

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS INTENTIONS

Tues., July 6th, 8 a.m.: No Mass
Thurs., July 8th, 8 a.m.: Glenn Horrell, by Andrea Jenkins
Fri., July 9th, 8 a.m.: Denny Robert, by family
Sat., July 10th, 4 p.m.: Lawrence Soma, by Kathy Legendre;
For the Parish
Sun., July 11th, 10 a.m.: Rose Marie Guebert, by the Glenn &
Debbie Gielow family

PLEASE PRAY FOR ...

Deacon Don Sparling, Nursing Home Residents,
Homebound Parishioners
Names remains for 4 weeks. Call the rectory.



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

God gave us a gift of 86,400 seconds each day.
Have you used one to THANK Him?

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

At an art gallery, a woman and her ten-year-old son were having a tough time choosing between two artist's works. The curator said, "I guess you decided you prefer an autumn scene to a floral?" "Oh no," said the ten year old, "the autumn scene is wider, so it'll cover the three holes in our wall."

HAPPENINGS THIS WEEK

Sun.: Happy Fourth of July!!! Be grateful for the freedom we have!
Tues.: Visitation 9-11 a.m. for Bob Mertens in Church; 11 a.m. funeral mass; No School Board mtg. this month
Wed.: 10:30 a.m. mass at the Care Center
Thurs: 6:30 p.m. Faith Formation Director Committee mtg. in Church
Fri.: Adoration following the 8 a.m. mass till 9:30 a.m. Come and join us!! Communion visits to residents of Garden Place

POPE FRANCIS SPEAKS TO OUR HEARTS

(We Have an Advocate in Jesus) Jesus is our Advocate: how beautiful it is to hear this! When someone is summoned by the judge or is involved in legal proceedings, the first thing he does is to seek a lawyer to defend him. We have One who always defends us, who defends us from the snares of the devil, who defends us from ourselves and from our sins! Dear brothers and sisters, we have this Advocate. Let us not be afraid to turn to him to ask forgiveness, to ask for a blessing, to ask for mercy! He always pardons us; he is our Advocate: he always defends us! Don't forget this!

MASS ATTENDANCE

Saturday 105; Sunday 116; Remember we can have full capacity.
Encourage someone to come back to Church with You!!!

BE A BLESSING COMMUNITY GARDEN

If you are interested in helping out in the garden, please contact Robin Steinmann for St. Patrick's at 618-340-2912 and Tom Beshoar for St. John's at 618-977-6232. Scheduling:
Week of July 4th...St. John's
Week of July 11th...St. Pat's

PARTNERSHIP YOUTH GROUP

Our next gathering date will be Monday, July 12th. More details to come! Plan to bring a friend! We look forward to seeing you!

READINGS

1st Reading: Ezekiel 2:2-5

The Spirit sent Ezekiel to Israel and empowered him to speak with authority. God told Ezekiel that, regardless of Israel's response, they will know that a prophet was there.

2nd Reading: 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

Paul confessed his weakness but also thanked God for it "for power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore, Paul humbly accepted persecution for Christ's sake.

Gospel: Mark 6:1-6a

Jesus went to his own part of the country and began teaching. The people were incredulous. They all knew him as a child. He was one of them; How could he teach them?

FROM THE DESK OF FR. DENNIS

Speaking the word of God can be tough. God warns Ezekiel that he will need to speak out against a stubborn and rebellious people. Jesus meets with opposition when preaching in his hometown. St. Paul speaks of the hardships he faces. Speaking out on behalf of our faith can be as difficult for us now as it was for them then. But we know, like Paul, that we have the power of Christ dwelling within us. As we come together on this 4th of July anniversary of our country's founding, are we appreciative of our freedom to worship as we desire, while continually aspiring to build a more perfect union? Let us lift up our voices in prayer and praise to God for our country! **God, source of all freedom, this day is bright with the memory of those who declared that life and liberty are your gift to every human being. Help us to continue a good work begun long ago. Make our vision clear and our will strong: that only in human solidarity will we find liberty, and justice only in the honor that belongs to every life on earth. Turn our hearts toward the family of nations: to understand the ways of others, to offer friendship, and to find safety only in the common good of all. We ask this through Christ our Lord.**

Amen.

Have a safe holiday weekend! Remember, don't worry so much, and know that you are loved! ~ Fr. Dennis

THANK YOU!

Thank you to the musicians and singers who lead our Parish music ministry during the past 15 months! Thank you to Barb Parrott who continues to lead the music through her piano skills or cantering on Saturday evening Masses. Barb also took on leading music for 3 months while I was recovering from hand surgery. Thank you Barb! Thank you to Dave and Maribeth Hollinshead who lead the music so reverently during Sunday morning Masses. Thank you to our singers Shirley Vogt and Deb Hartmann who also assisted in leading the music so beautifully!! Thank you to all for your dedication in leading our St. John the Baptist liturgies and sharing your musical talent with us! ~ Robin Hentis

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Do you know of someone who has expressed interest in joining the Catholic Church? As a Partnership we will again be offering weekly sessions at St. Patrick's Brick School beginning in September. If you are interested give Fr. Dennis a call at 282-3222 or Fr. Sebastian at 284-3314. It is not too early to let us know, please spread the word!



READY...SET...BID!!!

St. Patrick's Parish is holding an online quilt auction! Visit their Facebook page to start your bidding by putting your bid in the comments, send a private Facebook message to St. Patrick's Church or contact the parish office at 282-3176. Bids accepted until July 4th at 5 p.m. and winner announced on July 5th.

REPLACEMENT COLLECTION COUNTER

We need one individual to volunteer as a Collection Counter for the weekend collection. You will be paired with a minimum of 2 other individuals and you will count the collection once a month at most (we are currently on a 5-week rotation.) If interested, please call the rectory or email Rhonda at rhondaj@htc.net.

LEARN MORE ABOUT BECOMING A PRIEST

Bishop Michael McGovern will host a St. Andrew Dinner for young men interested in learning more about the Catholic priesthood on Sunday, July 18, 2021. The St. Andrew Dinner will be held at St. Mary Parish in Carlyle. All young men ages 14-32 are invited to attend; parents or guardians are also welcome to join us. The event will begin at 5:00 p.m. with Evening Prayer and will be followed by dinner and conversation. This is a terrific opportunity for hearing some of our seminarians speak about preparing for the priesthood; there will also be time for questions and conversation with Fr. Steven Beatty, Vocation Director. For more information, or to RSVP, contact Patti Warner in the Vocations Office at (618) 722-5043, or email to: pwarnar@diobelle.org. St. Mary Parish is located at 1171 Jefferson Street in Carlyle, IL.

WORDS TO REFLECT ON

Stewardship: My Church is composed of people like me. I help make it what it is. It will be friendly, if I am. Its pews will be filled, if I help fill them. It will do great work, if I work. It will make generous gifts to many causes, if I am a generous giver. It will bring other people into its worship and fellowship, if I invite and bring them. It will be a church of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith, and a church with a noble spirit, if I, who make it what it is, am filled with these same things. Therefore, with the help of God, I shall dedicate myself to the task of being all the things that I want my church to be.

THE CATHOLIC SERVICE & MINISTRY APPEAL

This weekend let us celebrate the hope, peace and freedom of our great nation and pray for those who make our freedom possible. We wish you and your family a blessed, happy and safe July 4th. - Agencies and Ministries Supported by The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal

"WOMEN AS PREACHERS & PROPHETS"

Summer Retreat, July 12-18, King's House, Belleville. Stories of the gospel where Jesus interacts with women and they are both preached to, and become preachers themselves, revealing prophet elements of Jesus' message, to the poor, the fringe and the outcast, the least among us. Retreat is open to men and women. Info: 800-779-7909; kingsretreatcenter.org

SOUL SEARCHING?

Come and experience faith-filled stories. Subscribe to The Messenger at 618-233-8670. To subscribe online go to www.bellevillemessenger.org



CHOIR NEWS

All choirs are able to begin singing at Masses: 1st Sunday of the month - K of C choir; 2nd Sunday - Adult Choir. Other choirs will begin in September. Thank you! Welcome back!

PSR CLASS REGISTRATION FOR THE FALL

Registration forms were handed out to all present PSR students to begin the registration for the Fall Season of Religion Classes. Copies also can be found on the bulletin table in the front entrance of Church. If your son/daughter will be in first grade this fall, you need to pick up a registration form NOW. Help us get ready for the fall sessions. Thanks so much for all your patience and understanding as we made it through the pandemic year. If you have questions, call Amy Detering at 618-410-1630 or Fr. Dennis at 282-3222.

NO JUNE PICNIC

Have you responded to our picnic appeal? In the letter that we sent to you we indicated the need to make up our \$40,000.00 deficit in our budget. Last year you were so supportive. Can we count on you again? To date we have received \$36,103.00. Thank You! God bless you for all you do to make St. John the Baptist a great parish family!

IN SYMPATHY

Our parish extends its prayers and sympathy to the family of Robert "Bob" Mertens who died on Thursday, June 24th. May he share in the joy of Heaven!

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

Dale L. Guebert, CPA ~ Accounting & Tax Service



YOUR GIFTS TO GOD & PARISH

Sunday.....	\$2,546.00
Loose.....	\$255.00
Total (Goal: \$5,866.00).....	\$2,801.00
Capital Campaign.....	\$50.00
Adopt-a-Parish.....	\$50.00
School Support.....	\$60.00
Peter's Pence.....	\$495.00
School Endowment.....	\$10.00

TEC ABLAZE

Teens Encounter Christ is back with a whole new retreat, TEC Ablaze! Ablaze is a one day retreat open to families and individuals of all ages! Join us for a fun day of food, games, prayer, friendship and memories. Set your heart Ablaze! Weather permitting, most activities will be held outdoors. July 31st, 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Holy Trinity, Fairview Heights. Info: Belleville.TEC@gmail.com

VOCATIONS CORNER

Today we mark another anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. "On the 51st anniversary, Charles Carroll, the only Catholic to have signed the Declaration and the last surviving signer, said, "God grant that this religious liberty may be preserved in these States to the end of time, and that all believing in the religion of Christ may practice the leading principle of charity, the basis of every virtue." Today is a time for choosing how we will keep faith with the great accomplishments of our Catholic forebears as we seek to make our own contributions. If we or someone in your family is called by the Holy Spirit to a religious vocation we should encourage and accept this challenge as we are all endowed by our Creator with life and liberty." Columbia, "Culture of Life", Oct. 2015, pg. 47.