



Life at the Edge

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

We find ourselves living at the edge sometimes, when life could go either way, up or down. We may experience this as we begin marriage or first become parents. At other times, it may be frightening or sad, but also exciting, such as when graduation nears, or when we are faced with an “empty nest.” Then, we stand at the edge of a new beginning, eager for the onset of what we’ve dreamt of for so long, but also uncertain whether we will be able to navigate it. We also find ourselves living at the edge when someone we love dies.

The other day, someone came by, wanting to talk. She spoke of the chaos of her life, its pain, and of not knowing how to cope. As she was about to leave, she commented how, in spite of it all, it seemed

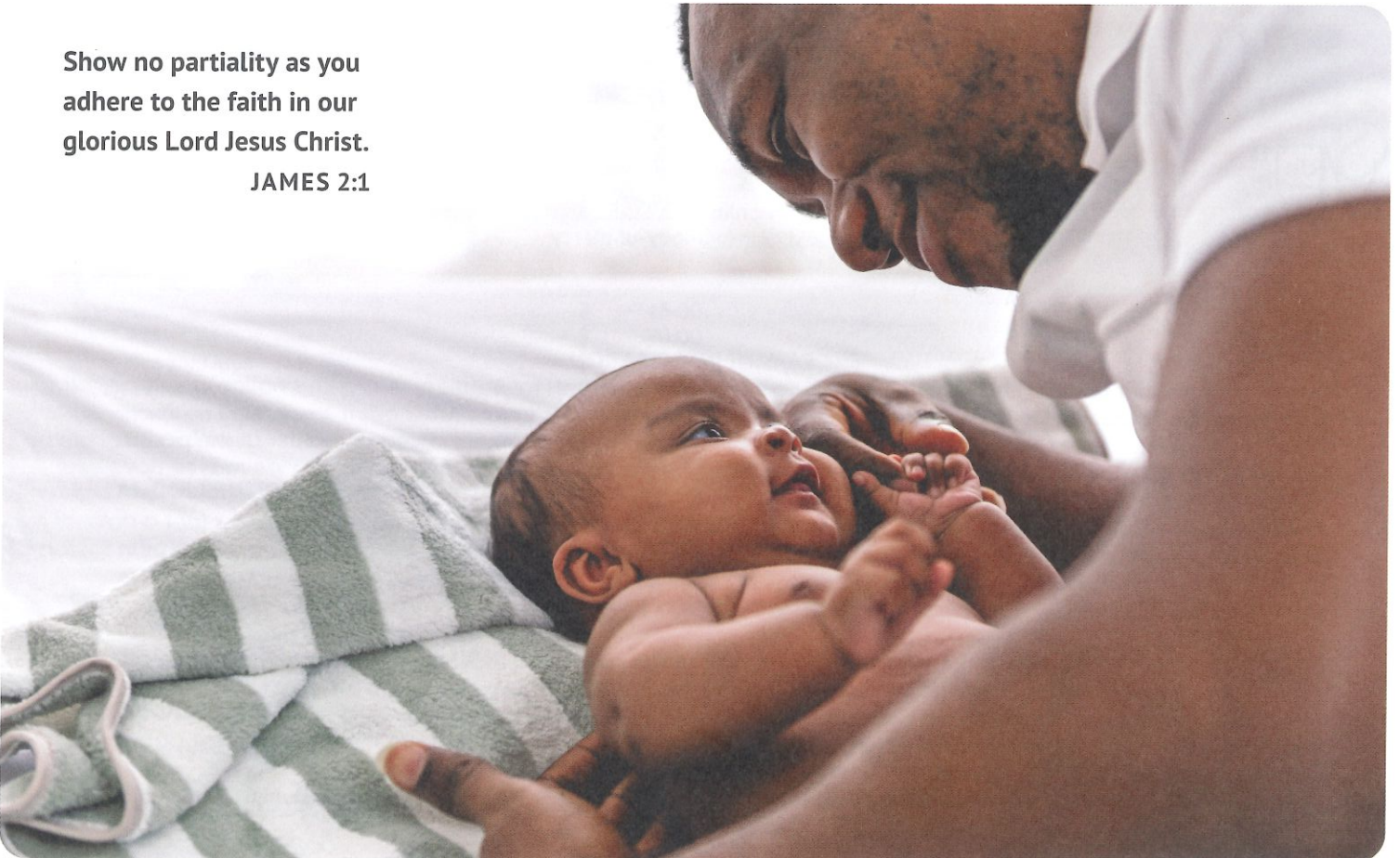
strange that God was also very much present. Strange indeed, yet chaotic times are when God’s presence is often perceived in our lives, perhaps out of our need, perhaps because we are not distracted by life’s glitter, or perhaps because, at last, we have nowhere else to turn. It was St. James who asked then and asks us now, “Did not God choose those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith?” (James 2:5). There are indeed many different ways of being poor, of being in need. For people of faith, it is often at the edge when we sense most clearly that God is with us. ●

Reflect

Do you feel God’s presence differently in hard times than you do in easy times?

Show no partiality as you adhere to the faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ.

JAMES 2:1



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

FINANCE COUNCIL

Barb Bruggeman
Terry Kovar
Joanna Marry

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

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2024

23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time

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

THE BATHROOM RENOVATIONS ARE ALMOST COMPLETE!

The bathrooms are AVAILABLE!!!

OFFICE HOURS

The office will be closed on Thursday, Sept. 12, 2024 and will be open on Monday & Tuesday, Sept. 9 & 10, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

THANK YOU

Thank you to all who helped with the Fulton Co. Catholic Fair booth.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

There will be a Parent and Catechist learning opportunity on September 11, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. The representative from Pflaum will be here to explain the New Faith Formation program for Our Lady of Mercy and St. Peter's.

On Sept. 18, 2024, 6:30 p.m. at St. Peter, Our Lady of Mercy students and parents are invited to a Mass for the start of Religious Education.

Sept. 19, 2024, 7:00 p.m. – Holy Hour, Adoration, Rosary, & Divine Mercy Chaplet

OUR LADY OF MERCY FEAST & FESTIVAL

Our Lady of Mercy will begin our Feast Mercy Novena on Saturday, September 14, 2024. There will be a Holy Hour on Sept. 19, 2024 at 7 p.m. with Adoration, Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet. The church will be open every afternoon from 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. for your spiritual needs.

OUR LADY OF MERCY FESTIVAL DESSERT CONTEST

To begin the Festival off we will be holding a dessert contest. Please bring a favorite dessert that your family and friends think is the BEST ever. Judging will be done by everyone at the festival. Any questions please see or call Sherry Renner 419-388-5695.

THE WISDOM OF THE SAINTS – Introduction by Matthew Kelly

“Do not look back to the past, nor forward to the future. Claim only the present, for it holds God's will.” - St. Rose Philippine Duchesne

DIARY OF SAINT MARIA FAUSTINA KOWALSKA

Notebook 1

562 When I see the Infant Jesus during Holy Mass, it is not always the same: sometimes He is very joyous, and sometimes He is not even looking at the chapel. At present, He is often very joyful when our confessor [Father Sopocko] offers Holy Mass. I was greatly surprised that the Infant Jesus loves him so much. Sometimes I see Him dressed in a colorful pinafore.

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

---Sept. 18 – Community Dinner – Fayette Methodist Life Center 5 – 6 p.m.

---Sept. 28 – 38th Annual Steps for Life Walkathon & 5k Run please visit cpcnwo.org for more information & registration

---Sept. 28 - The Bryan Knights of Columbus Council 1915 will be holding a golf outing on September 28 at Patriot Hills golf course. This is a two person scramble and you can build your own team. Tee time is at 9 AM and it is open to the public. Contact Jeff at 567-239-1106 or Jose at 419-551-7519. There are many prizes for all!

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.

Our Lady of Mercy Profit & Loss

For The Year Ended:	June 30 2024	June 30 2023	
Income	Amount	Amount	Notes:
Christmas & Easter collection	2,290	2,308	
Misc Collection	881	597	Postage & Mission Collection, Votive candles
Maintenance Collection	11,394	11,669	Maintenance
Stipends- Masses said	940	760	
Religious Education	175	140	
Silent Festival	12,091	10,557	
Youth Group & Mission Trip	4,431	4,126	Donations, Fundraisers & Mission Trip
Interest Income	3,904	1,581	
Misc Income	551	1,056	Christmas & Easter Flowers, rental, misc
Sunday Collections	64,274	63,796	
Holy Day Collections	632	949	
Special Gifts - unrestricted	600	4,025	
Total Income	<u>102,163</u>	<u>101,564</u>	
Expenses			
Salary Expense	41,312	42,366	Wages, payroll taxes & health insurance
Office Expense	6,197	7,061	
Rectory & Household Expense	2,892	4,545	Costs shared 1/3rd OLOM & 2/3rds St. Peter
Altar, Sanctuary & Liturgy Expense	2,814	4,103	
Religious Education Expense	703	1,004	
Parish Activities & Charities Expense	1,559	1,210	
Youth Ministry Expense	2,919	5,302	Activities & Catholic Heart Work Camp
Building Expense - Utilities	7,766	9,826	Gas, Electric, Refuse, Water & Sewer
Building Expense - Maint. & Repairs, Taxes	3,100	2,918	
Building Expense - Insurance	4,356	3,960	
Diocese Assessments	9,685	10,020	Assessment, Priest Retirement, Scholarship
Total Expenses	<u>83,303</u>	<u>92,315</u>	
Net Ordinary Income (Loss)	18,860	9,249	
Capital Fund Income - Living Christ Campaign	16,300	1,225	
Capital Expense	-480	-5,556	2023 - Share of Rectory upgrades
Net Income (Loss)	<u>34,680</u>	<u>4,918</u>	
Account Balances as of June 30,	2024	2023	
Parish Checking Account	\$ 22,580	\$ 21,626	
Maintenance Account	13,665	0	
Youth Group Account	855	0	
Savings	117,704	97,849	
Petty Cash	14	38	
Total Cash and Savings	<u>\$ 154,818</u>	<u>119,513</u>	
Designated Collections Payable	781	154	
Net Assets Held	<u>\$ 154,038</u>	<u>\$ 119,359</u>	

FISCAL YEARS

July 1, 2022 thru June 30, 2023

July 1, 2023 thru June 30, 2024

Saints of the Day

(www.morningoffering.com)

Week of Sept. 8-Sept. 14

Sunday, Sept. 8– St. Adrian of Nicomedia - St. Adrian of Nicomedia (d. 306 A.D.) lived under the Christian persecutions of the Roman Emperor Galerius Maximian. Thirty-three Christians were seized in Nicomedia, brought before a judge, and ordered to be savagely beaten. With each new torture the men received, they bravely proclaimed their faith in Christ. They argued with the judge that by his tortures he was only increasing their heavenly glory, while guaranteeing his own damnation to hell. Adrian, a man of 28 years, was head of the praetorium and witnessed the steadfast faith of these men. He was moved to the point of conversion, and exclaimed that he, too, would reject paganism to suffer and die for the name of Christ along with the other Christians. One of Adrian's servants ran to tell his wife, Natalie, what her husband had done. Natalie, who was secretly a Christian, ran to the prison in joy at the news of her husband's newfound faith, and encouraged him to stay strong and steadfast in it. After Adrian refused to recant his profession of faith in Christ, he was thrown into prison with the other men and cruelly tortured. His arms and legs were severed on an anvil before finally dying as a martyr. Saint Adrian is the patron saint of soldiers, arms dealers, and butchers. His feast day is September 8th.

Monday, Sept. 9– St. Kieran the Younger - St. Kieran the Younger (512-546 A.D.), also known as St. Ciaran, was born in Connacht, Ireland, the son of a carpenter. He demonstrated a great aptitude in his studies, being educated by a holy deacon who had him baptized. Kieran tended cattle in the fields before continuing his education at Saint Finnian's monastery school at Clonard, where he became a monk. He soon earned the reputation for being the most learned monk at Clonard, and was held in high esteem by his instructors and peers. Kieran's years of residence there were marked by many miracles. He also mentored, befriended, and tutored many of the founders of the Catholic Church in Ireland. Saint Kieran eventually left Clonard and went on to found the famous Clonmacnoise Abbey in West Meath Ireland, which attracted thousands of students from all over Europe. St. Kieran was one of the Twelve Apostles of Ireland – the first twelve bishops in Ireland consecrated by St. Patrick. He is also honored as the first Irish-born saint. St. Kieran's feast day is September 9th.

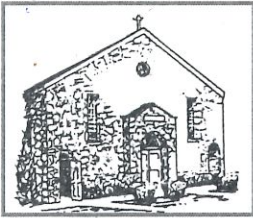
Tuesday, Sept. 10– St. Ambrose Edward Barlow - St. Ambrose Edward Barlow (1585-1641) was born near Manchester, England, to a noble family. He was baptized Catholic at his birth, but was raised Protestant when Catholicism was outlawed by the reigning monarchy. His grandfather died while imprisoned for his Catholic faith, and his father had two-thirds of his estate confiscated for refusal to conform to the Church of England. Ambrose returned to Catholicism as an adult, recognized his vocation to the priesthood, and traveled to France to enter seminary. He was ordained in 1617 in the Order of St. Benedict. He returned to England to minister to underground Catholics in his native south Lancashire for 24 years, being financially supported with a pension arranged by his grandmother. Ambrose said Mass daily and administered the sacraments secretly to avoid detection by the authorities. He was arrested four times during his priesthood, each time being released without charge. When the king issued a decree that all Catholic priests should immediately flee the country or be arrested and condemned as traitors, St. Ambrose chose to stay, reasoning that he could not die a better death than to be martyred for being a Catholic priest. On April 25, 1631, just as he ended Easter Sunday Mass at Morley Hall near Manchester, he was arrested by a 400-strong armed mob led by the local Anglican vicar. He freely admitted to the charge of being a Catholic priest, and gave a defense of the true faith before his judge. He was sentenced to be hanged, drawn, quartered, and boiled in oil on September 10, 1641. His dead body was publicly displayed on a pike as a warning to other Catholic priests. St. Ambrose Edward Barlow is one of the Forty Martyrs of England and Wales. His feast day is September 10th.

Wednesday, Sept. 11 – St. Jean-Gabriel Perboyre - St. Jean-Gabriel Perboyre (1802-1840) was one of eight children born to a farming family in France. He was a pious child and served as a model of virtue for his childhood companions. He discerned a call to the priesthood and joined the Vincentians along with a younger brother, with the full support of his parents. He served as a seminary professor for many years, and his sanctity impressed even his superiors. He longed to serve in the missions to China, but his poor health prevented him and his brother was sent instead. He prayed and begged to also be sent to preach in China and to suffer martyrdom there. After his brother died on the voyage to China, Jean-Gabriel was allowed to take his place in the mission. He arrived in China in 1835 and his labors there were met with great success. In 1839 persecutions broke out against the Christian missionaries, and Jean-Gabriel was one of the first to be arrested. The events leading to his death bear a striking resemblance to the Passion and Death of Christ. He was betrayed to the authorities by one of his new converts for thirty pieces of silver, stripped of his garments and clothed with rags, bound, and dragged from tribunal to tribunal. At each trial, he was brutally treated and tortured. He was finally condemned to death along with seven other criminals on September 11, 1840. He was martyred by being strangled to death as he hung on a cross. His feast day is September 11th.

Thursday, Sept. 12 – St. Guy – St. Guy (950–1012), also known as the "Poor Man of Anderlecht," was born to pious parents of humble means in the country village of Anderlecht near Brussels. Having no money for school, from his childhood he served the poor and fostered a great devotion to the Church while praying for the grace to love and accept his poverty. He was regarded as a young saint by those who knew him. One day a priest, who noticed his great reverence while praying in church, invited him to serve it for a small sum by sweeping the floors and keeping the altar and sacred vessels clean. During the day St. Guy would help the poor, and at night he would work and pray in the church; these were his two great loves. He served in this way joyfully and faithfully. One day a shipping merchant from Brussels, prompted by a devil who wanted to take St. Guy away from his holy work as a sacristan, presented him with a lucrative opportunity to invest his small savings into a business venture. Guy, not recognizing the temptation, accepted the job offer under the pretense of making more money to give to the poor, and he left his position as sacristan. When his first cargo ship sunk as it left the harbor, Guy realized his error and the deception he had succumbed to in giving up his happy and humble work serving Christ. He went back to the church and found that the sacristan position had been replaced. Left without a job and no money, Guy was so filled with remorse over his foolish decision that he went on a penitential pilgrimage. He visited Rome, the Holy Land, and other shrines over a period of seven years. He returned to Anderlecht in 1012 and died in the same year. Miracles were reported at his grave, after which a church was built in his honor. His feast day is September 12th.

Friday, Sept. 13 – St. John Chrysostom – St. John Chrysostom (347-407 A.D.) was born to noble parents in Antioch, an important center of Christianity in his day. After the death of his father, his mother sent him to the best schools for his education. As a result of his philosophical studies he was convinced of the truth of Christianity, entered the Church, and became a renowned scholar and orator. He then adopted a life of extreme asceticism as a hermit and committed the whole of Sacred Scripture to memory. The brilliance of his mind combined with the holiness of his soul made him famous; he was ordained a bishop in Antioch and was later appointed to the Archbishopric of Constantinople. He was an incredible preacher, among the greatest in the history of the Church, which earned him the name 'Chrysostom' meaning, 'Golden-mouthed' or 'Golden tongued'. His sermons, which extended for up to two hours, were public marvels. His straightforward style of preaching the Scriptures and his practical homilies made him very popular. He also denounced the abuses of the ruling authority and preached against the immorality of the day, which resulted in him being exiled numerous times. He was proclaimed a Doctor of the Church in 451. St. John Chrysostom's feast day is September 13th.

Saturday, Sept. 14 – St. Albert of Jerusalem – St. Albert of Jerusalem (d. 1215) was born to a noble family in Italy, and was well educated in theology and law. He went on to become a priest and bishop and served in important posts as a peacemaker; he served as a mediator between Pope Clement III and the Holy Roman Emperor, between the Kingdom of Jerusalem and the Kingdom of Cyprus, and between the Knights Templar and the Armenian Kingdom of Cilicia. In 1205 he was made Patriarch of Jerusalem by Pope Innocent III during the time when the Saracens had control of the city. In this position he was respected by all for his sanctity and intelligence. Because of the Muslim presence in Jerusalem, Albert took up residence in Acre overlooking the great city, as well as Mt. Carmel where a group of holy hermits lived. Albert was asked by St. Brocard, who was prior of the group of hermits, to draw up a rule of life for them which became the beginning of the Carmelite Order. In 1214 Albert was summoned to serve in the General Lateran Council, but was murdered before he could attend. The Master of the Hospital of the Holy Spirit, whom he had rebuked and deposed for immorality, stabbed him to death on September 14th in the Church of Saint John of Acre, while he was part of the procession on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. His feast day is September 14th.



Our Lady of Mercy Parish

SEPTEMBER 8, 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. Sept. 8	8:00a.m.	OLM	Marcel Bonin Living & Deceased Sarnac family, Ron & Melody Lichtenwald family
	10:30a.m.	SP	Frank O & Mary Smith
Tues. Sept. 10	7:00 p.m.	SP	For the People
Wed. Sept. 11	9:00 a.m.	SP	For the People
Thurs. Sept. 12	9:00a.m.	OLM	NO MASS
Fri. Sept. 13	9:00a.m.	SP	For the People
Sat. Sept. 14	4:30p.m.	SP	Gina Damman
Sun. Sept. 15	8:30a.m.	OLM	For the People
	10:30a.m.	SP	Loman Radabaugh

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

---Religious Ed. Dates

Sept. 11 – Parent training St. Peter

6:30 p.m.

Sept. 18 – Rel. Ed. Mass 6:30 p.m. St. Peter

Sept. 29 – Rel. Ed. Kick Off after Mass

---Sept. 14 -22 – Our Lady of Mercy

Novena – Parish will be open

5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

---Sept. 19 – Council meetings

5:45 p.m. Finance 6:15 p.m. Pastoral

---Sept. 19 – Holy Hour 7 p.m.

---Sept. 22 - Our Lady of Mercy Festival begins after Mass

---Sept. 24 – Our Lady of Mercy Feast Day

SACRIFICIAL OFFERING REPORT

Reported for September 1, 2024

SUNDAY OFFERTORY (14 envelopes)	\$ 1,656.00
LOOSE OFFERINGS	\$ 87.00
BUDGET	\$ 1,747.00
Over / (Under)	(\$ 4.00)
OTHER COLLECTION	
Maintenance	\$ 45.00
CPC Jar	\$ 20.00
Altar Rosary Dues	\$ 15.00
Postage Help	\$ 5.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 10.00
Religious Ed donation	\$ 30.00
Religious Ed. Tuition	\$ 140.00
TOTAL COLLECTIONS (Sunday & Other)	\$ 2,008.00

NEXT WEEK'S MINISTERS

September 15, 2024

Greeters/Gifts	Ron & Pat Eisel
Reader	Ron Baker
Servers	Evan Beauregard Will Maginn
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)

PROCLAIM – to announce or declare, publicly and officially

He ordered them not to tell anyone. But the more he ordered them not to, the more they proclaimed it. **Mark 7:36**

Dear Padre,

What is the “gospel of prosperity”? Does it mean that being rich is a sign of God’s favor?

That’s a good question, as this month we listen to the challenging words of St. James. If there is a “gospel of prosperity,” Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John didn’t write it, and it isn’t about Jesus. If anything, the Gospels would be called “Gospels of poverty.” Jesus himself was born in poverty. Had he wished to extol riches and prosperity, he would have been born into the lap of luxury. But God chose the poverty of a stable.

Although the subject of riches and poverty appears in all the Gospels, Luke writes about it the most. It is thought that Luke was concerned about this topic because he came from wealth and dealt with people of means. Luke sees money and goods as dangerous to salvation. Although “nothing will be impossible for God” (Luke 1:37), Luke uses the image of a camel passing through the eye of a needle to explain that this impossible task is easier than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of heaven (Luke 18:25). Scary words. Yet, poverty itself is not hailed as good, nor are riches condemned in themselves. It’s what wealth does to people that is the core issue. When we focus on riches and possessions, we risk turning from God and growing deaf to the cries of the poor. Possessions and wealth are to be shared, not hoarded. ●



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The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org



FIZKES / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Let us ask ourselves: how is my capacity to listen going?Think about family life: how many times do we talk without listening first, repeating the same things, always the same things!....

The healing of the heart begins with listening....

We hear the words of Jesus addressed to us:

“Ephphatha, be opened!” Open your ears.

ANGELUS, ROME, SEPTEMBER 5, 2021

Monday

September 9
St. Peter Claver, Priest
1 Cor 5:1–8
Lk 6:6–11

Tuesday

September 10
Weekday
1 Cor 6:1–11
Lk 6:12–19

Wednesday

September 11
Weekday
1 Cor 7:25–31
Lk 6:20–26

Thursday

September 12
Weekday
1 Cor 8:1b–7, 11–13
Lk 6:27–38

Friday

September 13
St. John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
1 Cor 9:16–19, 22b–27
Lk 6:39–42

Saturday

September 14
The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Nm 21:4b–9
Phil 2:6–11
Jn 3:13–17

Sunday

September 15
Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Is 50:4c–9a
Jas 2:14–18
Mk 8:27–35