

"Late Have I Loved Thee" A Personal Reflection. ...

At 50 years old, I know what it means to search. For years, I walked a different path — seeking peace, meaning, TRUTH and something beyond myself. In my youth as a Baptist, then as a Unitarian “Oneness Pentecostal”, and also within the tradition of Buddhism as an ordained monk. I was sincere. But sincerity, without the “Living God”, can only take a soul so far.

Then He  found me. . . .

St. Augustine of Hippo cried out in his Confessions: *"Late have I loved Thee, O Beauty so ancient and so new!"* He searched for decades through philosophy, pleasure, and pride before yielding to the God who had been waiting beside him all along. When I read those words, I read my own story.

About six or seven years ago, I entered the Catholic Church. Since then, I have had the joy of teaching OCIA — walking with others on the same road I once traveled. And this fall, God willing, I will take the next step as a Lay Dominican candidate, placing myself more fully in the school of **St. Dominic** and **St. Thomas Aquinas**.

It may seem late. But God does not count in years — He counts in “yeses!”

If you are still searching, know this: He has been within you all along. He is calling. He is not finished with you yet. Your story is not over!

And like **Archbishop Fulton Sheen** always says, *“God love you, and God bless.”*

Eli

St Vincent de Paul thanks you for your generosity. In the Gospel, Jesus says, *“This is how it is with the reign of God. A man scatters seed on the ground. He goes to bed and gets up day after day. Through it all the seed sprouts and grows without his knowing how it happens.”* Through your almsgiving you are sowing seeds that grow far greater than you know. The money you place in the St. Vincent de Paul coin shake collection brings Christ’s love and compassion to the poor. Thank you from your St. Vincent de Paul team and the neighbors we serve



The Pantry has been running very low. If you have the means to donate food for the pantry, please bring items to the church and place them outside the closet nearest the basement stairs. Cereal, granola bars, pop tarts, peanut butter, pasta sauce and pasta, canned meats (tuna, chicken etc.), boxed meals (hamburger helper), macaroni and cheese, canned soups, Raman. Please, be sure the items are in-date as we cannot use out-of-date foods.

Office Hours at St Mary: Erin is in the office on Tuesday 9AM-4 PM (Fr Tom leaves about 3:00) and Thursday from 9-4PM Fr Tom's office hours are by appointment. Please call the office or the rectory to make an appointment.
Parish Council: Chair- Ninoska Moratin, Vice Chair- Julius Foncha, Secretary- Tibor Laký, Jose Angel Noguez, Robin Clark, and Haley Danehy
Building and Grounds Committee: Fr Tom Buckman, Mark Pais (Chair) David Duncan, Kenneth Bracy, Allan Cravalho, Casmiro Moratin, and Thom Boyne, and Josue Cabrera
Administration & Finance Committee Meets 3 rd Thursday @ 5:00 PM Chairman- Duane Wolter , John Janicek, Darrell Fenley, and Andrew Tamm
Ladies Guild: President–Sheila Jeffers , Secretary- Terri Tyler, Treasurer- MaryAnn Forney
Religious Education Committee: DRE- Robin Clark , Maria Molina, Hannah Clark, Fabiola Humphrey, Kateri Edwards and Ninoska Moratin.
Music Director- Joshua Wagner stmaryccmusic@gmail.com Cantors: Valerie McGowen, and Margaret Wolter
Worship/Liturgy Committee: Fr. Tom Buckman, Margaret Wolter (Chair), Joshua Wagner, and Maggie Tamm.
Evangelization and Outreach Ministry: Fr. Tom Buckman, Duane Wolter (Chair) , Eli Gantt, Colleen Rafferty, and Robert Loza
Librarian- Kathleen Kaapcke
Archivist- Sheila Harrington, Marian Becker, and Andrew Tamm

ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 25-26, 2026

Welcome Visitors and Guests!
Bienvenidos a los Visitantes y Huéspedes!
Pastor/Párroco Fr. Tom Buckman
tom.buckman@pastoral.org
PO Box 388, 403 N. Main St., Franklin, Kentucky 42135
Office: 270-586-4515 Rectory Phone: 270-253-3230
Music Director: Joshua Wagner
Erin Denny- Office Administrator email: stmaryfranklinky@gmail.com
Diocese of Owensboro www.owensborodiocese.org



<i>The deadline for Calendar submissions for the August Calendar Bulletin is 8/25/2026</i>		
Saturday, July 25	5:00 PM	17th Sunday in Ordinary Time- Intentions: For the Soul of Don Stegilbauer
Sunday, July 26	8:30 AM	17th Sunday in Ordinary Time- Intentions: For the Soul of Donna Bracy
Domingo 26 Julio	6:00 PM	17th Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario- Para la gente de la parroquia
Monday, July 27	8:00 AM	Intentions: For the Soul of Ray Brown
Tuesday, July 28	Noon	Intentions: For the Soul of Evangeline Zimmerman
Wednesday, July 29	6:00 PM	Intentions: For the Soul of Fr. Gerald Baker
Thursday, July 30	8:00 AM	Intentions: Honoring David Cozzy
Eucharistic Adoration 9:00 AM – 10:00 PM		
Friday, July 31	8:00 AM	Intentions: For the Soul of Jim Breslin
Saturday, August 1	8:00 AM	1 st Saturday Mass- Intentions: Joan Mueller
Saturday, August 1	5:00 PM	18th Sunday in Ordinary Time- Intentions: For the Soul of Crystal Becker
Sunday, August 2	8:30 AM	18th Sunday in Ordinary Time- Intentions: For the people
Domingo 2 Agosto	6:00 PM	18th Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario- Por el alma de Ipolito Garcia

If you have Mass intentions, please contact Fr. Tom or Erin in the office.
Mass Ministers: Please try to arrive at least 10 minutes prior to the start of Mass.
When/if you are unable to fulfill your scheduled Mass Ministry, please find a replacement Thank You, Fr. Tom

Anyone aware of the abuse of a person under the age of eighteen is required by law to report this to the proper state authorities: local law enforcement (270) 586-7425 or the Kentucky Child Abuse Hotline (toll-free: 1-877-KYSAFE1).
The Diocese of Owensboro seeks to help all who have been sexually abused and especially those abused by a person working for the Church, paid or unpaid, either past or present. To report such abuse, please call the diocesan Pastoral Assistance Coordinator (270-852-8380). The revised sexual abuse policy, which explains fully the diocese’s efforts to address sexual abuse in the Church, can be found in the back of the church on the parish bulletin board and on the diocesan web site (<https://owensborodiocese.org/safe>).

If you are sick, or know someone who is ill, we want to include them in our prayers.
Please contact Erin in the parish office on 270-586-4515 or by email so our parish can pray for you and your caregivers.
Please Remember in Your Prayers the Following Parishioners, Family and Friends:, David Kelly, Regina Cozzy and Family, Cindy & John Janicek, Harry & Mae King, Richard Hearn, Judy Cates, Helen, Ed, and Ben Berry, Tom, Margaret, Roger, and Sherrie Berry, Gail Hall, DeWayne, Susie, Kassidie, Katie, and Kennedie Kirkham, Mary, and Bill Sloan

Please keep our deceased family and friends in your daily prayers:
Calvin Oshefsky, Patrick Collins, Gracie Scott, Carol Sue Durbin, Charles Andrew Yanov, Jason W. Bracy, Mary Barnes, Conner Sheahan, Marie Watson, Debbie Head, Crystal Becker, Andrew & Michael Garrett, Angela Berry Maynard, Sarah Drake, Basil Trouten Sr., Hilda Trouten, Dorthy O'Bryan, Joseph Hagan, Susie Wyatt, Miriam Harbin, Roger Farley, Dr A.V. Wilwayco, Frank & Marie Farmer, Keith Obriskie, Gail Briley, Helen Garst, Lois Oshefsky, John Hermann, Sharon Henderson, Sr Maretta Murphy IHM, Dr John Kelly, Ellie Mirgaux, Mike Glodoski, and Rose Vogt.

Mission Statement

We, the people of St Mary Catholic Church, are a welcoming Catholic community called to live our faith by celebrating Mass, Sacraments, and Prayers; proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ; seeking life-long faith and formation; sharing our time; talents and reaching out in compassionate service to others.

August 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			29 6:00 PM Mass	30 8:00 AM Mass 9:00 AM- 10:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration	31 8:00 AM Mass	1 8:00 AM 1 st Saturday Mass 8:30 Bldg. and Grounds Mtg. 12-3 Youth Event with Fr Silvio 3:30 Confessions 5:00 PM Mass Mission Appeal
2 18 th Sunday in Ordinary Time 8:30 AM Mass Mission Appeal 6:00 PM Misa	3 8:00 AM Mass	4 10:30-2PM SVDP Noon Mass	5 6:00 PM Mass	6 8:00 AM Mass	7 6:00 PM 1 st Friday Mass	8 10:00 AM Baptism Class 3:30 Confessions 5:00 PM Mass <i>Fr. Cory Bruns</i> Vocations Director
9 19 th Sunday in Ordinary Time 8:30 AM Mass 6:00 PM Misa	10 8:00 AM Mass	11 10:30-2PM SVDP Noon Mass	12 6:00 PM Mass	13 8:00 AM Mass 9:00 AM- 10:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration 5:00 PM SVDP Meeting	14 8:00 AM Mass 5:00 PM Evangelization Mtg	15 <i>The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mother- not a Holy Day of Obligation</i> 3:30 Confessions 5:00 PM Mass
16 20 th Sunday in Ordinary Time 8:30 AM Mass 5:00 PM Ladies Guild Meeting 6:00 PM Misa	17 8:00 AM Mass	18 10:30-2PM SVDP Noon Mass	19 6:00 PM Mass 6:30 Religious Ed	20 8:00 AM Mass 9:00 AM- 10:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration 5:00 PM Admin Committee Mtg	21 8:00 AM Mass	22 3:30 Confessions 5:00 PM Mass
23 21 st Sunday in Ordinary Time 8:30 AM Mass <i>Sophia Award Reception</i> 6:00 PM Misa	24 8:00 AM Mass 6:00 PM Parish Council Mtg	25 10:30-2PM SVDP Noon Mass	26 6:00 PM Mass 6:30 PM Religious Ed	27 8:00 AM Mass 9:00 AM- 10:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration	28 8:00 AM Mass	29 3:30 Confessions 5:00 PM Mass
30 22 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time 8:30 AM Mass 6:00 PM Misa	31 8:00 AM Mass	Birthdays: Shelley Mattingly, Juan Cruz, Jack Jeffers, Elmer Alfaro, Amalia Matais, Hanna Clark-Scarborough, Nancy Doyle, Lorenzo Valencia, Trinity-Ann Thompson, Oliver Garrett, Skylar Richey, Kelly Sanchez, Luke Garrett, Douglas Alvey, Rosalio Betancur, Elizabeth Russell, Carol O'Bryan, Ben Rissell, Donald Meadows, Gerald Alexander, Lee Stafford, Vickie Hearn, Gail Kelly, Maria O'Bryan, Daryl Hall,				Anniversaries: Adrian & Katherine Cruz, David & Glenda Duncan, Beckie & William Clark, and Basil & Karen Trouten

MASS SERVICE SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST 2026 - PLEASE ARRIVE 15 MINUTES BEFORE MASS

DATE	GREETER	USHER	GIFT BEARER	ALTAR SERVER	LECTOR	E MINISTER
SATURDAY	Richard Mahoney	David Duncan	Keith Mueller	Audrey Gantt	Ryan Tyler	Sue Boyne
08/01/26	Mark Pais	Keith Mueller	Mark Pais	Lindsay Canada		Joyce Pais
SUNDAY	Laky Family	Tim Rafferty	Bracy Family	Ben Berry	Patty Kinder	Duane Wolter
08/02/26		Donald Meadows		Bentley White		Marta McMahon
		Joey McMahon				Silvia Meadows
		Colby Ritter				Tibor Laky
SATURDAY	Richard Mahoney	David Duncan	Fenley Family	Ly Canada	Joyce Pais	Terri Tyler
08/08/25	Keith Mueller	Darrell Fenley		Lynn Canada		Robin Tyler
						Dan Nichols
SUNDAY	Danehy Family	John Wargo	Edwards Family	Joshua Humphrey	Sandra Bracy	Fabiola Humphrey
08/09/26		Julius Foncha		Gael Cruz		Abbey Pais
		Ben Berry				Helen Berry
SATURDAY	Becker Family	David Duncan	Pais Family	Ly Canada	Robin Tyler	Rosie Nichols
08/15/26		Richard Mahoney		Lindsay Canada		Theresa Odom
						Dan Nichols
SUNDAY	Berry Family	Casimiro Moratin	McMahon Family	Nathan Santos	Joshua Humphrey	Maria Molina
08/16/26		Anthony Stoll		Sammy Wallace		Ariel Molina
		Tim Rafferty				Jose Angel Noguez
		Kenneth Bracy				
SATURDAY	Mark Pais	David Duncan	Tyler Family	Audrey Gantt	Eli Gantt	Sue Boyne
08/22/26	Keith Mueller	Keith Mueller				Joyce Pais
						Duane Wolter
SUNDAY	Andrew Tamm	Anthony Stoll	Berry Family	Ola Danehy	Haley Danehy	Mary Ann Forney
08/23/26	Kenneth Bracy	John Wargo		Bentley White		Sylvia Meadows
		Sean Danehy				Marta McMahon
		Joey McMahon				
SATURDAY	Richard Mahoney	David Duncan	Duncan Family	Lynn Canada	Theresa Odom	Duane Wolter
08/29/26	Mark Pais	Darrell Fenley		Lindsay Canada		Robin Tyler
						Terri Tyler
SUNDAY	Mary Beth Farley	Tim Rafferty	Danehy Family	April Guadalupe	Andrew Tamm	Kenneth Bracy
08/30/23	Colleen Rafferty	Tibor Laky		Sammy Wallace		Marta McMahon
		Julius Foncha				Sylvia Meadows

As of 07/21/26						
Budget Needs 2025-26 Weekly		\$ 4,038		Budget YTD Needs		\$ 12,114
Received last week		\$ 3,313		Received YTD		\$ 10,474
Difference		\$ (-725)				\$ (-1,640)
On Going Projects Last Week		\$ 32		YTD		\$ 106
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time 8:30 AM Mass 6:00 PM Misa	27 8:00 AM Mass	28 10:30-2PM SVDP Noon Mass	29 6:00 PM Mass	30 8:00 AM Mass 9:00 AM- 10:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration	31 8:00 AM Mass 6-8 PM Joy Faith & Friendship Youth Event	1 8:00 AM 1 st Saturday Mass 8:30 Bldg. & Grounds 12-3 Youth Event with Fr Silvio 3:30 Confessions 5:00 PM Mass
Mass Attendance— 07/18 5:00 PM- 47 07/19 8:30 AM-95 07/19 6:00 PM-90						
Please pray for our military: Jack Jeffers, Army, Ft Carson, Colorado Springs, CO.; Eric Rafferty, Air Force, England; Korbin Bray, US Navy, Japan; Capt. Ryan Berry, USMC California; Jonathan Thompson, Navy, Jacksonville, FL; Ariel Molina Jr, Marines, Pensacola, FL. Please call the office to add a name						
Prayer For Our Men and Women in Military Service: O Prince of Peace, we humbly ask Your protection for all our men and women in military service. Give them unflinching courage to defend with honor, dignity, and devotion to the rights of all who are imperiled by injustice and evil. Guard our churches, our factories, our buildings, and all those within from harm and peril. Protect our land and its people from enemies within and without. Grant an early peace with victory founded in justice. Instill in the hearts and minds of men and women everywhere a firm purpose to live forever in peace and good will towards all. Amen						

Good News!

July 26, 2026
Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

1 Kings 3:5, 7–12 / Romans 8:28–30 / Matthew 13:44–52 or 13:44–46

ANN M. GARRIDO

Jesus' favorite thing to talk about was a mystery he called the kingdom of God, referred to in the Gospel of Matthew as the kingdom of heaven. He was not the first to speak of it. The prophets before him spoke often of God's dream for the world. They wanted all to know what it would look like when God reigns here on earth as God already reigns in the heavens. But Jesus added to that teaching by offering vivid new images of what God's reign is like. Matthew 13 is filled with such snapshots. The kingdom of heaven will be like a mustard seed, a pearl, a measure of leaven, a hidden treasure. It will be like a sower casting out seed, a wheat harvest, a net that catches many fish.

At the end of this litany, however, Jesus offers an image of what he expects of those who have received his teaching about the Kingdom. They are to be like “the head of a household who brings from his storeroom both the new and the old” (Matthew 13:52). It sounds as if Jesus’ disciples are to act like hosts of a banquet, setting the table with stories from across time to feed their guests with whatever words and images would best help them grasp the mystery of this kingdom. They are to continue Jesus’ work of developing new ways to illumine a mystery that is in the end too great for words. ●

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Dear Padre,

I'm in the OCIA program. My wife and I were married civilly. She goes to a non-denominational church but is not baptized. Someone said we would have to get our marriage "convalidated." Why? And what does that mean?

Convalidation is a legal term, but it can also be understood as good pastoral practice and even more as a wise spiritual choice. Basically, from a legal point of reference, your marriage took place outside of the canonical structure of the Church.

It needs to be “regularized” and “documented” for you to move forward. Because your wife is not baptized, it cannot be a sacramental marriage, which requires baptism, but it can be made valid and recorded in official Church documentation. Such documentation is helpful, particularly if you have children and intend to raise them as Catholic. Also, if your wife ever decides to become a baptized Catholic, your marriage would automatically become a sacramental marriage when she is baptized. Nothing more is required of you. All in all, it is a good decision and a positive step in your spiritual journey. ●



Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to **DearPadre.org** to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

Monday July 27 <i>Weekday</i> Jer 13:1-11 Mt 13:31-35	Thursday July 30 <i>Weekday</i> Jer 18:1-6 Mt 13:47-53	Saturday August 1 <i>St. Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church</i> Jer 26:11-16, 24 Mt 14:1-12
Tuesday July 28 <i>Weekday</i> Jer 14:17-22 Mt 13:36-43	Friday July 31 <i>St. Ignatius of Loyola, Priest</i> Jer 26:1-9 Mt 13:54-58	Sunday August 2 <i>Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> Is 55:1-3 Rom 8:35, 37-39 Mt 14:13-21
Wednesday July 29 <i>Sts. Martha, Mary, and Lazarus</i> Jer 15:10, 16-21 Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42		

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

God speaks to us.... [T]he first attitude to cultivate is listening, so that the divine Word may penetrate our minds and our hearts; at the same time, we are required to speak with God, not to communicate to him what he already knows, but to reveal ourselves to ourselves. Hence the need for prayer, in which we are called to live and to cultivate friendship with the Lord.

GENERAL AUDIENCE,
ROME, JANUARY 14,
2026

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