

SAINT MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Ponca City, Oklahoma

August 4, 2019

Dear parishioners,
I hope this finds you doing well and that you've had a week where you were able to grow in your relationship with God and learn to trust him in a deeper way. May people have inquired about the 3 minute prayer that I preached about last Sunday, so I thought I'd write it down here. So you spend one minute thanking God for his blessings, one minute asking Jesus to forgive your sins, and one minute asking the Holy Spirit for help. Hopefully those three minutes will turn into a little more, but that's a great place to start! St. Ignatius of Loyola, whose feast day we celebrated on Wednesday, was a master at prayer and the contemplative life...but that wasn't always the case. Check out this excerpt from his life and ask for his intercession so that your own prayer life can blossom!
From the life of Saint Ignatius from his own words by Luis Gonzalez

Ignatius was passionately fond of reading worldly books of fiction and tales of knight-errantry. When he felt he was getting better, he asked for some of these books to pass the time. But no book of that sort could be found in the house; instead they gave him a life of Christ and a collection of the lives of saints written in Spanish.

By constantly reading these books he began to be attracted to what he found narrated there. Sometimes in the midst of his reading he would reflect on what he had read. Yet at other times he would dwell on many of the things which he had been accustomed to dwell on previously. But at this point our Lord came to his assistance, insuring that these thoughts were followed by others which arose from his current reading.

While reading the life of Christ our Lord or the lives of the saints, he would reflect and reason with himself: "What if I should do what Saint Francis or Saint Dominic did?" In this way he let his mind dwell on many thoughts; they lasted a while until other things took their place. Then those vain and worldly images would come into his mind and remain a long time. This sequence of thoughts persisted with him for a long time.

But there was a difference. When Ignatius reflected on worldly thoughts, he felt intense pleasure; but when he gave them up out of weariness, he felt dry and depressed. Yet when he thought of living the rigorous sort of life he knew the saints had lived, he not only experienced pleasure when he actually thought about it, but even after he dismissed these thoughts, he still experienced great joy. Yet he did not pay attention to this, nor did he appreciate it until one day, in a moment of insight, he began to marvel at the difference. Then he understood his experience: thoughts of one kind left him sad, the others full of joy. And this was the first time he applied a process of reasoning to his religious experience. Later on, when he began to formulate his spiritual exercises, he used this experience as an illustration to explain the doctrine he taught his disciples on the discernment of spirits.

Have a good week, and know that you're in my prayers!
In Christ.

Fr. Carson
**Masses
for the week...**

MONDAY, AUGUST 5, 2019
12:10pm †Romaine Shackelford/Dr. & Mrs. Gerard Shea

TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 2019
12:10pm †Lavonne Berendzen/Paul & Nancy Whitney

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7, 2019
12:10pm †Marianna Counter/Mike & Becky Koster

THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 2019
9:30am People of the Parish
(St. Francis, Newkirk, OK)
4:00pm **NO MASS**
(Via Christi Chapel)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 9, 2019
7:00am Spec. Int. August Birthdays/Kathleen Billington
12:10pm †Joe Neylon/Sue Lawson

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 2019
9:00am †Fr. Gallatin/Fr. Carson Krittenbrink
5:00pm †Deceased Members of the Bellinghausen Family

SUNDAY, AUGUST 11, 2019
8:00am †Marcus Roggenbuck/Randy & LaVonne Lauritsen
9:30am MASS (St. Francis Church, Newkirk)
11:00am †Theresa Bohon/Tom & Rosanne Rhodes
1:00pm People of the Parish (Spanish Mass)
7:00pm People of the Parish

**LOOKING
ahead... August 5-11, 2019**

Monday	7:00pm	KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
Tuesday		
Wednesday	9:00am	STAFF MEETING, McGurk Room
	6:30pm	CATECHIST TRAINING (7-12), Byrnes Room
	6:30pm	CATECHIST TRAINING (K-6) McGurk Room
Thursday		
Friday	4:00pm	ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE
	10:30am	CONFESSION, Chapel
Saturday	3:30pm	CONFESSION, Church
Sunday	6:30pm	CONFESSION, Church



Best Shrines of France Pilgrimage

Join Fr. Carson Krittenbrink as he leads an All-Inclusive Pilgrimage with one of the nation's leading Pilgrimage companies, 206 Tours. Explore France's beautiful Catholic Shrines on this cross-country Pilgrimage. From small villages in the South of France to Paris, one of the greatest cities in the world. On this Pilgrimage, you will see magnificent Shrines and Churches and learn of the lives of: St. Bernadette, St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Veronica and Zaccheus, St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, St. Therese of Lisieux, and St. Catherine Labourne. This pilgrimage is scheduled to depart October 5 – 16, 2020, \$5,024 per person from Oklahoma City. **There is an informational meeting Tuesday, August 6th at 6:30pm in the McGurk Room.** Or you may call 206 Tours at 1-800-206-TOUR (8687).

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Please Pray For those who need prayers: Jeanette Vassar, Charlotte Meyer, Charlene Vap, Dora Behar, Cindy Wardlow, Fran Baur, Don Schiltz, Jeanne Glaser, Patsy Hastings, Bennie Westerman, Eileen Spellman, Linda Courtney, George F. Brown, Martha Begwin, Gary Kirchmeyer, Donna Schlitz, Jim Sheets, Asher Dailey, Tyson Rutter, Betty Pino, Kaye Cunningham, Vivian Rose Graeff, Sue Odom, Barbara Spore, Jim Smith, Alicia Aguilar, Dakota Miller, Brian McCallen, Janet Wilson, James Hess, Gabriel Dietz, Ed O'Neill, Don Raulston, Lelah Tracy, Angi Jones, Marlene Taylor, Thomas Taylor, Brent Roberson, Jillian Beekman, Joe Badley, Sandy Hudack, Pamela Cline, Sherry Burgell, Ben Delapaz, Tom Courtney, Mary Knori, Nick Patterson, Jr., Helen Bloxson, Jill Kestler, Dean Tate, Bertha Smith, Bill Bridges, Beverly Phillips, Wendel Hacker, David Courtney, Joyce Johnson, Karla Carter, Gerald Luis, Joyce Reutter



There will be no JH/SH Youth Group for the next couple weeks. We will begin Faith Formation on August 21st with a social event from 6:30-8PM in the Byrnes room. All 7-12th grade teens are invited! Please bring a snack to share.

Mark your calendars for our annual High School Lock-In! Join us on August 23rd at 8PM for an all-night party.

Keep an eye on the bulletin for details.

"ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL"
St. Mary's Catholic School is accepting registrations for enrollment for the 2019-2020 school year. Please go online to www.stmarypsok.com for enrollment information or call Sarah Hunsaker, Principal at 580-765-4387. Join us Friday, August 9th from 4-5:30pm for our Open House.



Weekly Income Report		
July 14, 2019		
Weekly Collection		\$13,759.65
July 21, 2019		
Weekly Collection		\$15,784.61
July 28, 2019		
Weekly Collection		\$14,146.79

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St. Mary's Catholic School will hold their annual Fall Fest on Saturday, September 21st from 6-9PM. Many hands are needed to insure we have another successful event! If you are planning on donating an item to the Live or Silent Auction we ask that you start thinking about submitting your items description for the booklet. Contact for Fall Fest is Jennifer Schmidt. You can reach her at (414) 552-8410.



Dear Parishioners, some of you have notified me that you have not yet received your FREE 8x10 portrait.

Good News! The lost box of portraits arrived this week. Your photos can be picked up from the Parish Office. I appreciate your patience.
The directory should arrive in 5-6 weeks. Watch the bulletin for information.

Did you miss a weekly offering while on Summer vacation? eGiving through Faith Direct is the easiest and most convenient way for St. Mary's to receive your weekly offering and other Church support. eGiving through Faith Direct will also save you time. You can go online to faith.direct/OK801.