

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

O God, let all the nations praise you!

August 20, 2017



"O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And the woman's daughter was healed from that hour. *Matthew 15:28*

ANNOUNCED MASSES

If you wish to bring up the gifts for a Mass being said for your loved one(s), please see the Usher before Mass.

Vigil (Sunday) Mass – August 19

5:00 PM James J. Corless

Sunday, August 20 – Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM Thomas Merante

10:15 AM *St. Joseph's* – Pecorelli and Cecchini Families

12:00 PM Ray Impellittere – *50th Anniversary*

Monday, August 21 – Saint Pius X, Pope

8:15 AM Andrew Marchionni

Tuesday, August 22 – The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:15 AM Nancy Tompkins

Wednesday, August 23 – Saint Rose of Lima, Virgin

8:15 AM Barbara Escaravage and all the People of the Parish

Thursday, August 24 – Saint Bartholomew, Apostle

8:15 AM Martin Nelles

Friday, August 25 – Saint Louis; Saint Joseph Calasanz, Priest

8:15 AM Andrew and Kate Duymovic

Saturday, August 26 – Weekday

8:15 AM Jessie and Elliott Hammond

Vigil (Sunday) Mass – August 26

5:00 PM Jim Doherty

Sunday, August 27 – Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM Patrick Donnelly, Sr. – *28th Anniversary*

10:15 AM *St. Joseph's* – Louis and Concetta Pecorelli

12:00 PM Alex Dengler

MEMORIALS

The **Sanctuary Candle** this week is burning in loving memory of the Merando and Tompkins Families donated by Chuck and Paula Tompkins. The candle will burn from August 20th through August 26th.

GRAYMOOR PRAYER GROUP

Increase your time in prayer. The Graymoor Prayer Group, following the Medjugorje prayer format, meets Thursday evenings from 7:30 to 8:30 pm at the Spiritual Life Building 6th floor Chapel. The prayer facilitator is Diana Roda: (845) 424-4175.

INTERCESSORY PRAYERLINE

Call in your intercessions.

Marian Shrine (Divine Mercy), Stockbridge
800-804-3823

PLEASE PRAY

For the sick and suffering, especially

Lucy Abbatine	Todd Morris
Lucas Boesch	Joseph Nowakowski
Electra Bokanoski	Brian O'Keeffe
Nicole Bokanoski	Inelda O'Keeffe
Robert Broughal	Luis Padilla
The Brusco Family	Rosario Padilla
Kathleen Clements	Neilan Pierce
Ned Flanagan	Vivian Pisanelli
Christopher Hartly	Joan Rosado
Joseph Hoda	Phillip Rossignol
Parker Jane Holloway	Melissa Castro-Santos
Joey Hyatt, Jr.	Miguel Santos
Elizabeth M. Hynes	Laura Schiele
Geoff Lyons	Sally Singh
Kathleen Manganello	Ralph Torres
Mary Marion	Connie Tuomey
Paula Martino	Frank Volkmann
Merna Mendelson	Lidia Watrud

and for all our dearly departed, that the fighting among nations cease, that vengeance end and lasting peace begin, and for all of our prayers in our book of petitions.

MONTH'S MIND

Armando Iaconangelo – July 19th, 2017

We remember our loved ones who have died one month following their passing on to eternal life.

READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

Monday:	Jgs 2:11-19; Ps 106:34-37, 39-40, 43ab, 44; Mt 19:16-22
Tuesday:	Jgs 6:11-24a; Ps 85:9, 11-14; Mt 19:23-30
Wednesday:	Jgs 9:6-15; Ps 21:2-7; Mt 20:1-16
Thursday:	Rv 21:9b-14; Ps 145:10-13, 17-18; Jn 1:45-51
Friday:	Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22; Ps 146:5-10; Mt 22:34-40
Saturday:	Ru 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17; Ps 128:1b-5; Mt 23:1-12
Sunday:	Is 22:19-23; Ps 138:1-3, 6, 8; Rom 11:33-36; Mt 16:13-20

WEEKEND OF AUGUST 13, 2017

REGULAR WEEKLY COLLECTION – \$6,442

Thank you for your generosity.

MASS ATTENDANCE

	Adults	Children	Total
Saturday, 5:00 pm	84	10	94
Sunday, 8:30 am	107	14	121
St. Joseph's Chapel Sunday, 10:15 am	47	8	55
Sunday, 12:00 pm	101	15	116
Total	339	47	386



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

At Our Lady of Loretto • Every Monday • 7:00-8:00 pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament remains as it is with individual prayer time, but specific groups are being identified for certain Mondays so they can come together to focus in prayer for a specific intention...

- Aug 21 – All teachers in our parish
- Aug 28 – All students in our parish
- Sept 4 – The unborn and persecuted Christians
- Sept 11 – Victims and families of victims of the 9/11 terrorist attacks



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Loretto Council #536

PHILIPSTOWN FOOD PANTRY DELIVERY

Next Sunday • August 27th

The Knights of Columbus will be collecting food and other items, including diapers, toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, cleaners and paper towels, for the Philipstown Food Pantry the weekend of August 26th and 27th.

Please leave donations in the cry room during that weekend. Thank you for your generosity!

Grand Knight – Bob Murphy

To join, email our Membership Director, John Hackney:
johnhackney@hotmail.com.

Information can also be found at KofC536.com.

OUR LADY OF LORETTO PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

"Handing on the Faith"

845-265-3718 ★ ollfaithformation@gmail.com

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION FOR THE 2017-18 SCHOOL YEAR

If you have not done so already, please register your children in our 2017-2018 Religious Education Program. Registration forms have been mailed to all families who were enrolled in the program this past year.

If you did not receive the registration information, or are new to the program, please call or stop by the Parish Office to register your children for next year's classes. Thank you!

FIRST DAY OF CLASSES

Wednesday, September 13th, 2017

Become a Lector or Eucharistic Minister

We especially need help at the following Masses:

Saturday • 5:00 pm Vigil

Sundays • 12:00 pm

St. Joseph's Chapel: Sundays • 10:15 am

If interested, please contact Anna McFadden at
anna.mcfadden@gmail.com or call 845-265-2385.

RCIA – THE PROCESS BY WHICH ADULTS BECOME CATHOLIC

- Are you unbaptized but recognize a need for spirituality in your life?
- Are you a baptized Catholic who never received First Holy Communion and Confirmation?
- Are you a baptized Catholic who received First Holy Communion but did not make your Confirmation?
- Are you baptized into another religion and wish to understand the Catholic way of life and are interested in becoming a member of the Catholic Church?

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) is the place for you. Every year adults are welcomed into the Catholic community through RCIA. It is a learning and loving process in which conversion of the heart brings you to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Many adults have experienced the joy of understanding our Catholic faith more fully through RCIA, and now we are making this program available at Our Lady of Loretto. The program will start on Tuesday, September 12, 2017 and will run every Tuesday evening through April 3, 2018. If you or anyone you know desires to become a fully Initiated Catholic (Baptism, Holy Communion and Confirmation) please have them call the Rectory and leave Father Kiely a message at 845-265-3718. All candidates must meet with Father Kiely prior to the start of the RCIA process.

THIS OKLAHOMA PRIEST WAS A MARTYR – AND HE'LL BE BEATIFIED THIS YEAR



Oklahoma City, Okla., Catholic News Agency – “Padre, they’ve come for you.” Those were some of the last words heard by Father Stanley Francis, spoken by someone staying at the mission in Guatemala who had been led, at gunpoint, to where “Padre Francisco” was sleeping. It was 1:30 in the morning on July 28, 1981, and Guatemala was in the throes of a decades-long civil war. The three ski-masked men who broke into the rectory were Ladinos, the non-indigenous men who had been fighting the native people and rural poor of the country since the 60s. They were known for their kidnappings, and wanted to turn Father Stanley into one of “the missing.”

But Father Stanley refused. Not wanting to endanger the others at the parish mission, he struggled but did not call for help. Fifteen minutes and two gunshots later, Father Stanley was dead and the men fled the mission grounds. “How a 46-year-old priest from a small German farming community in Oklahoma came to live and die in this remote, ancient Guatemalan village is a story full of wonder and God’s providence,” writes Maria Scaperlanda in her biography of Father Stanley, “The Shepherd Who Didn’t Run.”

The five-foot-ten, red-bearded missionary priest was from the unassuming town of Okarche, Oklahoma, where the parish, school and farm were the pillars of community life. He went to the same school his whole life and lived with his family until he left for seminary. Surrounded by good priests and a vibrant parish life, Stanley felt God calling him to the priesthood from a young age.

But despite a strong calling, Stanley would struggle in the seminary, failing several classes and even out of one seminary before graduating from Mount St. Mary’s seminary in Maryland. Hearing of Stanley’s struggles, Sister Clarissa Tenbrick, his 5th grade teacher, wrote him to offer encouragement, reminding him that the patron Saint of all priests, Saint John Vianney, also struggled in seminary. “Both of them were simple men who knew they had a call to the priesthood and then had somebody empower them so that they could complete their studies and be priests,” Scaperlanda told CNA. “And they brought a goodness, simplicity and generous heart with them in (everything) they did.”

When Stanley was still in seminary, Pope St. John XXIII asked the Churches of North America to send assistance

and establish missions in Central America. Soon after, the diocese of Oklahoma City and the diocese of Tulsa established a mission in Santiago Atitlan in Guatemala, a poor rural community of mostly indigenous people. A few years after he was ordained, Father Stanley accepted an invitation to join the mission team, where he would spend the next 13 years of his life. When he arrived to the mission, the Tz’utujil Mayan Indians in the village had no native equivalent for Stanley, so they took to calling him Padre Francisco, after his baptismal name of Francis.

The work ethic Father Stanley learned on his family’s farm would serve him well in this new place. As a mission priest, he was called on not just to say Mass, but to fix the broken truck or work the fields. He built a farmers’ co-op, a school, a hospital, and the first Catholic radio station, which was used for catechesis to the even more remote villages. “What I think is tremendous is how God doesn’t waste any details,” Scaperlanda said. “That same love for the land and the small town where everybody helps each other, all those things that he learned in Okarche is exactly what he needed when he arrived in Santiago.”

The beloved Padre Francisco was also known for his kindness, selflessness, joy and attentive presence among his parishioners. Dozens of pictures show giggling children running after Padre Francisco and grabbing his hands, Scaperlanda said. “It was Father Stanley’s natural disposition to share the labor with them, to break bread with them, and celebrate life with them, that made the community in Guatemala say of Father Stanley, ‘he was our priest,’” she said.

Over the years, the violence of the Guatemalan civil war inched closer to the once-peaceful village. Disappearances, killings and danger soon became a part of daily life, but Father Stanley remained steadfast and supportive of his people. In 1980-1981, the violence escalated to an almost unbearable point. Father Stanley was constantly seeing friends and parishioners abducted or killed. In a letter to Oklahoma Catholics during what would be his last Christmas, the priest relayed to the people back home the dangers his mission parish faced daily.

“The reality is that we are in danger. But we don’t know when or what form the government will use to further repress the Church... Given the situation, I am not ready to leave here just yet... But if it is my destiny that I should give my life here, then so be it... I don’t want to desert these people, and that is what will be said, even after all these years. There is still a lot of good that can be done under the circumstances.”

He ended the letter with what would become his signature quote: “The shepherd cannot run at the first sign of danger. Pray for us that we may be a sign of the love of Christ for our people, that our presence among them will fortify them to endure these sufferings in preparation for the coming of the Kingdom.”

In January 1981, in immediate danger and his name on a death list, Father Stanley did return to Oklahoma for a few months. But as Easter approached, he wanted to spend Holy Week with his people in Guatemala. “Father Stanley could not abandon his people,” Scaperlanda said. “He made a point of returning to his Guatemala parish in time to celebrate Holy Week with his parishioners that year –

and ultimately was killed for living out his Catholic faith.”

Scaperlanda, who has worked on Father Stanley's cause for canonization, said the priest was a great witness and example, particularly for the Year of Mercy. “Father Stanley Rother is truly a saint of mercy,” she said. “He fed the hungry, sheltered the homeless, visited the sick, comforted the afflicted, bore wrongs patiently, buried the dead – all of it.”

His life is also a great example of ordinary people being called to do extraordinary things for God, she said. “What impacted me the most about Father Stanley's life was how ordinary it was!” she said. “I love how simply Oklahoma City's Archbishop Paul Coakley states it: ‘We need the witness of holy men and women who remind us that we are all called to holiness – and that holy men and women come from ordinary places like Okarche, Oklahoma,’” she said.

“Although the details are different, I believe the call is the same – and the challenge is also the same. Like Father Stanley, each of us is called to say ‘yes’ to God with our whole heart. We are all asked to see the Other standing before us as a child of God, to treat them with respect and a generous heart,” she added. “We are called to holiness – whether we live in Okarche, Oklahoma, or New York City or Guatemala City.”

In June 2015, the Theological Commission of the Vatican's Congregation for the Causes of Saints voted to recognize Father Stanley Rother as a martyr. Pope Francis recognized his martyrdom in early December 2016, after meeting with Cardinal Angelo Amato, prefect of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints. Father Rother will be beatified September 23rd at the Cox Convention Center in Oklahoma City. The Mass will be said by Cardinal Angelo Amato, prefect of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints, and concelebrated by Archbishop Coakley.

CAPUCHIN YOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Friday, August 25th – Sunday, August 27th

Join the thousands of teens CYFM has helped become more confident in themselves and skilled in public speaking, communicating effectively, understanding group dynamics and facilitating groups, developing and delivering effective presentations, enhancing self-esteem, and time management – as well as how to combine all those skills for utilization in evangelization as authentic Christian leaders. Even those who don't consider themselves leaders WILL benefit from the authenticity and skill-training offered in this motivational and inspiring program. Be prepared to be transformed into the person that God is calling you to be!

The fee is \$125 per person which includes lodging, meals, and materials. The application and non-refundable \$60 deposit is due by August 22nd. Find more information on the web: cyfm.org.

Capuchin Youth & Family Ministries • P.O. Box 192
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Find us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Flocknote:
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THE BEST KIND OF PRAYER IS NOT WHAT YOU MAY THINK

It may be hard and it may seem useless at times, but prayer is necessary for spiritual growth.

Aleteia.org, Fr. Michael Rennie – Prayer is more than petitions, and it's helpful to pray in other ways, too. It can be a simple word of thanksgiving, which has the benefit of making us aware of how truly wonderful life is and to not take it for granted. Or prayer can be about informing God about how our day is going, the way we might call a friend to chat. Prayer can also be physical and isn't limited only to spoken words, such as gazing at a full moon hanging low on the horizon among a sky of endless stars and sensing for a moment what can only be described as a beautiful heartache. Prayer can also be a wordless hug to a friend in need, because if it's true that God created us, then it's also true that comforting a friend honors the God who created that person. Any time we act intentionally out of love, it can be a form of prayer.

Still, in any form, prayer consumes our time. Is it worth it to give that time away when we don't always see the desired results? Here's where it might help to find a better definition of what prayer really is. First, it's not a method of bargaining with God, so if there seems to be no results it doesn't mean the prayer was a failure. It isn't merely communication – either by spoken word or by action – and it isn't merely listening. All of these partially make up what we think of as prayer, but don't entirely define it.

Saint Thérèse of Lisieux, when asked what prayer is, had tremendous insight. “Prayer is an aspiration of the heart,” she says, “a simple glance directed to heaven, it is a cry of gratitude and love in the midst of trial as well as joy; finally it is something great, supernatural, which expands my soul...” Prayer is a lifting up of the heart. Its primary result is felt inside the soul – prayer makes our hearts bigger.

Knowing this, suddenly my doubts and struggles fall away. I don't have to be “good” at it. I don't need specific techniques or expertise. I myself pray because I believe in a God who listens and I want to offer my heart to him so that he can make it bigger to hold more of his love. I also pray because I want to enlarge my heart to include more of my loved ones. These two effects of prayer, looking to love both God and neighbor, aren't mutually exclusive. They form a common basis to pray in many different ways. Prayer is a gift of self that lifts up our hearts to a higher power and helps craft our souls into a more human shape.

What really stands out to me is that there's no pressure. There isn't one right way or type of person who's allowed to pray. Thank goodness for that, because we all have flaws and none of us will ever pray perfectly. Our flaws can, in fact, become a part of our offering and be transformed into a positive good. No matter who we are, each of us can offer our lives to God in prayer – all of our flaws, hesitations, misplaced desires, fumbled inexperienced prayers, and self-consciousness. Absolutely everything can and will become a pathway to grace. So, is it worth it to take the time to pray? Absolutely.