciscans and was ordained to the priesthood. St. Junipero was considered brilliant by his peers; he was well-trained in philosophy and theology, and taught at the university. In 1750 he traveled to the New World and began ministering to the people of Mexico City. In 1768 he moved north and began working in the Californian missions. As a result of his tireless missionary efforts, he is largely responsible for the spread of Catholicism along the western coast of the United States—as testified by the many Californian cities with Spanish Christian names. He founded the first nine of twenty-one Catholic missions that spread along the California coast. He converted thousands of Native Americans to the Christian faith and taught them new methods of agriculture, animal husbandry, and craftsmanship. He died from tuberculosis at the age of 71. The Native Americans he ministered wept at his death out of their love for him. Junipero Serra was beatified by Pope St. John Paul II in 1988 and canonized by Pope Francis during his trip to the United States in 2015, the first canonization Mass to ever take place on American soil. His feast day is July 1st.

Tuesday, July 2– St. Bernardino Realino - St. Bernardino Realino (1530–1616) was born in Italy to a noble family. He grew into an accomplished "Renaissance Man" of his day; he studied law and medicine, had a successful career as an attorney and judge, and served as the mayor of three cities. At the age of 34 he completed an eight-day retreat with Jesuit priests, and during this time he discerned a call to the religious life. He entered the Jesuit order and was ordained a priest in 1567. As a priest he preached, taught, and visited the sick and poor in the areas of Naples and Lecce. He was much loved and venerated by the people he ministered to, especially because of the miracles he performed. It was commonly believed among the people that he was a living saint. Even public scandal and civil strife were calmed due to his holy influence. While he was on his death bed, the city leaders of Lecce came to request of him that he become the official patron saint of their city once he entered heaven. After St. Bernardino's death, vials of his blood were kept for veneration, which were observed to liquefy and exhibit unusual phenomena for more than a century. St. Bernardino Realino's feast day is July 2nd.

Wednesday, July 3 – St. Thomas the Apostle - St. Thomas the Apostle (1st c.) was one of the twelve disciples who accompanied Jesus during His earthly ministry. He is remembered for his disbelief in the news of Christ's Resurrection until he physically saw and touched Jesus' wounds—thus earning him the name "Doubting Thomas." After Pentecost he traveled and preached throughout Persia and southeast Asia. Early traditions ascribe his main work and martyrdom to India, so that he is also called the "Apostle of India." He converted many to Christ, worked miracles, and established the Church in the East. One tradition holds that on his way to India he met and baptized the Three Wise Men of the Nativity who first venerated Jesus at Bethlehem. St. Thomas is also remembered for being a skilled carpenter, and according to Indian tradition he built the first churches in India with his own hands. St. Thomas the Apostle is the patron of India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Singapore, architects, builders, masons, surveyors, theologians, against blindness, and of people in doubt. His feast day is July 3rd.

Thursday, July 4 – Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati – Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati (1901-1925) was born in Turin, Italy, to a wealthy and prominent family. He was a vibrant, joyful, and athletic youth with an adventurous spirit and a strong zest for life. He loved mountain climbing, the theater, opera, and literature. He also had a deep spiritual life and a strong devotion to the Holy Eucharist and the Virgin Mary, even while his piety provoked criticism from his parents. He challenged his friends to a life of virtue, leading them in spiritual exercises such as daily Mass and the rosary. He joined the St. Vincent de Paul Society in 1918 and became a Lay Dominican in 1922. He was also politically active in resisting fascism and communism; he took part in public demonstrations and joined religious-political organizations such as the Catholic Students Federation and Catholic Action. He also spent much time caring for the sick and poor to a heroic degree, yet his parents punished him when they caught him giving away his money and possessions. While ministering to the sick he contracted polio and died just six days later at the age of 24. His family, thinking he suffered from a mild sickness, did not realize the seriousness of his condition until it was too late. At his funeral his parents were shocked to find thousands of the city's poor, whom their son had helped in some way, arrive to pay their respects. Pope St. John Paul II called Pier Giorgio Frassati a "man of the beatitudes" at his beatification in 1990. His feast day is July 4th.

Friday, July 5– St. Zoe of Rome - St. Zoe of Rome (d. 286 A.D.) was a noblewoman married to a Roman court official during the reign of the infamous Emperor Diocletian. For six years she suffered from a condition that left her unable to speak; when she met St. Sebastian she fell at his feet so that he would heal her. St. Sebastian made the Sign of the Cross over her, and from that moment her speech miraculously returned. As she was being healed she had a vision of an angel standing next to St. Sebastian holding a book in which was written everything that St. Sebastian preached. Her first words were ones of thanks and praise to God, and many witnesses of the miracle were brought to faith in Christ. Zoe and her husband then received baptism, along with many others who had come to believe in Christ through St. Sebastian's miracles. Of this new group of Christians, St. Zoe was the first to be martyred for her faith. She was greatly devoted to St. Peter the Apostle, and was arrested while praying at his tomb. She was martyred by being hung from a tree by her hair, with a fire lit under her feet. After her death her body was thrown into the Tiber River. She then appeared in a vision to St. Sebastian, who was in prison awaiting his execution, to tell him of her martyrdom and subsequent glory. St. Zoe of Rome's feast day is July 5th.

Saturday, July 6 – St. Maria Goretti - St. Maria Goretti (1890–1902) was born in Italy to a humble farming family. Her father died from malaria when she was 9, leaving the family destitute. Her mother and older siblings worked in the fields while Maria managed the household chores and cared for her younger siblings. One summer day while the family was in the fields, Maria was attacked by their neighbor, a 19-year-old boy named Alessandro, who attempted to rape her. Maria wasn't yet 12 years old. She fought back, yelling to him that it was a sin and that he would go to hell for his actions. In a rage over her refusal, Alessandro stabbed Maria fourteen times. Doctors operated to save her life, without anesthesia, and Maria lingered for two days after the attack. She verbally forgave Alessandro for his crime, offered her suffering to God, and died while holding a crucifix. Alessandro went to prison for murder, full of hardness of heart. One day in prison Maria appeared to him in a dream. She placed 14 white lilies, one at a time, into his hands; one for each of the times he stabbed her. This stunning experience of forgiveness brought him to repentance, and Alessandro was converted. Upon leaving prison he sought reconciliation with Maria's mother and with the Church. Alessandro called Maria "his little saint" and prayed to her daily. He also attended her canonization Mass in 1950. Alessandro joined the Franciscans as a lay brother until his death in 1970. St. Maria Goretti is the patron saint of children, youth, young girls, the poor, martyrs, purity, poverty, chastity, rape victims, and forgiveness. Her feast day is July 6th.



Our Lady of Mercy Parish

JUNE 23, 2024



PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church is united by our commitment to minister to the physical and spiritual needs of our rural families and steward the resources entrusted to us. We value the diversity within our Catholic community and invite all to walk with us on our journey of faith.

THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Church	Intention
Sun. June 30	8:00a.m.	OLM	For the People
	10:30a.m.	SP	For the People
Tues. July 2	7:00 p.m.	SP	For the People
Wed. July 3	9:00 a.m.	SP	For the People
Thurs. July 4	9:00a.m.	OLM	For the People
Fri. July 5	9:00a.m.	SP	For the People
Sat. July 6	4:30p.m.	SP	Tom Stierwald
Sun. July 7	8:30a.m.	OLM	Marcel Bonin Ron & Melody Lichtenwald family
	10:30a.m.	SP	For the People

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

---June 30 – Altar Rosary Society meeting after Mass
 ---July 14 – Veronica's Veil for Veneration – after Mass – Noon
 ---Aug. 3 – Bull Thistle Breakfast 8 a.m. – 10 a.m.

SACRIFICIAL OFFERING REPORT

Reported for June 23, 2024

SUNDAY OFFERTORY (14 envelopes)	\$ 2,631.00
LOOSE OFFERINGS	\$ 68.00
BUDGET	\$ 1,747.00
Over / (Under)	\$ 962.00
OTHER COLLECTION	
Votives	\$ 9.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 100.00
Maintenance	\$ 100.00
Youth Group Donation	\$ 180.00
Mass Stipends	\$ 120.00
TOTAL COLLECTIONS (Sunday & Other)	\$ 3,208.00

NEXT WEEK'S MINISTERS

	July 7, 2024
Greeters/Gifts	Ron & Pat Eisel
Reader	Ron Baker
Servers	
Ushers	Ron & Pat Eisel
Ministers of the Eucharist	Until further notice
Money Counters	Ron Baker Barb Bruggeman Michelle Miron

Word(s) of the week (from The America College Dictionary)

RESCUE – to free or deliver from confinement, violence, danger or evil

Hear, O Lord, and have pity on me;
 O Lord, be my helper.
 You changed my mourning into dancing;
 O Lord, my God, forever will I give you thanks. **Psalm 30:11-13**

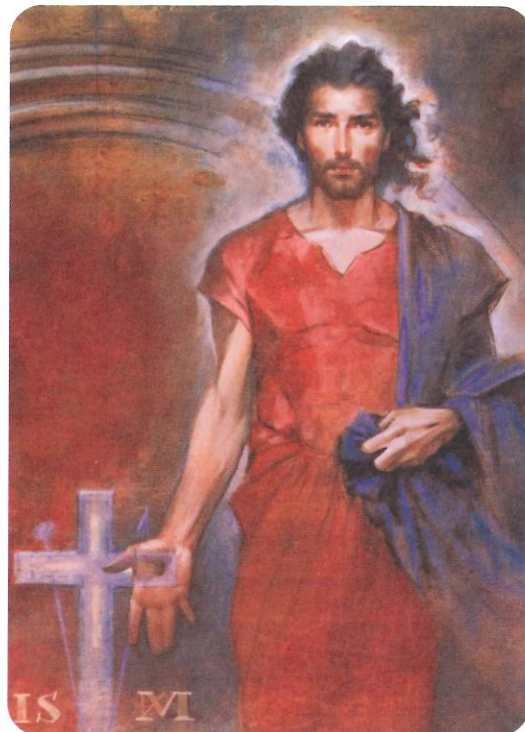
Dear Padre,

Does God have a plan for each of us?

We collaborate with God through continual prayer and discernment in planning out our best path of life. This path allows us to fulfill God's ultimate plan—namely, to find meaning in the life he gave us, enjoy his friendship while on earth, and spend eternal life with him in heaven.

God doesn't force us to live out our existence in some programmed, robotic way according to a predestined plan or inevitable fate over which we have no control. Rather, we're free and responsible for our own actions.

Moreover, God's plan for each of us is to experience his profound love and love him in return. "God is love, and whoever remains in love remains in God and God in him" (1 John 4:16). As the supreme sign of God's love, his plan of salvation from the beginning of time was to send us his only begotten Son. "Jesus' violent death was not the result of chance in an unfortunate coincidence of circumstances, but is part of the mystery of God's plan, as St. Peter explains...in his first sermon on Pentecost: 'This Jesus [was] delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God'" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 599). "By giving up his own Son for our sins, God manifests that his plan for us is one of benevolent love, prior to any merit on our part" (CCC 604). ●



Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR / DearPadre.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
July 1	July 2	July 3	July 4	July 5	July 6	July 7
Weekday	Weekday	St. Thomas, Apostle	Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Am 2:6–10, 13–16	Am 3:1–8; 4:11–12	Eph 2:19–22	Am 7:10–17 Mt 9:1–8	Am 8:4–6, 9–12 Mt 9:9–13	Am 9:11–15 Mt 9:14–17	Ez 2:2–5 2 Cor 12:7–10 Mk 6:1–6a
Mt 8:18–22	Mt 8:23–27	Jn 20:24–29				

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Let Jesus look at and heal your heart.... And if you have already felt his tender gaze upon you, imitate him, and do as he does. Look around: you will see that many people who live beside you feel wounded and alone; they need to feel loved: take the step.... Love alone heals life.

ANGELUS, ROME, JUNE 27, 2021