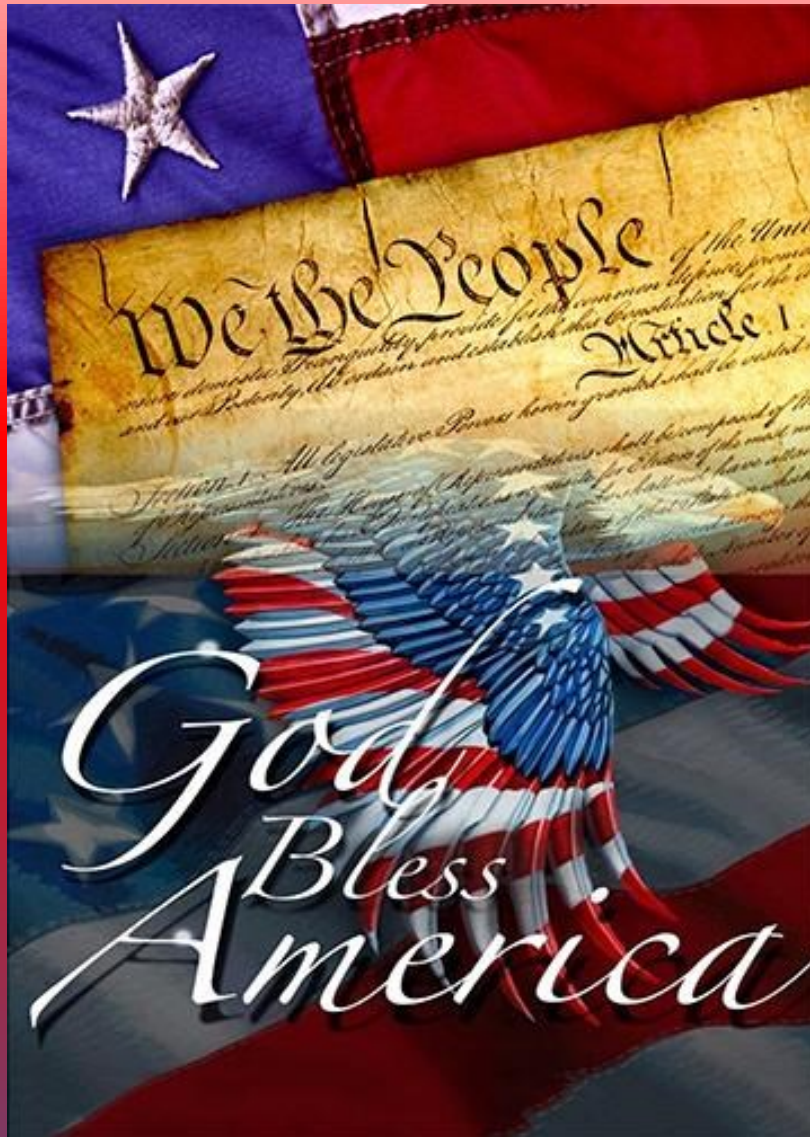


# THE 14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

July 3, 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 3, 2022

#### 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Cambridge Dictionary tells us that freedom is, "the condition or right of being able or allowed to do, say, think, etc., whatever you want to, without being controlled or limited." That same dictionary defines liberty as, "the freedom to live, work, and travel as you want to." Both definitions sound very similar. Is there a difference between freedom and liberty? Many are accustomed to believing that freedom and liberty are interchangeable and simply involve possessing rights and privileges. For the Christian, however, there is a big difference between the two.

St. John Chrysostom directs that "the only person who is free is the one who lives for Christ." There are many other inspirational people throughout history who see freedom as something far greater than liberty. True and properly understood freedom has little to do with entitlement or self-promotion. For the believer, it is a matter of the heart and soul. Freedom (and liberty, for that matter), seen only in terms of the world, can quickly be taken away. The freedom spoken of by St. John Chrysostom can only be lost by personal choice. When one lives for Christ, they live in pursuit of virtues that enlighten one's soul (faith, hope, and love) and strengthen one's character (justice, fortitude, temperance, and prudence). Rather than having the ability to acquire or do more things, true freedom asks us to be detached. Privileges, rights, and responsibilities are important, but they do not define us.

The world is not always open to listening to the truth. "I am sending you like lambs among wolves," Jesus tells his disciples. The secular definitions of freedom and liberty are very attractive. They promise us a great deal. It is no wonder Jesus asks his disciples to travel with very little. The Gospel is not dependent upon things or anything those with worldly power or investment can say or do. When one chooses to live for Christ, they choose to live with peace. That's what true freedom will give us. If we do not want what Christ offers, we can close the door, and the messenger will walk away. Distracted by the lure of personal liberties, we risk losing our freedom. We will not have anything truly life-giving to share with others.

#### Readings for the week of July 3, 2022

Sunday: Is 66:10-14/Ps 66:1-7, 16, 20/Gal 6:14-18/Lk 10:1-9  
Monday: Hos 2:16-22/Ps 145:2-9/Mt 9:18-26  
Tuesday: Hos 8:4-7, 11-13/Ps 115:3-10//Mt 9:32-38  
Wednesday: Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12/Ps 105:2-7/Mt 10:1-7  
Thursday: Hos 11:1-4, 8-9/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16/Mt 10:7-15  
Friday: Hos 14:2-10/Ps 51:3-4, 8-9, 12-14, 17/Mt 10:16-23  
Saturday: Is 6:1-8/Ps 93:1-2, 5/Mt 10:24-33  
Next Sunday: Dt 30:10-14/Ps 69:14, 17, 30-37/Col 1:15-20/Lk 10:25-37

**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 Saint Stanislaus Office (814-452-6606 or Holy Trinity Office (814-456-0671).

### **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 Saint Stanislaus Office (814-452-6606).

### **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 Holy Trinity Office (814-456-0671).

### **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., July 4th - Private Intention  
Tues., July 5th - Sophia & Francis Stankavich (Family)  
Wed., July 6th - Richard & Theresa Jenks (Marcia)  
Thurs., July 7th - Ed Chalupczynski (Audrey Chamberlin)  
Fri., July 8th - The Kaliszewski Family (Family)  
Sat., July 9th, 4:00PM - For the People of St. Stanislaus (*Pro Populo*)  
Sun., July 10th, 9:00AM - Ziegfried & Danuta Kendra (Family)



Our sanctuary candle burns in memory of **JOHN McCORMICK, JR.**, as gifted by Joan Oldenski & Family.



When God Speaks Like a Polish Grandmother A friend of mine had a Polish grandmother who was famous for giving her children some blunt advice every time they left the house: "Eyes straight ahead. Mind your own business." Every mother knows her children best, and this mother knew hers liked to argue and sometimes liked to show off. She knew that could lead to trouble. She could not anticipate every scenario they would encounter each time they departed from her. All she could do was distill what she knew about life, safety, and manners into a few simple words, and hand them over to her children like a set of car keys or a hastily scribbled map. In this way, a woman who rarely said "I love you" expressed her devotion. And long after she was dead and buried, her aging sons and daughters repeated these words to themselves, like a child wrapping himself in a warm blanket. Jesus does much the same for us, in many portions of the Gospels. "Ask the master to send out laborers for his harvest...Carry no money...Eat what is set before you...Know that the Kingdom of God is at hand...Rejoice because your names are written in Heaven." He knows us best — knows our strengths, but even more importantly, he knows our weaknesses. He doesn't always have the space to address each of these explicitly in the pages of Scripture, but what he can do is distill the truth of effective evangelization into a few simple words, and hand them over to us as food for our journey of discipleship. In this way, a God who addresses the entire world and every soul who ever lived also speaks intimately to each one of us.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

## IN MEMORIUM

A Memorial Mass was celebrated last Saturday (June 25th) for Ronald Jendrasiak. Please keep Ron and his friends and family in your prayers. "Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord..."

## PANCAKE BREAKFAST BAKE SALE

St. Stan's Women's Society will be hosting a Bake Sale at our inaugural Pancake Breakfast being held on July 10th. They are asking parishioners to put on their baking mitts and consider donating some baked goods for this effort.

Additionally, the women will be sponsoring a 50/50 raffle during the breakfast.

## 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

The brunt of our work on the boiler will begin this coming week. The pipe that spans from the boiler house to the school will be cut out and removed. Be aware that sections of our parking lot will be off limits while this work is being done.

A special thanks to all who have contributed to our project! We will continue to collect donations through August. It is then that the new replacement pipes should be in and installed. It is also then that we will determine if we will need to take a loan out to cover the cost of the replacement pipes. I will continue to keep you posted...

- Fr. Jason

## WEEKLY OFFERING (JUNE 26, 2022)

	This Week	July 1 to date
Amount we need	\$4,156.00	\$216,112.00
Amount Received	\$2,089.00	\$146,333.00
Net over/under	(\$2,067.00)	(\$69,779.00)

Mass Attendance: 4:00PM = 53; 9:00AM = 43  
Envelopes: 55/168



# Holy Trinity Parish Community



The sanctuary candle burns this week in memory of **IRENE NIEWOLAK** as gifted by Pearl & Kathy.



7/6) Joanne Majchrzak  
7/7) Victoria Simora  
& Maria Wawrzyniak

## MASS INTENTIONS

Mon., July 4th - Joan Jerge (Family)  
Tues., July 5th - All Living & Deceased Mothers  
Wed., July 6th - All Living & Deceased Fathers  
Thurs., July 7th - Kulig, Laszczewski, & Habas Families (Estate)  
Fri., July 8th - Special Intention  
Sat., July 9th, 5:15PM - The People of Holy Trinity Parish (Pro Populo)  
Sun., July 10th, 10:30AM - Karen Kraut (Frank & Barbara Agnello)

In today's Gospel passage, from Luke, we find our Lord appointing disciples to go out and prepare others to receive His invitation into the Kingdom of God. Every verse has something to say about the way a Christian steward should approach others. Let's consider at least one of the coaching tips Christ gives. "The Lord appointed seventy-two others whom He sent out ahead of Him in pairs to every town and place He intended to visit." In His wisdom, Christ sent His disciples out not as individuals but in pairs, as teams. This approach to evangelization certainly provided practical advantages. The disciples could lean on each other for mutual support and encouragement, helping each other to stay on task and to put their heads together to pray and problem-solve. This teamwork approach is just as relevant to us modern-day Christian stewards. It takes courage and commitment to go out and invite others into the Christian life. We need to work together to do it well. But there is also symbolic importance to working in teams. It points to the reality that when we invite others to embrace the Good News of the Gospel, we are not merely inviting them into a belief system, but into a relationship with Christ and through that relationship, into Christ's family — our fellow Christian disciples near and far. Our parish is our immediate spiritual family in this extended worldwide fold. We are not meant to live as isolated individuals within the parish any more than we are meant to live in isolation within our families. We are meant to be a community. That is why it is so important for us to foster a vibrant, supportive, welcoming parish life. This is why we emphasize hospitality as one of the pillars of stewardship. It is not enough just to point others to Christ; we must invite them to join us in community with Him; we must offer a place and mission for them in the Church and within our parish family.

## WELCOME!

On Sunday, June 26th, we celebrated the Baptism of Landon Lake Bennett, daughter of Maegan Dubik and John Bennett, during the 10:30AM Mass. We welcome Landon to the Christian Community.

## IN MEMORIUM

On Wednesday, June 29, a Burial Service was held for Peter Kim; and on Saturday, July 2, a Mass of Christian Burial was held for Veronica Kulesza. Please remember their family and friends in your prayers. "Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord..."

## WEEKLY OFFERING FOR JUNE 26, 2022

Regular Offering: \$1,406.00 (27/130)

	THIS WEEK	JULY 1 TO DATE
Dream Goal:	\$3,000.00	\$147,000.00
Budgeted:	\$2,365.00	\$114,451.00
Total Offertory:	\$1,406.00	\$120,032.00
Net (over/under):	(\$959.00)	\$5,581.00

Attendance: 5:15PM = 38; 10:30AM = 92

## Fourth of July

### Word Search Puzzle



ADAMS	FLAG	LIBERTY
AMERICA	FOURTH	MUSIC
BARBECUE	FREEDOM	PARADE
CELEBRATION	HOLIDAY	PATRIOTIC
COLONIES	HOT DOGS	PICNIC
CONGRESS	INDEPENDENCE	REVOLUTION
FAMILY	JEFFERSON	STATES
FIREWORKS	JULY	SUMMER

Free printable courtesy of PrintFree.net

*"Rejoice because your names are written in heaven."*

- Luke 10:20

## *News for Our Partnership*

**THE PARISH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED ON  
MONDAY, JULY 4TH  
IN OBSERVANCE OF INDEPENDENCE DAY**

### **PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

Saint Stanislaus will host its first ever Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, July 10th in the Social Hall. Mark your calendars and plan to attend and support St. Stan's. More details will be forthcoming.

### **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 Place is \$2,000; and Third Place is \$1,000. Please turn in your tickets as soon as you are able. Get yours while they last! Also, if you have tickets to turn in, please do so soon.

### **DIOCESAN ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

Couples celebrating their 25th, 40th, 50th or 60th or more wedding anniversaries are invited to attend the annual Diocesan Anniversary Celebration Liturgies on Sunday, July 31, 2022 at St. Mary in St. Mary's and Sunday, August 7, 2022 at Holy Cross in Fairview. Both liturgies will begin at 2:00 p.m. To register for either event or to receive a scroll by mail, please visit: <https://www.eriecd.org/familylifeoffice/anniv.html> or contact your parish office or the Family Life Office at (814) 824-1210.

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

Our annual parish picnic will be held on Sunday, August 14th, in the Saint Stanislaus Rectory courtyard. The communities of St. Stan's, Holy Trinity, and St. Hedwig's are warmly invited to attend. More details will be forthcoming.

### **RECOGNITIONS**

We would like to publicly acknowledge the accomplishments of our students this past academic year. If your son or daughter earned special recognition this past year, please inform the parish office so that we can properly recognize their achievements.

**54 DAYS UNTIL  
ZABAWA 2022**

### **UPCOMING MISSION-COOP PROGRAM**

On July 9 & 10, Sister Tina Geiger, a Sister of Mercy will speak at our parishes on behalf of Catholic Rural Ministries in Venango, Clarion, Forest Counties, and the towns of Tidioute and Titusville. Catholic Rural Ministries has been in the Oil City Deanery since 2007 when the Sisters were invited to be Women of Hope and Compassion to the people of that area of our Diocese. Their ministry includes offering spiritual enrichment opportunities for youth and adults; to persons and families in need, to offer financial literacy, referral and financial assistance as we are able. They are present on various boards providing social services to the folks in our area. Sister Tina personally grew up in Northwestern, NJ - with cows, tomatoes, and corn country. She entered the Sister's of Mercy in Rhode Island after completing college - graduating with a MA in Religious Education. She has since ministered in parishes, high schools, universities, Renew International. Her present ministry here in western PA has spanned 12 years. There will be second collection if you wish to write a check to our Parish and we will send one check for Rural Ministries.

### **THAT'S NOT MY JOB!**

This is a story about four people named: **Everybody**, **Somebody**, **Anybody** and **Nobody**. There was an important job to be done and **Everybody** was sure that **Somebody** would do it. **Anybody** could have done it, but **Nobody** did it. **Somebody** got angry about that, because it was **Everybody's** job. **Everybody** thought **Anybody** could do it, but **Nobody** realised that **Everybody** wouldn't do it. It ended up that **Everybody** blamed **Somebody** when **Nobody** did what **Anybody** could have done.



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

7/4) Ed Czulewicz, Evelyn & Ed Selleny; 7/5) Mary Ann Merski & Michelle Inter; 7/6) Msgr. Dan Magraw;  
7/7) Ed Korytowski & Lori Krasnesky; 7/8) Steve Rimpa, Stephanie & Bill Wycech;  
7/9) Marcia Nitczynski & Rose Marie Radomski; 7/10) Tony Jankowski & Eleanor Walker

### **PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS**

7/4) All Vocations; 7/5) Fr. David Foradori; 7/6) Fr. Tom Brooks; 7/7) Fr. Marc Stockton; 7/8) Fr. Leo Gallina;  
7/9) Fr. Bill Barron; 7/10) Msgr. Gerry Ritchie



## Sunday, Jul 03, 2022

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Isaiah 66:10-14c; Galatians 6:14-18; Luke 10:1-12, 17-20

"Lo, I will spread prosperity over Jerusalem like a river, and the wealth of the nations like an overflowing torrent."

### We are blessed

This land is a favored patch of Earth. "From the mountains, to the prairies, to the oceans white with foam," as Irving Berlin's anthem goes, may God bless this place we call the United States of America. He originally wrote it for a play, then set it aside for 20 years, resurrecting it as the Third Reich came to power and the world needed an inspirational song. However you choose to sing it, croon a song of gratitude for your country.

## Monday, Jul 04, 2022

OPTIONAL PROPER MASS FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY (USA)

Hosea 2:16, 17b-18, 21-22; Matthew 9:18-26

"Courage, daughter! Your faith has saved you."

### Red, white, blue, and Catholic

Catholics were a small minority in America's colonial period—at the end of the Revolutionary War, there were only about 25,000 Catholics in the United States out of a total population of 3 million. Catholics faced persecution, first in the original colonies, and then in the new country that was ironically founded in part on freedom of religion. Today there are 70 million Catholics in the United States, or 22 percent of the population. With the values of our faith, Catholics have made countless contributions to the betterment of our country through myriad kinds of service—what's yours?

## Tuesday, Jul 05, 2022

MEMORIAL OF ELIZABETH OF PORTUGAL, QUEEN, THIRD ORDER FRANCISCAN

Hosea 8:4-7, 11-13; Matthew 9:32-38

"Nothing like this has ever been seen."

### Sweet is the rose

Saint Elizabeth of Portugal belongs to a saintly tradition called a "miracle of the roses." Elizabeth was caught smuggling provisions from the family larder to give to the poor, food hidden under her cloak to elude disapproving relatives. When confronted by a suspicious husband and ordered to reveal what she was hiding, roses tumbled from her wrap instead of bread. Pope John Paul II once pointed out that the thorns of these roses remind us of worldly trials—but their enduring fragrance represents the love of Christ.

## Wednesday, Jul 06, 2022

Hosea 10:1-3, 7-8, 12; Matthew 10:1-7

"You descendants of Abraham, his servants, sons of Jacob, his chosen ones! He, the LORD, is our God."

### Tap into the riches of diversity

On this day in 2017, the most recent gathering of the National Black Catholic Congress (NBCC) began in Orlando, Florida. The NBCC was founded by African-American Catholics as a successor to Daniel Rudd's Colored Catholic Congress movement, which had been dormant since 1894. Since 1987, the NBCC has gathered black Catholics from around the United States every five years for fellowship and to discuss a pastoral plan to be published by the Congress after each meeting. The NBCC is governed by the nation's black bishops, a group active since the first ones were appointed in the late 20th century. May we all draw deeply from the wellspring of our cultural heritage to enrich the church.

## Thursday, Jul 07, 2022

Hosea 11:1-4, 8c-9; Matthew 10:7-15

"Jesus said to his Apostles: 'As you go, make this proclamation: "The Kingdom of heaven is at hand."'"

### Adventures in pursuit of the reign of God

Today's gospel begins with Jesus' command that his apostles declare the "kingdom of heaven is at hand." Pope Francis has noted that seeking the reign of God involves boldness and adventure. Seeking the Kingdom, he once told a Sunday Angelus audience, is the "opposite of a dull life: it is a treasure that renews life every day and leads it to extend towards wider horizons." Those seeking the reign of God, he continued, "have a creative and inquisitive heart" leading them to "new paths" for loving God, neighbor, and themselves. Has your quest for the Kingdom taken you on unexpected journeys?

## Friday, Jul 08, 2022

Hosea 14:2-10; Matthew 10:16-23

"He shall strike root like the Lebanon cedar, and put forth his shoots."

### Branch out

Chances are you're spending some time outside this summer, enjoying the glories of nature. One ancient tree worth noting is the cedar, which has deep spiritual roots in Hebrew and Christian tradition. The height and breadth of the mighty cedar of Lebanon are associated with the greatness of God. It is long-lived, evergreen, fruit-bearing, and a place of refuge—all characteristics of Yahweh and Mary, in her role as Mother of God and protectress of the church. The next time you feel vulnerable or distant from God, call to mind the grand cedar and know that divine comfort awaits if only you seek its reach.

## Saturday, Jul 09, 2022

MEMORIAL OF AUGUSTINE ZHAO RONG, PRIEST, MARTYR, AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS

Isaiah 6:1-8; Matthew 10:24-33

"It is enough for the disciple that he become like his teacher."

### Creed and culture are not the same

European missionaries were pouring into China during the 19th century, bringing with them not only the Christian religion, but also the European culture that they believed was part and parcel of the practice of the faith. Chinese reception of Christianity was mixed. Many Chinese saw it as a cultural invasion since some missionaries condemned customary Chinese practices like veneration of ancestors as demon worship. Augustine Zhao Rong represents 87 Chinese Catholics and 33 Western missionaries who were killed during a period of anti-foreigner resentment that followed. Be mindful that your evangelizing always be accompanied by respect and sensitivity.

### Prayer for America

Dear God, we thank you for the bountiful blessings you have bestowed on us. Guide us in being good stewards of these gifts. Let us care for all of your beautiful creation, from the redwood forests to the gulfstream waters. Make us instruments of your peace in order to put an end to rockets' red glare and bombs bursting in air.

Help us to love and care for all of our neighbors - locally and globally - so that we might be truly crowned with brotherhood from sea to shining sea. Amen.

