

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

200 Front Street, Pierce City, MO 65723

August 22, 2021 - Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

St. Mary's Catholic Church

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St. Mary's Catholic School

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SCHEDULE OF MASSES FOR AUGUST 21 – AUGUST 29

ST. MARY'S

Saturday	4:00 p.m.	St. Mary's Parish Family
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	+Laura Rose Severs Anniversary
Monday	8:15 a.m.	Rosary & Communion Service
Wednesday	8:15 a.m.	+Poor Souls in Purgatory
Friday	8:15 a.m.	+France Rehrauer
Saturday	4:00 p.m.	+Patty Parrigon
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	+Emmett & Helen Wagner Birthday Remembrance

ST. AGNES

Tues.	8:30 a.m.
Thurs.	8:30 a.m.
Sun.	10:30 a.m.

EVENTS OF THE WEEK:

Tuesday, August 24

**Feast of Saint Bartholomew, Apostle
Diocese's 65th Anniversary**

Friday, August 27

Memorial of Saint Monica

Saturday, August 28

Memorial of Saint Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Monday, August 30

8:15 a.m. Rosary and Communion Service

Wednesday, September 1

8:15 a.m. Mass

7:30 p.m. Mass

Knights of Columbus Meeting at 8:00 p.m. in the C.R.

Friday, September 3

Memorial of Saint Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church

8:15 a.m. Mass

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

Our weekly budget is \$7,800.00

Last Week's Collection: \$ 6339.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS Andrea Kristek, and all the sick and shut-ins of our parish.

OUR PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY GO TO SHIRLEY O'HARA AND RITA SEUFERT AND THEIR FAMILIES ON THE DEATH OF THEIR BROTHER JAMES "JIM" CENDROSKI. May he be living with God and may his family feel his peace.

OUR PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY GO TO LEONARD, RALPH, PAUL, MIKE & TENA ABRAMOVITZ AND THEIR FAMILIES ON THE DEATH OF THEIR BROTHER JOHN ABRAMOVITZ. May he be living with God and may his family feel his peace.

OUR PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY GO TO TIM DIECKHOFF AND HIS FAMILY ON THE DEATH OF HIS DAD EDWIN "PAUL" DIECKHOFF. May he be living with God and may his family feel his peace.

PLEASE JOIN US IN CELEBRATING Robert & Loretta Graskemper's 60th wedding anniversary on Sunday, September 12th. Mass in their honor at 10:30 a.m. at St. Agnes followed by a taco dinner in the church basement.

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION (PSR/CCD): 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 2021-2022 school year. If you or someone you know are interested in volunteering to teach please contact Martha Randall at 417-489-4589.

NOTES FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK:

We are off with a bang! Last weekend our Back to School Activities kicked off our new school year. We had students handle the parts of the Mass on Sunday. Then the families came over to the school for Open House. Sunday evening was our Back to School Swim Party in Monett. Classes started on Wednesday. Our 2021-2022 enrollment is up again this year. We begin the year with a total of 91 eager students.

APPOINTMENTS

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

Saturday, August 28 4:00 p.m. Mass

Readers: Madeline Ceselski, Beverly Miller

Ushers: Tom Cahalan, Tommy Cahalan, Bryan Stellwagen, Bill Seufert

Sunday, August 29 8:30 a.m. Mass

Readers: Joe & Denise Crowell

Ushers: Ian Brottlund, Levi Cooper, Jesse Cooper, Dale Jasumback

Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

21st Sunday of Ordinary Time

Joshua 24:1-2a,15-18b
Ps 34:(9a) 2-3,16-21
Ephesians 5:21-32
John 6:60-69

Monday August 23

1 Thessalonians 1:1-5,8b-10
Ps 149:1b-6a,9b
Matthew 23:13-22

Tuesday August 24

St. Bartholomew

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

Wednesday August 25

1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
Ps 139:7-12ab
Matthew 23:27-32

Thursday August 26

1 Thessalonians 3:7-13
Ps 90:3-5a,12-14,17
Matthew 24:42-51

Friday August 27

St. Monica

1 Thessalonians 4:1-8
Ps 97:1,2b,5-6,10-12
Matthew 25:1-13

Saturday August 28

St. Augustine

1 Thessalonians 4:9-11
Ps 98:1,7-9
Matthew 25:14-30

In John 6:60-69, we see the tragic rejection of Christ's true mission by many who had been listening to him and watching him. How could they miss the message that he taught? "The words I have spoken are Spirit and life," he said. But they only heard his words on the surface level, in their flesh-nature. And thus they missed the life that he was offering: the healed life, the joyful life, the victorious life, the eternal life.

They weren't looking at Jesus spiritually. They saw him as a man, not messiah, as a healer of bodies, not souls, as a deliverer from Romans instead of from their sins.

Thus, the idea of eating his flesh and drinking his blood (which he had spoken of in the previous verses, in last Sunday's readings) truly was

gross and unthinkable. They couldn't grasp the Spirit and life behind those words. It seemed that Jesus had become too bizarre to follow.

The true disciples – those who remained to learn more from him – also didn't understand what he meant, not yet, but they recognized the presence of the Holy Spirit in his words.



How many times has Jesus come to you in another person and you didn't recognize him, because what you saw was the human individual and what you focused on was their un-Christ-like behavior?

Everyone has been created in the image of God. They would not be alive if the Holy Spirit had not given them life. Even non-Christians have the presence of Christ in them. To live a more victorious life, we have to look beneath the surface to find the Jesus who is hidden inside everyone we meet.

Do you have any difficulty recognizing the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist at Mass? Practice recognizing Jesus when he comes to you in others, and you will see the Eucharist in new ways.

Reflect & Discuss:

1. Jesus said, "No one can come to me unless it is granted him by my Father." How has the Father gifted you with the ability to recognize Jesus?
2. What has happened in your life that opened your eyes to who Jesus really is?
3. What blocks our view of Jesus when he comes to us through others? What expectations, disappointments, or prejudices?
4. Share with your group a time when you learned to see past the flesh to discover Jesus in someone you didn't like. What led to this discovery?