

**Sunday- July 7, 2013**

**Mass Intentions:**

Sunday, July 14-

9:15 a.m.- Elsie Steffek

Sunday, July 21-

9:15 a.m.- Descendants of Prasek Family  
Reunion

Sunday, July 28-

9:15 a.m.- Julius Hanslik

First Friday, August 2-

7:00 p.m.- Frank & Mary Matula, & Henry  
Matula

Sunday, August 4-

9:15 a.m.- Phil Mladenka

**Rosary Leaders:**

July 14-Ruth Rouse

July 21-Lucille Klekar

July 28-Joyce Janak

Aug. 4-Dorothy Schneider

**Lectors:**

July 14-Daniel Matula

July 21-Dedie Dobbs

July 28-Dorothy Schneider

Aug. 4-Anthony Matula

**Cantors:**

July 14-Lucille Klekar

July 21-Emily Schimcek

July 28-Pat Mladenka

Aug. 4-Laurence Bludau

**Extraordinary Ministers:**

July 14-Billy & Bev Hrnecir, Richard Sommerlatte

July 21-Leon & Nancy Etzler, Vivian Mozisek

July 28-Edward & Sandra Pustka &  
Evelyn Konvicka

Aug. 4-Tony & Joyce Bludau, Trina Sommerlatte

**Offertory Gift Bearers:**

July 14-Leon & Theresa Matula

July 21-Lisa Matula, Ky & Kristen

July 28-Tony & Jo Matula

Aug. 4-Frankie & Laura Migl & Family

**Altar Servers:**

July 14-Samuel & Simon Machicek, Michael &  
Robbie Perdziak

July 21-Jacob Janak, Luke Scherer, Clay &  
Blake Rother

July 28-Adam & Ryan Hermes, Allexus Mizera &  
Kaitlyn Rother

Aug. 4-Eric Klekar, Josh Bludau, Emilie &  
Ryan Mudd

**Ushers:**

July 14-Roman Henke, Robert Pustka, Gilbert  
Urbish & Charles Grafe

July 21-Leon Matula, Al Svetlik, Francis Klekar  
& Sidney Jasek

July 28-Eugene Gillar, Robert Sciba, Bernard  
Patek & Richard Sommerlatte

Aug. 4-Stanley Orsak, Scott Blashchke, Gilbert  
Mozisek & Marvin Bujnoch

**Church Cleaners:**

July 13-Sharon Henrichs, Lisa Matula &  
Laura Ulcak

July 20-Barbara Matula, Monica Matula &  
Susan Bujnoch

July 27-Betty Bujnoch, Lucille Bujnoch &  
Susan Janak

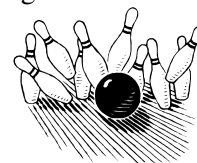
Aug. 3-Rosalie Tobola, Glenda Tobola,  
Angeline Ulcak & Mary Jo Bludau

**Mass Attendance:**

June 9—276    June 16—248

June 23—275    June 30—225

**Altar Server Party:** All altar servers who serve for the weekend Masses of Sacred Heart Church and St. Mary's are invited to a bowling and pizza party on Wednesday, July 31 at the Tenth Frame Bowling Alley in Schulenburg from 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. If you plan to attend this event, please call Fr. Tommy (798-5888) to sign up no later than Sunday, July 28. The parish will provide the rounds of bowling, shoe rental, and pizza. Parents will be responsible for the transportation of their children to and from the event.



**From the Desk of Msgr. John**

We are still in the process of celebrating our Independence Day. From Thursday, July 4<sup>th</sup> through this weekend, we think especially about how fortunate we are to live in the United States of America. We pray in thanksgiving for our freedom and we also pray for our government leaders so that we can maintain Christian values and religious freedom now and in the future.

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way to make our annual picnic such a great success. It was a great day. It takes many people to do all the work that is necessary.

A complete report will be ready fairly soon. It seems to have been financially successful.

We are in the process of expanding the St. Mary Cemetery. We will be needing the extra room in the near future. We will use the church property which is attached to the back of the cemetery and expand away from FM 340. You will then be able to enter the back side of the cemetery by driving by the Parish Hall and over to the cemetery.

We have already cleared the necessary trees and trimmed the others. We will soon do the fencing.

**Messages & Announcements**

**July Bulletin Sponsor:** In memory of Joe R. & Emilie Steffek Family

Thank you notes for scholarships received:  
John Konvicka & Megan Mitchon

**Chancery Library & Media Center.** Summer is a good time to read and watch movies. Check out the vast inventory of books and videos available in your diocesan library. Go to [www.victoriadiocese.org](http://www.victoriadiocese.org), click the ministries link, and then scroll to library, or come by the Chancery at 1505 E. Mesquite Lane in Victoria between 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday. Call 361-573-0828 for more information.



**Area Church Picnics:**

**July 21: Ascension of Our Lord Parish Picnic, Moravia.** Holy Mass 10:00 a.m. Stew & Fried Chicken Dinner 11:00 a.m. Auction, bingo, country store, kiddy booths & much more. Delicious food, snacks & cold beverages all afternoon. Enjoy music by Mark Halata & Texavia and the Red Ravens. Entertainment for all ages!

**July 21: Czech Day Celebration, St. Matthew Catholic Church, Jourdanton.** Polka Mass 10:30 a.m. Authentic Czech Meal (Sausage with Czech potatoes & homemade sauerkraut with all the trimmings \$7) 11am-1pm. Homemade Kolaches & Sauerkraut for sale, & raffle. Music by the Markmann Polkateers.

**Memorials to St. Mary's Altar Society –**

**In memory of Frankie Klekar:**

Tony & Joyce Bludau-\$50

Steven, Shandlyn, Kelton & Korbin Koehne- \$15

**Rediscover Your Marriage – Retrouvaille** (pronounced retro-vi with a long i) simply means 'rediscovery'. The program offers the chance to rediscover yourself, your spouse, and a loving relationship in your marriage. Tens of thousands headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending. Retrouvaille is not a spiritual retreat, not a sensitivity group, not a seminar, not a social gathering. For confidential information about or to register for the September program beginning with a weekend on Sept 6-8, call John or Jennifer Vincent (361) 580-2770 or email: [jbvjov@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jbvjov@sbcglobal.net) or visit the web site at [www.retrouvaille.org](http://www.retrouvaille.org)



**Financial Report for June**

**Income**

Sunday Collections.....	\$ 4,497.00
Children’s Collections.....	109.25
Hall Rentals.....	300.00
Home Missions.....	3.00
Holy Father’s Collection.....	37.00
Church Rental.....	50.00
Bulletin Sponsor.....	<u>50.00</u>
	\$ 5,046.25

**Expenses**

Office.....	\$ 785.00
Utilities.....	623.90
Maintenance.....	150.00
Water Well.....	850.00
Health Insurance.....	211.00
Pension Plan.....	349.00
Administration.....	300.00
Church.....	153.00
Hall.....	2,228.64
Picnic.....	<u>748.45</u>
	\$ 6,398.99

Beginning Balance.....	\$37,783.24
Parish Income.....	5,046.25
Less Expenses.....	<u>6,398.99</u>
Balance as of June 30, 2013.....	\$36,430.50

Building Fund: \$676.00

***Please pray for the blessing of beneficial rainfall!***

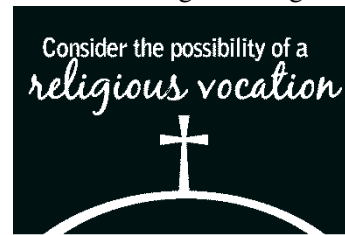
*Almighty God, we are in need of rain. We realize now, looking up into the clear, blue sky, what a marvel even the least drop of rain really is. To think that so much water can fall out of the sky, which now is empty and clear. We place our trust in You. We are sure that You know our needs. But You want us to ask You anyway, to show You that we know we are dependent on You. Look on our dry hills and fields, dear God, and bless them with the living blessing of soft rain. Then the land will rejoice, and the rivers will sing Your praises, and the hearts of men will be made glad. Amen.*

**14th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

One of the questions parents and teachers often ask children is, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" For younger children the answer can change from week to week. Children may say at one time, "A basketball player," and at another, "An airplane pilot," and at another, "A zookeeper." The answer could depend on whatever story or television show caught their fancy that week. But as children mature, they start considering seriously the answer to that question. As they enter college they begin directing their lives toward what will be a particular profession in life.

This weekend's Gospel highlights the need for workers in the harvest of the kingdom of God. Jesus sends out disciples ahead of Him so that they can prepare the way for the places that He intends to visit. But the text is not only about what took place in Galilee and Judea two thousand years ago. As the living word of God, the Gospel also speaks to our lives today. The need for laborers for the harvest is just as great in 2013 as it was in AD 32. As a matter of fact, the need is even greater, since the proclamation of the Gospel goes on in so many more places than in the first century of Christianity.

Parents and grandparents can influence what their children and grandchildren think about as appropriate life choices. We don't need a specific "Vocation Sunday" to ask the question of sons or daughters or grandchildren if they



have ever considered the possibility of a religious vocation. The Holy Spirit might just be working

through you if you ask. While a life of ministering to others may have its own trials and difficulties, it can also be filled with great joy and satisfaction. Is there someone you can ask, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" After all, "The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few" (Lk 10:2).

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# Growing in FAITH™

Discovering **hope and joy** in the Catholic faith.

July 2013

**Sacred Heart, St. Mary, St. John and Ascension Churches**

Fr. John C. Peters, Pastor

## One Minute Meditations

### St. Kateri Tekakwitha

The Year of Faith saint for July is St. Kateri Tekakwitha, one of the newest American saints.

A smallpox epidemic in her Native American village left Kateri orphaned, disfigured, and half-blind at the age of four. Introduced to Catholicism by visiting priests, she was baptized at the age of 19 against the strenuous objections of her relatives. Eventually, the persecution against her became so strong that she had to steal away to a Christian village where she lived in holiness.



### Room for God

"Make room therefore for Christ, and refuse entrance to all others. When you have Christ, you are rich and have need of (nothing) else."  
Thomas À Kempis

### Pray all day

St. Paul tells us to "pray without ceasing" (1 Thessalonians 5:17). Try repeating the "Jesus Prayer": "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner."



## Let God love you

Have you ever seen a parent scoop up a child and hug him closely as if he couldn't get enough of that beloved child? That's how God feels about you. He loves you dearly and shows you each day. Open your heart to him.

**He longs to embrace you and tell you that he loves you.** Let God love you through the people around you. When you need help, support, or healthy love, don't refuse those whom God sends to you.

God wants our safety and shows us the surest path for us to walk. Jesus walked it first to show us how. Follow

his steps to stay safe.

**Our Father lets us make our own choices but gives advice to guide us.** All we need to know to make smart decisions is contained in Scripture. Refer to it often to find out what God thinks is best.

**He is always ready to forgive.** We are the ones who forget to ask. Meet him in Confession regularly.

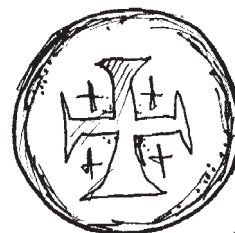
**As a loving Father, he waits for our next visit and longs for our love.** Don't miss a chance to meet him at Mass and in daily prayer.

**And, as a good Father, he waits for the day when all his children will come home to him and rest forever in his arms.**



## Why Do Catholics Do That?

The word "host" comes from hostia, which means "victim." During the Exodus, each Hebrew family sacrificed a lamb, the blood of which was smeared on the doorways of their homes. The occupants were thus saved from the death



## Why do Catholics call communion wafers the "Host?"

of the first-born, which the Egyptians suffered. Jesus is our spotless lamb who saves us from the death of sin. He serves as our victim in the bloodless sacrifice of the Mass. Since the communion wafer is Jesus, we call it "host."

## The power of forgiveness

When someone wrongs you in some way, do you hold a grudge and keep the hurt? Here are three reasons to embrace the power of forgiveness.

**Forgiveness is not something we do for the other person, but something we do for ourselves.** Refusing to forgive merely prolongs hurt feelings. It helps us dwell on them and keep them alive. And that feels awful.

**But when you forgive,** the negative feelings are purged and there's new room for goodness. The



energy that sustained the anger is now available for other purposes. And that's a much better feeling.

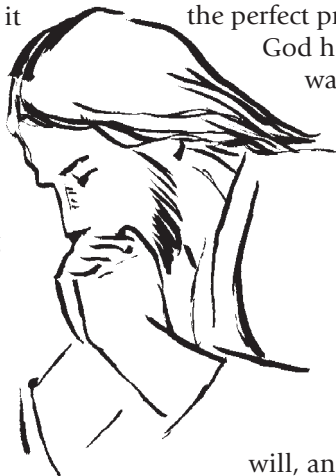
**Need another reason?** Jesus taught us that to receive daily forgiveness of our own sins we must forgive those who have hurt us. If we can't or won't—how can we obtain it for ourselves?

**Think about praying for anyone who hurts you and ask God to bless him.** Not only will you find the pain start to lessen, you'll be saying one of Jesus' favorite prayers. He prayed it while on the Cross.

### from Scripture

#### Luke 11:1-13, the perfect prayer

The Our Father is actually four prayers in one. First, it is a prayer of praise and gives God the glory that he is due. Second, it is a prayer of petition in which we ask God to provide what we need. Third, it is a prayer asking for forgiveness and the strength to be forgiving. And last, it is a prayer of acknowledgement. It forces us to admit that God knows what is best for us and reminds us to submit to his will rather

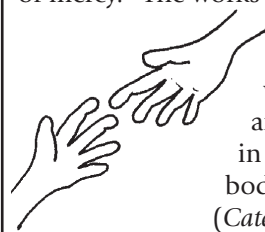


than our own. That's what makes it the perfect prayer model.

God hears all prayers, but he wants to know that we are committed to that for which we are asking. Is it a real need or just a momentary thought? Like the neighbor in this Gospel reading, Jesus encourages us to be persistent and continue to ask for God's help, seek God's will, and open the door to God's grace in our lives.

### Q & A Other than attend Mass, what else must I do?

We are also called to perform works of mercy. "The works of mercy are charitable actions by which we come to the aid of our neighbor in his spiritual and bodily necessities."



(Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2447).

There are seven spiritual works of mercy: to admonish the sinner, to instruct the ignorant, to counsel the doubtful, to comfort the sorrowful, to bear wrongs patiently, to forgive all injuries, to pray for the living and the dead.

There are also seven corporal works of mercy. They are: feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, visit those in prison, shelter the homeless, visit the sick, bury the dead.

How important is it for us to perform these acts? Jesus said, "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me" (Mt 25:35-36). That makes it very important.

### Feasts & Celebrations

**July 11 – St. Benedict.** While pursuing an education in Rome, Benedict became disgusted with the life of privilege and retired to a cave outside of Rome for three years. Others who recognized his holiness followed him. In 529 he built Monte Cassino – his first monastery – and wrote the rule of the Benedictines, "Ora et Labora," which means "Pray and Work."

**July 15 - St. Bonaventure (1274).** Cured of an illness through the prayers of St. Francis of Assisi, St. Bonaventure became a Franciscan. As minister general of the order, he cultivated a love

of the way of St. Francis and the order's ideals.

**July 31 – St. Ignatius of Loyola (1556).** Ignatius spent several years defending his native country of Spain. His resulting injuries required several surgeries at home, and long recuperative periods during which he began a religious conversion and a lifelong dedication to education. He later started a community of priests called the Company of Jesus, now known as the Society of Jesus.



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