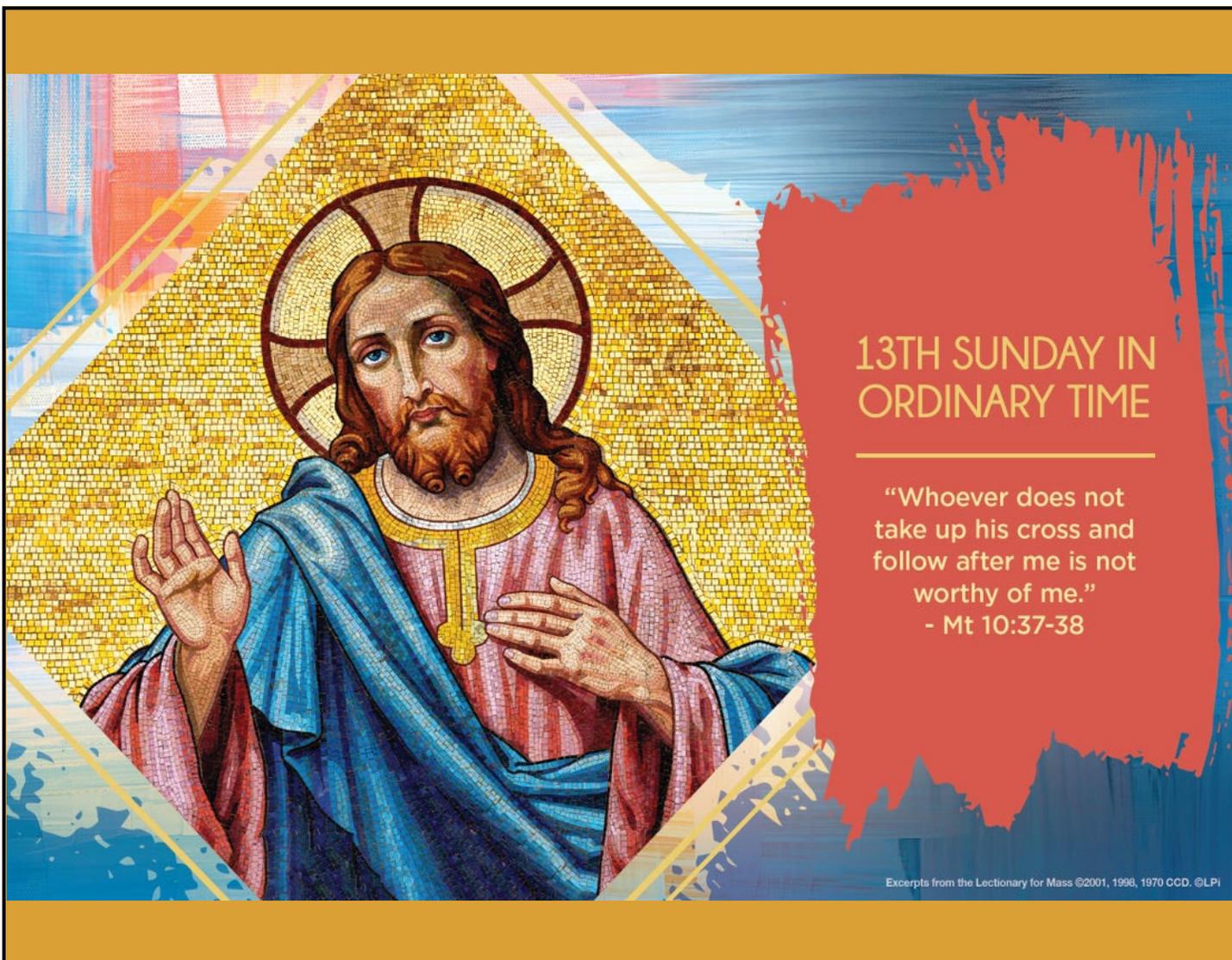


# St. Alexander Church

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 2, 2023

The Palos Catholic



## St. Alexander Parish Administration Directory

### Parish Administrative Center

7025 W. 126th St. Palos Heights, IL 60463

Phone: 708-448-4861

Fax: 708-448-0039

Pastor: ..... Rev. Martin Michniewicz ext. 227

Associate Pastor: ..... Rev. Colm Mitchell ext. 223

Deacons: ..... Jim Horton, Michael Ciciura, Fran Pendergast

Director Parish Home & Health Ministry: Jim Horton ext. 232

Operations Manager: ..... Paula Somers ext. 233

Director of Music: ..... Matthew Berardi ext. 224

Youth Minister: ..... Tyler Ried—708- 448-6624

Athletic Director ..... Michael Kennedy

Counseling Center: ..... 708-448-4861 ext.310

Director: ..... Sr. Claire Marie Czerwiec, SSND, LCPC

Parish E-Mail: ..... alchurch1@comcast.net

St. Alexander on the Web: ..... www.stalexanderpalos.org

### St. Alexander School

126th St. and 71st Ave. Palos Heights, IL 60463

Phone: 708-448-0408 Fax: 708-448-5947

Principal: ..... Sharon O'Toole

Administrative Assistant: ..... Mary Ann Pellicore

School Web: ..... www.stalexanderschool.com

School E-Mail: ..... info@stalexanderschool.com

### Religious Education Office

126th St. and 71st Ave. Palos Heights, IL 60463

Phone: 708-448-6624

Coordinator of Religious Education: ..... Tyler Ried

Religious Ed. E-Mail: ..... tried@archchicago.org

Knights of Columbus: ..... 708-448-4861 ext. 400

Knight of Columbus on the Web: ..... www.kofc14057.org

## Spreading the Holy Fire

### *Celebrating Christ Risen from the Dead through the 7 Sacraments*

#### SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

##### BAPTISM

###### *Celebration of Entrance into Christ's Church*

You should be a registered parishioner of St. Alexander, or willing to register and join our Faith Community. Relatives of St. Alexander parishioners are also welcome.

At least one Godparent must be a practicing Catholic. The other must be a Christian. Parents must register for a class on Baptism **BEFORE** your baby is baptized. Archdiocesan required classes are held once a month, usually on the first Tuesday of the month, and facilitated by trained parishioners.

**Baptism contact Joan DeVito 448-4861 ext. 237**

##### CONFIRMATION

###### *Celebration of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit*

This Sacrament is normally celebrated in 8th Grade and is a 2 year program of preparation.

###### **Confirmation Contacts:**

**Tyler Ried - Religious Education 448-6624**

**Sharon O'Toole - School 448-0408**

The Archdiocese also offers classes for adults wishing to receive Confirmation. **Adult Confirmation Contact -**

**Fr. Martin Michniewicz 448-4861**

##### RCIA *Celebration of the Rites of Christian Initiation of Adults*

This process is for adults who would like to join the Roman Catholic Church and have never been Baptized, or were Baptized in another Christian denomination. There is also a process for children (RCIC) and teens (RCIT).

**RCIA/RCIC/RCIT contact - Fr. Martin Michniewicz 448-4861**

#### EUCCHARIST

##### *Celebration of Sharing Fully at Christ's Altar of Sacrifice & Communion with Jesus and His Church*

###### Eucharistic Liturgy (Mass)

Sunday Vigil: 5:00 PM (Saturday)

Sunday: 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 AM, & 6:00 PM

Monday through Friday: 8:30 AM

Saturday Morning: 8:00 AM

First Saturday Devotions after 8:00 AM Mass

Holy Day Vigil: 7:00 PM

Holy Day: 8:30 AM & 7:00 PM

###### Evening of Healing Prayer and Eucharistic Adoration

On the 1st Saturday of the month

4:30 PM - Recitation of the Rosary

5:00 PM - Regular Vigil Mass for Sunday

5:45 PM - Benediction and Eucharistic Adoration for one hour

#### SACRAMENTS OF HEALING

##### ANOINTING OF THE SICK

###### *Celebration of God's Restorative Love & Forgiveness*

Sacrament offers strength to the living. If someone becomes seriously ill, please call the Parish Administrative Center. Ministers of Care are available to bring Holy Communion and/or visit with the sick and homebound.

Also every 1st Saturday after the 5:00 PM Mass

##### RECONCILIATION

###### *Celebration of God's Forgiveness through Personal Confession*

Saturday Morning: 8:30 AM (until all are heard)

Saturday Evening: after the 5:00 PM Mass

Other Times by Appointment

#### SACRAMENTS OF COMMITMENT

##### MATRIMONY

###### *Celebration of God's Blessings on the Loving Union between Man and Woman*

Please call the Parish Administration Center at least 4 months in advance of your wedding. Pre-Cana for engaged couples is required by the Archdiocese.

**Matrimony Contact:**

**Fr. Martin Michniewicz 708-448-4861**

##### HOLY ORDERS

###### *Celebration of Ordained Service to the Church*

The three offices of the Sacrament of Holy Orders are bishop, priest and deacon. All three are conferred by the sacramental act called "ordination."

**Priesthood Contact - Fr. Michniewicz 448-4861 ext 227**

**Archdiocese of Chicago Vocation Director:**

**Rev. Timothy Monahan 312-534-8298**



## FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

This Tuesday, the Fourth of July, we celebrate the birth of our great nation. As we witness the governments in many countries throughout the world we see many people who live under dictatorships and other forms of rogue regimes. As a result the population of these nations suffer from poverty, lack of educational opportunities, and many other travesties. We here in America are blessed to live in a country where we have fair elections, due process of law, liberty, justice, and freedom of religion. While celebrating the Fourth of July, let us remember and appreciate the great country we live in, and the people throughout the years who have laid down or risked their lives for the United States of America.

Our Mass on the Fourth of July will be at 8:30AM, please join us as we celebrate the men and women who gave so much so that we can be the great country we are today. Let us never forget that our nation is based on faith and the principles of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Please note that the Parish Administrative Office will be closed on July 4<sup>th</sup>.

Thanks to all parishioners who came out and enjoyed our Annual Parish Picnic on June 25<sup>th</sup>. The weather was perfect, the food was great, and a good time was had by all. It was so good to see our loving community gathered together with people of all ages relaxing and celebrating our great parish. Many thanks to the Thomas Carr family who once again provided the tent which provided necessary shade and protection. We had a different company serving our food this year which everybody enjoyed, but I know the wait in the long line was a bit taxing for some people. I do appreciate your patience. That is why I tried to keep going through the line as “popcorn boy” offering those a snack as they waited to be served. To be honest with you my friends, being known as “popcorn boy” is a promotion from being pastor. Let us thank the Lord we all had a good time and the rain that was predicted never came. Turn to pages six and seven in our bulletin for pictures of the picnic.

God Bless,  
Father Marty

### A Prayer for “Renew My Church”

*Lord Jesus, you speak to us today, as you spoke to holy men and women who have gone before us. In every age and in our own time, you call to us and say: Renew My Church.*

*Pour out the gift of your Holy Spirit upon us, and so enable us*

*to hear you clearly  
to listen to each other attentively  
to imagine our future boldly  
to discern your direction wisely  
to persevere in your holy will courageously*

*to stay together in charity  
to surrender our own plans readily  
to embrace the greater good  
to hand on your gifts to future generations*

*May we remain in the holy company of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the apostles, and all the saints. May their example and presence inspire us with patient confidence in the work of your grace.*

*We ask this of you who live and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen*



Fr. Patrick O’Neill baptized **Dorothy Quinn Lipke**, daughter of Jonathan & Jenna, on Sunday, June 25, 2023.

We welcome Dorothy Quinn into the family of the church and offer her parents our prayers & good wishes.



II Rory Sheahan & Bernard Sullivan



We ask you to remember and pray for the souls of the faithful departed. May they forever rest in the Lord’s peace. We especially pray for:

**Mark Miller**, son of Carol

**MERCY HOME SUNDAY MASS**  
**9:30AM on WGN-TV Channel 9**



**Prayers of the Faithful for the Sick**

*Prayers*  
FOR HEALING

As the faith family of St. Alexander, we unite with one another to pray for those who need healing of their body, mind or

spirit. Confident that God hears the voices of those who trust in the Lord Jesus, we join in prayer for:

- |                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Tatiana Ranftl  | Dale Yukich    |
| Maggie Campbell | Lisa Krisik    |
| Joan Morris     | Janice Kurland |
| Celeste Kappel  | Arnold Karr    |
| Mary Hie        | Claudia Krohn  |
| Carole Holding  |                |

If you or anyone in your family would like to be added to our *Prayers of the Faithful for the Sick* please contact the Parish Administrative Office by noon on Friday at 708-448-4861.

**SCRIPTURE REFLECTION**



As a boy my favorite board game was “Chutes and Ladders.” The players roll dice to move from the start to the finish, from the bottom of the board to the top. If you land on a chute, you slide back and down. It was a bummer. Land on a ladder, and you jump well up the board and near the goal. It was a thrill to find a ladder and draw closer to the goal. That’s life, isn’t it? At every moment, we’re either moving closer or farther from the goal of our lives.

How do we win? Jesus tells us the secret of life’s chutes and ladders hinges on getting our loves rightly ordered. What we love in life is meant to be a ladder, drawing us up into God’s love —

including our family, friends, work, play, food, and drink. Even to give your water to someone out of love for Christ leads to a sure reward.

But those ladders of our loves can become chutes. If we love even our family members more than Christ, we slide down and back. If we love the persons and things in our life for the sake of Christ, He says we “surely will not lose our reward.” The key difference between a chute and ladder, between our spiritual regression and advancement, is our willingness to renounce everything — even our own life — for the love of Jesus. To allow everything and everyone we love to draw us to love him more — that’s the difference between chutes and ladders.

— Father John Muir

Today’s Readings: 2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a/Ps 89:2-3, 16-17, 18-19 (2a)/Rom 6:3-4, 8-11/Mt 10:37-42



**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**  
**July 3-9, 2023**

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Monday:   | Eph 2:19-22/Ps 117:1bc, 2/Jn 20:24-29   |
| Tuesday:  | Gn19:15-29/Ps 26:2-3, 9-10, 11-12/<br>Mt 8:23-27 Wednesday: Gn 21:5, 8-20a/<br>Ps 34:7-8, 10-11, 12-13/Mt 8:28-34 |
| Thursday: | Gn 22:1b-19/Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/<br>Mt 9:1-8  |
| Friday:   | Gn 23:1-4, 19; 24:1-8, 62-67/Ps 106:1b-2,<br>3-4a, 4b-5/Mt 9:9-13   |
| Saturday: | Gn 27:1-5, 15-29/Ps 135:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6/<br>Mt 9:14-17   |
| Sunday:   | Zec 9:9-10/Ps 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14<br>(see 1)/Rom 8:9, 11-13/Mt 11:25-30                                    |



There will be one Mass celebrated at 8:30AM on Tuesday, July 4<sup>th</sup>  
The Parish Administrative Office will be closed on Tuesday, July 4<sup>th</sup>

**ENJOY A SAFE & HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY!!**

**Home Bound or Ill?**

If you, or someone you know, are unable to attend Mass and would like to receive communion in their home, please call either Deacon Jim Horton or Deacon Fran Pendergast at 708-448-4861.



Sacrament of Communion



SUPPORT THE WORKS OF THE HOLY FATHER THROUGH THE

**Peter's Pence Collection**

Today is the Peter's Pence Collection, a worldwide collection that supports the work of the Universal Church, including the work of the Holy See and the charitable works of Pope Francis. Take this opportunity to join with Pope Francis and be a sign of mercy to our suffering brothers and sisters. Please be generous today. For more information visit [www.obolodisanpietro.va/en.html](http://www.obolodisanpietro.va/en.html).

**St. Alexander Alumni News**

**Mother McAuley High School**

**A Honor Roll**

- Genevieve Navarrete
- Cayla Prohaska
- Bridget Stroner
- Clare Stroner
- Ellie White

**B Honor Roll**

- Savannah Buduris
- Mary Sheerin



**Are you curious about the Catholic Faith?**  
**If any of these reasons apply, RCIA might be exactly what you're looking for!**

**(RCIA means The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)**

1. You're marrying a Catholic. *(Sharing and practicing your faith together is a great foundation for married life.)*
2. You're already married to a Catholic and your children are being raised Catholic. *(It's natural to want to feel a closer bond by sharing in the sacraments with family.)*
3. Your children are learning about the Catholic faith. *(You'd like to learn more about this faith tradition, still unsure if you'd like to become a Catholic..)*
4. You've lived in a "Catholic world" all your life, so people assume you are already Catholic. *(You'd like to find out if you are closer than you think in mind and heart.)*
5. You don't know much about Catholicism, but a friend or neighbor has inspired you to learn more. **(With no strings attached, this is a wonderful way to check things out.)**
6. You have experienced personal loss or family struggles. *(You are seeking ways to deepen your spiritual life by exploring the Catholic faith tradition.)*

You don't know why, but you feel something urging you to the Catholic Church. *(It's probably the Holy Spirit.)*

**Our RCIA sessions begin in September. If you are interested in joining us, contact Fr. Marty at the parish office (708) 448-4861 or Deacon Mike at [mciciura@archchicago.org](mailto:mciciura@archchicago.org)**





**PARISH  
PICNIC**



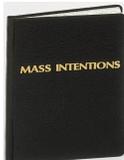


**SUNDAY 10:15-11:30AM**

SAVE orders may also be brought to the Parish Administrative Center. Orders dropped off by 5:00PM on Wednesday are available for pick-up Thursday after Noon at the PAC. They may also be picked up during sale hours in the SAVE room on Sunday.

**GET OUR WEEKLY BULLETIN EMAILED TO YOU!**

Subscribe to ParishesOnline.com to get a link to our weekly parish bulletin delivered straight to your inbox! Visit [parishesonline.com](http://parishesonline.com) and search for our parish to get started today. It's fast, easy and free!



Contact the parish office if you would like to have a Mass intention for 2023 and 2024. Please note that Mass intentions are not just for the deceased but for anyone you would like to include in prayer.

**E-Giving Made Easy**



If you would like to make a one-time electronic donation, please scan this bar code.



Scroll down to "One -Time Gifts" and enter the amount and type of payment. It's that simple!



**Spiritual Direction/  
Companion Ministry**

**Who is God for you?**

**Are you ready to see God's activity in all things?**

**Would you like to explore a deeper experience of God through Spiritual Companionship?**

I'm Deacon Mike Ciciura and I am a permanent deacon here at St. Alexander's parish and a certified Spiritual Director/Companion. Simply defined, this ministry is one of compassionate, respectful, confidential engagement-listening through conversation about the light of faith. Spiritual Direction/Companionship helps us to see more clearly what God is asking of us and how God is acting in our lives. It's about acknowledging life's great "unfixables"-the things we are unable to change. It's about moving through the mysteries of time, experience, love, mortality, and life.

Spiritual direction/companionship is an ancient ministry. Throughout Hebrew and Christian tradition people sought spiritual counsel. Hermits, Monks, mystics and saints offered spiritual counsel as did those of other faith experiences.

**What is your response to God?**

**Could you trust me with your sacred story,  
your struggle, your questions?**

I'm available in person at St. Alexander's parish, by phone or email. Deacon Mike Ciciura 630-243-9342 [mciciura@archchicago.org](mailto:mciciura@archchicago.org)



Many of you may take advantage of the convenience of electronic giving to our parish and we are grateful for that. For those of you who have yet to join us in giving online, we strongly encourage you to do so. Here's why:

*Faith Direct* enables parishioners to make your Church contributions through either direct debit from your checking/savings account or through your credit/debit card. No more writing checks or searching for envelopes on the way out the door. Now you can apply the convenience of direct debit to your parish offerings in much the same way as you may now use it to make your mortgage, car or tuition payments.

*Faith Direct* also offers you personalized offertory cards to replace your envelopes for the collection basket. **To cancel your monthly envelopes, please notify the parish office at 708-448-4861. This is not done automatically when signing up for electronic giving.**

Please visit [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net) to enroll securely online. Or, download the Faith Direct app onto your smartphone. Our parish code is **IL910**.

**PERPETUAL NOVENA  
TO ST. RITA OF CASCIA**

**Join us for the monthly Perpetual Novena to  
St. Rita of Cascia on Thursday, July 6<sup>th</sup> 7:00PM**

*“Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the  
Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.”*  
- 2 Corinthians 3:17

All are invited to the next monthly St. Rita of Cascia Novena Mass at the St. Rita of Cascia Shrine Chapel, 7740 S. Western Ave. Confession is available at 6:00 p.m. Mass and novena prayers will begin at 7:00p.m. Stay after mass to enjoy a slice of the famous Racine Danish Kringle and socialize with new friends. Secure and ample parking is available. For more information visit our website at [stritashrinechicago.com](http://stritashrinechicago.com).

**WORD OF LIFE**

“O God our Creator... through the power and working of your Holy Spirit, you call us to live out our faith in the midst of the world, bringing the light and the saving truth of the Gospel to every corner of society.”

—United States Conference of Catholic Bishops  
“Prayer for Religious Liberty”

**MASS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

If any parish ministry or organization would like to have an announcement made at Mass we ask that you please have the information to the office by noon on Friday. This allows us to compile the books we need for weekend liturgies by the end of Friday. Also, please limit announcements to one or two sentences.

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**



**Saturday, July 8th**

5:00 PM— Nancy & Steve Lukasik, Bev Antos

**Sunday, July 9th**

7:30 AM— Ruth Macey, Pat Sobczak, Nancy Foster

9:30 AM— Nancy Dougherty, Rosemary Dziuba,  
Dave Heide

11:30 AM— Tom Stuchly

6:00 PM— Michael Collins

**LECTORS**



**Saturday, July 8th**

5:00 PM— Linda Buchanan, Joan DeVito

**Sunday, July 9th**

7:30 AM— Paula Somers, Mark Foster

9:30 AM— Debbie Myron

11:30 AM— Mary Lally, Mary Ann Klimek

6:00 PM— James Clark

**PASTORAL COUNSELING SERVICES  
AT ST. ALEXANDER PARISH**



**Services for individuals,  
couples & families**

For more information, call  
448-4861 ext. 310

Sr. Claire M. Czerwiec, SSND, LCPC

*Pastoral Counselor & Spiritual Director*

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2. Enter our parish zip or name
3. Enter your name and email
4. Enjoy and share with others in our local community!

**PALOS HEIGHTS FARMERS MARKET**

*Palos Heights Farmers Market*

**May 17-October 11**  
**Wednesdays 8am-1pm**  
**12217 S. Harlem Ave**

No Market July 5

# Mass Intentions For The Week



## THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JULY 2, 2023

### Saturday, July 1st

5:00 PM— Dennis Arnold  
Maureen Buescher  
Eugene McMahon  
John Janik  
Dolores & Robert Kramarski  
Poor Souls in Purgatory

### Sunday, July 2nd

7:30 AM— Lori Czech—1st Anniversary  
Aggie A. Palmer  
Raymond & Marion Hunt  
Colleen J. Nix  
Linda Koepke  
Krystyna Johnson  
Vincent & Mary Hoban  
9:30 AM— Catherine Greaney  
For the Parishioners  
Joan McConville  
Linda Barcelona  
Donna M. & Joseph A. Feldner  
Dr. Loren J. Feldner  
Walter & Mary Smith  
Gerald Barry & Mike McConville  
Thomas Patrick Grady  
11:30 AM— Lori Czech—1st Anniversary  
George Lombard  
Mary Stephens  
Richard Hallstein—4th Anniversary  
Eleanore & Ken Reilly  
Diane Kresal—1st Anniversary  
6:00 PM— Special Intention

### Monday, July 3rd (*St. Thomas, Apostle*)

8:30 AM— Colleen J. Nix

### Tuesday, July 4th

8:30 AM— John Janik  
Colleen J. Nix  
Colleen Kane Skrovanek

### Wednesday, July 5th (*St. Anthony Zaccaria,; St. Elizabeth of Portugal*)

8:30 AM— Mary Kate Graf  
Colleen J. Nix  
George Krueger  
Joe McDonnell

### Thursday, July 6th (*St. Maria Goretti*)

8:30 AM— George Schoenbeck  
Kay Wiebel  
Colleen J. Nix

### Friday, July 7th

8:30 AM— Colleen J. Nix

### Saturday, July 8th

8:00 AM— Colleen J. Nix

## FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JULY 9, 2023

### Saturday, July 8th

5:00 PM— Kay Wiebel  
Scodro Family  
Ken & Eleanore Reilly  
Bernard "Barney" J. Brannigan Jr.  
Patrick Collins

### Sunday, July 9th

7:30 AM— Catherine Smith—1st Anniversary  
Frank E. Narel  
Aggie A. Palmer  
Colleen J. Nix  
Linda Koepke  
Kevin Reynolds Jr.  
Catherine Hoban  
9:30 AM— Tom & Kathleen Walsh  
Raymond & Marion Hunt  
Donna M. & Joseph A. Feldner  
Dr. Loren J. Feldner  
Peter & Frances Feldner  
John Beatty  
Michael McConville  
Thomas Grady  
11:30 AM— For the Parishioners  
James Nash  
Angela Petrosino  
Dee Stuchly  
Richard Ciesler  
Gloria & Jerome Dillon  
Conor & Carla Knapp—Wedding Anniv.  
6:00 PM— Sue Martin  
Martin Family—Special Intention

### **Prayer to the Blessed Virgin Mary**

O most blessed Virgin Mary,  
Mother of tenderness and mercy,  
I, an unworthy sinner,  
fly to you with all the affection of my heart  
and I beseech your motherly love,  
that, as you stood by your most dear Son,  
while he hung on the Cross,  
so in your kindness,  
you may be pleased to stand by me, a poor sinner,  
and all Priests who today are offering the Sacrifice  
here and throughout the entire holy Church,  
so that with your gracious help  
we may offer a worthy and acceptable oblation  
in the sight of the most high and undivided Trinity.  
Amen.