

# THE 18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## July 31, 2022



### *Saint Stanislaus Catholic Church*

516 East 13th Street  
Erie, Pennsylvania 16503  
814.452.6606  
[www.ststanserie.org](http://www.ststanserie.org)  
email: [ststaner@outlook.com](mailto:ststaner@outlook.com)

Fr. Jason Glover, S.T.L., Pastor  
Msgr. Daniel Magraw, Senior Associate  
Debbie Oldenski, Secretary  
Thaddeus Fryczynski, Director of Music

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:30AM - 3:00 PM  
(Closed 12:00PM - 1:00PM, Saturdays, Sundays, & Holidays)

**Weekend Eucharistic Liturgy:**  
**Saturday at 4:00PM; Sunday at 9:00AM**  
**\* Daily Eucharist: Call the Parish Office**

### *Holy Trinity Catholic Church*

2220 Reed Street  
Erie, Pennsylvania 16503  
814.456.0671  
[www.holytrinityrc.org](http://www.holytrinityrc.org)  
email: [parishoffice@holytrinityrc.org](mailto:parishoffice@holytrinityrc.org)

Fr. Jason Glover, S.T.L., Pastor  
Msgr. Daniel Magraw, Senior Associate  
Mary Ann Merski, Secretary  
Jeannie McGinley, Director of Music

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00AM - 4:00PM  
(Closed 12:00PM - 1:00PM, Saturdays, Sundays, & Holidays)

**Weekend Eucharistic Liturgy:**  
**Saturday at 5:15PM; Sunday at 10:30AM**  
**\* Daily Eucharist: Call the Parish Office**



## *Saint Stanislaus & Holy Trinity*

### *Partners in Faith & Mission*



July 31, 2022

#### 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

What makes us feel secure? Many people look to tangible forms of security that will safeguard their livelihood and prepare for their future. We tend to associate security with things: the accumulation of goods and possessions, retirement funds, savings accounts, and substantial incomes. While acquiring these promises a life with less anxiety and worry, we actually find ourselves more preoccupied and consumed with their growth and preservation. We worry more! We can easily become quasi-hoarders, consumed with obtaining more tangible crutches. Our minds and hearts are always restless, and we never seem to be at peace.

Why do we so easily give our self-worth, value, and sense of security over to things? God certainly does not deny us the pursuit of a productive and enjoyable life but where do we draw the line? A sense of well-being and happiness can easily get deferred to sometime "in the future" while we continue to wrestle with the toils of today. There is no guarantee that there will be an earthly tomorrow and all of the frenzy we bring to securing our state in life will be for naught. When we are called from this world, will we even know where to begin to look for the tranquility and repose our souls so desperately need?

We cannot be hoarders, pursuers of vanity, or greedy. They just don't work as they are too dependent on things that can fall apart. Rather than always feeling the need for more, we need to learn how to be grateful for what we have. By learning to look inward we can learn how to live lives of faithful service to others. "Happiness can only be achieved by looking inward and learning to enjoy whatever life has, and this requires transforming greed into gratitude (St. John Chrysostom)." We all need to be good stewards of what has been entrusted to our care. Grateful hearts recognize the true source of what we have and realize that our true treasure lies not in what matters to us but to God.

#### Readings for the week of July 31, 2022

Sunday: Eccl 1:2; 2:21-23/Ps 90:3-6, 12-17/Col 3:1-5, 9-11/Lk 12:13-21  
Monday: Jer 28:1-17/Ps 119:29, 43, 79, 80, 95, 102/Mt 14:13-21  
Tuesday: Jer 30:1-2, 12-22/Ps 102:16-29/Mt 14:22-36  
Wednesday: Jer 31:1-7/Jer 31:10, 11-13/Mt 15:21-28  
Thursday: Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:12-19/Mt 16:13-23  
Friday: Na 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7/Dt 32:35-41/Mt 16:24-28  
Saturday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/Ps 97:1-9/2 Pt 1:16-19/Lk 9:28-36  
Next Sunday: Wis 18:6-9/Ps 33:1, 12, 18-22/Heb 11:1-2, 8-19/Lk 12:32-48

**Sacrament of Baptism:** Sacramental preparation is required of the parents who desire to share the Catholic faith with their children and are held monthly throughout the City of Erie. Call the parish office to register to schedule your preparation. Godparents must be Confirmed and practicing Catholics with a letter of recommendation from their pastor to serve as a sacramental sponsor.

**Religious Education, First Holy Communion, and First Reconciliation** programs are hosted at Saint Luke's Church for all eastside Erie parishes. Contact their parish office for more information and to register your child (814.825.7105).

**Confirmation** preparation for all eastside Erie parishes is hosted at Saint Luke's Church. Contact their parish office for more information and to register your child (814.825.6920).

**Sacrament of Holy Orders:** God calls all people to holiness. Some men are called to fulfill this vocation as priests. If you are interested in the priesthood, or have questions about it, please contact a parish priest or our Diocesan Vocation Director, Scott Jabo, at 1.814.824.1181.

**Sacrament of Matrimony:** Before a date can be scheduled, a priest must be contacted at least six months in advance to complete the required documents.

**Sacrament of the Sick:** Communal celebrations of Anointing the Sick are scheduled periodically. The sacrament can also be requested by any parishioner who is seriously ill or in danger of death. *Please note:* Federal law no longer permits hospitals or nursing homes to contact churches when a parishioner is admitted. It is important that family members notify the parish office if a loved one needs a visit, desires to receive Holy Communion, or needs to be Anointed.

**Leave A Legacy:** Consider Saint Stanislaus and Holy Trinity as you meet with your attorney or financial planner regarding your estate planning. Remember the needs of your parish family and leave a legacy of faith for future generations with your generous remembrance.

**Bulletin Information Deadline:** Please submit information to be included in the weekend bulletin by noon the Monday prior. Holiday bulletin announcements must be received by the parish office two weeks in advance.

# *Saint Stanislaus & Holy Trinity*

## *Partners in Faith & Mission*

### **"PRAYER, CARE, AND CONCERN" MINISTRY**

Those who participate in this ministry express the care and concern of our entire parish community to those who are ill, hospitalized, homebound, or in nursing facilities, through birthday and holiday cards, visits, and prayers. To request prayers, or to participate in this ministry, contact Saint Stanislaus Office (814-452-6606).

### **"PRAYERLINE" MINISTRY**

These ministers devote themselves to prayer for any needs made known to them and any special intentions. To participate in this ministry, or to request prayers for a particular need, contact Kay (825-7328) or Shirley (452.3395) from St. Stanislaus, or Kathy (392-8974) at Holy Trinity.

### **PCEP (Parish Catholic Education Program)**

Parishioners of Holy Trinity can receive a parish grant to assist with the cost of tuition for families who wish their primary or secondary school age children to have a Catholic education. To be eligible, families must participate in the program, attend Mass regularly, and be involved in the parish community. For more information, contact the parish office.

### **LITURGICAL MINISTRIES**

Parishioners interested in serving our worshipping community as an altar server, lector, Eucharistic minister, or music minister, please let one of your priests know.

### **"PRAYER SHAWL" MINISTRY**

The enjoyment of knitting, crocheting, and sewing are uniquely combined with prayer to offer a deeply personal and meaningful spiritual ministry. Shawls are prayerfully made and freely given away to those suffering bereavement, those recovering from illness, the elderly, homebound, and those in nursing facilities. To join us in this ministry, please contact Sue (450-2987).

### **THE "ZABAWA COMMITTEE"**

Held on the parish grounds of Holy Trinity, Zabawa is the largest Polish heritage celebration in the region, drawing tens of thousands of people to our neighborhood. The Zabawa Committee organizes the festival through food preparation, donation solicitation, food and beverage service, and so on. The committee always welcomes any help they receive. If you would like to offer your time, and experience hands-on learning about these rich cultural traditions, contact Ray (882-1032).

### **PROLIFE COMMUNITY**

This ministry advocates through for the protection of all human life from conception until natural death through prayer, education, and action.

### **"PRAYER CANDLE" MAKING MINISTRY**

This ministry makes prayer candles from the church's left over bee's wax. They meet on Wednesdays, from 10AM - Noon in St. Stanislaus Parish Hall. No experience necessary.

### **ST. STANISLAUS / HOLY TRINITY INITIAL PARISHIONER REGISTRATION FORM**

(please circle which parish)

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Check: ☐ New Registration ☐ Change of Address ☐ Change of Telephone Number

☐ Change of E-mail ☐ Moving out of Parish ☐ Want Envelopes

*Place in offertory basket or mail to Parish Office. We will contact you to complete our Census Form.  
Welcome to our Parish Family!*

*A Community of Faith Built on Tradition, Where Everyone is Welcome*



# Saint Stanislaus Parish Community

## MASS INTENTIONS

Mon., Aug. 1st - Private Intention  
 Tues., Aug. 2nd - Evelyn Komorek Schneidmiller (St. Stan's Lunch Bunch)  
 Wed., Aug. 3rd - William Hurt (H. Angeloff)  
 Thurs., Aug. 4th - Gabriella Wlodarczyk (Family)  
 Fri., Aug. 5th - Joseph Macioch (Family)  
 Sat., Aug. 6th, 4:00PM - Tom Konkol (Kathy Rzodkiewicz)  
 Sun., Aug. 7th, 9:00AM - For the People of St. Stanislaus (*Pro Populo*)



Our sanctuary candle burns in memory of **J.D. Zimmerman**, as gifted by the Family.



## SAINT ROCH "MULTI-PARISH" MEGA-RAFFLE

We will, once again, participate in the St. Roch Raffle. St. Roch is a parish located in Greenwich, CT. They reach out to many, many parishes along the east coast to solicit participation. We were first invited to participate two years ago. On short notice, we didn't really "push" the raffle, but we do profit from it.

Tickets are \$25 each; 50% of all ticket sales (\$12.50/ticket) remain at St. Stanislaus. Prizes are paid out in American Express Gift Cards. First prize is \$30,000; second is \$10,000; third is \$8,000. There are also 20 winners of \$1,000. Drawing take place on August 13th and can be viewed live on-line. Please see John Villa for tickets, or call the Parish Office. Thanks for your support!

## BOILER UPDATE

This past week, we began the process of installing new piping leading to the rectory and in the boiler house itself. Thanks to your generosity, we have not yet needed to take out a loan for the project. We will continue to accept donations for this project throughout August. Next up: the main line from the boiler house to the school.



## WEEKLY OFFERING (JULY 24TH, 2022)

	This Week	July 1 to date
Amount we need	\$4,156.00	\$16,624.00
Amount Received	\$2,553.00	\$10,331.00
Net over/under	(\$1,603.00)	(\$6,293.00)

Mass Attendance: 4:00PM = 46; 9:00AM = 67  
 Envelopes: 57/168



## What We Store in the Barn

I once knew a godly woman who had truly tasted the bitterness of this earthly life. This woman knew pain. She knew sacrifice. She knew hard labor and loss, including the death of a cherished child. She worked each day at a low-paying job, waiting patiently for her 65th birthday, when she could retire and devote herself full-time to her grandchildren. She crossed off the dwindling days on her calendar like a first grader waiting for Christmas. Ninety-eight days before she was set to retire, she died suddenly. Her name was erased from the schedule at work and penciled over with that of her replacement hire. All things are vanity. I think we all know someone like this, don't we? If the details aren't exactly the same, the outline of the story is: someone labors "with wisdom and knowledge and skill," in the words of Ecclesiastes. And what profit comes to him? Sorrow and grief all his days. The proverbial barn filled with harvest and left to rot. But I'll let you in on a secret: this isn't a sad story. I've only told you part of it. This woman heard, daily, the voice of God, and against it she never hardened her heart, whatever news it brought her. This woman loved as hard as she worked. Every action was a form of evangelization. To talk to her was to feel the embrace of Christ. As much as she waited for that retirement that never came, it was never the harvest in her barn. This is what it means to be a true steward: to seek what is above.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Three priests sat discussing the best positions for prayer while a telephone repairman worked nearby. "Kneeling is definitely best," claimed one. "No," another contended. "I get the best results standing with my hands outstretched to Heaven." "You're both wrong," the third insisted. "The most effective prayer position is lying prostrate, face down on the floor." The repairman could contain himself no longer. "Hey, fellas," he interrupted, "the best praying' I ever did was hanging' upside down from a telephone pole."

**Just be thankful  
that it's not  
snowing. Imagine  
shovelling snow  
in this heat!**

# Holy Trinity Parish Community



The sanctuary candle burns this week in memory of **FLORENCE KAMINSKI & MAXINE KAVENEY**, as gifted by Jack Kaminski.



8/1 - Lilianna Moore  
8/3 - Nancy Michaels  
8/4 - Anna Czulewicz  
8/5 - Brooklyn LaZar  
8/7 - Marcus Brieger

## MASS INTENTIONS

Mon., Aug. 1st - Nancy Slubowski (Jack & Sandy)  
Tues., Aug. 2nd - Anna Marie Neimeic (Skip & Theresa)  
Wed., Aug. 3rd - All Living & Deceased Mothers  
Thurs., Aug. 4th - Living 7 Deceased Priest or the Diocese of Erie  
Fri., Aug. 5th - Kulig, Laszczewski, & Habas Families (Estate)  
Sat., Aug. 6th, 5:15PM - The People of Holy Trinity Parish (Pro Populo)  
Sun., Aug. 7th, 10:30AM - Irene Krol (Bill & Corinne Dyakon)

## WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS

A great recognition was bestowed on our parishioners Ken Brasington (son of Chuck Brasington). He was recently inducted into the athletic Hall of Fame for his outstanding accomplishments in Football and Track. Congratulations!

## ZABAWA PROGRAM ADS

Individuals or families wishing to include a personal message in the Zabawa 2022 program, please complete the flyer and return it to Holy Trinity's Parish Office as soon as possible. Thank you for your support!

## CSA FUNDS AT WORK

Because of your generous contributions to the CSA, our Marian grotto was cleaned, repaired, and repointed. Additionally, our parking lots were sealed and repainted. Soon, the stonework at the main stairs to the entrance of our church will be repaired and repointed. Many thanks for your support of the CSA!

Today's Gospel passage comes as a pat on the back from Heaven for all of us striving to live a stewardship way of life. It reminds us why we live the way we do and why we make the choices we make. Let's face it, if we truly embrace this way of life, there will be people who find our choices — based on serving God and others — downright foolish. But let's see what God thinks. Spoiler alert: turns out Christian stewards are not the fools! In this passage, Jesus makes it clear that life is not about "stuff" as he tells the parable of the wealthy businessman who thought he had everything figured out. The man had such an abundance of stuff that he didn't have room to store it all. So, thinking of earthly things and not on what is above, he decided to build a bigger place to store all that stuff. Patting himself on the back, he thought about what good times he would have in the years ahead. But Jesus tells us that day would turn out to be the man's last day on the earth. And he had spent it thinking only of himself. How foolish! Don't be ashamed of living differently from the people around you. Be confident as you set priorities based on what is above. You are wise in God's eyes, Christian steward. And you will be rich in what matters most.

## CHRUSCIKI MAKING

We will begin making chrusciki for Zabawa 2022 on **Monday, August 1st starting at 5:00PM** in the Social Hall. All are welcome to join us; no experience necessary! Up next: Golumpki making on **August 10, 11, 12.**

## WEEKLY OFFERING FOR JULY 24TH, 2022

Regular Offering: \$2,460.00 (25/130)

	THIS WEEK	JULY 1 TO DATE
Dream Goal:	\$4,000.00	\$15,000.00
Budgeted:	\$2,400.00	\$9,600.00
Total Offertory:	\$2,460.00	\$8,821.00
Net (over/under):	\$60.00	(\$779.00)

Attendance: 5:15PM = 43; 10:30AM = N/A

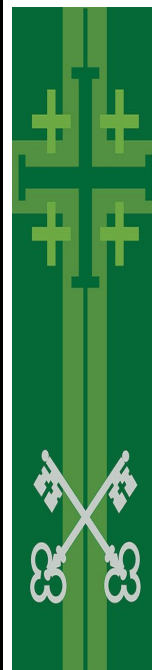
## The Parable of the Rich Fool

Then he said, "Beware! Guard against every kind of greed. Life is not measured by how much you own."  
Luke 12:15 (NLT)  
Based on Luke 12:13-21



C T G O O D T G R O U N D Z A  
O Y Y Z R D R I N K I Z Z P L  
T D N A G H I W U X A E O R I  
W O U T A F I E L Y G P I L F  
W G G N T M Y S J D I R S E E  
F F R E E A T E U S V N D A Y  
V F I K U K L J B S R I D E S  
Q O C M E R R Y D A V E I G T  
V O H S Z D T W B I E S N Z Q  
H L R T J A O U D R T I Q H R  
P G F F S R I N G O H C C E C  
G L R K C T K R H T P T G U B  
T I C A W H O D Q O A G Q F A  
G I X Y I X O R R W I V M M H  
L K T T J N X C E B R S Q V W

JUDGE	CROWD	THINGS	BARN	GUARD
STORE	EAT	BIGGER	LIFE	GREED
RICH	FOOL	DIVIDE	GROUND	DRINK
GOOD	CROP	WATCH	GRAIN	MERRY



*"...for though one may be rich, one's life does not consist of possessions."*

- Luke 12:15

## *News for Our Partnership*

### **TO PROTECT AND TO SERVE**

Fr. Jason has accepted a request from Chief Dan Spizarny to serve as the chaplain of the Erie Police Department. He will be sworn in as a Lieutenant in the near future. He will be involved at the department as his time permits. He will attend various meetings, respond to emergencies when needed, be present at memorial services and other annual gathers, and primarily be present to the officers. Please pray for Fr. Jason as he assumes this new ministry and pray, especially, for the officers of the City and other first responders.

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

Our annual parish picnic will be held on Sunday, August 14th, in the Saint Stanislaus Rectory courtyard from 3PM-7:00PM. The communities of St. Stan's, Holy Trinity, and St. Hedwig's are warmly invited to attend. The parish will provide the proteins (chicken, hamburgers, and hot dogs). As a *suggestion*, consider bringing a covered dish based on your family's last name:

A-G = salad (greens, macaroni, potato)

H-N = starch (potatoes, pasta, rice)

O-V = vegetable (casserole, beans, corn)

W-Z = dessert (cupcakes, cake, brownies)

These are just suggestions. If you have a favorite picnic dish you prefer to prepare, by all means! We had such a good time at our last "pre-Covid" picnic, and we look forward to this coming picnic!

### **A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE**

In today's gospel Jesus teaches us: "One's life does not consist of possessions." We spend so much time working to obtain more stuff; we don't have time for the people in our lives. What is enough? Are the words of Jesus, "You fool", meant for us?

### **GRAND RAFFLE 2022**

Tickets for Zabawa's Grand Raffle are still available in Holy Trinity's Parish Office. The Grand Prize is \$3,000; Second is \$2,000; and Third is \$1,000. Get yours while they last! Also, if you have tickets to turn in, please do so soon.

## **26 DAYS UNTIL ZABAWA 2022**

### **VOLUNTEERS WANTED**

Anyone willing to volunteer your time at Zabawa 2022, please call Holy Trinity's Parish Office with the days and times you would be available and someone will get in contact with you. Come and enjoy this glorious weekend!

### **UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

Be aware that our parishes are completely out of votive candles. An order was placed well before Easter. Hoffman's, who is our supplier, tells us that there are "supply chain issues" and they are not sure when the candles will be delivered. Until further notice, we encourage you to save your votive candle envelopes until we are resupplied. We will keep you posted...

### **PARENTING POINTERS**

"One's life does not consist of possessions." (Luke 12:15) Try telling that to your child! Children might have snatches of time when they recognize the value of parental love and commitment, but they still like toys. Challenge your family to a day without toys or tech stuff and create your own fun. Can you do it?

### **PLEASE NOTE**

Holy Trinity Masses will return to the church building on the weekend of **August 20th and 21st** so that we can begin preparations for Zabawa.

### **GOLABKI MAKING**

Volunteers are needed to begin making golabki (stuffed cabbage) for Holy Trinity's upcoming Zabawa. Volunteers will be gathered in Holy Trinity's Social Hall:

Wednesday, August 10th (Noon - 9PM)

Thursday, August 11th (9:00AM - 9:00PM)

Friday, August 12th (9:00AM - until done)

All help is welcomed for however much time you have to give. No experience is necessary.

### **THE 31 CLUB - PRAYING FOR VOCATIONS**

8/1) Kathy Smith, Debbie Majewski, & Mary Speice; 8/2) Open; 8/3) Judy Tucceri & Jackie Vargo;  
8/4) Patty & Ed Czulewicz, & Marie Przepierski; 8/5) Mary Ann Merski & Michelle Inter; 8/6) Msgr. Dan Magraw;  
8/7) Ed Korytowski & Lori Krasnesky

### **PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS**

8/1) Fr. Bill Laska; 8/2) Fr. John Hindman; 8/3) Fr. David Whiteford; 8/4) Fr. Kevin Holland;  
8/5) Fr. John Fischer; 8/6) Fr. Tom Whitman; 8/8) Fr. Casimir Wozniak



## Sunday, Jul 31, 2022

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23; Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11; Luke 12:13-21

"For what profit comes to [us] from all the toil and anxiety of heart with which [we have] labored under the sun?"

### Dizzy yet?

Do you ever feel like the world is spinning out of control? You're not alone: Pope Francis has called this effect of modern culture "rapidification." It's not just you: Things really are happening, progressing, and becoming obsolete faster - including what many of us do for a living. We're not unlike the tragic lamplighter in *The Little Prince*. The lamplighter's planet is turning faster, but he still operates at the same mortal speed. He must now respond to 1,440 sunsets where there used to be just one. Now more than ever, we need to honor our Sabbaths and take our rest.

## Monday, Aug 01, 2022

MEMORIAL OF ALPHONSUS LIGUORI, BISHOP, FOUNDER, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Jeremiah 28:1-17; Matthew 14:13-21

"His heart was moved with pity for them, and he cured their sick."

### Vocation is deeper than a job

Alphonsus Liguori is the patron saint of many things, including the work of laypeople. Even though he was a founder of a religious order, the Redemptorists, he was, of course, first a layperson himself. A lawyer who didn't lose a case for eight years straight, he still found time in his busy schedule to visit the terminally ill, which is how he discovered his true vocation and became a priest and leading theologian. Liguori might be the first to advise: Take a break from work to give back to the community and you might get your big break in finding your mission.

## Tuesday, Aug 02, 2022

MEMORIAL OF PETER JULIAN EYMARD, PRIEST, FOUNDER

Jeremiah 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22; Matthew 14:22-36 or 15:1-2, 10-14

"Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid."

### Be present to the presence

Peter Julian Eymard, the French Catholic priest who founded the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament, had a deep love and understanding of the Eucharist. "How kind is our Sacramental Jesus! He welcomes you at any hour of the day or night. His Love never knows rest," he said. "When you visit Him, He forgets your sins and speaks only of His joy, His tenderness, and His Love. By the reception He gives to you, one would think He has need of you to make Him happy." Take such words to heart as we begin the U.S. bishops' new Eucharistic Revival.

## Wednesday, Aug 03, 2022

Jeremiah 31:1-7; Matthew 15:21-28

"O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish."

### Let your life be one of service

Sor Isolina Ferré Aguayo, M.S.B.T., a Missionary Sister, died on this day in 2000 after a lifetime of service to the poor of her native Puerto Rico and New York. Known as the "Mother Teresa of Puerto Rico," Aguayo served people living on the margins and opened schools and resource centers throughout Puerto Rico and beyond. For her tireless work, she received 17 honorary degrees and more than 50 additional awards including the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1999, bestowed for "her passionate fight against poverty, violence, and despair in Puerto Rico and Brooklyn, New York, where she worked to reconcile rival gangs in 1950-1960." May we all serve so well.

## Thursday, Aug 04, 2022

MEMORIAL OF JOHN VIANNEY, PRIEST

Jeremiah 31:31-34; Matthew 16:13-23

"You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do."

### Persistence is a virtue

Sometimes a vocation comes packaged with obstacles. Perhaps it is God's way of testing our resolve. In any case, John Vianney, born in revolutionary France in 1786, modeled persistence in his determination to become a priest. His religious training was disrupted by the anticlerical reign of terror unleashed during the French Revolution. Priests in hiding who risked their lives to administer the sacraments became Vianney's heroes, and once the church was reestablished, Vianney entered seminary. Today we know him as the patron saint of parish priests. May his story inspire us to overcome obstacles that keep us from our God-given vocation, whatever that might be.

## Friday, Aug 05, 2022

MEMORIAL OF THE DEDICATION OF THE BASILICA OF MARY MAJOR

Nahum 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7; Matthew 16:24-28

"... there advances the bearer of good news, announcing peace!"

### At home in a house church

Christians first gathered in homes, or "house churches," before there were dedicated religious buildings. Remember the "upper room" where the disciples received the gift of the Holy Spirit? It was likely one of the first house churches. As Christians were able to more freely express their faith, churches were built. One of the most historic and significant churches is the Basilica of Mary Major in Rome. It was built out of deep love of Mary and her significance in salvation history. It holds many important relics, works of art, and the sacred experiences of pilgrims since the fifth century. What is a church that has been especially meaningful for you?

## Saturday, Aug 06, 2022

FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14; 2 Peter 1:16-19; Luke 9:28b-36

"While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white."

### Bury the bomb

On August 6, 1945 at 8:15 in the morning, an atomic bomb exploded above Hiroshima, Japan, dropped from an American B29 bomber. In an instant some 70,000 souls were incinerated by the 10,000-degree fireball generated in the blast. By the end of the year, injury and radiation doubled the total number of deaths. Seventy-five years later, Pope Francis declared the use of atomic weapons, even the mere possession of such devices, to be immoral. Reflect on the transfigured Christ who stands in solidarity with the suffering and dead of all crimes against humanity.

