

*Sixteenth Sunday in
Ordinary Time
July 19th, 2026*



From the Gusset

Do you remember when **Dorothy** first met **the Scarecrow** in the **Wizard of Oz**? The little girl, who wanted nothing more than to go **home** (Yes, it was Kansas that she wanted to go back to; but remember, this story is **an allegory**! **Dorothy** really wants to go back home to **Heaven**.). She came to a fork in **the yellow brick road**, so she asks her dog, which way she should go, but of course the dog cannot speak, so she has no answer. It is then that **the Scarecrow** weighs in saying that he has seen **travelers** take both roads. **The yellow brick road** is **the path** that **Dorothy** is to take, if she is ever to get to **Oz** and ask **the Wizard** how to get back home. We could say '**the path**' is **Dorothy's vocation**. I think many of you know that my **priestly motto** is: '**Yours on the Path.**' The goal of my life is to live **the vocation** that God gave to me – **the priesthood** of Jesus Christ – I am to stride along toward **Heaven** walking **the path** that God has pointed out to me, and I am to help my **parishioners** and all whom I come across to stay on their **path** toward **Heaven** and so become great **Saints** as well. I am **Yours on the Path**, and I am like a companion to you; much like **the Scarecrow** was to **Dorothy**. Remember last Sunday, Jesus gave us **the parable of the Sower**, who sews seed **on the path**, but that seed was in danger of being eaten up by birds. See, I am **the Scarecrow**, who would frighten away the birds, who would like to steal away **the Word of God** that God has just planted in your heart by your coming to **Mass**. You probably don't understand **the Word of God** (or at least have questions about It) and so I, as your **priest**, help you to understand It in the homily that I preach every Sunday. As **the Scarecrow** accompanied **Dorothy** all the way to **Oz**, so I also am **Yours on the Path** accompanying you the whole length of your **spiritual journey** of living out your **vocation** for **the glory** of God. I give you **the Sacraments** of **the Catholic Church**, as you need the grace, **the love**, of God to be **poured** into your **heart**, into your soul, if you are ever to be successful in living your **vocation**. I help you to learn how to open your heart up to **the Vocational Sacraments** of **Confirmation** (single vocation) and **Holy Matrimony** (married vocation). When you are **sick** in mind (**Confession**) or body (**Holy Anointing**), I give you **the healing Sacraments**. I make your babies perfect in the eyes of God by **Baptizing** them and placing the mark of God's **boundless love** over the wound of **Original sin**; and of course, I give you **the Eucharist** every Sunday, so that you might have the strength to expend yourself in your **vocation** – lay down your life for others – just as Jesus gave up His life for you! Whenever you read the word "**path**" in **Sacred Scripture** – I want you to think of your **vocation**; and ask yourself: "am I seeing my **priest** with me **on the path** as my companion that God has gifted me with? If I don't see my **priest** at least once a week at **the Mass** on Sunday – I risk wandering from **the path** – I risk the birds swooping down and eating the seed sewn there by God – my **vocation** is in **jeopardy**: I may never get home to **Heaven**."

Yours on the Path

Fr. Randy



RETREAT WITH ST. FRANCIS

In an effort to get to know the priests of the Sterling Deanery better, our new Dean asked all the priests the following three questions. #1 Peak – What is it that you are most excited about right now? #2 Pit – What is your biggest struggle or source of discouragement? #3 Prayer – How could the other priests pray for you and your parishioners? My answers to these questions were the following. I am excited about the Extraordinary Jubilee Year celebrating the 800th anniversary of the death of St. Francis. That we could continue to work Plenary Indulgences after last year's Jubilee is really a grace-filled opportunity to grow in holiness and drive my priesthood. I wake up every morning and immediately consider whose soul in Purgatory I will expedite that day typically by doing a holy hour or meditating on the Scriptures for a ½ hour. Of course, I fret about not having a detachment from my sins, which would knock the Plenary Indulgence down to a partial Indulgence, and I asked for prayers that I would have the courage to inspire my parishioners to take advantage of Pope Leo's releasing the Treasury of the Church to us and our attempts to ask (perhaps the greatest Saint of all time) St. Francis of Assisi to teach us his brand of spirituality. Closing in on the halfway point of this Extraordinary Jubilee Year, I thought we might have a Summer Retreat in the month of August on Franciscan Spirituality. We would celebrate the Mass each day in the morning and the evening, and after the evening Mass we would expose the Blessed Sacrament for a holy hour and have a fervorino on how to pray with St. Francis. My hope is that not only would you learn more about St. Francis, but be inspired to take advantage of this opportunity to help the souls in Purgatory to enter into glory.



Sublette Church Regilds Monstrance to inspire Adorers of our Eucharistic Lord

Pictures do not do It justice, but **Eucharistic Adorers** of our Lord will be inspired to marvel anew at our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, when they see our Lord exposed in a **regilded Monstrance**. The Monstrance (Sublette's 3rd) was found in the bell tower storage area greatly tarnished. There are such extremes of temperature between **super frigid cold** in the winter to **metal-melting heat** in the summer in the bell tower—that the Monstrance was in desperate need of refurbishing. Fr. Kramer had taken it to his **private Chapel** to spend time with our Lord, but upon his passing—we sent the Monstrance out for a much needed “beauty makeover.” It is drop dead gorgeous now! Fr. Kramer thought the Monstrance may have been used over at the School for special classroom times of **adoration**. The late **Jeanne Shanyfelt** confirmed this. Jeanne was able to describe to me the Monstrance used in the School's chapel, and It fits the description of this Monstrance. There are actual real gem stones that decorate the Monstrance. A



A **turquoise stone** at the 12 o'clock position represents **Mary**, an **amethyst stone** at the 6 o'clock represents you and I, **poor sinners**, and then 4 **ruby stones** represent the four wounds of Christ on the Cross. There are another four **ruby stones** at the node. The filigree has detailed **vines** with **bunches of grapes** on them, and the lunette (the metal clasp that holds the Eucharistic Host in place in The Monstrance window) is an **Angel** with his wings spread wide. That **Our Lady of Perpetual Help** would have **3 Monstrances** is unheard of and yet another sign of how much the early **parishioners** loved God and would spare no expense to **worship** Him! It was a pretty penny to regild the Monstrance, and so in true *Bohemian fashion*, Fr. Randy will take the Monstrance around to all three of our Churches for **Eucharistic Adoration** during this **Extraordinary Jubilee Year** to commemorate the 800th Anniversary of the death of St. Francis and the special **Anniversary** of our **Country** where we are **celebrating** our **Country's** dedication to the **Sacred Heart** of Jesus.



Mass Intentions

Saturday, July 18th

(+) Michael Leurck & (+) Patricia Butler/ Fr. Randy

4:00 pm, **OLPH** (+) William Guilfoyle/ Mr. & Mrs. Denny Marsili

Sunday, July 19th Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am, **St. Patrick** (+) Dr. Robert Krenz/ Mr. & Mrs. Rick Cardot

10:00 am, **SMA** (+) Ronald Vaessen/ Ruth Ann Vaessen &
(+) Quin & (+) Josephine Torri/ Torri Family

Noon, **OLPH** Pro Populo/ Fr. Randy

Monday, July 20th

(+) Howard McInnis/ Mr. & Mrs. Doug Klein & (+) Anna Wawryszak /Fr. Randy

Tuesday, July 21st

7:30 am, **SMA** (+) Celia Haub/ Mr. & Mrs. John Schmidt

Wednesday, July 22nd Feast of St. Mary Magdalene

8:00 am, **OLPH** (+) Jeanne Shanyfelt/ Ruth Ann Vaessen

Thursday, July 23rd

7:30 am, **SMA** (+) Justin & (+) Anne Corcoran/Fr. Randy

8:30 am, **OLPH** (+) Fr. Richard Kramer/ Curtis Ely

Friday, July 24th

8:00 am, **St. Patrick** (+) Mildred Schneider/ Larry Schneider

Saturday, July 25th Feast of St. James

(+) Michael Leurck & (+) James & (+) Geraldine Fronek/ Fr. Randy

1:00 pm, **Holy Angels Wedding Mass** Zachary Woods & Katheryn Stevens

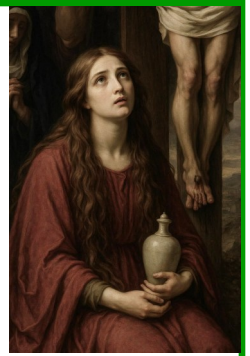
4:00 pm, **OLPH** (+) Patricia Painter/ Mr. & Mrs. Mark Atherton

Sunday, July 26th Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am, **St. Patrick** (+) Larry Leffelman/ Mr. & Mrs. Edward Klein

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

Noon, **OLPH** (+) Anita Nanez/ Ana Gutierrez &
(+) Rose Theiss/ Mr. & Mrs. Gerry Chrabaszcz



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN GOAL PROGRESS REPORT:

Parish Goal for **St. Patrick's Church** is \$30,044

Total Funds Raised: \$17,300

Percent to Goal: 57.6%

Parish Goal for **St. Mary of the Assumption** is \$43,388

Total Funds Raised: \$48,864

Percent to Goal: 112.6%

Parish Goal for **OLPH** is \$115,881

Total Funds Raised: \$164,555

Percent to Goal: 142%



All three of our Churches have **wonderfully beautiful stained-glass windows** that are over 100 years old. We are hoping to **restore** these **windows** and preserve their **catechetical** value for the next generation of **Catholics**. Remember, it is important that we meet the **Bishop's goal** for our **Parish**, but it is even more important that every registered **parish family** make a **pledge** to maintain our Churches. All of us have been blessed to receive **the Sacraments**—none of us will make it **home** to **Heaven** with out **the graces** our Lord provides us with in **the Eucharist**. Please show your **gratitude** to God the Father that He sent His only Begotten Son to **suffer** and die for you.