

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Red Mass
September 20, 2026



Extra-Ordinary Jubilee Year
800th Anniversary
of the death of St. Francis

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From the Gusset



The **Jesuits** have had such an influence on my **spirituality** not only because I studied in **Rome** and though I did not attend **the Gregorian University** (a school staffed by **Jesuits** – I went to a **Dominican University**) many of my Seminary Formators were **Jesuits**. The **Jesuits** have a **tradition** of **celebrating** a **Red Mass** (a **Mass** of the Holy Spirit) to start their academic year to ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit to pray for **wisdom** and **inspiration** throughout the coming school year. We should always be asking the Holy Spirit to **pour out** God's **love** into our **hearts** in a **Sacrament**; in order to, better help us face the challenges that will inevitably come our way. All kinds of **weeds** are sewn by the **evil one** in the field of life to impede our growth in **holiness**; yet, the **outpouring** of the gifts of the Holy Spirit enables us to have a **renewed confidence** that our Lord is walking with us on **the journey of life** – we are to be **courageous** and know that we are going to learn more and more about God's great **love** for us in the coming school year; and so, be more **valiant** in living out our **vocations**. Remember, it is not simply our **young people**, who are going back to **CCD**, but all of us are continually schooled by the Church to learn more about our **Catholic Faith**. We pray this **Red Mass** on **the 25th Sunday of Ordinary Time** to impart **the blessings** of the Holy Spirit to all those who will be coming to our **RCIA classes** that start on **Tuesday, September 22nd**. Come this date, next year, all of us wish to be more **holy** than we currently are and more **confident** in living out our **vocation** for God's **glory**; and so, we **pray** for the virtue of **docility** in our **Red Mass**. **St. Thomas Aquinas** defined **docility** as the virtue of being **teachable** – the acknowledgment that we don't know everything and that there are others, whom God has asked to be our teachers or mentors in the growth and understanding of our **Catholic Faith**. **St. Thomas** thought that **docility** is a part of **Prudence**, and that the main obstacles to being **docile** were **laziness** and **pride**. **Laziness** – that we would rather not learn anything new – that we would rather not follow someone else's good advice. **Laziness** is that feeling we awake with on Sunday morning – the whispering of **Lucifer** not to go to **Mass** today, but to rest up for the coming hard week. **Docility** **excites** us to want to go to **Mass**, because we know God is going to express His **love** to us in a new way at this week's **Mass**! **Pride** – that we have been around the block enough times – that there is nothing our teacher or our **priest** could possibly teach us that we don't already know. **Docility** is what made **Adam** and **Eve** run to God in the cool of the evenings in **Paradise** – to walk with God and have God hold their hand and tell them something new and **exciting** about the Universe! **Docility** is an active virtue of **humility**, and we are striving to be **humble**; because like **Blessed Mother** teaches us in her **Magnificat**: *God will lift up the lowly!* We pray this **Red Mass** reverently asking the Holy Spirit to help us seek the learnings of the **Catholic Church**.

Yours on the Path Fr. Randy



St. Patrick Church Fall Fundraiser

If the weather cooperates, we will have an outdoor **Mass** at the **Cemetery Altar** on **September 27th** at **8:00am**, at **St. Patrick's, Maytown**. We will raise **the Eucharist** in full view of all of **the Guardian Angels** of our beloved dead, who are buried at **the Cemetery**, and I would **encourage** you to work **a Plenary Indulgence** for them during this **extra-Ordinary Jubilee year** of **St. Francis of Assisi**. After **Mass**, we will have our **Fall Decorations** and **Bake Sale** to raise **money** for **St. Patrick's Church**. The **Altar and Rosary Society** would most **appreciate** your donating of **baked goods** to be sold.



Novena of Masses to the Guardian Angels

Starting with **Mass** on Thursday morning, **September 24th** and going through their **Feast Day** on **October 2nd**—we will **celebrate a Novena of Masses to the Guardian Angels**. **Angels** are often depicted pointing the way for us, **human beings** (and our **Angels** can clearly see the path that we are to take to return to **paradise**), but it may be more true that we can give direction to our **Angel** to help us in our daily quest for **holiness**. Even as we are directed by **the ministry** of our **Angel** to receive the nourishment of **the Eucharist** in the **Mass**, we will learn how we can send our **Guardian Angel** a head of us to interact with another person's **Angel**, and so have **sweeter** more **harmonious** outcomes. Come to **Mass** and learn how to put your **Angel** to work for you and how to receive the help of your **Angel** in making your **prayers** more **fervent**.



Collection Amounts for the Month of August

	OLPH	SMA	St. Patrick
Loose Collection	\$1,068	\$208	\$142
Envelopes	\$4,355	\$1,200	\$2,085
Total	\$5,423	\$1,408	\$2,227
Monthly Expenses	\$10,921	\$4,184	\$3,695
Assumption	\$340	\$500	\$30
Diocesan Appeal	\$8,190/\$9,376	\$2,705/\$2,590	\$6,785/\$1,953

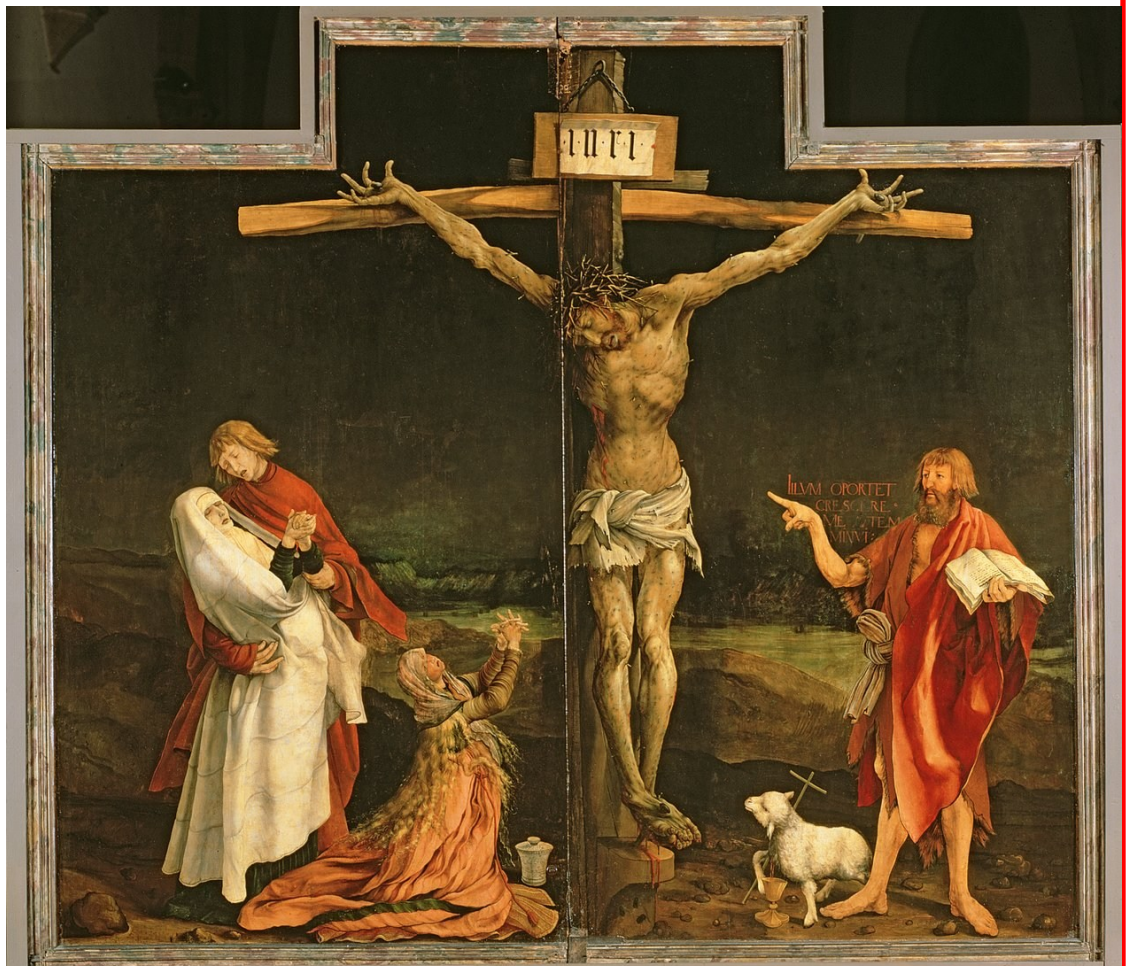
R. C. I. A



Bishop Barron introduces us to his book: *The Strangest Way*—by describing how he came of age after **Vatican II** thinking **Catholicism** “*was relatively bland and domesticated—easy to grasp and unthreatening.*” However, reading the mystics, **the Saints**, and the Church Fathers—what he encountered “*took his breath away! Whatever this Catholic phenomenon was, it was certainly not the beige system of thought that had been presented to him. Rather, it*

seemed to Bishop Barron the strangest, most exotic surprising, and uncanny of all of the religious paths he had ever encountered.” That God was coming after **mankind** with a reckless abandon. In the language of **Fr. Randy**: *God is always flipping the tables on us!* That God’s quest for us was so desperate that God would send His Son to die for us in order to have us as His adopted children. Whatever the world thinks of **Catholicism**—the one thing **Catholicism** is not is **bland**. God is not only in love with us, but God seeks a friendship with us which is likened by **Bishop Barron** to: **real intimacy!** *The Strangest Way* is written for the unfortunate **Catholic**, who grew up (like **Bishop Barron**) in that “**beige time**” of **Catholicism**. This is a book that is not your typical **RCIA reader**; rather, **Bishop’s** point is: “**Don’t think. Look!**” Three different “**paths**” will be

presented to us: 1) **Finding the Center**, 2) **Knowing you are a sinner**, and 3) **Realizing your life is not about you!** If you graduate from **RCIA** in this year from “**Christmas 2026** to **Easter 2027**,” you will have a reckless **love** for God much like **St. Francis of Assisi** had a reckless **love** for God! I warn you now as **your priest**—this **RCIA class** is not for *the faint of heart!*



Mass Intentions

Saturday, September 19th Feast of St. Januarius

(+) Fr. Robert Camacho & (+) Barbara McCoy/ Fr. Randy

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

Sunday, September 20th Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Red Mass)

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

10:30 am, **SMA** (+) Quin & (+) Josephine Torri/ Torri Family

Monday, September 21st Feast of St. Matthew

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

Tuesday, September 22nd

7:30 am, **SMA** (+) Larry Leffelman/ Mary Sue Parla &

living intention of Barbara Maria McCoy/ Fronek family

Wednesday, September 23rd

8:00 am, **OLPH** (+) Eileen Leffelman/ Mr. & Mrs. John Corcoran

Thursday, September 24th Novena Mass to the Guardian Angels

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

8:30 am, **OLPH** (+) Aubri Gonzales & (+) Sylvia Leffelman/ Carlene Schuhler

Friday, September 25th Novena Mass to the Guardian Angels

8:00 am, **St. Patrick** (+) Joseph Stewart/ Judy Sharkey

Saturday, September 26th Novena Mass to the Guardian Angels

(+) Msgr. Sweeney & (+) Fr. Melvyn Vlasz & (+) Fr. Camacho/ Fr. Randy

4:00 pm, **OLPH** (+) Ron Leffelman/ Ronette Moore &

(+) Fr. Kramer/ Sharon Becker Preston

Sunday, September 27th Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

10:30 am, **SMA** (+) Darrell Furar/ Kristen Furar

OLPH

201 Locust Street

Sublette, Ill. 61367

St. Patrick

1336 Maytown road

Amboy, Ill. 61367

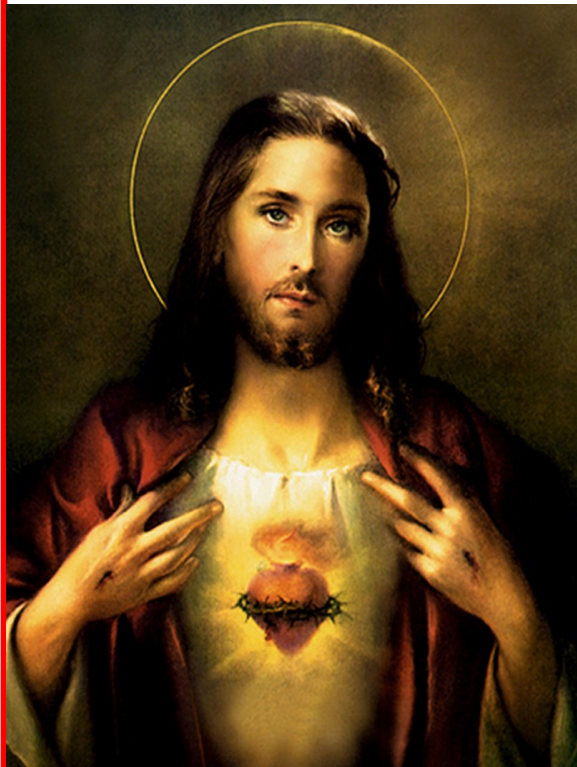
SMA

2520 Johnson Street

West Brooklyn, Ill. 61378



Capital Campaign



Our parishes were in “Wave Two” of the Bishop’s **Capital Campaign**. With two of the four **Waves** in the books, the Diocese is at 48% of the \$60 million. **Wave 3** and **Wave 4** are bigger than the first **two Waves (more Parishes)**, and so **Bishop Malloy** is confident we will make our goal! At our recent gathering of **priests** in Rockford—several priests were **impressed** that our three small Parishes all exceeded our goal. I told them of your **generous hearts**. Especially in this year when our **Country** has been **consecrated** to the **Sacred Heart of Jesus**, I would like to offer a **Sunday Mass** at each of our **Churches** and consecrate **Our Lady of Perpetual Help, St. Patrick Church, and St. Mary of the Assumption** to the **Sacred Heart of Jesus** and give a small **memento** to all the families that made a contribution to the **Capital Campaign**.