

July 8, 2012

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday



In this world of satellite radio, MP3 players, and music downloads, my husband and I still listen to the radio on an old-school boom box in our bedroom. In fact, one of my husband's Christmas gifts last year was a brand new one of these "old" contraptions, complete with audiocassette player and adjustable antenna. Yes, we sometimes have to spend time repositioning the antenna to make sure we can hear voices and not just static, but with a little patience it usually works.

The crowd in the Gospel that gathered to hear their "native son" Jesus in the Gospel clearly wasn't willing to adjust its collective antenna to hear Jesus' words. He was too familiar, he was just one of them—how could he have anything important to say? To them, his words came off as nothing but static.

How receptive are we to God's words and movement in our lives? We may think we're completely open—but what if God speaks to us in ways we're not used to, through people we find disagreeable or perhaps, as the Gospel crowds did, too familiar?

Maybe God speaks to us through the words of someone from a different political party or a different religious denomination—can we hear it? What if God seeks us through a difficult family member we've dismissed? Maybe God is reaching for us through the all-too-familiar words of the Mass or ritual prayers.

Saint Paul reminds us today in our second reading that God reaches us best when we are humbled, weak, and open. Maybe our antennae need humbling and readjusting. Perhaps we need to reposition our hearts to discover where God is speaking to us today.

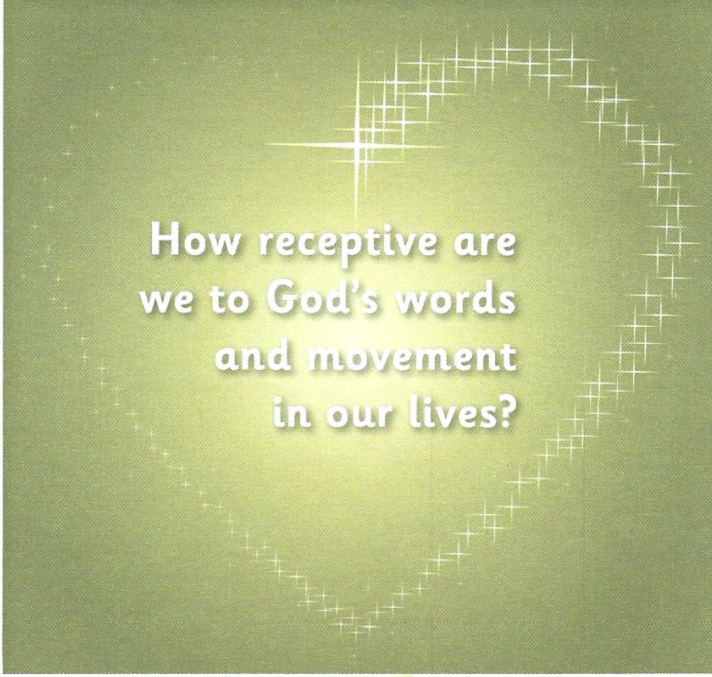
JANEL ESKER
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Today's Readings

Ez 2:2-5

2 Cor 12:7-10

Mk 6:1-6a



How receptive are
we to God's words
and movement
in our lives?

Liguori

PUBLICATIONS

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Marriage: Please contact Rectory at least
 nine months prior to wedding

Confession: 4:30 PM Sat; 8:30 AM Sun
 Baptism: By appointment

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JULY 8, 2012 – FOURTEENTH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME
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Mass intentions for the week July 8, 2012 – July 16, 2012

Sat	July 7	4:30 pm 5:00 pm	Reconciliation Stephen Calupca	By Mary
Sun	July 8	8:30-8:50 am 9:00 am	Reconciliation Living and Deceased Members of St Catherine Parish	
	<i>14th Ordinary Sunday</i>			
Mon	July 9	1:30 pm 3:00 pm	WRC Special Intention MMPC Special Intention	
Tue	July 10	8:00 am	Anna T. Holesa	By Ray & Connie Singer
Wed	July 11	6:00 pm	Toni Hancock	By Family
Thu	July 12	8:00 am	Edward Piskura	By Tillie Piskura
Fri	July 13	8:00 am	Fr. Elwood Figurelle	By People of Parish
Sat	July 14	4:30 pm 5:00 pm	Reconciliation Wilson DeVecchis	By M/M Keats Daschbach
Sun	July 15	8:30--8:50 am 9:00 am	Reconciliation Living and Deceased Members of St Catherine Parish	
	<i>15th Ordinary Sunday</i>			

PARISH NEWS

There will be Mass on **Monday** at 1:30 p.m. at **Woodland** and at **Meadowview** at 3:00 p.m

We need a few additional volunteer **Eucharistic Ministers to help take Communion to the Homebound** during the month. Please let us know if you are able to help out.

Refreshments are served in the new gathering space after the weekend Masses; anyone who would like to contribute items is welcome to do so; families are invited to sign up for weekends.

Sr. Madelyn Ribycki will be visiting the parish on **Saturday, July 21**. The Crouse family is hosting a get-together with her that afternoon at the home of Francis Crouse in Hill Valley; the parish is invited, and anyone attending is encouraged to bring a covered dish.

Collection Envelopes: New collection envelopes are in the vestibule. If you do not receive envelopes and would like to, please notify the office or put your name and address on a paper and drop it in the collection basket.

We would like to stencil the **names of the original donors on the stained glass windows** in the church; the original pieces are very fragile and cannot be reinstalled. Unfortunately, I don't know which memorials went with which windows. The information I have is: #1 In Memory of Lillie McGrain and Family by James McGrain; #2, Martha K. Krugh in Memory of Her Parents and Family; #3, Bodnar Brothers in Memory of the Parents; #4, Mrs. Catherine Price in Memory of Her Husband Abram Price; #5, Annie Cullen to the Memory of Her Sister Mary Catherine Cullen; and #6, In Memory of Simon McGarvey and His Wife Catherine by their Daughter Catherine Price. Any help in identifying the windows would be greatly appreciated.

CCD/YOUTH

CCD Grades 8 & 9 continue collecting food for the Food Bank, as a community service. The theme for the summer is: **Anything Goes**

Parents, don't forget that Christian education and living a life of faith are ongoing. Continue to teach your children, especially by example, and attend Mass weekly.

ORGANIZATION NEWS

Clay Glenny and his family are sponsoring a **yard sale to benefit the Relay for Life on Friday and Saturday, July 27 & 28**. Any item donations would be appreciated; they can be brought to the hall, or contact Clay for pickup - 542-9389.

Newly elected **Officers of the Catholic Daughters** are: **Regent, Mary Lyons; Vice Regent, Andrea Christoff; Treasurer, Connie Singer; Secretary, Elisabeth Stasenko; Financial Secretary, Melissa Fleming.**

COMMUNITY NEWS

THE PICNIC IN THE PARK Saturday July 21st from 2-8 at the Riverside Park in Mapleton Depot 2:00 - Eric Armstrong singing 3-5pm "Mission in motion" from Crossview missional church (with dramas, crafts and games for the kids) 5-6pm Trough Creek Bluegrass Band playing, we'll also have a Picnic supper and pie and ice cream. There will be speakers including Pastors Connie Maclay and Jon Whitsel and The Potter's band will play to end the evening This is a free event, Please come join us!

DIOCESAN NEWS

The **Diocesan Marriage Preparation Schedule** is available in the vestibule or at the Rectory. Programs include Engaged Encounter Weekends, Sponsor Couple Sessions, and the Marriage Preparation Series. Contact the Rectory at least 8 months before your wedding. The schedule is also available on-line at www.ajdiocese.org

All are welcome to join each Sunday evening at 7:00 p.m. for the Outdoor Sunday Mass at the beautiful **Shrine of our Lady of the Alleghenies** in Loretto, through Labor Day Weekend, Sept. 2. In inclement weather, Mass will be held in the Basilica of Saint Michael. Bring a lawn chair. The Prince Gallitzin Chapel Hose adjacent to the Shrine is open to the public on Sundays beginning at 1:00 PM and closing at 6:00 p.m.

Outdoor Mass honoring Married Couples with Bishop Mark. ALL parishioners are invited to pray with and for those living the Sacrament of Marriage on **Sunday evening, July 29 at 7:00 PM at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Alleghenies in Loretto.** Bring a lawn chair. Indoors if rain. Bishop Mark is the celebrant and homilist. Come early and picnic together or tour the historic Prince Gallitzin Chapel House (open 1:00 – 6:00 PM). Cookies and punch following Mass compliments of Worldwide Marriage Encounter. **Singers needed** for the choir. One rehearsal at 5:30 PM before the Mass. Contact Kevin Luke by July 22 at 814-944-6031.

Is your marriage tearing you apart? There is hope through **Retrouvaille**, a Christian peer Ministry. Retrouvaille (French for "rediscovery") is Catholic in origin, but open to all married couples. See www.retrouvaille.org; contact the Family Life Office (814) 886-5551 or familylife@dioceseaj.org for a 15 minute promotional video, brochures, or to talk to couples in our diocese who have used Retrouvaille. Your marriage is meant to be a Sacrament—a source of life and energy. You owe it to yourself to heal.

The State Theatre and **St. Joseph's Catholic Academy** are teaming up to present country legend **Randy Travis** at Tussey Mountain. DATE: Friday, July 20, 2012 at 8:00 p.m. COST: \$30 until July 8, then \$40 VIP: \$100, includes ticket, parking pass, food and beverage, Meet and Greet with Randy Travis and a ski lift ride. Tickets are available at the State Theatre Box Office at (814) 272-0606 and online at thestatetheatre.org. **1/2 off all ticket sales will go to benefit Saint Joseph's Catholic Academy.** Questions should be directed to Jeff Wheeler at jwheeler@stjoeacad.org.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEEDS PRINCIPAL The Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown is seeking a dynamic educational leader for the position of principal at **St. Matthew School in Tyrone, PA. The position begins August 1, 2012.** Religious and lay persons are encouraged to apply. Each candidate should be a practicing Catholic who is committed to Catholic education and have teaching experience on the Elementary/Middle/Jr. High level. Education requirements are: PA Instructional II Certification, have a Master's degree, have or be willing to obtain a Principal Administration Certificate, have or be willing to obtain the Master Catechist Certification, and have taken or be willing to take the Protecting God's Children Program. Copies of current PA and FBI clearances are required. Send resume, references, college transcripts and copies of certifications and clearances no later than July 15, 2012 to: Fr. Jozef Kovacik, Saint Matthew Church, 1105 Cameron Avenue, Tyrone, PA 16686.



Do you have a desire to serve the Church and its mission? A zeal to live a Christian life and the willingness to live and teach as the magisterium teaches? As lay men and women we respond to His call as Believers, as the Lay Faithful and through Lay Ecclesial Ministry. The **Office of Adult Enrichment and Lay Ecclesial Ministry has announced classes for the 2012-2013 academic year beginning this fall.** For class dates, times, locations and registration forms please visit our webpage at www.ajdiocese.org/lay-ecclesial-ministry. Contact the Office of Adult Enrichment and Lay Ecclesial Ministry at (814) 361-2000 or by email at mheinze@dioceseaj.org for further information on our programs. All are welcome! God is calling...Are you listening?

Ezekiel 2:2-5 By John Paul Heil Main Theme: A prophet is called to be FAITHFUL despite REJECTION. Ezekiel was called to be a prophet--one commissioned to speak the word of God--during the Babylonian Captivity of the people of Israel. As a prophet he was inspired by God ("the spirit entered into me") and given the impossible mission of speaking God's word to his fellow countrymen in exile, the Israelites. It is a "mission impossible" because the Israelites are "rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have revolted against me to this very day"--and, of course, that is why they find themselves imprisoned in exile. In addition, they are "hard of face and obstinate of heart." Although his mission is impossible, Ezekiel is called to carry it out for the sake of faithfully proclaiming the word of God. A prophet is not called to necessarily be successful, but only to persevere and be faithful to proclaiming the word of God. Whether the people of Israel listen to Ezekiel or not, at least they will know that a "prophet has been among them." Ezekiel foreshadows the prophetic destiny of Jesus, likewise rejected by his people (see today's Gospel). Like the prophet Ezekiel and Jesus, as Christians called to proclaim and bear prophetic witness to the word of God, we are called not necessarily to be successful but to be faithful.
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Psalm 123:1-2, 2, 3-4 By Deacon Owen Cummings Psalm 123 falls within the collection (Psalms 120-134) known as "Songs of Ascent," songs sung by Hebrew pilgrims making their way up to the Temple in Jerusalem for the special feasts of the liturgical year. The pilgrims banded together, would sing hymns expressing joy and confidence and gratitude to God. No doubt they raised their voices in a special way when the holy city came into view, when they first saw Mount Zion with its temple in the distance. So the psalmist prays, "To you I lift up my eyes who are enthroned in heaven." He looks up and sees the temple, yes, but he sees through it to the God of whose presence it is a sacrament, "To you I lift up my eyes." This sense of God's presence to the pilgrims is as close as servants are to their masters/mistresses: "As the eyes of servants..." And this sense of presence generates the desire to serve God, even as it evokes God's loving kindness on the servants. This close and loving God sustains the pilgrims through trial and tribulation. Our Christian lives may be thought of as an ascent to God --- one is reminded of St. Bonaventure's "Journey of the Soul to God" - -- and the sentiments of the Jerusalem pilgrims easily translate to us in our pilgrimage.
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2 Corinthians 12:7-10 By Fr. Damien Dougherty, O.F.M. Paul carries within himself the reasons for humiliation and he manifests these to his readers. He refers to his illness as an envoy of Satan, a minister and servant by which the demon, with the permission of God, beats and badgers him. As bizarre as this might appear, initially, it should be recalled that the Jews considered Satan as the author of disease (cf. Luke 13,16). The precise aim for which God allows this is that Paul will not boast in the gifts he has received or in the wonderful success of his apostolate. The Lord did not hear Paul's prayers to distance this harassment but comforted him by allowing him to comprehend that the power of God is the grace that invigorates the Apostle and it is given precisely according to the degree of the individual's weakness. The reason is that the divine power may demonstrate and exercise all its effectiveness so as to reach its goal: the perfection of the power of God through its influence upon the human being. Confident in the strength of grace, then, Paul can boast of his infirmities so that the power of Christ can continue to protect and console him. God comes to help him and explains all the strength of his grace only when and insofar as Paul recognizes himself to be weak, and to the degree that he is exposed to all the trials and miseries that undermine the effectiveness of his reliance upon his merely human and natural abilities. © 2003, OCP. All rights reserved.

Mark 6:1-6 By Tom Conry The question of the identity of Jesus, expressed at the gospel's fulcrum (8:27 "But you, who do you say I am?"), dominates the entire text of Mark. This story about Jesus in his hometown is a good example. It follows the familiar Marcan rejection motif. The townspeople who come to hear Jesus in the synagogue are overwhelmed with amazement, for the works that Jesus has done, the reputation that he is garnering, the band of co-workers that he is leading, the words that he is proclaiming - none of this accord with his ascribed status as the son of a carpenter, whose family is well known. Mark, who is suspicious of miracles (literally here a "powerful thing"), uses this story to emphasize that the power of faith lies in its reciprocal relationship with the community. The program that Jesus is announcing and the way of life that he is proposing are not thunderbolts of wisdom imposed from on high, but rather seeds to be nurtured by the entire community of faith. Where people are non-responsive, the proclamation of the reign of heaven falls upon rocky ground. In Schiller's more prosaic phrase, "Against stupidity, the gods themselves contend in vain." © 2003, OCP. All rights reserved.

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 8, 2012

It is good to confide in our God

Today's readings present Jesus as a prophet and explain how prophets and other messengers from God inevitably suffer rejection. The readings challenge us to face rejection and hardship with prophetic courage. In the first reading, the prophet Ezekiel tells us about his receiving God's call to become His prophet. Yahweh warns Ezekiel that he is being sent to obstinate and rebellious Israelites in exile in Babylon. Hence, as God's prophet, he will have to face rejection and persecution for giving God's message. The reading gives us the warning that, as Christians who accept the call of Jesus and seek to follow him, we also may face indifference and hostility, contempt and scorn, weakness, hardship and persecution, insults and rejection. In the second reading, St. Paul also gives us the same warning from his experience that not only prophets, but also apostles and missionaries, will suffer hardships and rejection in their preaching missions. Paul reveals that God has given him a share in Christ's suffering from a chronic illness, a "thorn in the flesh," so that he may learn to rely in God's grace and to glory, not in his own power but in the power of a strengthening God. Paul invites us to rise above our own weakness and disability, to cooperate with the grace of God and to preach the word of God by word and example as he has been doing. Today's gospel passage (Mark 6:1-6), shows how some people of Jesus' hometown, Nazareth, did not accept him as a prophet because they knew him and his family. They knew that he was a carpenter with no schooling in Mosaic Law and "knew" that he could not be the promised Messiah who would come from Bethlehem as a descendant of David's royal family. Besides, they were angry when Jesus did not work any miracles in Nazareth but, with prophetic courage, accused them of lack of faith, and warned that he would bring other people his preaching and healing ministry. Fr. Anthony Kadavil

July 8

Mark 6: 1-6a

Today's gospel is so familiar, it hurts! The home town folks couldn't accept the presence of God in Jesus. After all, they had watched him grow up. We can easily make the same mistake if we don't see God present in the ordinary routines of our family. "The Lord be with you" is a statement of fact. Believe it. Live it.

WEBSITES OF THE WEEK

- 1) Liturgy links: <http://www.theology.ie/liturgy.htm>
- 2) Catholic Sites.Org: <http://www.catholicism.com>
- 3) Catholicism: <http://catholicism.about.com/>
- 4) Fr. Pat's place: <http://www.frpat.com/>
- 5) Chastity Talks to Teenagers: <http://www.chastity.com/>
- 6) <http://realcatholic.tv.blogspot.com/>

Catholic saints are holy people and human people who lived extraordinary lives. Each saint the Church honors responded to God's invitation to use his or her unique gifts. God calls each one of us to be a saint. Most saints and holy people have specially designated feast days, on which we remember these holy men and women in a special way.

July 8 St. Gregory Grassi and Companions (d. 1900)



Christian missionaries have often gotten caught in the crossfire of wars against their own countries. When the governments of Britain, Germany, Russia and France forced substantial territorial concessions from the Chinese in 1898, anti-foreign sentiment grew very strong among many Chinese people. Gregory Grassi was born in Italy in 1833, ordained in 1856 and sent to China five years later. Gregory was later ordained Bishop of North Shanxi. With 14 other European missionaries and 14 Chinese religious, he was martyred during the short but bloody Boxer Uprising of 1900. Twenty-six of these martyrs were arrested on the orders of Yu Hsien, the governor of Shanxi province. They were hacked to death on July 9, 1900. Five of them were Friars Minor; seven were Franciscan Missionaries of Mary, the first martyrs of their congregation. Seven were Chinese seminarians and Secular Franciscans; four martyrs were Chinese laymen and Secular Franciscans. The other three Chinese laymen killed in Shanxi simply worked for the Franciscans and were rounded up with all the others. Three Italian Franciscans were martyred that same week in the province of Hunan. All these martyrs were beatified in 1946 and were among the 120 martyrs canonized in 2000.

Comment: Martyrdom is the occupational hazard of missionaries. Throughout China during the Boxer Uprising, five bishops, 50 priests, two brothers, 15 sisters and 40,000 Chinese Christians were killed. The 146,575 Catholics served by the Franciscans in China in 1906 had grown to 303,760 by 1924 and were served by 282 Franciscans and 174 local priests. Great sacrifices often bring great results.

Quote: "Martyrdom is part of the Church's nature since it manifests Christian death in its pure form, as the death of unrestrained faith, which is otherwise hidden in the ambivalence of all human events. Through martyrdom the Church's holiness, instead of remaining purely subjective, achieves by God's grace the visible expression it needs. As early as the second century one who accepted death for the sake of Christian faith or Christian morals was looked on and revered as a 'martyr' (witness). The term is scriptural in that Jesus Christ is the 'faithful witness' absolutely (Revelations 1:5; 3:14)" (Karl Rahner, *Theological Dictionary*, volume 2, pp. 108-09).

July 9 St. Nicholas Pick and Companions (d. 1572)

It is not always possible to choose when and how we will witness to our faith. In 1568 the Low Countries revolted against Spain. In the northern part (now the Netherlands), the revolt was also directed against Catholicism. This rebellion ultimately led to the recognition in 1648 of an independent Republic of United Provinces (Netherlands). Nicholas and his companions (11 Franciscans and eight diocesan priests) are also known as "the martyrs of Gorcum," where they were arrested by Calvinist soldiers. They were taken to Briel and urged to renounce the Roman Catholic teaching on Christ's presence in the Eucharist and on the pope's primacy. They refused and were hung from crossbeams. The execution was clumsily handled; it took two hours for some of them to strangle. They were canonized in 1867.



Comment: Notice which teachings were presented to these martyrs. Turning the Eucharist into some vague remembrance of Christ and denying the leadership of the successor of Peter might have seemed easy. Nicholas and his companions knew these teachings were part of God's plan for his people, and so they would not deny their faith. Both the Eucharist and the successor of Peter will eventually be instrumental in restoring unity among Christians.

Quote: "'The hour is now at hand,' Father Nicholas said, 'to receive from the hand of the Lord the long desired reward of the struggle, the crown of eternal happiness.' He encouraged them [his companions] not to fear death nor to lose through cowardice the crown prepared for them and soon to be placed on their brows. Finally he prayed that they would joyfully follow the path on which they saw him leading the way. With these and similar words he joyfully mounted the ladder without ceasing to exhort his companions until strangulation deprived him of the use of his voice" (contemporary account of the martyrdom).

July 10 St. Veronica Giuliani (1660-1727)



Veronica's desire to be like Christ crucified was answered with the stigmata. Veronica was born in Mercatelli, Italy. It is said that when her mother Benedetta was dying she called her five daughters to her bedside and entrusted each of them to one of the five wounds of Jesus. Veronica was entrusted to the wound below Christ's heart. At the age of 17, Veronica joined the Poor Clares directed by the Capuchins. Her father had wanted her to marry, but she convinced him to allow her to become a nun. In her first years in the monastery, she worked in the kitchen, infirmary and sacristy and also served as portress. At the age of 34, she was made novice mistress, a position she held for 22 years.

When she was 37, Veronica received the stigmata. Life was not the same after that. Church authorities in Rome wanted to test Veronica's authenticity and so conducted an investigation. She lost the office of novice mistress temporarily and was not allowed to attend Mass except on Sundays or holy days. Through all of this Veronica did not become bitter, and the investigation eventually restored her as novice mistress. Though she protested against it, at the age of 56 she was elected abbess, an office she held for 11 years until her death. Veronica was very devoted to the Eucharist and to the Sacred Heart. She offered her sufferings for the missions. Veronica was canonized in 1839.

Comment: Why did God grant the stigmata to Francis of Assisi and to Veronica? God alone knows the deepest reasons, but as Celano points out, the external sign of the cross is a confirmation of these saints' commitment to the cross in their lives. The stigmata that appeared in Veronica's flesh had taken root in her heart many years before. It was a fitting conclusion for her love of God and her charity toward her sisters.

Quote: Thomas of Celano says of Francis: "All the pleasures of the world were a cross to him, because he carried the cross of Christ rooted in his heart. And therefore the stigmata shone forth exteriorly in his flesh, because interiorly that deeply set root was sprouting forth from his mind" (2 Celano, #211).

July 11 St. Benedict (480?-543)

It is unfortunate that no contemporary biography was written of a man who has exercised the greatest influence on monasticism in the West. Benedict is well recognized in the later Dialogues of St. Gregory, but these are sketches to illustrate miraculous elements of his career. Benedict was born into a distinguished family in central Italy, studied at Rome and early in life was drawn to the monastic life.



At first he became a hermit, leaving a depressing world's pagan armies on the march, the Church torn by schism, people suffering from war, morality at a low ebb. He soon realized that he could not live a hidden life in a small town any better than in a large city, so he withdrew to a cave high in the mountains for three years. Some monks chose him as their leader for a while, but found his strictness not to their taste. Still, the shift from hermit to community life had begun for him. He had an idea of gathering various families of monks into one Grand Monastery to give them the benefit of unity, fraternity, permanent worship in one house. Finally he began to build what was to become one of the most famous monasteries in the world, Monte Cassino, commanding three narrow valleys running toward the mountains north of Naples. The Rule that gradually developed prescribed a life of liturgical prayer, study, manual labor and living together in community under a common father (abbot). Benedictine asceticism is known for its moderation, and Benedictine charity has always shown concern for the people in the surrounding countryside. In the course of the Middle Ages, all monasticism in the West was gradually brought under the Rule of St. Benedict. Today the Benedictine family is represented by two branches: the Benedictine Federation and the Cistercians.

Comment: The Church has been blessed through Benedictine devotion to the liturgy, not only in its actual celebration with rich and proper ceremony in the great abbeys, but also through the scholarly studies of many of its members. Liturgy is sometimes confused with guitars or choirs, Latin or Bach. We should be grateful to those who both preserve and adapt the genuine tradition of worship in the Church.

Quote: Rightly, then, the liturgy is considered as an exercise of the priestly office of Jesus Christ. In the liturgy the sanctification of man is manifested by signs perceptible to the senses...; in the liturgy full public worship is performed by the Mystical Body of Jesus Christ, that is, by the Head and his members. From this it follows that every liturgical celebration, because it is an action of Christ the priest and of his Body the Church, is a sacred action, surpassing all others. (Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, 7).

July 12 Sts. John Jones and John Wall (c. 1530-1598; 1620-1679)

These two friars were martyred in England in the 16th and 17th centuries for refusing to deny their faith. John Jones was Welsh. He was ordained a diocesan priest and was twice imprisoned for administering the sacraments before leaving England in 1590. He joined the Franciscans at the age of 60 and returned to England three years later while Queen Elizabeth I was at the height of her power. John ministered to Catholics in the English countryside until his imprisonment in 1596. He was condemned to be hanged, drawn and quartered. John was executed on July 12, 1598. John Wall was born in England but was educated at the English College of Douai, Belgium. Ordained in Rome in 1648, he entered the Franciscans in Douai several years later. In 1656 he returned to work secretly in England. In 1678 Titus Oates worked many English people into a frenzy over an alleged papal plot to murder the king and restore Catholicism in that country. In that year Catholics were legally excluded from Parliament, a law which was not repealed until 1829. John Wall was arrested and imprisoned in 1678 and was executed the following year. John Jones and John Wall were canonized in 1970.



Comment: Every martyr knows how to save his/her life and yet refuses to do so. A public repudiation of the faith would save any of them. But some things are more precious than life itself. These martyrs prove that their 20th-century countryman, C. S. Lewis, was correct in saying that courage is not simply one of the virtues but the form (shape) of every virtue at the testing point, that is, at the point of highest reality.

Quote: "No one is a martyr for a conclusion; no one is a martyr for an opinion. It is faith that makes martyrs" (Cardinal Newman, Discourses to Mixed Congregations).

July 13 St. Henry (972-1024)



As German king and Holy Roman Emperor, Henry was a practical man of affairs. He was energetic in consolidating his rule. He crushed rebellions and feuds. On all sides he had to deal with drawn-out disputes so as to protect his frontiers. This involved him in a number of battles, especially in the south in Italy; he also helped Pope Benedict VIII quell disturbances in Rome. Always his ultimate purpose was to establish a stable peace in Europe. According to eleventh-century custom, Henry took advantage of his position and appointed as bishops men loyal to him. In his case, however, he avoided the pitfalls of this practice and actually fostered the reform of ecclesiastical and monastic life.

Comment: All in all, this saint was a man of his times. From our standpoint, he may have been too quick to do battle and too ready to use power to accomplish reforms. But, granted such limitations, he shows that holiness is possible in a busy secular life. It is in doing our job that we become saints.

Quote: We deem it opportune to remind our children of their duty to take an active part in public life and to contribute toward the attainment of the common good of the entire human family as well as to that of their own political community. They should endeavor, therefore, in the light of their Christian faith and led by love, to insure that the various institutions whether economic, social, cultural or political in purpose should be such as not to create obstacles, but rather to facilitate or render less arduous man perfecting of himself in both the natural order and the supernatural.... Every believer in this world of ours must be a spark of light, a center of love, a vivifying leaven amidst his fellow men. And he will be this all the more perfectly, the more closely he lives in communion with God in the intimacy of his own soul (Blessed Pope John XXIII, Peace on Earth, 146, 164).

July 14 St. Francis Solano (1549-1610)

Francis came from a leading family in Andalusia, Spain. Perhaps it was his popularity as a student that enabled Francis in his teens to stop two duelists. He entered the Friars Minor in 1570, and after ordination enthusiastically sacrificed himself for others. His care for the sick during an epidemic drew so much admiration that he became embarrassed and asked to be sent to the African missions. Instead he was sent to South America in 1589. While working in what is now Argentina, Bolivia and Paraguay, Francis quickly learned the local languages and was well received by the indigenous peoples. His visits to the sick often included playing a song on his violin. Around 1601 he was called to Lima, Peru, where he tried to recall the Spanish colonists to their baptismal integrity. Francis also worked to defend the indigenous peoples from oppression. He died in Lima and was canonized in 1726.



Comment: Francis of Solano knew from experience that the lives of Christians sometimes greatly hinder the spread of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Francis lived an exemplary life himself, and urged his fellow Spaniards to make their lives worthy of their Baptism.

Quote: "When Francis Solano was about to die, one of the friars asked him, 'Father, when God takes you to heaven remember me when you enter the everlasting kingdom.' With joy Francis answered, 'It is true, I am going to heaven but this is so because of the merits of the passion and death of Christ; I am the greatest of sinners. When I reach our homeland, I will be your good friend'" (contemporary biography of St. Francis Solano).

Many people have a difficult time accepting what is offered for free. We all want to know what the catch is. Someone offering us money for no reason, or an offer that seems too good to be true, these all make us suspicious. So too with Christianity. While many of the early martyrs of the Church were called to suffer horrors for the faith, there have been countless millions upon whom such suffering has not been visited. All they were called to do was love God and serve their neighbor in gratitude. There are stories from the early Church which have the faithful ones almost craving the sufferings of persecution -- they wanted to claim the honor of suffering for Christ who suffered for us. But such drama should not be our goal. Yes, Paul speaks of an illness that was there to keep him humble; Ezekiel, in the time before Christ speaks of the rejection he received as part of the mission God gave him. For him success is not in winning converts, it is in being faithful to the word. But for most of us, we need to do what seems easier but can be a greater challenge to our faith. We need to live in simple gratitude for the free gift of Jesus. So it is interesting that the readings of suffering for God meet the prayers today which speak of simple gratitude for the gift that is Jesus. Do you have sufferings in your life for Jesus? If so, embrace them and see them through. If not, embrace the life that God has given you. Embrace the gift of Christ and use your freedom from suffering as a call to deeper service for those in need. By Glenn CJ Byer, MA SLD © 2009, OCP. All rights reserved.

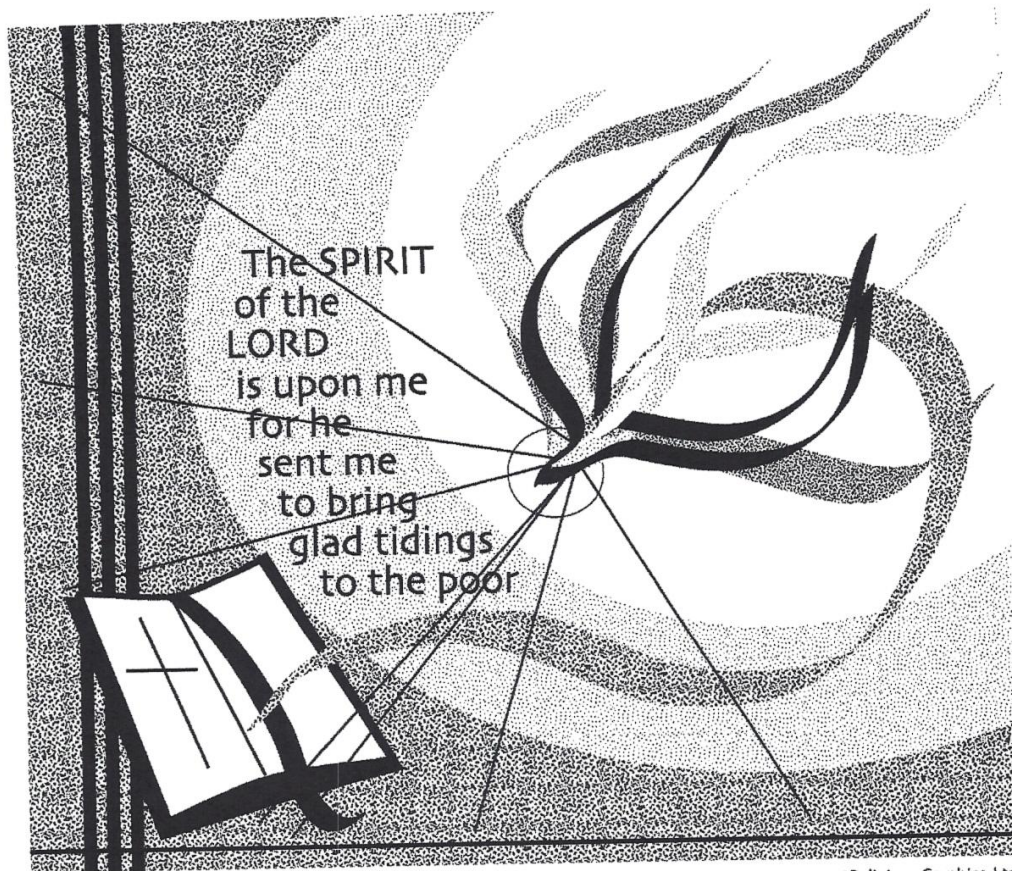


To the Word of the Lord we say Amen

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Rejection resulting in the resignation: There was a feud between the Pastor and the Choir Director of a Southern Baptist parish. The first hint of trouble came when the Pastor preached on "Dedicating oneself to service" and the Choir Director chose to sing: "I Shall Not Be Moved". Trying to believe it was a coincidence, the Pastor put the incident behind him. The next Sunday he preached on "giving". Afterwards, the choir squirmed as the director led them in the hymn: "Jesus Paid It All" By this time, the Pastor was losing his temper. Sunday morning attendance swelled as the tension between the two began public. A large crowd showed up the next week to hear his sermon on the "sin of gossiping". Would you believe the Choir Director selected: "I Love To Tell the Story." There was no turning back. The following Sunday the Pastor told the congregation that unless something changed he was considering resignation. The entire church gasped when the Choir Director led them in: "Why Not Tonight." Truthfully, no one was surprised when the Pastor resigned a week later, explaining that Jesus had led him there and Jesus was leading him away. The Choir Director could not resist singing: "What a Friend We Have In Jesus." Fr. Anthony Kadavil.

The story is told of a Franciscan monk in Australia assigned to be the guide and "gofer" to Mother Teresa when she visited New South Wales. Thrilled and excited at the prospect of being so close to this great woman, he dreamed of how much he would learn from her and what they would talk about. But during her visit, he became frustrated. Although he was constantly near her, the friar never had the opportunity to say one word to Mother Teresa. There were always other people for her to meet. Finally, her tour was over, and she was due to fly to New Guinea. In desperation, the Franciscan friar spoke to Mother Teresa: "If I pay my own fare to New Guinea, can I sit next to you on the plane so I can talk to you and learn from you?" Mother Teresa looked at him. "You have enough money to pay airfare to New Guinea?" she asked. "Yes," he replied eagerly. "Then give that money to the poor," she said. "You'll learn more from that than anything I can tell you." Mother Teresa understood that Jesus' ministry was to the poor and she made it hers as well. She knew that they, more than anyone else, needed good news. Fr. Anthony Kadavil



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Roman Missal

Liturgical Reflection...

When the Sacred Scriptures are proclaimed at Mass, God himself speaks to his people. It is the ancient practice of the Christian community to stand for the Gospel proclamation for we believe that it is Christ, present in the word, who himself proclaims the Gospel and speaks to us. The Church invites silence after the first and second reading; a period of silence follows the homily. Scripture is always proclaimed at the ambo which is visible to all and provides audibility to everyone gathered for Mass. Lectors are to be properly trained in the proclamation of the word of God at liturgy.

2012, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 South Logan Boulevard, Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648.

STRENGTH IN WEAKNESS



No profit in prophecy." In his hometown, Jesus found people were too close to him to have faith in him, his words and his work. Amazed at their lack of faith, he felt the strength of his weakness. Our task is to learn the fragility of our own status and find our strength in the Lord. Then we can prophesy: tell the truth about reality and speak of the Lord's steadfast care for each and every one of us. Come, Lord Jesus! Maranatha! Text, Philip J. Sandstrom, STD © 2000, OCP. All rights reserved.

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

We all admire strength. The discovery that even our role models have weaknesses throws us for a loss. We value strength so greatly that we cope very poorly with weakness. Today's readings present three individuals who experienced significant weakness in the exercise of their mission. Ironically their achievements become a basis for hope. In weakness there can be strength.

The first reading is part of Ezekiel's vocation scene. In the year 593 B.C. God appeared to this priest and called him to be a prophet in Babylon, the land of the Israelites' exile. Ezekiel felt the Lord's power but was also keenly aware of the hardheartedness of those around him. Nevertheless he accepted. Ezekiel was often distraught, but he was also resilient -- weak yet strong.

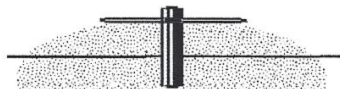
Paul says he was given "a messenger of Satan to torment me," to keep him from getting proud (2 Corinthians 12:7). Paul asks God to remove the affliction, "but he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.' So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me" (2 Corinthians 12:9). This experience helped Paul recognize the interrelatedness of weakness and strength. The weaker the person, the greater the display of God's power.

When Jesus returns to his hometown, the people reject him. They sense a glaring discrepancy between his family tree and his teaching and miracles. Jesus reacts with discouragement and astonishment. Apart from curing a few sick he works no miracles since the lack of faith is too distressing. In this synagogue scene Mark is probably foreshadowing the final rejection on Good Friday (see Mark 15:11-15). However, the last word is not defeat, as the empty tomb testifies.

God is able to use our faults as well as our virtues. Weakness need not be the final word. -- John Craghan, Th.D., S.S.L. Copyright 1997, Liguori Publications / Liguori, MO 63057-9999



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Suffer all things for the sake of CHRIST

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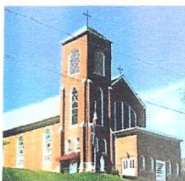
The spirit of the prayers and antiphons today seem to revolve around gratitude for the gift of Jesus. While this is always our 'theme' in the liturgy, today's texts seem to be focused on this in an even more dramatic manner. The collect names the passion of Christ as the means by which a fallen world is restored, and the prayer after Communion asks that we be ever grateful for the gifts of life and salvation we receive through the Eucharist. The entrance antiphon speaks of the name of God and the praise of that name reaching to the ends of the earth. That same name is the focus of the prayer over the offerings. By Glenn CJ Byer, MA SLD © 2003, OCP. All rights reserved.

Please keep in your prayers **James Abrashoff**, nephew of Julia Madden, and all who died recently. *Eternal life grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God, live in peace. Amen.*

Please pray for all who are sick, recovering, or homebound: Wade Stains, Maggie Szczerba; Gerald Topper; Milagras Sniath, daughter of Carmen Rivera; Bonnie Wright Hook, (niece of Jim Callahan), Darwin O'Donnell; Ann Norris; Tim Wilkerson; Cinda Linn; Marion Porter (sister of Jerry Norris); Fred & Joan Renninger; John Booher; Fr. Joseph Fleming; Leonard Slates; Helen Jenkins; Eva Roddy; Paul Yakymac; Ashleigh Hicks; Valentine Johnson; Kylie Hammon, Lisa McDermott; Andy Kurey; Connie Flaherty, niece of Joan Wenzel; Barb McMath; Darlene McMath; Jennifer Rosenberry Jenkins; Arthur Smith, Eric Giacobello; Carmella Ciccaglione; Mae Galla; Brian Baker, son-in-law of Ed McGarvey; John Austin; Dakota Hammon; George Bodnar; Lenny Leonard; John Dell, son-in-law of Jerry & Ann Norris; Marie Christine Giacobello Shiffler; Denny Hanes, brother of Nancy Kumpf; Rose Rocammo; Valerie Thomas; Larry Puchalla; Emily Kerstetter, niece of Mary Secrest; Joanie Jenkins, granddaughter of Mary Leonard; Howard Fleck, father-in-law of Patty Fleck; Marie Sgro, relative of Dorothy Dell; Shawna Todaro; Jerry Brown, father of Dan Brown; Stanley Holesa; John Sweatlock, brother of Maggie Szczerba; Vicki Sample; Brian Doyle; Robert Sossong, nephew of Kenneth Sossong; Bucky Moore; Linda Wagner; Pierre Brenneman; Richard Buffone; Helen Giacobello; Jordan Dimoff; Cory Dixon; Alivia Thomas Hanes; Adele Whitaker; Diana Rutherford; Barb Rourke; Maxine Barrett; Doug & Katy Widenor; Russ Matthews, son of Mae Galla; Carolyn Ann McMath Harbaugh, niece of Martha Cullen; Jim Myers; Ann Salamon; Sally Ann Cunningham; Adeline Cialone; Harry Cholewinski; Erma Ticconi; Betty Renninger in O'Hesson Manor; John Benson; John Remek in VA Home; Charles Peck; Matilda Piskura, Joseph Seback, Thomas Koharchik, family of Fr. George; Tom Isenberg; and all the homebound of the parish, particularly those at Westminster Woods: Mary Fink; at Woodland Retirement Center: Paul McGarvey, Kathryn Wilson; Joan Wenzel; Robert Phillips, Erma Ticconi, and Gladys Thomas; and those at Meadowview Nursing Home: Stella Los, Mary Bender, Clara Kaniecky, Jack Ratchford. Ann Homolash is at Hearthsides, 450 Waupelani Dr, State College, PA 16801. Phyllis Neary is at Christ the King Manor, 1100 W. Long Mignot Ave, Du Bois, PA 15801-8722. *If you know anyone who would like to have a visit, or Communion, please let me know; also, let us know if there are any additions or deletions to the list. Also pray for all those called up to military service, as well as the victims of natural disasters throughout the world.*



PRAYER CHAIN: If you have someone for whom you would like to request prayer, please get in touch with Connie Singer, 542-8222; Liz Stasenکو, 542-4987, or Carmela Ciccaglione, 542-4281; they will contact the people on their list. If you want the person's name to remain anonymous, just ask for a special intention, etc. The Lists include: CONNIE SINGER: Suzanne Boyer, Betty Renninger, Maria Danish, Nancy States, Mercy Miller; LIZ STASENKO: Bonnie Melnyk, Aric & Tara Miller, Maggie Stiffler, Jeannette Bumbaugh, Ann Cutshall, Cathy Wilson; CARMELA CICCAGLIONE: Ann Gilliland, Mary Gaisior, Carmen Rivera, Valerie Thomas, Melissa Fleming. Those on the list will be called when a request is received, but the prayer chain will not be held up if the contact person is unable to reach you. If anyone else would like to be added to the Prayer Chain, please call the Rectory or one of the contact persons.



ANNIVERSARY NEWS

The upcoming Anniversary Events will include a gathering at Crouse's in Hill Valley in honor of Sr. Madelyn Ribycki on July 21, and the Parish Picnic at Del Grosso's on Saturday, August 11.



SANCTUARY CANDLE
Poor Souls

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

July 15, 2012
6:30 p.m. Regular Council
School Hall

SERVER SCHEDULE

Weekend of July 14 & July 15
Sat. 5:00 p.m. Jerry Norris

Sun. 9:00 a.m. Erica Cooper
Kylie Hammon
Devin Crouse

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS

July 11, 2012
7:00 p.m.

READERS

Weekend of July 14 & July 15
Sat. 5:00 p.m. Elizabeth Stasenko
Sun. 9:00 a.m. Suzanne Brown
Clay Glenn

BIRTHDAYS

July. 8 – July 14, 2012
Scott Cooper, Connie Suchan, Mary
Calupca, Patricia Fleck, Maria Melnyk



EXTRAORDINARY

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Weekend of July 14 & July 15
Sat. 5:00 p.m. Elizabeth Stasenko
Mary Lyons
Maria Danish

Sun 9:00 a.m. Ray Singer
Will Crouse
Mary Gaisior

FINANCIAL REPORT

Balance June 30, 2012	\$39,783.10
Weekly	1,251.00
Youth	11.00
Loose	127.00
Monthly	260.00
Peter's Pence	10.00
Stipends	180.00
Votive	55.65
Income for Week	\$1,894.65

Expenses \$2,030.03
(Payroll \$1,278.64, Music License Renewal \$165.00; Marriage Preparation Materials \$216.91; 2013 Catholic Directory \$44.00; Loose to Cemetery \$127.00; Annual Catholic Appeal \$100.00; Water Church \$24.83; Water Rectory \$38.73; Filter for Pond \$34.92)

Balance July 7, 2012 \$39,647.72

Annual Catholic Appeal

Parish Goal	\$ 10,823.00	
Pledges to Date	\$ 11,135.00	102%
Number of Gifts	72	49

GIFT BEARERS

Weekend of July 14 & July 15
Sat. 5:00 p.m. Daschbach Family
Sun. 9:00 a.m. Carol Williams

GREETERS

Weekend of July 14 & July 15
Sat. 5:00 p.m. Maria Danish
Sun 9:00 a.m. Kurt Roddy

Loose collection

1st Sunday of month:	St. Catherine's Cemetery
3rd Sunday of month:	St. Vincent dePaul Society
4th Sunday of month:	Charity

July 8, 2012

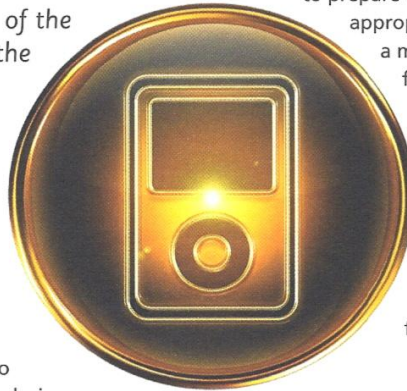
Dear Padre

Is it OK to listen to private music in church?

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P Listening to Christian music is the best way for me to clear my mind and focus on Jesus. Would it be disrespectful if I brought an MP3 player with Christian music to listen to during Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament? Also, the people in my parish talk and laugh all the way up until Mass begins. Would it be OK to listen to my own music until Mass starts?

Ashford



Dear Ashford,

It would not be disrespectful to privately listen to Christian music during adoration if it helps you focus on Jesus as long as your music can't be heard by people sitting near you. Many times people sitting next to me on the bus are listening to music, and I can hear it even though they're using headphones. So be sure to have

someone help you test your headphones to be sure your music won't bother anyone.

The time before Mass is a different story. The *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* says that silence before Mass is necessary to allow everyone to prepare to celebrate the Eucharist in an appropriate manner (45). This isn't just a matter of personal preference—it's for everyone.

Therefore, rather than escaping with your headphones, ask a member of your parish staff how parishioners can be better educated that silence before Mass is a requirement that will help them focus on—and therefore participate more fully in—the celebration.

PATRICK KEYES, CSSR
sundaybulletins@liguori.org

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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
JULY 9	JULY 10	JULY 11	JULY 12	JULY 13	JULY 14	JULY 15
Weekday	Weekday	Saint Benedict, Abbot	Weekday	Weekday	Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha, virgin	Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Hos 2:16, 17b-18, 21-22 Mt 9:18-26	Hos 8:4-7, 11-13 Mt 9:32-38	Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12 Mt 10:1-7	Hos 11:1-4, 8c-9 Mt 10:7-15	Hos 14:2-10 Mt 10:16-23	Is 6:1-8 Mt 10:24-33	Am 7:12-15 Eph 1:3-14 or 1:3-10 Mk 6:7-13