

MASS INTENTIONS
Sat, Jul 26.....For the people
Sun, Jul 27.....+Steve Jakus
Tues, Jul 29.....+Thomas Skrmetti
Wed, Jul 30.....+Raymond & +Paula Miguez
Thu, Jul 31.....Fr. Jey
Fri, Aug 1.....Special Intention

IN OUR PARISH

CALLING ALL ALTAR SERVERS If you have received your first Holy Communion please fill out the following form using the QR code.

Altar Server Sign up



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS are selling raffle tickets for 2 Shimano Rod and Reel Combos; 1 for inshore and 1 for offshore. Tickets are \$10 each or a book of 11 for \$100. See a KoC member to purchase tickets. Proceeds to benefit St. Michael's St. Vincent de Paul. Another way to help is donating canned food items in the month of August. Please leave your non-perishable donations in the collection basket located in the church's vestibule.

MASS INTENTIONS If you would like a Mass said for a special intention contact the church office to get on the calendar.

WEEKLY OFFERING
July 19 & 20.....\$4478.10
UPCOMING COLLECTIONS
July 27 & 28.....Building Fund
Aug 2 & 3.....Extension Society

MASS READINGS FOR THE WEEK	
Sat Jul 26	Ex 24:3-8, Mt 13:24-30, Sir 44:1, 10-15, Mt 13:16-17
Sun Jul 27	Gn 18:20-32, Col 2:12-14, Lk 11:1-13
Tue Jul 29	Ex 33:7-11; 34; 34:5b-9, 28, Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42, 1 Jn 4:7-16
Wed Jul 30	Ex 34:29-35, Mt 13:44-46
Thu Jul 31	Ex 40:16-21, 34-38, Mt 13:47-53, 1 Cor 10:31—11:1, Lk 14:25-33
Fri Aug 01	Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37, Mt 13:54-58, Rom 8:1-4, Mt 5:13-19
Sat Aug 02	Lv 25:1, 8-17, Mt 14:1-12
Sun Aug 03	Ecc 1:2; 2:21-23, Col 3:1-5, 9-11, Lk 12:13-21

MINISTRIES: God is calling YOU. Can you answer the call? We are in need of Ushers, Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Altar Servers, Greeters, and Altar Society members. Prayerfully consider God’s calling to serve your St. Michael Family. Call 228.435.5578

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY The SVDP provides a food pantry each Wednesday from 10—11 am. We value your time and your donations! Your continued support helps to ensure SVdP is able to provide support for those in need.

STELLA MARIS EXPLORERS homeschool ministry serving catholic children grades PK3-12th with a Thursday morning program in the FLC. If you're interested in dropping in for a club meeting or to get more information, please visit our website (StellaMarisExplorers.com).



Heavenly Father,
As we begin this new school year, we ask for Your guidance. Surround our schools with Your safety and protection all physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Bless our children with strong friendships and positive relationships, built on faith, kindness and respect. Fill their hearts with wisdom and discernment as they face new lessons, decisions, and challenges.
Inspire every teacher with renewed dedication and a deep impact on the lives they touch. Give our children the strength to overcome academic pressures with resilience and grace. Let every classroom be a place of welcome and inclusivity, where each person is seen, heard, and valued. Give us all a spirit of teachability and gratitude as we step into this season with open hearts. Amen.

The 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday's Readings

First Reading
Genesis 18:20-32
Abraham pleads with God to save the innocent people of Sodom and Gomorrah.

Responsorial Psalm
Psalm 138:1-3,6-8
Lord, on the day I cried for help, you answered me.

Second Reading
Colossians 2:12-14
You were buried with Christ in Baptism and also raised with him.

Gospel Reading

Luke 11:1-13

Jesus teaches the disciples about prayer.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Luke gives more attention to Jesus' teachings on prayer than any other Gospel writer. He also mentions Jesus at prayer more than the others. In today's reading, from the beginning of Chapter 11 of his Gospel, Luke presents the core of Jesus' teaching on prayer. It consists of Jesus teaching a prayer to his disciples, a parable on the persistent neighbor, and assurances that God hears our prayers.

The disciples notice Jesus praying “in a certain place.” They ask him to teach them to pray just as John the Baptist had taught his disciples. Jesus teaches them a simple version of the most famous Christian prayer, the Our Father, or the Lord's Prayer. Matthew's version shows signs of being shaped by public prayer. Luke's version is probably closer to the original form that Jesus taught. Stripped of much of the language we are used to, Luke's version seems simple and direct. We pray that God's name will be recognized as holy and that his rule over all will be established. This is followed by petitions for our needs for bread, for forgiveness, and for deliverance. Luke uses the more theological language of “sins” rather than “debts,” which is used in Matthew's version.

Having taught his disciples a simple, daily prayer, Jesus goes on to reassure them that God answers prayers. First he tells a parable about a persistent neighbor who asks a friend for bread at midnight.

The friend is already in bed and has no desire to disturb his family by opening the door. But because the neighbor is persistent, the sleeping man gets up and gives him all that he needs. If a neighbor is willing to help us if we are persistent enough, how could God not respond to our requests?

This teaching concludes with the reminder that if we seek, we will get a response. If a human father, with all his faults, knows how to give good gifts to his children, how much more will our heavenly Father give us? Instead of good gifts, however, Luke substitutes the word Holy Spirit. This foreshadows the gift of the Holy Spirit, who is central to Luke's theology and who will play an important role in the growth of the early Church after Pentecost.

The parable and the concluding teaching in this section should not lead us to think of prayer as a series of requests presented to God. Rather, as Jesus teaches in his model prayer, prayer consists in recognizing God's holiness and his rule over all things.

[Sunday Connection | Loyola Press](#)