



Life Is a Game of Golf

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

When the British colonized India, they brought with them the game of golf.

A worse hazard than sand traps turned out to be monkeys. Wherever the ball landed, a monkey would run onto the fairway, pick it up, and drop it somewhere else—from the fairway into the rough, out of a sand trap onto the green, from the green back onto the fairway. The Brits tried everything to keep the monkeys off the course—fences, sirens, booming noises. Nothing worked. In the end, they ended up changing the rule book: play the ball where the monkey drops it.

The scriptures today tell of people who lived with an openness to wherever it was that God would take them. They played the ball wherever the monkey dropped it. It is the story of the Hebrews enslaved in Egypt when they were about to be led out into a God-knew-where desert. It is the story of aged Abraham and Sarah, called to travel to an alien land and then into parenthood in their old age. Faith is not trusting that God will always take us to where we want to be; it is trusting that wherever it is that God takes us will ultimately bring us into fuller life. So, watch and be ready to recognize the coming of God. It may be in times of darkness for you (as when the master comes late at night, says Luke's Gospel) or when you find yourself in an "alien land," a place in life you've never been before. ●

Reflect

What surprising places has God led me?

[Jesus said to his disciples,]
"For where your treasure is,
there also will your heart be."

LUKE 12:34



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

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Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C) August 10, 2025

Jesus' instructions on how to be ready for the coming judgment continue in the stories and sayings found in today's Gospel. We are not to be like the greedy rich man in last Sunday's Gospel who planned to store his great harvest in barns rather than share it. We are, rather, to share our wealth with those in need. The antidote for the anxiety brought on by the coming judgment is to relinquish our possessions and provide for the needs of others. Our treasure will be in heaven where it will not wear out or be destroyed.

Nationwide Invitation to Prayer for the End of Taxpayer Funding of the Abortion Industry

Recently, Planned Parenthood and other big abortion businesses were banned from receiving federal Medicaid dollars for a period of one year. However, Planned Parenthood sued, and a preliminary injunction was granted by the court that requires taxpayer funding to continue. Our U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops are inviting Catholics to join a focused effort of daily prayer to stop taxpayer funding of the abortion industry. The prayer will invoke the intercession of Saint Joseph, Defender of Life, and begins now and continues until October 1, the beginning of Respect Life Month.

A Prayer to St. Joseph, Defender of Life

Dearest St. Joseph, at the word of an angel, you lovingly took Mary into your home. As God's humble servant, you guided the Holy Family on the road to Bethlehem, welcomed Jesus as your own son in the shelter of a manger, and fled far from your homeland for the safety of both Mother and Child. We praise God that as their faithful protector, you never hesitated to sacrifice for those entrusted to you. May your example inspire us also to welcome, cherish, and safeguard God's most precious gift of life. Help us to faithfully commit ourselves to the service and defense of human life —especially where it is vulnerable or threatened. Obtain for us the grace to do the will of God in all things. Amen.

Mass Schedule & Intentions For the week of August 11, 2025

Mon.	Aug	11	5:30 PM	SJ	Vincent Walz
Tues.	Aug	12	7:00 AM	SJ	No Mass
Wed.	Aug	13	5:30 PM	SA	Alayna Neal
Thurs.	Aug	14	5:30 PM	SA	Richard Duponcheel †
Thurs.	Aug	14	7:00 PM	SB	Conrad & Theresa Wildhagen†
Fri.	Aug	15	7:00 PM	SJ	Jerome Vieyra †
Sun.	Aug	17	8:00 AM	SJ	Bill Karn
Sun.	Aug	17	9:30 AM	SA	Ruth Conner †
Sun.	Aug	17	11:00AM	SB	People of the Parish



Waylon Bollig Aug. 10th
Vincent Walz Aug. 11th
Sig Kalinowski Aug. 13th
Cayson Johnston Aug. 13th
James Smith Aug. 15th
Joleen Trumbull Aug 15th

Ministry Schedule

Date: Aug 17	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.	Jon & Molly W.
Lector	John B.	Verla B.	Toby K.
Server		Ruby K. & Erin F.	Wyatt D. & Tate B.
EMHC	Evan B. & Gary M.	Mike P. & John R.	Rex & Kristie W.
Communion to shut ins or Music		Mike P.	Music: Robin G.

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>St. Agnes</u></p> <p><i>Our Gifts to God & Church</i> August 3, 2025 <u>Total Collection:</u> \$816.00 <u>Diocesan Appeal</u> Dollar Goal = \$2550 of \$4014 Donor Goal: 6 of 16</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Thrift Store Open Aug 8th 9AM to 4PM</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Holy Day of Obligation</u> Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mass Aug 14th at 5:30 PM</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>St. Boniface</u></p> <p><i>Our Gifts to God & Church</i> August 3, 2025 <u>Total Collection:</u> \$1009.75 <u>Diocesan Appeal</u> Donation Goal MET!</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Holy Day of Obligation</u> Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mass Aug 14th at 7:00 PM</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Parish Potluck Aug 17th</u> <i>after mass. All are welcome!</i> CCD Mass Aug 20th 7 PM backpack blessing & food drive</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>St. John's</u></p> <p><i>Our Gifts to God & Church</i> August 3, 2025 <u>Total Collection:</u> \$4269.75 <u>Diocesan Appeal</u> Donation Goal MET!</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Holy Day of Obligation</u> Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mass Aug. 15th at 7:00 PM</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Happy Anniversary</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Mr. & Mrs. Mike Pandorf Aug. 11th</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Mr. & Mrs. Jon Walz Aug 13th</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LIFE is Beautiful! Ecclesiastes 3:11.</p> <p>The Women's Resource Center (WRC) in North Platte has been serving our community for over 50 years. Join the celebration at the 26th Annual Women's Resource Center Fundraising Banquet on Thursday Sept 18th to learn more about the ministry, how they serve our community, and how you can share your time, talent, and treasures. For more information call the Women's Resource Center at (308) 534-1440 or contact Board Member Kristie Walz at 308-636-8399. We would love to see you there.</p>
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Dear Padre,

Where did the Virgin Mary spend her last days on earth? Ephesus or Jerusalem?

Shortly before Jesus died on the cross, he entrusted his widowed mother to the protective care of John the Evangelist. (See John 19:26–27.) Accordingly, when John lived his final years in Ephesus, it is believed that Mary also spent her last days nearby in a modest stone dwelling, before being assumed body and soul into heaven “to be preserved from the corruption of the tomb” (Pope Pius XII, *Munificentissimus Deus*, 1950). Moreover, it is likely in Ephesus (present-day Turkey) where the tradition of Mary’s Assumption started.

Pope Benedict XIV (1740–1758) declared Ephesus was “where the Blessed Mother...proceeded from this life into heaven.” More recent popes, such as Paul VI in 1967 and John Paul II in 1979, prayed in this venerable home, known as Mother Mary’s House.

However, close to Gethsemane in Jerusalem is the Basilica of the Tomb of Mary from the fifth century. It is built around an ancient crypt where Mary’s body was believed to have been laid before it was assumed into heaven.

While both Ephesus and Jerusalem claim to be the location where the Virgin Mary spent her last years on earth, experts contend the latter is the older tradition and the more credible place. Even if Mary temporarily left Jerusalem, it is probable she returned to the land of her birth and resided there at the end of her earthly life. ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

And at the end of our life, [the Lord] will call us to account for the goods he has entrusted to us.... We have received so much: life, faith, family, relationships, work, but also the places where we live, our city, creation.... [A]re we guardians of all that has been given to us?

ANGELUS, ROME,
AUGUST 7, 2022



BIOCARDO DE LUCA - UPDATE / SHUTTERSTOCK

Monday

August 11
St. Clare, Virgin
Dt 10:12–22
Mt 17:22–27

Tuesday

August 12
Weekday
Dt 31:1–8
Mt 18:1–5, 10, 12–14

Wednesday

August 13
Weekday
Dt 34:1–12
Mt 18:15–20

Thursday

August 14
St. Maximilian Kolbe,
Priest and Martyr
Jos 3:7–10a, 11, 13–17
Mt 18:21–19:1

Friday

August 15
The Assumption of the
Blessed Virgin Mary
Rv 11:19a; 12:1–6a,
10ab

1 Cor 15:20–27
Lk 1:39–56

Saturday

August 16
Weekday
Jos 24:14–29
Mt 19:13–15

Sunday

August 17
Twentieth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
Jer 38:4–6, 8–10
Heb 12:1–4
Lk 12:49–53