

## PRAYER INTENTIONS

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

## NEWS

Please note that we are suspending the Saturday evening 4:00pm Vigil Mass during the month of August. We will resume the Saturday evening Vigil Mass beginning in September.

Regarding our policy for mask wearing inside the building, if you are not fully vaccinated you must wear a mask. If you are fully vaccinated, we strongly recommend that you wear a mask due to the rise of the COVID-19 Delta variant. 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.

## NOTEABLE SAINTS OF THE WEEK

**Dominic, Priest (d. 1221)** St. Dominic was born in Calaruega in Spain around the year 1170. He studied theology at Palencia and was made canon of the church of Osma. He worked effectively against the Albigensian heresy through preaching and good example. To carry on this work he gathered together companions and founded the Order of Preachers, the Dominicans. He died at Bologna on August 6, 1221. August 8

**Lawrence, Deacon and Martyr** St. Lawrence was a deacon of the Church of Rome. He became a martyr during the persecution of Valerian four days after the martyrdom of Pope Sixtus II and his four companions. Lawrence's tomb is located in the field of Verano near the Via Tiburtina where subsequently Constantine the Great built a basilica. Devotion to Lawrence was widespread by the fourth century. August 10

**Claire, Virgin (d. 1253)** St. Clare was born at Assisi in 1193. She followed her fellow citizen, St. Francis, in a life of poverty and became mother and foundress of an order of nuns. She led a life that was austere, yet rich in works of charity and piety. She died in 1253. August 11

**Pontian, Pope and Martyr, and Hippolytus, Priest and Martyr** St. Pontian was ordained bishop of Rome in 231. In 235 he was banished to Sardinia by the Emperor Maximinus, along with the priest Hippolytus, who is memorialized in the Canon of St. Hippolytus we pray as Eucharist Prayer II. There St. Pontian resigned from his office and later died. His body was buried in the cemetery of Saint Callistus, while the body of Hippolytus was buried in a cemetery along the Via Tiburtina. August 13

*From the Liturgy of the Hours, Volume IV, Proper of Saints.*

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



**August 8, 2021 – Nineteenth Sunday Ordinary Time**

*For I do not seek to understand  
in order to believe, but I believe  
in order to understand. For I  
believe this: unless I believe, I  
will not understand.*

*~ Saint Anselm of Canterbury*

**Dear Parishioners,**

**Parish Contacts**

*PASTOR*  
Fr. Tom Walsh

*CHAIRPERSON*  
Jeanine May

*VICE  
CHAIRPERSON*  
Dee Smith

*Finance  
Secretary*  
Barbara  
Chernesky

Today's gospel passage (John 6:41-51) continues the Bread of Life Discourse we have been reading from in John's gospel. Jesus' claim to be the bread of life come down from heaven defies our understanding. Many listening then could not accept what Jesus was saying, could not make sense of it, therefore they rejected it. The same can be said for many today concerning faith, yet they accept much of what they do not understand. They use the internet without understanding the operation of computer networks. They drive cars without understanding the principle of a combustion engine. Why then should their faith be contingent upon their making sense of the mystery of God.

Grace and peace,  
Fr. Tom

**Mass Times**

Mass celebrations are Saturday Vigil at 4:00pm (suspended during the month of August) & Sunday Morning at 10:00am

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