

JULY 5, 2020
FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

	<u>MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK</u>	<u>WEEKDAY READINGS</u>
<u>Monday, July 6</u>	NO SCHEDULED MASS	Hos 2:16, 17b-18, 21-22/Mt 9:18-26
<u>Tuesday, July 7 (SN) 8:00am</u>	Arnold Niese/ Liv & Dec'd Ben & Anna Niese Family/No Exposition	Hos 8:4-7, 11-13/Mt 9:32-38
<u>Wednesday, July 8 (HF) 8:00am</u>	Doris Kaufman Schroeder Gibbs/No Exposition	Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12/Mt 10:1-7
<u>Thursday, July 9 (HF) 6:30pm</u>	All Who Suffer from Covid-19	Hos 11:1-4, 8e-9/Mt 10:7-15
<u>Friday, July 10 (SN) 8:00am</u>	Jim Murray	Hos 14:2-10/Mt 10:16-23
<u>Saturday, July 11 (SN) 4:00pm</u>	Neil Balbaugh/John Weskiel/Rita Hermiller/ Liv & Dec'd Lammers & Hermiller Families/ Liv & Dec'd Drummelsmith Families	<u>SUNDAY READING</u> Is 55:10-11
<u>Saturday, July 11 (HF) 7:00pm</u>	For the Parish	Rom 8:18-23
<u>Sunday, July 12 (HF) 8:30am</u>	John & Rena Kruse/Tom Deitering	Mt 13:1-23
<u>Sunday, July 12 (SN) 10:30am</u>	Jim & Ruth Okuley/Al & Angela Schroeder	
<u>Sunday, July 12 (SN) 6:00pm</u>	For the Parish For the Children of Our Parishes	

The Diocese of Toledo has launched a campaign called *Reconnect* to assist parishes and the faithful as we continue to navigate Catholic life during COVID-19 and through the next phases of re-opening. ReconnectToledo.org has resources to help the faithful, including spiritual resources and good news stories.

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners,

As we commemorate our nation's independence this weekend, I am reminded as well of the connection this annual observance has with our religious freedoms. It seems that very issue has been put to a great testing these past months with a global pandemic that has kept many houses of worship at bay. Even the civil unrest that has resulted in violent and rioting behaviors across the nation has a connection with religious freedoms and the lack of respecting that God given right. This is not just a "Catholic" issue; it has to do with everything religious and spiritual in the country these days.

God is forgotten by many in our free society. Somehow and somehow the attitude has been planted in many minds and hearts that God is not needed or does not even exist. Many people think that things "religious" and "spiritual" are antiquated. Could such an attitude emerge because religion deals with an unseen reality, the supernatural? There was a time in the not too distant past when we could look at the iconic symbols of our nation and realize the integral role God played in its consciousness. "In God, We Trust" imprinted on our federal reserve notes (our dollar bills) was not simply a branding slogan that was used to take up space. It meant something deeply in the very heart and soul of the nation. It implies a reliance on a higher absolute; a power that men and women of all time and history have come to reverence.

In 1938, when the Second World War was underway, composer Irvin Berlin released a tune many Americans have cherished ever since Kate Smith sang it publicly for the first time on Armistice Day that same year. "God Bless America" warms the American heart and its message offers great solace in times of turbulent unrest whether at home or abroad. They are simple lyrics, but coupled with a compelling musical score they raise the national spirit: "God bless America, land that I love. Stand beside her and guide her, through the night with the light from above. From the mountains to the prairies, to the oceans white with foam; God bless America, my home sweet home". A fact many Americans may not be aware of is that this tune is preceded by a spoken introduction that was included on the original soundtrack by Kate Smith. Its words are even more compelling: "While the storm clouds gather far across the sea; let us swear allegiance to a land that's free; let us be grateful for a land so fair as we raise our voices in a solemn prayer." Thus begins the tune and lyrics "God bless America..." It's all about counting our blessings, being grateful and open to grace upon grace from God.

Just as the test of time has tried to absent the Divine Being in all things, God remains faithful to us. May this 2020 Independence Day observance be the one when our national spirit came to its senses and realized that with God, all things are possible. Once we can acknowledge that, freedom and liberty will be won.

Monsignor Singler

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

With the transition of a soft re-entry in our churches, weekly offertory envelope contributions may be mailed to the Parish Office or offered collectively when the pandemic subsides. Please do not send cash through the mail.

PARISH OFFICE hours Thursday, July 9 and Friday, July 10 will be 8:30 am to 12:30 pm.

DURING THE MONTH OF JULY Holy Family Parish is responsible for stocking the Food Pantry in Ottawa. Any non-perishable items you would use in your home are needed. In particular, hygienic products like toothpaste, mouthwash, deodorant soap and products are in great need. Please place the items in the boxes provided in the main vestibule entryway of Holy Family Church before Friday, July 31.

TWO ST. NICHOLAS PRESCHOOL TEACHERS ARE NEEDED: Please contact Deb Wehri if you are interested.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION & YOUTH MINISTRY

Deb Wehri's FORMED.org Pick of the Week is an intense and riveting movie made in Germany (with English subtitles). *Life for Life: Maximilian Kolbe*

"Auschwitz, 1941. One of the prisoners, Jan, escapes from the German concentration camp while working at a gravel pit. Thanks to the help of kind-hearted people, he finds shelter. There Jan hears tragic news about ten random inmates sentenced by the Nazis to death by starvation as a punishment for his escape. One among the convicts is Fr. Maximilian Kolbe, a Franciscan priest who volunteered to die in place of one of the inmates." Suggested for adults because of the serious subject matter, this movie is brilliantly written and performed and gives an honest portrayal of one of our modern-day saints.

Vacation Bible School- Home Edition packets are still available for each of three levels—4-5-year old, Kindergarten- First Grade and Second -Third Grade. These may be picked up at the Parish Office during regular business hours.

Christian Formation registration forms will be sent out after we learn what protocols are to be followed and what procedures MC/NC School puts in place to maintain safety for all students and teachers.

HOLY FAMILY AND ST. NICHOLAS YOUTH will have the opportunity to attend the Catholic Youth Summer Camp this summer. It has been our parish custom to reimburse families 1/2 the cost of the camp. This money has been funded through our envelope boards in the back of both churches. This year parishioners who wish to donate may send a check made payable to St. Nicholas Church, CYSC or donate through the parish online giving link found on our website. Thank you!

THANK YOU for your generous support in last week's Peter's Pence Collection. Our contributions will be combined with those from our brothers and sisters around the world to help Pope Francis provide essential relief to people in need. If you missed the collection, it is not too late to give. Visit www.usccb.org/nationalcollections.

PUTNAM COUNTY HEADSTART is currently enrolling children for the 2020-2021 school year. Head Start is a free preschool for income eligible children ages 3 to 5. We have full day classrooms in Ottawa and Leipsic. For more information, or an application call 419-523-3228, text 419-719-4595 or stop in our office at 1205 East Third Street, Ottawa.

PATHWAYS COUNSELING CENTER has launched a COVID Crisis Line to help anyone experiencing anxiety, stress, fear, helplessness, and acute crisis during the COVID-19 pandemic. This line is staffed by trained mental health professionals to provide a *free* and *confidential* screening with follow-up recommendations if needed. This line is available Monday-Friday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm (567) 538-5100

PATHWAYS COUNSELING CENTER is now offering trauma-focused counseling services for children ages 3 – 18. Trauma-focused therapy is an evidence-based, conjoined child and caregiver therapeutic model for children and adolescents experiencing emotional and behavioral difficulties related to traumatic life events. Contact: (419) 523-4300

2020 Century Farm Award Applications Available Catholic Charities is now accepting applications for Century Farm Awards. This award designation honors Catholic families who have maintained a farm or homestead within their family for at least 100 years, with an emphasis on well-preserved working farms. Applicants will be asked to submit a registration form, copies of old deeds, and pictures to support claims. The information submitted must show family residence and ownership of a farm for at least 100 years. Applications should be submitted no later than August 15, 2020. A Mass honoring award recipients will be celebrated by Bishop Daniel E. Thomas at St. Patrick Catholic Church, 14010 US-24, Grand Rapids, OH 43522, on Wednesday, September 9, 2020. For more information or to request the registration form, please contact Melissa Tonti at (419) 214-4898 or mtonti@toledodiocese.org

BULLETIN SPONSOR OF THE WEEK: COMPLIMENTS OF LOVE-HEITMEYER FUNERAL HOMES: The caring staff of Love-Heitmeyer Funeral Homes in Ottawa, Ft. Jennings and Leipsic provide a personal and sincere touch as they support you in your time of need. Pre-arrangement Consolers. Call 419-523-6586

