



Bloom Where You Are Planted

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

If you could change one aspect of your life, what would that be? Financial instability? Arthritis? Addiction? A disruptive family member? Work's daily grind? Finding love? No doubt the answers are as varied as the people who answer the question.

Though the old poster advises us to "bloom where you are planted," sometimes we can feel as if we've been planted among weeds—the people we've been given, the problems that continually pop up, the conflicts that all too often shut out the peace we seek. Just as Jesus sends disciples into every place he intends to visit, the reality for us may very well be that he sends us into the very lives we live even though we wish we could change them. Where we are is where we've been sent. It is in the lives we have that we

work out our salvation, for Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is at hand for you" (Luke 10:9).

St. Paul emphasized how important it is for disciples of Jesus to live out their identity as a new creation. British artist and sculptor Henry Moore made the observation that, in life, it is most important that we give ourselves over to a goal or dream, something so all-consuming that we live it morning, noon, and night. And the most important aspect of it, he said, is that it must be something we cannot possibly accomplish. For the followers of Jesus, it is the lifelong task to bloom where we've been planted. ●

Reflect

*What is the hardest part of my life right now?
What is the most blessed?*

The Lord appointed seventy-two others whom he sent ahead of him in pairs to every town and place he intended to visit.

LUKE 10:1



St. Agnes • St. Boniface • St. John the Evangelist

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Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C) July 6, 2025

Today's Gospel begins immediately after the final verse in last Sunday's Gospel. After strong language about the difficulties of discipleship, Jesus immediately appoints 72 people to go ahead of him to every town and place he plans to visit, proclaiming that the Kingdom of God is at hand. He sends them in pairs. In the Law of Moses two witnesses were needed for a testimony to be credible. It was probably also a safer way to travel.

Jesus admits it will be difficult, that he is sending them out like lambs among wolves. Yet they are to bring nothing with them, not even a money bag or sandals. They are to greet no one on the way so as not to be distracted from their mission. When they enter a house, their message is simply "peace." The response they will receive may be positive or negative. Either way, they are to know that the Kingdom of God is at hand. They are not to demand special treatment but eat and drink whatever is given them. They are to stay in one house and are not to look around for one that provides better accommodations. They are to heal the sick as a sign that the Kingdom of God is at hand for them. Like Jesus' miracles, healing is a sign of the coming of the kingdom. If the town will not receive them, they are to shake the dust from their feet and move on. Even in the case of such rejection they should know that the Kingdom of God is at hand.

When they return from their journeys, they are rejoicing because their mission has been successful. Demons were under their power because of Jesus' name. Jesus may have sent them out as lambs among wolves, but at the conclusion of this passage he assures them that they have been given power over the enemy and nothing will harm them, not even serpents and scorpions.

A key theme of today's Gospel and last Sunday's Gospel is discipleship—its challenges, its difficulties, and its rewards. Sharing in the mission of Jesus is difficult, but everyone is called to do it, not just some professionals trained for ministry. Even for us today, the harvest is plentiful. We should pray to the master of the harvest to send out workers for his harvest.

Mass Schedule & Intentions For the week of July 7, 2025

Mon.	July	07	7:00 AM	SJ	NO MASS
Tues.	July	08	7:00 AM	SJ	NO MASS
Wed.	July	09	5:30 PM	SA	Joni Claymon †
Thurs.	July	10	5:30 PM	SB	Philip Tierney †
Fri.	July	11	7:00 AM	SJ	Jacque Allison
Sun.	July	13	8:00 AM	SJ	Wally & CeCe Allison †
Sun.	July	13	9:30 AM	SA	People of the Parish
Sun.	July	13	11:00AM	SB	Ridder Family



Sue Phelps July 11th
Curtis Stallbaumer July 12th
Delores Duponcheel July 12th
Brody Kinderknecht July 12th

Ministry Schedule

Date: July 13	St Agnes	St Boniface	St John's
Time	<u>Sunday 9:30 AM</u>	<u>Sunday 11:00 AM</u>	<u>Sunday 8:00 AM</u>
Hospitality	Sue D. & Pam L.	Rod & Janel B.	Ivan & Carrie S.
Lector	John B.	Caedon P. & Rod B.	Tara B.
Server		Olivia F. & Katie P.	Gregory W. & Leo W.
EMHC	Evan B. & Gary M.	Steve & Kristen B.	Steve & Cindy F.
Communion to shut ins or Music		Kristen B.	Music: Kelsey A.

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>St. Agnes</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Our Gifts to God & Church</i> June 29, 2025 <u>Total Collection:</u> \$268.00 <u>Diocesan Appeal</u></p> <p>Dollar Goal = \$2515 of \$4014 Donor Goal: 6 of 16</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Thrift Store Open July 11 9AM to 4PM</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>St. Boniface</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Our Gifts to God & Church</i> June 29, 2025 <u>Total Collection:</u> \$600.00 <u>Diocesan Appeal</u></p> <p>Donation Goal MET!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>St. John's</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Our Gifts to God & Church</i> June 29, 2025 <u>Total Collection:</u> \$248.80 <u>Diocesan Appeal</u></p> <p>Donation Goal MET!</p>
<p><u>Parish Council Meetings:</u></p> <p>St Agnes July 9th 6 PM St Boniface July 10th 6 PM St John's July 7th 7:45 PM</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Happy Anniversary</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Mr. & Mrs. Chris Pandorf July 8th Mr. & Mrs. Curtis Stallbaumer July 9th</p>	
<p>Needed: Fr. Michael needs a house cleaner. Flexible schedule about 2 hours twice a month. You do get paid.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Blessed Marija P. of Jesus Crucified (1892-1966) Feast Day July 9</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“Love infinitely the <u>most sweet</u> Lord Jesus Christ; do everything for Him alone and spend your life in works of mercy and of love.”</p>	

Dear Padre,

At Mass during the Our Father, should we hold hands, lift our hands up, or keep our hands to ourselves?

Among many ancient religions, it was common to extend one's hands toward heaven while praying. This practice has continued in the Mass, where the rubrics indicate that the priest should extend his hands at certain points, including during the Our Father. The celebrant represents all the people with this gesture. The deacon is expressly forbidden to hold his hands up in prayer. There is no particular gesture assigned to the rest of the congregation. Some may be holding hands, some lifting their hands, some standing with arms crossed.

The variety of postures is not a problem in itself. The problem is when people become distracted or judgmental of others. As a rule of thumb, I suggest doing what the rest of the congregation does. As stated in the "Order of the Mass," written by the Bishops' Committee on the Liturgy in 2003, "The people are called as members of an organic whole, not as disparate individuals. A Christian assembly that worships 'with one heart and mind' (Acts 4:32) naturally moves toward and consciously chooses a common posture as a sign of its unity. Such common posture 'both expresses and fosters the intention and spiritual attitude of the participants'" (28). The gestures at Mass are not as important as the essence of the Mass, and part of that essence is our unity in the body of Christ. ●

Fr. Gary Lauenstein, CSSR / DearPadre.org



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

The disciples were sent two by two, not individually.... Let us ask ourselves whether we have the capacity to collaborate; whether we know how to make decisions together, sincerely respecting those who are alongside us and taking into account their point of view; whether we do so in community, not by ourselves.

ANGELUS, ROME, JULY 3, 2022

Monday

July 7
Weekday
Gn 28:10-22a
Mt 9:18-26

Tuesday

July 8
Weekday
Gn 32:23-33
Mt 9:32-38

Wednesday

July 9
Weekday
Gn 41:55-57;
42:5-7a, 17-24a
Mt 10:1-7

Thursday

July 10
Weekday
Gn 44:18-21,
23b-29; 45:1-5
Mt 10:7-15

Friday

July 11
St. Benedict, Abbot
Gn 46:1-7, 28-30
Mt 10:16-23

Saturday

July 12
Weekday
Gn 49:29-32;
50:15-26a
Mt 10:24-33

Sunday

July 13
Fifteenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
Dt 30:10-14
Col 1:15-20
Lk 10:25-37