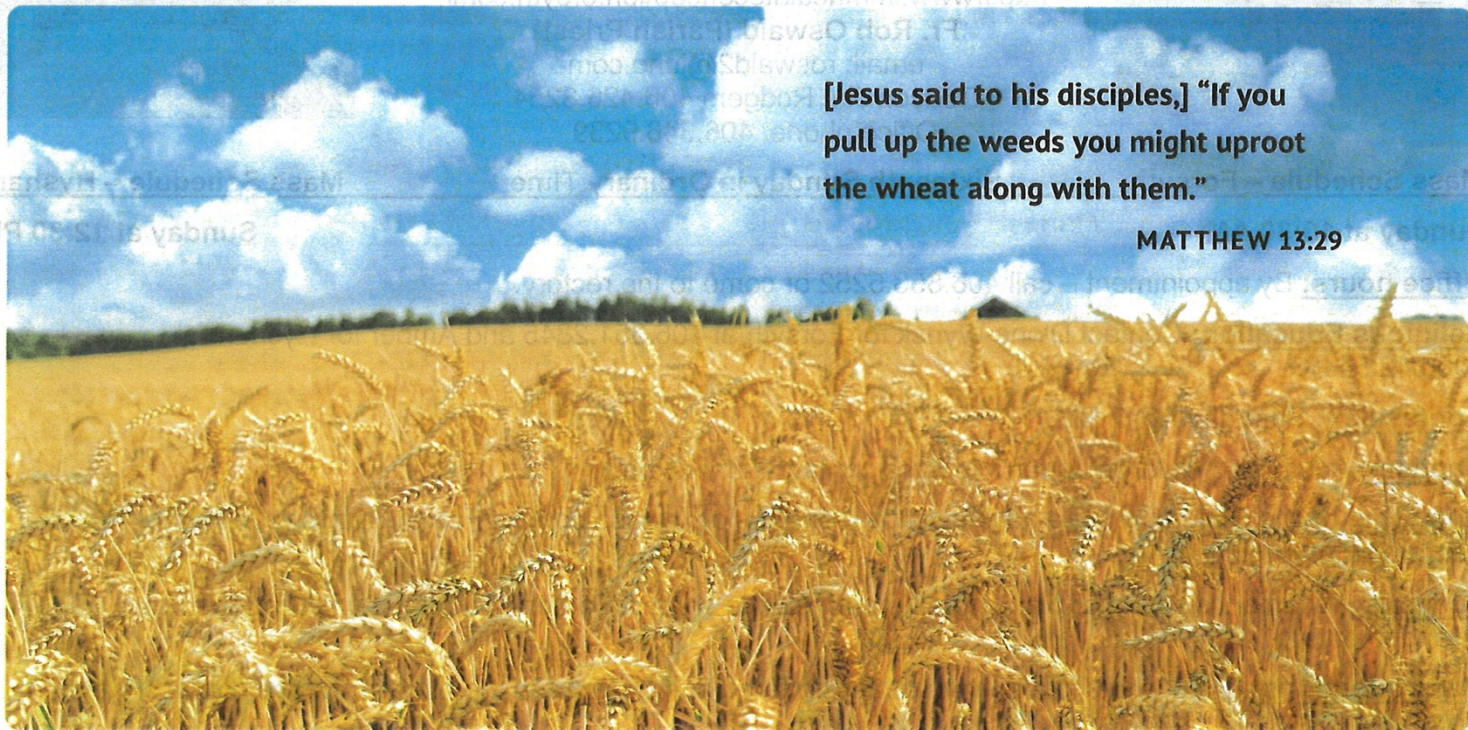




[Jesus said to his disciples,] “If you pull up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along with them.”

MATTHEW 13:29

Weeds in Wheat

MIGUEL DULICK

Jesus loved parables. “He spoke to them only in parables, to fulfill what had been said through the prophet: ‘I will open my mouth in parables, I will announce what has lain hidden from the foundation [of the world]’” (Matthew 13:34-35).

Indeed, parables spring from creation itself. Wheat and weeds grow, a natural process, just waiting for Jesus to read the kingdom of heaven hidden within. Jesus doesn’t force an interpretation on these elements; he, more than anyone, follows his own advice: “Whoever has ears ought to hear” (Matthew 13:43).

Matthew is the only gospel writer who records this parable. Maybe he liked it because it’s his own story. Among the beautiful wheat of the chosen people, he was an ugly weed, a tax collector for the Roman Empire. Once Jesus plucked him from obscurity to follow him, Matthew might have thought, *Why didn’t God just strike me dead for all the poison I spread among my own brethren?*

Now, in the parable, the weeds never become wheat, and they indeed meet a terrible fate, but the point is to let the wheat and weeds grow together, lest we uproot the wheat when we pull up the weeds. Oftentimes, it’s difficult to tell the difference. Those who are “wheat” should not find excuses to separate from those judged to be “weeds.” The risk is too great for the damage we may do. Let God do the separating in God’s own time. ●



LEARN ABOUT
THE AUTHORS
OF OUR PARISH
COMMUNITY

Reflect

Are you tempted to give up on someone? Or yourself?



**Immaculate Conception &
St. Joseph's Catholic Church**

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Deacon Jim Rodgers 406.426.8254

Office phone: 406.346.9239



Mass Schedule – Forsyth

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Schedule – Hysham

Sunday at 10:30 AM

Sunday at 12:30 PM

Office hours: By appointment – call 406.853.5252 or come to the rectory.

Religious Education: Contact Diane Wyrick for Forsyth at 406.351.2845 and Amber for Hysham at 406.342.5448.

Confession: Saturdays @ 2 PM.

Baptism: Adults and children under 7 (please contact Father Rob.)

Anointing of the Sick: If you are having surgery or are sick, please contact Father Rob to receive the Sacrament of Anointing.

Funerals: When anticipating or planning a funeral, please contact Father Rob before finalizing the arrangements.

Mass Intentions: If you would like to have a Mass offered and be listed in the bulletin, please contact Father Rob.

Homebound & Sick: If you or someone you know can no longer attend Mass due to physical inability, please contact Father Rob or Diane Wyrick at 406.351.2845 or Rosemary in Hysham at 406.740.1457 to receive Holy Communion and Anointing.

Immaculate Conception Prayer Chain: For requests, call Cherie Heser at 406.351.9048.

Mass & Liturgy Schedule:

Sunday	07/19	8:30 AM	Mass Forsyth for Chris Kennedy from the Kennedy Family.
Sunday	07/19	12:30 PM	Mass in Hysham for the People of the Parish.
Tuesday	07/21	5:15 PM	Mass in Forsyth for the Silvernagel Family from Jon & Carol Wigen.
Friday	07/24	9:00 AM	Mass in Forsyth for the Wigen Family from Jon & Carol Wigen.
Saturday	07/25	4:00 PM	Mass at the Nursing Home for Dave Fahrenbruck from Marie Rangel.
Sunday	07/26	10:30 AM	Mass in Forsyth for Yoshi Shirasago from the Pester Family.
Sunday	07/26	12:30 PM	Mass in Hysham for Denise O'Reilly from Joan Thibault.

† Rosary every Monday at 8:15 AM, Tuesday at 4:45 PM and Friday at 8:30 AM.

† Religious education for children Sunday at 9:30 AM.

† Bible Study in Forsyth is Friday morning after Mass.

† CCD & Sacramental Prep Classes on Sunday morning. Questions: Please contact Diane Wyrick in Forsyth and Amber in Hysham.

† Mass times at St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church in Colstrip Sunday 8:30 AM.

† CCW meeting the 2nd Sunday after Mass.

Announcements:

The Immaculate Conception/St. Joseph parish picnic will be held the last weekend of August and hosted by the Knights of Columbus. We need a portable canopy to provide shade. If anyone has a portable canopy that we can use for the picnic, please contact Brian Sullivan or Bill Anderson. Thank you!

Next weekend will be Randy's last weekend with us before returning to the seminary. We thank him for his service to our communities and send him our prayers and best wishes. He will be ordained a transitional deacon next spring if all goes as planned.

Finance Update: Last Sunday Collection: 07/12/2026

Immaculate Conception – Forsyth		St. Joseph – Hysham	
Loose Cash	71.00	Loose Cash	30.00
Loose Checks	15.00	Loose Checks	25.00
Envelope Cash	0.00	Envelope Cash	10.00
Envelope Checks	495.00	Envelope Checks	1045.00
Other (Bathroom)	25.00	Other (Stipend)	0.00
Music	0.00	Building Fund	0.00
Special Collection (Stipend)	0.00	Special Collection	0.00
Special Collection (Peters Pence)	0.00	Capital Campaign	0.00
Current Operating Fund	0.00	Current Operating Fund	10.00
TOTAL:	\$ 606.00	TOTAL:	\$ 1120.00

Forsyth & Hysham Ministry Schedule for next Sunday: 07/26/2026

Forsyth:			
	Time	Service	Names
	Mass at 10:30 AM	Eucharistic Ministers	Brian Sullivan & Diane Wyrick
		Cross Bearer	Brian Sullivan
		Lector	Dan Murnion
		Ushers	Dave & Diane Wyrick
		Gifts	Dave & Diane Wyrick
		Col. Counters	Brian Sullivan & Diane Wyrick
		Sacristan	Lorelei Schick
Hysham:			
	Mass at 12:30 PM	Eucharistic Ministers	Rosemary Olson & Brent Icopini
		Lector	Hope Manning

Dear Padre,

My former boyfriend died recently. He was very abusive and caused me a lot of pain. Should I pray for him even if I believe that no amount of prayer could help him?

Yes, you should pray for him and, despite your lingering hurt from the relationship, resist the urge to make a judgment about him. This decision is not only a healthy spiritual choice, but it will also help you heal the wounds that you still carry. Praying for him does not mean that you are denying any of the hurt that he inflicted on you but rather that you are capable of maturity and choices that were seemingly beyond his ability. Praying for him really says more about you than it says about him. It is also an act of grace-inspired honesty and faithfulness. It is a statement that you believe wholeheartedly in the merciful and forgiving God who is capable of healing the deepest hurts and is even capable of helping his faithful people ultimately forgive those who have inflicted harm upon them. ●



VALENTIN NIKULA / SHUTTERSTOCK

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

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

While unity attracts, division scatters....

Therefore, in order to be a truly missionary Church, one that is capable of witnessing to the attractive power of Christ's love, we must first of all put into practice his commandment, the only one he gave us after washing his disciples' feet: "Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."



**EXTRAORDINARY CONSISTORY,
ROME, JANUARY 7, 2026**

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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 20

Weekday

Mi 6:1-4, 6-8

Mt 12:38-42

Tuesday

July 21

Weekday

Mi 7:14-15, 18-20

Mt 12:46-50

Wednesday

July 22

St. Mary Magdalene

Sg 3:1-4b or

2 Cor 5:14-17

Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

Thursday

July 23

Weekday

Jer 2:1-3, 7-8,

12-13

Mt 13:10-17

Friday

July 24

Weekday

Jer 3:14-17

Mt 13:18-23

Saturday

July 25

St. James, Apostle

2 Cor 4:7-15

Mt 20:20-28

Sunday

July 26

Seventeenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time

1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12

Rom 8:28-30

Mt 13:44-52

or 13:44-46