

August 7, 2016
19th Sunday in Ordinary
Time

Saint John Catholic Church

Mission Statement: "We envision a process of transforming all baptized Christian, clergy, and lay into maturing persons knowing themselves in community, growing in their relationship to God, lived in individual and shared ministry responses to their baptismal call."

Parish Contact Information

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Deacon

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Pope Francis Addresses the Issue of Women Deacons

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Pope Francis has appointed six men and six women to a commission to study the issue of women deacons, particularly their ministry in the early church.

In addition to the 12 members named Aug. 2, the pope tapped Archbishop Luis Ladaria Ferrer, secretary of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, to serve as president of the commission.

The pope set up the commission at the request of the International Union of Superiors General, the organization for the leaders of women's religious orders around the world. Meeting the group in May, Pope Francis said that while his understanding was that the women described as deacons in the New Testament were not ordained as male deacons are today, "it would be useful for the church to clarify this question."

The International Theological Commission, a body that advises the doctrinal congregation, included the question of women deacons in a study on the diaconate almost 20 years ago. While its report, issued in 2002, did not offer recommendations for the future, it concluded that biblical deaconesses were not the same as ordained male deacons.

In June, Pope Francis told reporters that he had asked Cardinal Gerhard Muller, prefect of the doctrinal congregation, and Sister Carmen Sammut, president of the superiors' group, to suggest scholars to include in the study group.

At least one of the members Pope Francis named to the commission -- U.S. scholar Phyllis Zagano (*pictured below, Vatican News*) -- has written extensively on the role of women deacons in the early church, arguing that they were ordained ministers and that women can be ordained deacons today. Zagano is a senior research associate in the religion department at Hofstra University in Hempstead, New York.

Zagano told Catholic News Service she learned of the appointment through emails from friends and that she was "happy for the church." She said she knew some of the people named to the commission but was not familiar with their writings on women in the diaconate.

"The theological question isn't whether women were ordained (in the early church), but rather whether women can be ordained as deacons. The church has stated definitively that women cannot be ordained as priests. The church has always left the question of restoring women to the diaconate as open," she told CNS Aug. 2.

"It appears to me that this is an opportunity for the church to discuss whether women can be restored to the ordained diaconate," she said.

Another U.S. scholar also is among the 12 commission members: Augustinian Father Robert Dodaro, president of the Pontifical Augustinian Institute in Rome and a professor of patristic theology specializing in the works of St. Augustine.



SACRAMENT of BAPTISM: Preparation class for parents and godparents is required. Please contact the church office to make arrangements.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: Preparation for marriage must begin at least six months before the anticipated date of the wedding. Please contact the church office to set up an appointment to speak with Father.

Parish News & Events

August 7, 2016
19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Schedule

Sunday 8/7 8:00am For Ray & Rose Marie Metzger

Wednesday 8/10 8:30am For Joanne & Ed Littler

Thursday 8/11 6:30pm For Mable E. Richter

Sunday 8/14 8:00am For Mercedes Diccico

If you would like to have a Mass said for someone, please contact Rita in the Church Office at 515-523-1943.

Financial Report for the Week of July 31st

Regular Tithes \$300.00

Children \$7.00

Building Fund \$200.00

Repair Fund Balance 8/3: \$1,748.87

ADA Balance Due: \$373.90

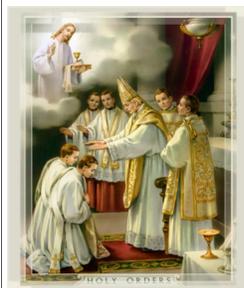
Birthdays

8/7: Monica Fagan

8/8: Theresa Elgin

8/10: Rachel Gettler

8/11: John Vogl



Seminarian Picnic

The Knights of Columbus Seminarians picnic will be held Sunday August 7 at 5pm at **LAKE ANITA STATE PARK.**

The Knights will furnish the meat and drinks. Please bring a dish to share. **Note the change in location - again.**

Faith Formation

Plans are underway for this fall! Cost per student is \$20. We are in need of another volunteer to teach.

For further information or to pay tuition, please see Monica Fagan or Annie Brincks.



Liturgical Ministers August 14th

Cross Bearer: Madison Suhr

Greeters: Mr. & Mrs. Les Elgin

Lector: Scott Suhr

Host: Les Elgin

Cup: Adella Vogl, Elizabeth Moreland

Servers: Paxton Schneider, Belle Fagan

Traveling Chalice: Rich & Grace Kennedy



Little Girl in a Storm -Submitted by Sheryl Drees (From the Riverside News)

A little girl walked to and from school daily. Though the weather that morning was questionable and clouds were forming, she made her daily trek to the elementary school. As the afternoon progressed, the winds whipped up, along with thunder and lightning.

The mother of the little girl felt concerned that her daughter would be frightened as she walked home from school and she herself feared that the electrical storm might harm her child. Following the lightning, like a flaming sword that would cut through the sky, the thunder would boom loudly. Full of concern, the mother quickly got into her car and drove along the route to her child's school. As she did so, she saw her little girl walking along, but at each flash of lightning, the child would stop, look up and smile. Another and another were to follow quickly and with each, the little girl would look at the streak of light and smile. When the mother's car drew up beside the child, she lowered the window and called to her, "What are you doing? Why do you keep stopping?" The child answered, "I am trying to look pretty. God keeps taking my picture."