

*Eighteenth Sunday in
Ordinary Time
August 2nd, 2026*



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From the Gusset

Everyone who acknowledges Me before others I will acknowledge before My Heavenly Father. Mt 10:33

Because we live in a **culture** where **religion** is a private thing, it is very difficult for us to talk about our personal **love affair** with Jesus Christ. It is 'ok' for us to practice any **religious beliefs** we have – only don't try to make someone else **live** by those same beliefs. Yet, this is not what God wants for us. In **the Song of Songs** there is a woman who seeks her Lover, and it is curious (although she is looking for Him all over the place) that she doesn't actually find Him until she seeks Him in **the presence of the town's watchmen**. She asks these two men, protecting the town at **night**, *"have you seen my Lover? Have you seen Him, Whom my soul loves?"* And then **Scriptures** say, *"I had hardly left them when I found Him Whom my soul loves. I held Him and would not let Him go..."* Same thing with **the woman** at **the well**. She thirsts for God, but not until she goes back into the town from **the well** where she met Jesus, and tells others about **the Man who told her everything about her life** – only then is her thirst **slated**. This is all over the place in **Sacred Scripture**, and I see the same thing with **lovers** today. A **man** and a **woman** fall in **love** with each other, but it is not until they tell their **family members** and their **priest** that they are in **love** and ask that **a Wedding Mass** be celebrated – only then do they find their **heart's desire**. **Mary Magdalene** sought the Lord on **Easter Sunday morning**. When the Lord calls her by name, **Mary** grabs a hold of His feet, and the Lord must **chastise** her a little – that she should release Him and go and tell His Disciples that He is Risen! It is only then that God grants **Mary Magdalene** the **love** she sought! And so it must be for us to experience God's **great love**

to Its fullest – we must tell others of our **heart's desire**; and that becomes sticky business in a **culture** that doesn't wish us to inflict our **Catholic religion** on them. Yet and still, this is what is **desirable** to God the Father. God the Father is **pleased** when all of His **children** can not stop talking about His only Begotten Son! Don't be afraid to talk about your **love affair** with Jesus – for **everyone who acknowledges (Jesus) before others (Jesus) will acknowledge before His Heavenly Father**, and that is how the Body of Christ grows!

Yours on the Path

Fr. Randy



Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary

To **celebrate** our Patronesses' Feast Day in **West Brooklyn** all Masses will be celebrated at **St. Mary of the Assumption Church**:

Saturday, August 15th: 4:00pm

Sunday, August 16th: 8:00 am & 10:30 am

Coffee, milk, and **cake** will help us **celebrate** all that our **Lady of the Assumption** has done for us—all are invited to **a party in the Hall** following each **Mass**.



NICE WALK FUNDRAISER, SATURDAY, AUGUST 23RD

The walk starts at **1:00pm** in **Shabbona State park**. Contact **Judy Truckenbrod** to **pledge** or **volunteer** to be a walker at (815) 762-0912.

Baptism of **Holly Klein**

What a joy for our **Church Community in Sublette** to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Perpetual Help with the **Baptism** of **Holly**, the third child of **Tyler and Brittany Klein**.



Retreat: The Spirituality of St. Francis of Assisi

Coming: August 18th—August 22nd



The Psalmist in speaking about God says, *that His miracles are new every morning!* Every human person is created in the likeness of His only Begotten Son; and so, is a miracle. St. Francis understood this about himself – that to God: he, St. Francis, was a **marvelously wonderful** and unique replica of God's Son. Do we look at ourselves in this same light? I know I don't. When I look at myself in **prayer** – just about all I can see are my flaws. I question God all the time: God, why do you **love** me? How could you **love** me? Do You not see my faults and foibles – You must not – or You wouldn't **love** me? When we go on **retreat** with St. Francis – we are going to find out that he is a **poet**. A poet is a person who can **express** his **personality**. A poet is a

person who can **express love**, **love** the greatest of all virtues. St. Francis knew who he was in God's eyes – Francis knew what God had given him, and Francis knew what God had not given him! The **genius** of St. Francis is that even what is negative in him is **positive**, because it is part of his **character** – the person God made him to be – and St. Francis was ever

grateful for that. **Grateful** for what he had been given, and even more **grateful** to God for what God had not given him. If you dare to come on **retreat** with **Fr. Randy** in mid-August – as we explore **the Spirituality** of St. Francis together – we will discover (many things) how to look at ourselves through God's eyes – that each of us is as **unique and glorious** as the **first seven days of Creation** – that each of our births was as special to God as the first **Christmas** – that our deaths are as **sacred** to God as the death of His Son, Jesus Christ – and all this means that the day we become a **Saint** will be as **glorious** to God as **the first Easter!**



Mass Intentions

Saturday, August 1st Feast of St. Alphonsus Liguori

(+) Darlene Gehant & (+) Howard McInnis & (+) Rita Haefner/ Fr. Randy

4:00 pm, **OLPH** (+) Jeffrey Marschang/ Family & (+) Thomas Fassler/ Sue Fassler

Sunday, August 2nd Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am, **St. Patrick** Pro Populo/ Fr. Randy

10:00 am, **SMA** (+) Howard McInnis/ Mr. & Mrs. Mark Bresson

Noon, **OLPH** (+) Albertus McCauley/ Mary Kuebel

Monday, August 3rd

(+) William Berger/ Fr. Randy & (+) Michael Leurck/ Mr. & Mrs. Steve Leurck

Tuesday, August 4th

7:30 am, **SMA** (+) Floyd Wilson/ Mr. & Mrs. Howard McInnis

Wednesday, August 5th Feast of Our Lady of Snows

8:00 am, **OLPH** (+) Charles Henkel/ Family &

(+) Jeniah Francis/ Mr. & Mrs. Louie Vaessen &

(+) Joseph & (+) Catherine Schauer/ Ryne Fronck

Thursday, August 6th Feast of the Transfiguration

7:30 am, **SMA** (+) Quin & Josephine Torri/ Torri Family

8:30 am, **OLPH** (+) Ronald Vaessen/ Ruth Ann Vaessen

Friday, August 7th

8:00 am, **St. Patrick** (+) Eileen Leffelman/ Mr. & Mrs. Pat O'Connor &

(+) Joseph Quest/ Velma Quest

noon, **St. Katherine's Hospital** (+) Fr. Richard Kramer/ Fr. Randy

Saturday, August 8th Feast of St. Dominic

Living Intentions of Mr. & Mrs. Dominic Schiavone/ Fr. Randy

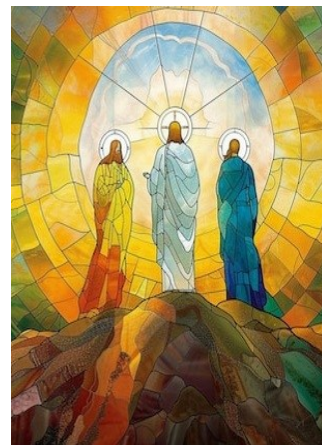
4:00 pm, **OLPH** (+) Faye Leffelman/ Shawn Leffelman

Sunday, August 9th Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am, **St. Patrick** (+) Rachel Heisten/ Marilyn Weeks

10:00 am, **SMA** Pro Populo/ Fr. Randy

Noon, **OLPH** (+) Raymond & (+) Jean Ritola/ Mary Lnn Valentin



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

The **Pareto Principle** (otherwise known as **the 80/20 rule**) fits in **mathematically** with power law distribution theory – that is: a small number of **inputs** can result in a disproportionately influential **outcome**. One way to say this is that **20% of the people** often do **80% of the work**! In **the Spirituality** of our **Church Communities**, we have done even better than this. Less than 20% of the Families in **Sublette** accounted for **146% of the Pledges** to the **Capital Campaign**, and a like number of West Brooklynites pledged **112%** to **the Bishop's Evangelization Program**. In

Maytown, again, just eight Families pledged **88% of our Campaign Goal**. I owe a deep debt of **gratitude** to this small group of **Parish Families**. Your **love** of God and your own **gratitude** to our Lord Jesus Christ for giving your Family Members **the grace** of His **Sacraments** makes my priestly heart **joy-filled**! Now with our **Commitment Weekend** this past Sunday, we are hoping for **100% participation** – that every **Registered Family** (and even Families, who like to attend our **Masses** from **Woodhaven** and elsewhere) would make a **sacrificial contribution** to the **Campaign**. These funds will help us to maintain **the beauty** of our **Churches** and ensure that **They** continue to provide **the grace** of **Heaven** to many, many **Catholic Pilgrims** as we journey from this life to the **new life of Heaven**!

