

**ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
200 Front Street, Pierce City, MO 65723  
August 21, 2022 - Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

**St. Mary's Catholic Church**

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**St. Mary's Catholic School**

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Cafeteria: Lanea Haase 476-2180 ext. 108  
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**SCHEDULE OF MASSES FOR AUGUST 20 – AUGUST 28**

**ST. MARY'S**

Saturday	4:00 p.m.	+ Charlotte Sloan Birthday Remembrance
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	+ John & Cecilia Eck Wedding Anniversary
Monday	8:15 a.m.	Rosary & Communion Service
Wednesday	8:15 a.m.	+Anna Bartsch
Friday	8:15 a.m.	St. Mary's Parish Family
Saturday	4:00 p.m.	+Louis Fenske Birthday Remembrance
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	+Mary Ryder

**ST. AGNES**

Tues.	No Mass
Thurs.	8:30 a.m.
Sun.	10:30 a.m.

**EVENTS OF THE WEEK:**

Monday, August 22	Memorial of the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Wednesday, August 24	Feast of Saint Bartholomew
Sunday, August 27	Memorial of Saint Monica

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Monday, August 29	Memorial of The Passion of Saint John the Baptist 8:15 a.m. Rosary and Communion Service 8:15 a.m. Mass
Wednesday, August 31	8:15 a.m. Mass
Friday, September 1	8:15 a.m. Mass
Saturday, September 3	Memorial of Saint Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church
Wednesday, September 7	PSR/CCD Classes will begin. Classes will be 6:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.

**OUR GIFT TO GOD LAST WEEK: Collection Counters in September: Tim & Patty Osterloh**

Our weekly budget is \$7,800.00      Last Week's Collection: \$ 6479.00

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS** Judy Chapman, Andrea Kristek, Loretta Graskemper, Robert Graskemper and all the sick and shut-ins of our parish.

**PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION (PSRCCD):** We have been blessed to have dedicated teachers who willingly give their time to make PSR a rewarding experience for the kids. Would you like to be involved? If you have thought about offering to teach a class but have hesitated, please pray about it. It is a personally enriching experience and a great way to contribute to YOUR CHURCH. We are needing teachers for the 2022-2023 school year. If you or someone you know are interested in volunteering to teach please contact Martha Randall at 417-489-4589. Classes will start Wednesday, September 7, 2022 from 6:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.

**PRAYER FOR A NEW SCHOOL YEAR:** Spirit of God, fill our hearts with a desire to seek truth and rejoice in beauty. Help us to know what is pleasing to you and to understand what is right and good in your sight. Give us the spirit of learning that we may please you by our thoughts and love you in your creation. Give all teachers your constant encouragement and guide them in their work. Spirit of God, make us effective witnesses of your truth to all whose lives we touch. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord, Amen.

**PRAYER FOR STUDENTS:** May they grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Glory be to him now and to the day of eternity! Amen

## APPOINTMENTS

If you are unable to make your appointment, please find a replacement

### Saturday, August 27 4:00 p.m. Mass

Readers: Madeline Ceselski, Beverly Miller

E.M.: Jim Parrigon

Ushers: Michael Abramovitz, Terrance Campbell, Larry Carver, Leonard Fenske

### Sunday, August 28 8:30 a.m. Mass

Readers: Barbara Glouse, Cody Washam

E.M.: Dale Jasumback, Jerri Jasumback (Choir)

Ushers: Levi Cooper, Jesse Cooper, Dale Jasumback, Ellis Motley

# Good News

## INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

## 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

Isaiah 66:18-21  
(Mark 16:15) Ps 117:1,2  
Hebrews 12:5-7,11-13  
Luke 13:22-30

### Monday August 22 Queenship of Virgin Mary

2 Thessalonians 1:1-5,11-12  
Ps 96:1-2a,2b-3,4-5  
Matthew 23:13-22

### Tuesday August 23

2 Thes 2:1-3a,14-17  
Ps 96:10-13  
Matthew 23:23-26

### Wednesday August 24 St. Bartholomew

Revelation 21:9b-14  
Ps 145:10-13,17-18  
John 1:45-51

### Thursday August 25

1 Corinthians 1:1-9  
Ps 145:2-7  
Matthew 24:42-51

### Friday August 26

1 Corinthians 1:17-25  
Ps 33:1-2,4-5,10-11  
Matthew 25:1-13

### Saturday August 27 St. Monica

1 Corinthians 1:26-31  
Ps 33:12-13,18-21  
Matthew 25:14-30

This Sunday's scripture readings are signposts on the road to the narrow gate into heaven. Isaiah says that God knows our

works and our thoughts. To help us sanctify our works and purify our thoughts, so that we can see the fullness of the glory of God when we die, he sets a sign among us. It is Jesus. His life – how he lived and how he died – are a sign of how to enter heaven.

He says in the Gospel reading that many will attempt to enter salvation who are not strong enough. Strong enough for what?

Throughout the Gospel, Jesus gives us the answer to that: We must be perfect in love. That does not mean that mistakes and other imperfections will lock us out of heaven. The key that opens the gate to heaven is love, and if we throw love away, we throw that key away.



it, we have to get rid of anything that blocks his love: unforgiveness, vengeful attitudes, lingering resentments and cynicism, and the apathetic ignoring of the needs of others.

The reading from Hebrews tells us not to disdain the discipline of the Lord. No matter what causes our hardships and trials or who's to blame, God uses them to perfect us in love. If we recognize these as opportunities to grow in love – if we seek God in them and let him stretch our ability to love – we become more like Jesus. We make the path toward heaven straight, and what is lame and disjointed in our spirituality is healed.

### Reflect & Discuss:

1. Who in your life is difficult to love? (Don't forget to consider the 'unloving behaviors you have toward yourself.)
2. How might God be using these hard-to-love people to strengthen your ability to love more perfectly?
3. People who are difficult to love are saint-makers, because they give us opportunities to identify and overcome (with God's help of course) the imperfections in our ability to love. What happens if we give God permission to change us when we wish someone else would change? How is this a key to heaven?

It's very unlikely, however, that we will ever completely throw love away, even though we sin. But how can we be perfect in love? Perfect love means we love fully. Always. Unconditionally. Sacrificially. Radically.

To be perfect in love, we need to have the Lord's own love. We need Jesus to dwell in us and reach others through us. On our own, we cannot love fully, but when we rely on God to give us his love for others, we have perfect love. To rely on God's love and feel confident in