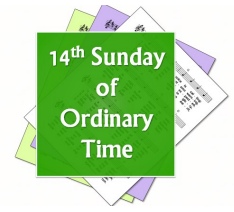




St. Mary's Catholic Church

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Independence Day
July 04, 2021



Father David Greskowiak—Parish Administrator

Contact Us: Emergency #920-228-1814 — Office #920-984-3319 — stmarybc.office@gmail.com

MASS INTENTION FOR THIS WEEK			
Sun	July 04	8:00 am	Living & Deceased Members of the Parish
Tues	July 06	7:30 am	Memory of Damian Blietz
Wed	July 07	7:30 am	Memory of Florence Maedke
Thur	July 08	7:30 am	Happy Birthday Michael Halversen
Fri	July 09	7:30 am	Ryan, Melissa & Family
Sat	July 10	4:00 pm	Ron Nachtwey
Sun	July 11	8:00 am	Living & Deceased Members of the Parish

Parish Receipts for June 27, 2021	
Parish Support	\$2,485.00
Offertory	\$68.00
Total Support	\$2,553.00
Weekly Amount needed	\$2,015.00
Weekly Balance	\$538.00
Missionary Collection Total	\$429.00

Thank you!

Please pick up your sacrificial envelopes in the front of church. They are in alphabetical order. If you do not see your name but want a box of envelopes please contact Joyce or Corinne at the parish office. Thank you.

Confessions available on Saturday @ 3:00 PM or by appointment.



Anyone who would like to purchase a Mass intention on the weekend or on a weekday please contact the parish office. The Mass Stipend is \$10. Masses available for the month of July 20-30. **Thank-you**



Holiday Office Closure

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday 5 July in observance of Independence Day. Enjoy the day!

Trustee Election and Council/Committee Selection Results

We want to congratulate Ms. Kay Arndt on being elected our Secretary Trustee and wish her all the best of luck in this important position. We also want to heartfully thank Ms. Nancy Meulemans for serving as our Secretary Trustee for these past two years and for all her faithful service to our parish. Congratulations Kay and thank you very much Nancy! God bless you both.

The selectees for the Councils and Committees include:

Parish Council

- Deb Kozak
- Mike Banker

Finance Council

- Jeff Stingle
- Mike Gritt

Outreach Committee

- Jane Skinkis
- Jodi Wry

Worship Committee

- Kathy Conradt
- Mary Ann Rettler

Youth Committee

- Penny Piette
- Jeannette Severson

Board of Education

- Amanda Schmidt
- Lakeishya Vanden Heuvel

Congratulations to all of our selectees to our Councils and Committees. May God bless and guide you all in your ministries to our parish and community.

Religious Education News

We hope to have more in-person classes this coming school year, **but in order to do that we need more people who want to share their Catholic Faith as volunteer catechists.** If you would like to help out with this very important ministry please contact Randy Van Handel in the Parish Office at 920-984-3319. Thank you and God bless all of you who helped with our Religious Education Program this year and to those of you who can help us in the upcoming year.

T E A C H
encourage
instruct
MENTOR
PRAISE
influence
GUIDE
INSPIRE

Thoughts on the 4th of July

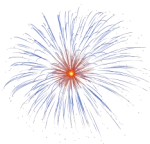
The following is an excerpt from a homily delivered by Bishop Kevin C, Rhoades, bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Indiana, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, on 4 July 2015, and found on the *Today's Catholic* website:

“...Our founding fathers believed that religion, virtue, and morality based on the natural law were essential foundations for the success of the American Experiment. In his farewell address, George Washington declared: ‘Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports. In vain would that man claim the tribute of patriotism who should labor to subvert these great pillars of human happiness.’ John Adams wrote: ‘It is religion and morality alone which can establish the principles upon which freedom can securely stand. Religion and virtue are the only foundations... of republicanism and of all free governments.’ As Catholics, we agree with this vision of our founding fathers. Recently, Pope Francis said something very similar in the following words: ‘When, in the name of an ideology, there is an attempt to remove God from society, it ends up adoring idols, and very soon men and women lose their way, their dignity is trampled and their rights violated.’

The Catholic Church is at the forefront today in advocating and fighting for these indispensable supports of our nation and its freedom: for example, in defending the right to life and the truth about marriage... Sadly, in today’s cultural climate, speaking and defending the truth about marriage often results in unjust and false charges of bigotry. We can expect claims of discrimination for upholding what for millennia has been considered a self-evident truth: that marriage by its nature is between one man and one woman. In all this public debate about these matters, notice that the often anti-Catholic or anti-Christian bigotry of the Church’s critics and opponents is ignored.

Jesus teaches us to render to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God. In the contemporary debate and struggle, we seek to have the freedom to do so. This is part of our human dignity — not only to be free to worship God, but free to serve Him and others through our schools, colleges, universities, hospitals, charities, and other institutions and to do so without compromising our faith and moral convictions. There are many in our society who disagree with the teachings of the Catholic Church on various issues. They have the right to disagree. But it is quite another matter to deny to us the right to live our faith and to conduct our lives, ministries, and works in accord with the Church’s teachings. And rather than engaging in civil and respectful debate, critics and opponents of the Church will sometimes resort to attacks that reveal the persistent anti-Catholic prejudice that for some reason is still deemed acceptable in our culture.

On this Independence Day, as we pray for the protection of religious freedom in our nation, let us also remember in prayer the millions of our brothers and sisters throughout the world who are persecuted and suffer injustices because of their faith. Not only are so many denied the right to live their faith or the right to worship, so many Christians and other minorities, innocent individuals and communities, are subjected to barbaric acts of violence, evicted from their homes and native lands, or sold as slaves. Some are killed, beheaded, crucified, or burned alive. It is a great sacrilege that this evil is being done in the name of God. We are living in a new age of Christian martyrdom. May these present-day martyrs inspire us by their faith and courage! Their suffering and death was not in vain: their lives bear eloquent witness to the love of Jesus Christ... May God who gave us life and liberty, bless us, our nation, and the world with renewed determination to protect these cherished gifts!”



Happy Independence Day

