

*Nineteenth Sunday in
Ordinary Time
August 9th, 2026*



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From the Gusset

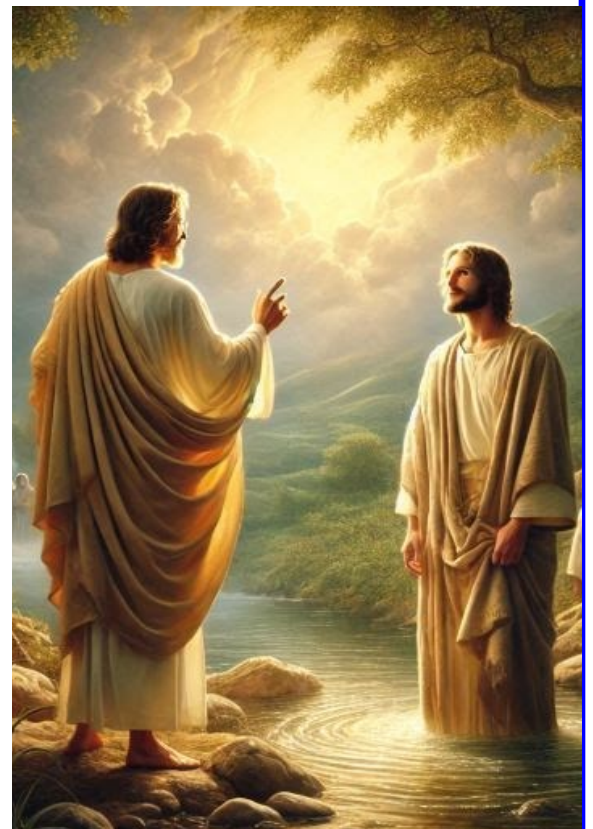
In one episode of *the Munsters*, **Herman Munster** wanted to be a **detective**, so he was going out at **night** prowling the streets of **Mockingbird Heights** looking to nip **blue-collar crime** in the bud. Well, **Lilly** (**Herman's** wife) gets **suspicious** – why is **Herman** going out late at **night**? So, she sends his description to a **detective agency** to have **Herman** followed to find out what he is doing. Well, **the detective agency** gives the job to **Herman**! In a sense, he is to follow himself! **Herman** gets **Grandpa** to read the description of the **philanderer**, and he will sketch the man, because that is what his **Detective Manuel** says he ought to do. **Classic comedy** issues as **Grandpa** reads the description and **Herman** busily sketches the man. “**Height:** 7’ 3”, **Weight:** Heavy set, **Hair:** Long on sides, very flat on top, **Ears:** don’t match, **Face:** lantern jaw and protruding brow and jagged dimple on forehead....” After every description, **Grandpa** looks over at **Herman** and stares at him. **Herman** keeps saying, “What are you looking at?” To which,

Grandpa replies, “nothing.” Finally, when the description has been read, **Grandpa** says, “**Herman**, does that man look familiar to you?” **Herman** replies, “No, but he is rather handsome, if I do say so myself.” **Grandpa** shouts: “**Herman**, you big boob – that’s you!” **The goal** of Jesus Christ is to restore our likeness to Himself.

You see, God made each of us in His **image** and **likeness** (even a **woman** looks like the Son of Man to God the Father). Although we can never lose the **image** of God – even a baby in the womb or even a person, who has sinned greatly – will always have the **image** of God – we can lose our **likeness** to Jesus by our **mortal sins**. Jesus comes to restore our **likeness** to Himself by giving us **the grace of the Sacraments** – **the Sacraments** (especially **the Eucharist**) make us look more and more like Jesus. It is almost as, if Jesus is **Grandpa** in that episode of *the Munsters* – Jesus reads to us the description of what God the Father wants us to look like. Jesus says to each one of us, **Catholics** at **the Holy Mass**, “My Father, wants you to look like Me. So, take this **Bread** and eat **It**. Take this **Wine** and drink **It**. For only then will My Heavenly Father mistake you for Myself, and allow you back into **Paradise** as a **Saint**!

Yours on the Path

Fr. Randy



N.I.C.E. WALK FUNDRAISER, SUNDAY, AUGUST 23RD

It is so important **to help** our local **Food Pantry** by our **time** and/or **treasure**. Each of us has been given so much by God that we could rightly consider ourselves **the rich man** in the Lord's **parable** with Lazarus. We do not want to step over the poor, whom God places in our lives, so intent on showing off our fine linens and sumptuous dinning. **The Walk** will help raise money for **N.I.C.E.** If you are interested in walking or simply **donating** for this mission, please contact **Judy Truckenbrod** at (815) 762-0912.



The Assumption of our Lady is **not** **Holy Day of Obligation** this year, because it falls on a Saturday; however, because one of our **Churches** is named after our **Lady of the Assumption**—this becomes a **local Solemnity**, which trumps **the Solemnity of Sunday**. So we will be **celebrating** with white garments and great solemnity our Lady's **glorious assumption** into **Heaven**. All **Masses** will take place in **West Brooklyn** beginning with the 4:00pm Mass on **Saturday** and an 8:00am and a 10:30am Mass on **Sunday**! After each Mass we will retire to the Hall for a **celebration** of cake and coffee and milk.

Hail Holy Queen!



Retreat: The Spirituality of St. Francis of Assisi

The Tumbler of Our Lady

There is a poem called *The Tumbler of Our Lady* that was written within a decade following the death of **St. Francis**. About how a man, who could not read or write – but who **loved** God and wished to please God with his **life**, and so he entered **a monastery**. He feared that **the monks** would ask him to leave eventually, because he could not participate in **the praying** of **the Divine Office** with the other **monks**. One day when **the monks** were praying **Vespers** in the chapel above – he sat kneeling before **a Statue** of our **Lady** down in **the crypt**. Suddenly he was **inspired** to entertain our **Lady** with the only art he had learned before becoming a **monk** – **tumbling**! So, he took off his alb and speaking to **the Statue** – he told **the Blessed Mother** that with the help of God he would exert himself **to serve** her. Then he set about performing leaps and turns and vaults before **the Statue** of our **Lady**. **The jester** would do this until he was utterly fatigued and would lay down sweating in front of our **Lady** – **prostrate** before her. One day one of the **monks** found **the jester** tumbling about before **Mary**, and he told **the Abbot**, and so the next day **the Abbot** and the other **monk** hid themselves and waited for **the jester** to perform. As the bells were ringing for **Vespers**, **the jester** came before our **Lady**, bowed low, and was heard to say: “**Mary**, you are the most **perfect creature** – the one who makes the entire world more **beautiful** – to you do I present **the Prayer** of my **Tumbling**!” Now **the jester** so exerted himself – that when he finally fell **prostrate** before **the Statue** gasping for breath – the hidden audience of **monk** and **Abbot** were **surprised** to see a **Lady** so glorious and brilliant, so richly dressed and beautiful – the **Lady** took her white handkerchief and **refreshed** his neck and brow. When she had gone the **monk** and **Abbot** ran out to congratulate **the jester**, but he seemed unaware that **Mary** had tended to him. Turns out, he had so exerted himself on this occasion that he suffered a **heart attack**. Barely able to get him to bed, as he lay dying the **next morning** – all the **monks** of **the Abbey** gathered around his bed, but soon parted when our **Lady** came once again from **Heaven** to wipe his brow with her handkerchief before he died. Only this time, not only the **monks** saw the Vision, but **the jester** did as well! **St. Francis** called his followers **the Jongleurs de Dieu** or **God’s Jesters** – those who embraced a life of **holy foolishness** by their way of seeing worldly values as rubbish, and embracing a life of **humility**, **joy**, **graciousness**, and service.

After we **celebrate** our **Lady’s Feast Day of the Assumption** – we will have our retreat on **the Spirituality of St. Francis**. **Francis** found a new way to serve God – He would fall in **love** with **Lady Poverty**, and this so pleased God that the Lord **exulted** this humble servant to **Heaven**.



Mass Intentions

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

Monday, August 10th Feast of St. Lawrence

(+) Howard McInnis & (+) Robert Bulfer/ Fr. Randy

Tuesday, August 11th Feast of St. Clare

7:30 am, **SMA** (+) Donald & (+) Elaine Henkel/ Family

Wednesday, August 12th

8:00 am, **OLPH** (+) Joseph Stewart/ Theresa Wilson

Thursday, August 13th

7:30 am, **SMA** (+) Robert Bresson/ Fr. Randy

8:30 am, **OLPH** (+) Martin & (+) Elizabeth Spitz/ Carlene Schuhler

Friday, August 14th Feast of St. Kolbe

8:00 am, **St. Patrick** (+) Julie Malach/ Mr. & Mrs. Westin Montavon

10:45 am, **Stonecroft** (+) Jeniah Francis/ Mr. & Mrs. Louie Vaessen

Saturday, August 15th Assumption of Mary

(+) Deceased Sisters of the Daughters of Divine Love/ Fr. Randy

4:00 pm, **SMA** (+) Rita Haefner/ Mr. & Mrs. James Halbmaier

Sunday, August 9th Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am, **SMA** (+) Julie Malach/ Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Henkel

10:30 am, **SMA** Pro Populo/ Fr. Randy



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

ST. PATRICK MAYTOWN

Parish Goal: \$30,044

Total funds raised: \$32,150

Percent to goal: 107%

ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION WEST BROOKLYN

Parish Goal: \$43,388

Total funds raised: \$50,564

Percent to goal: 116.5%

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP SUBLETTE

Parish Goal: \$115,881

Total funds raised: \$192,505

Percent to goal: 166.1%



Commitment Weekend (July 25th & 26th) was a **great success** that saw all three of our **Parishes** exceeding the **Bishop's Capital Campaign Pledge Goals** for our Churches! Now, we can tap into the **extra funds** that other Churches in the **Rockford Diocese** will be donating to our Churches. Those funds are: \$14,421 for **St. Patrick's Church**, \$20,825 for **St. Mary of the Assumption Church**, and \$40,452 for **Our Lady of Perpetual Help's Church**. A **special thank you** to the almost **60 Families** who made a **pledge** to the **Capital Campaign** – your good **Stewardship** has been noted by **the God of Heaven** – and I am sure that your particular **Judgment Day** will be a **happy** one for you!