

*Twenty-Third Sunday
in Ordinary Time
September 6, 2026*



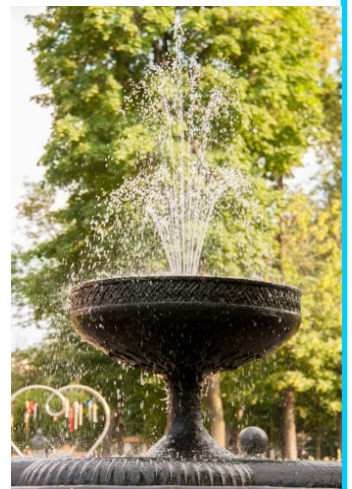
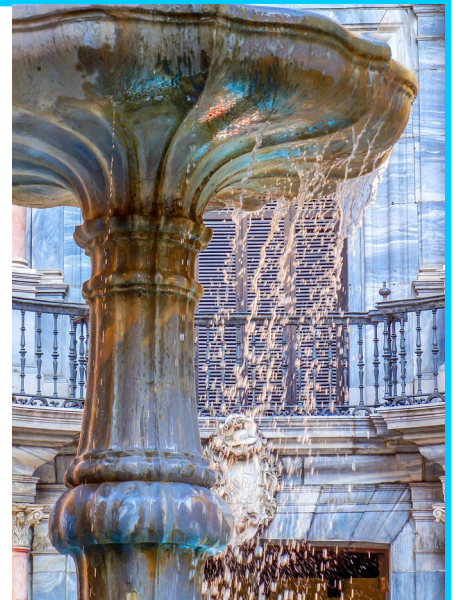
***Extra-Ordinary Jubilee Year
800th Anniversary
of the death of St. Francis***

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From the Gusset

“We have not received the spirit of the world, but the (Holy) Spirit who is from God....” (1Corinthinas 2:12)

If ever you go to **Rome** not only will you see hundreds and hundreds of **Churches**, but you will also see hundreds and hundreds of **fountains**. The late **Msgr. Mahowald** lived over twenty years of his life just a short walk from *the Trevi fountain* in **Rome**. **Msgr.** would tell me, *‘Randy, my boy, the Italians are in love with fountains—it reminds them of their Baptism!’* What brings a **fountain** to life is the gallons upon gallons of **water** that flow through them. Without **water**, even the most beautifully sculpted **fountain** would be missing something **essential**. **St. Paul** might tell us that the Holy Spirit is to our souls as **essential** as **water** is to a **fountain** (we can be alive without the Holy Spirit blowing in our lives, but is that **life** really worth living?). The Holy Spirit is *the life* of your soul—it wells up, overflows, and constantly fills us with **grace** that is **poured** into us by God. You see the third Person of the Trinity becomes aware of God the Father’s **love** for you, and the Holy Spirit becomes aware of God the Son’s **love** for you, and so the Holy Spirit **chooses** to dwell in your soul! It is not simply that the Holy Spirit is willing to dwell within you; but rather, the Holy Spirit **wants** to dwell within you! The Holy Spirit wants to be wherever the other two persons of the Trinity are; and so, once inside of you—the Holy Spirit helps us to think like God and to speak like God and to act like God—this is what **St. Paul** told **the Corinthians**. Now it turns out that we must make **two choices** in life. As a **priest**, I see this all over the place in **life**. Whether it is with vocation—there is *‘the call’* and *‘the sending’* that we must respond to, or even in **the Eucharistic Prayer**—liturgists call it *“the split-epiclesis.”* We can choose to allow the Father and the Son to **love** us and receive something called a **Sacrament**, which allows the Holy Spirit to be **poured** into us (flow within us). This was done for us typically by our parents at our **Baptism**, but we chose this for ourselves at our **Confirmation Sacrament**.



make to allow the Holy Spirit to teach us how to think, how to speak, and how to act. **St. Paul** says some folks **do not accept what pertains to the Spirit**—they think what the Holy Spirit wants them to do is **foolishness**—**they cannot understand the Holy Spirit**. But, then there are men and women, called Catholics, who allow the Holy Spirit to counsel them after they receive **the Eucharist**. These, **St. Paul** says, **have the mind of God!**

Yours on the Path Fr. Randy

NEW SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE



Starting the Weekend of **the 24th Sunday of Ordinary Time (September 12th and 13th)**, we will be having a **new Sunday Mass Schedule** that consists of **one Mass** at each **Church**. At **Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church** in **Sublette**, the **Mass** will be **celebrated** at **4:00pm** on **Saturday evening (the Vigil Mass)**. On **Sunday**, we will continue to have our **8:00am Mass** at **St. Patrick's Church** in **Maytown** and then the **Mass** at **10:30am** will be **celebrated** at **St. Mary of the Assumption** in **West Brooklyn**. Please watch the Video on the Home page of our **Website**: www.olphmarystpatick.com

SPECIAL MASSES ON LABOR DAY WEEKEND

Woodhaven Mass at the amphitheater at **6:00pm Saturday, September 5th**

&

St. Michael / Sandy Hill Cemetery Mass at **10:00am Monday, September 7th**

Please bring a lawn chair for your own comfort.



I have been searching for our **course book(s)** for **RCIA** during these Summer months, and I believe have found two good candidates. One for sure is by our beloved **Bishop Barron** entitled: *The Strangest Way: Walking the Christian Path*. The book consists of three main chapters each around 50 pages in length, **sandwiched** between an **Introduction** and a **Concluding Meditation**. The book takes its title from the last Chapter: **The Strangest Way**. **T.S. Eliot** has that great quote in his poem *Little Gidding*: We shall not cease from exploration and the end of all our exploring will be to arrive where we started and know the place for the first time! *The three paths* in **Bishop Barron's** book begin and end with this **strange sign** – the **Crucifixion** of our Lord – it is a picture (an **Icon**) of God's **broken Heart**. The **love** of God the Father prompts God to 'send' Jesus to **Calvary**. The **love** of God the Son is the **joyful** acceptance of being 'sent' by Dad. The **love** of God for sinful humanity is manifested on that awful **Cross**. When we **wander** from God – **Love** comes in search of us, and when **Love** finds us – **Love** brings us back home. The **first Path** then is to seek a deeper participation in our walking as **pilgrims** back Home. *The second Path* is realizing that we are **sinners** and that the Son of Man was obedient to the **Love** that generated Him and so our Lord went in search of **sinners**, who just prefer to be **left alone**. *The third Path* is where we become attentive to **the grace** God has given us and so we exercise **the courage** to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, visit the disagreeable, and to **pray** for a soul that no one else remembers! **Bishop** tells us: *whatever Christianity is, it is something strange!* Why not come along with your **priest** for the next six months as we explore this **strange Religion** called **Catholicism**. You have been walking on **the Path** with him for twelve years now, what's another six months?!?



RCIA classes start Tuesday, September 22nd at 6:30pm

CCD starts Sunday, September 13th

Registration at 9:00am, classes from 9:15—10:15am every Sunday

Go to the Parish Website: www.olphmarystpatrick.com go to the **CCD-RCIA** page and click on the two page **enrollment form**, fill out the information, and bring the forms to the Hall on **September 13th** with a **check** made out to **your parish** for **the CCD fee**. A **class schedule** can also be printed out from **the website**.

CCD fees: 1 child \$100 2 children \$175 3 or more children \$225

If **CCD children** attend **Mass** with their **Parents** every Sunday then **the Church** will **reimburse** the **full tuition paid**.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, September 5th Feast of St. Mother Teresa

(+) Deceased Daughters of Divine Love/ Sister Cornelia

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

6:00 pm, **Woodhaven** (+) Harold & (+) Rose Fett/ Richard Fronek & (+) Elden & (+) Carol Blevins/ Mr. & Mrs. Roger Fronek

Sunday, September 6th Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am, **St. Patrick** (+) Joseph Stewart/ Marilyn Weeks

10:00 am, **SMA** (+) Howard McInnis/ Judy Truckenbrod

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

Monday, September 7th Labor Day

(+) Leo & (+) Norma Bushman/ Fr. Randy

10:00 am, **Sandy Hill** (+) Fr. Kramer/ St. Patrick Church

Tuesday, September 8th Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

(+) Darlene Gehant/ Fr. Randy

Wednesday, September 9th

8:00 am, **OLPH** (+) Steen Smith/ Carlene Schuhler

Thursday, September 10th

7:30 am, **SMA** (+) Rita Haefner/ Shelia Halbmaier

8:30 am, **OLPH** (+) Rose Theiss/ Mr. & Mrs. Floyd Wilson

Friday, September 11th Patriot Day

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

10:45 am, **Stonecroft** (+) All Deceased U.S. Presidents/ Fr. Randy

Saturday, September 12th

(+) Michael Leurck & (+) Matthew Leurck/ Steve Leurck

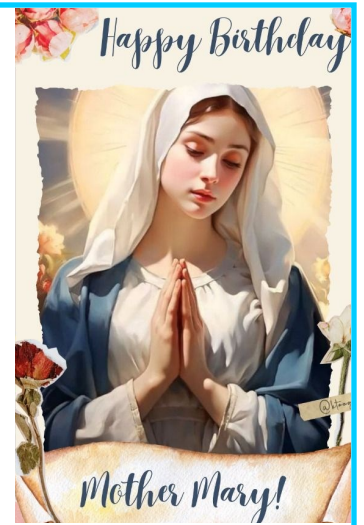
11:00 am, **Theiss Cemetery** (+) Rose Theiss/ Fr. Randy

4:00 pm, **OLPH** (+) Michael Widolff/ Fr. Randy

Sunday, September 13th Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am, **St. Patrick** (+) Eileen Leffelman/ Mr. & Mrs. Mark Streit & (+) Ron Leffelman/ Velma Quest

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



Capital Campaign

St. Paul collected money from various Churches to support other **Church Communities**, who were in greater need. **St. Paul** taught that these contributions were acts of **generosity** and **solidarity**, and that they should be done not reluctantly – but **cheerfully** after the example of the Christ. Remember, **the tradition** that our Lord kissed **the Cross** when He received it after



Pilate's trial. The line: **God loves a cheerful giver** – cracks the list of the top ten most famous lines **Paul** ever wrote! You see, Jesus did not so much have to die on **the Cross** for our **Salvation**, but wanted to die on **the Cross** for our **Salvation**! When **Bishop Malloy** asked all of **the Parishes** in the **Rockford Diocese** to contribute to his **Capital Campaign** – we would probably have been excused, if we did not meet our **pledge level**, but we did and we **cheerfully** exceeded it! Thank you to all, who contributed – we must **celebrate a Mass** in **gratitude** to God for your **generosity**!