

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We remember in our prayers Edmond Bresh, Helen Reynolds, Helen Popp, Irene Smith, Florence Rasmussen, Robin Lupinski, Judy DiLorenzo, Yvonne Walsh, Tom Milos, and Georgine Keeler.

Mass is celebrated for the repose of the soul of Ursula Mary Tomaszewsk. May she rest in peace.

NEWS

Regarding our policy for mask wearing in church, if you are not fully vaccinated then you must wear a mask while inside the building. If you are fully vaccinated, we encourage you to continue wearing a mask while inside the building. It is important to be mindful of safe social distancing. If you are coming forward to receive Communion, please allow time for the person ahead of you to step away after receiving before coming forward.

The annual gathering at the Cathedral of the Pines is scheduled for Sunday, July 11, 2021, at 3:30pm. Please let me know if you are planning to attend by Sunday, July 5. Also, please indicate if you will be attending the meal after the service. The diocese is picking up the tab for the meal if enough individuals sign up. Thank you.

A SURVEY OF THE BIBLE – THIRD LETTER OF JOHN

The Third Letter of John, written by the Presbyter, was addressed to an individual, Gaius. The goal of the Presbyter was to secure hospitality and material support for his missionaries, whom Gaius has welcomed in the past. Diotrophes, a leader of that church, whom the Presbyter describes as one “who loves to dominate,” does not acknowledge the Presbyter’s call for assistance.

Although Diotrophes is portrayed as ambitious and hostile, his position may be one of caution, protecting the local community from false teachers. The division may also rest on doctrinal disagreement in which Gaius and the other “friends” accept the teaching of the Presbyter, while Diotrophes does not.

This letter sheds light on some details of the early development of the church where schools of opinion, questions of faith and life, as well as doctrine and authority happened amid divisions and unity.

NOTEABLE SAINTS OF THE WEEK

Aloysius Gonzaga, Religious. (d. 1591) St. Aloysius was born of the princely family of Castiglione in 1568 near Mantua in Lombardy. Instructed in piety by his mother, he manifested an inclination to religious life. He gave his brother his inheritance and entered the Society of Jesus. While serving the sick during a plague, he contracted the disease and died in 1591. June 21

John Fisher, Bishop and Martyr, and Thomas More, Martyr St. John Fisher was born in 1469. After completing his theological studies at Cambridge in England, he was ordained to the priesthood. Appointed bishop of Rochester, he led an austere life and fulfilled his pastoral role by frequently visiting the faithful. He wrote works against the errors of the time.

St. Thomas More was born in 1477 and was educated at Oxford. While Chancellor in the King’s Court, he wrote works on the governance of the realm and in defense of the Faith.

Both were beheaded in 1535 by order of King Henry VIII, whom they had resisted in the matter of his divorce. St. John Fisher on June 22 and St. Thomas More on July 6. June 22

From the Liturgy of the Hours, Volume III, Proper of Saints.

**St. Joseph of Stratford
National Catholic Church**



June 20, 2021 – Twelfth Sunday Ordinary Time

The expectations of life depend upon diligence; the mechanic that would perfect his work must first sharpen his tools.

~ Confucius

Parish Contacts

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Dear Parishioners,

In today's gospel passage (Mark 4:35-41) we find the disciples rebuking Jesus for his seeming lack of concern for their plight. They are in a boat in a squall with waves breaking over the boat, "*Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?*" Yes, they are afraid for their lives, but they are angry as well. They are angry with the Teacher for not fulfilling their expectations of what they believe he should be doing for them, rescuing them from the storm.

Unmet expectations are difficult to bear, especially when the one not fulfilling our expectations is God. God, who is capable of all things, is capable of answering my every prayer, and yet not all my prayers are answered. How can this be? Perhaps the answer lies in our expectations. Are they aligned with the promises that God has made to us? Join us this week for Mass as we reflect on this further.

Grace and peace,
Fr. Tom

Mass Times

Mass celebrations are Saturday Vigil at 4:00pm & Sunday Morning at 10:00am

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