

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time—July 15, 2018

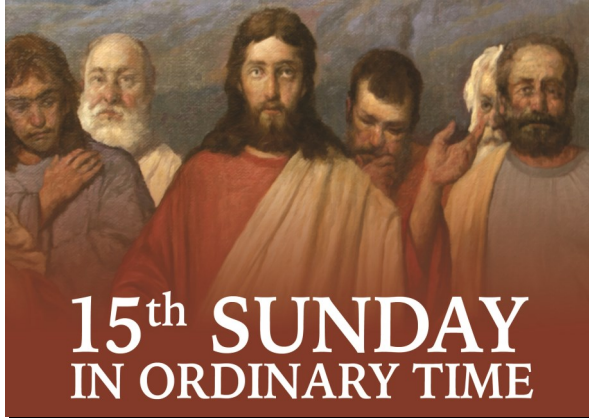
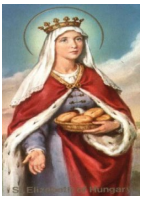
SAINT MARY'S & SAINT ELIZABETH'S CATHOLIC CHURCHES

Phone: 701-579-4312

FATHER GARY BENZ-PASTOR

frgarybenz@yahoo.com; Cell Phone 701-509-9504; Rectory 701-579-4874

VICTOR DVORAK –DEACON



“So they went off and preached repentance.”

A primary mission of the Gospel is to preach repentance. If we understand repentance as only “feeling bad” about our sinfulness, we have misunderstood something. To repent means to change and to change often throughout our lives. Once you fall in love with Jesus Christ, you want to become a reflection of His love and goodness. This process is lifelong and calls for fervent daily prayer, a love for the sacraments (especially the Holy Eucharist), and a deep longing for eternal life in heaven. Heaven is waiting for those who have left their old self behind and have become like our Savior in all things, especially love.

Welcome to our guest priest

Please welcome our visiting Assumption Abbey priest this weekend, as I am away for the dedication of a Sacred Heart statue for a dear friend of mine who recently passed away. I was not informed about the name of the priest before I left, but nonetheless, please make him feel welcome to our parishes. Thank him for offering the Holy Mass and the Sacrament of Penance in our parishes for our spiritual growth and well-being. If you invite him to your home for supper and there are leftover portions of apple strudel, remind him that my fridge has plenty of space and I will be home by Sunday evening. Two large pieces are preferable; I like flaky strudel; and don't forget the whipped cream topping as well . . . of course, not making demands of anyone, which is true to my nature.



Helping our youth draw closer to Christ

I will be away from our parishes from July 18th to July 22nd at Trinity Youth Camp, which takes place at Camp of the Cross near Garrison. Every so many years, I am called upon to serve as the chaplain, offering daily Mass, Confessions, and faith lessons. It is a great Catholic camp, which has all the hallmarks of summer camp (crafts, campfires, canoeing, etc.), but with the core being the Catholic Faith. I encourage our parents to send their children to this camp, an investment in the faith of your children. Our parish will find the funds for the kids to go because we want our kids to love their Catholic Faith in their youth so that they will continue to love it into adulthood. Please pray for the kids attending Trinity Youth Camp, that they may encounter the Lord there and bring Him back home and love Him every day of their lives. Pray for me as well, as I try to break my s'mores record at camp. I will try to get into the Guinness Book of World Records by surpassing my old record s'more. Ha! Get it? Okay, pretty pathetic, but its late in the day as I prepare this bulletin and that's all I got. I need to get s'more material. Okay . . . that's it, for sure this time.

What a great celebration

Last weekend, the Parish of Saint Elizabeth, current and former members, had an amazing All School Reunion, welcoming back over 250 people to Lefor. With the meals, the car show, the poker run, the presentations, the silent auction, and especially the Holy Mass, it was a memorable weekend. Thank you to everyone who had a role in planning, preparing, and executing this massive undertaking. Pat yourself on the back because you did a great job. It is good to see the love and devotion of former and past parishioners for their home parish. It truly lives up to the call to be a parish family. Saint Elizabeth . . . pray for us!



MASS & ADORATION SCHEDULE

Monday, July 16

7:30 AM SM—Communion Service

Tuesday, July 17

7:30 AM SM —+Eugenia Stagl by a friend

6:00 PM SE Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

7:00 PM SE +Steve & +Bertha Anton by Duane & Kathy Schwab

Wednesday, July 18

7:00 PM SM– Rosary & Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions

7:00 PM SM– Communion Service

Thursday, July 19

7:30 AM SM– Communion Service

Friday, July 20

7:30 AM SM– Communion Service

12-3:00 PM—Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday, July 21

8:30 AM SM– Communion Service

5:00 PM SM— +Kyle Binstock, +Joe & +Ida Binstock, +James & +Inez Hanson by Ervin & Diane Binstock

Sunday, July 20

8:30AM SE +Ralph Messmer by Curtis & Michelle Wax

10:30AM SM– +Shari Obritsch by Robert & Cely Stagl

Please Keep in Your Prayers:

Chuck Brusich, Stephanie Geerts, Nate Hernandez, Andy Prokop, Henley Johnson, Duane Grundhauser, Pete Schaefer, Alice Candrian, Marilyn Jacobs, Leo Heck, Ross Thomas, Arlene Rohr, Brenda Barton, Elven Kaufman, Suzette Printz, Linda Reisenauer, Rose Krebs (SE), Russ Lefor, Lori Lefor, Herbert Emmil, Reggie Gentz, Cindy Martin, Tim Theil, Howard Schiwal, Theresa Decker, Alyssa Binstock, Yvonne Fettig, Dale Reindel, Kim Kuhn, Don Miller, Bonnie (Krebs) Dick, Dorothy Kohl, Colleen Churchill, Thesiamma (Fr. Biju's mom)

Assisted Living and Nursing Home Residents: Aggie Wandler, Ken Stagl, Charlotte Krebs, Harvey Herberholz, Archie Jalbert, Benny Benz, Joan Binstock, Joe Wandler, Sylvia Koppinger, Leona Gordon, Joan Madler, Cecelia Jung, Donnella Koppinger, Marilyn Jeske, Willie Emmil, Frances Heick, Dale Schroeder

Our Deceased Loved Ones +Darwin Schaefer, +James Gatzke, +Ed Koppinger, +Eleanor Keck, +Ardelle Kovar, +Eugenia Stagl, +Nick Lenhardt, +Mike Urlacher, +Keith Herold, +Carla Rohan, +Alvin Rotering, +Jeanne Kovar, +Bridget Urlacher, +Laura Grundhauser, +Florian Urlacher, +Paul Schiwal, +LeRoy Jacobs, +Victor Roller, +John Herold, +Viola Martin

On the lighter side, From the Mouths of Babies

A wife invited some people to dinner. At the table, she turned to her six-year-old daughter and said, "Would you like to say the blessing?" "I don't know what to say", the girl replied. "Just say what you hear Mommy say", her mom answered. So, the daughter bowed her head and said, "Lord, why on earth did I invite all these people over for dinner?"

Calling all sweet tooth's

Please join us at the Rabbit Hole thrift store at Saint Mary's every Thursday for Saint Honore (the patron of bakers) Day, when Faye Schiwal will offer her world famous cinnamon rolls, caramel rolls, bars, and so much more. If you are worried about gluttony, I will be at the door of the Rabbit Hole to absolve you of this sin, as I join you in indulging in the baked goods. Don't judge me, because even priests have weaknesses . . . mine are sugar, chocolate, lard, and cream. You are welcome across the hall into the Faith & Family Room, to sit a spell and enjoy a cup of coffee with your baked goods. What a great combination: delicious baked goods and great conversation with family and friends. We don't do this enough, so its time to reclaim what has been lost in our fast-paced frantic culture. Saint Honore . . . pray for us and pray for the calories to miraculously disappear from the baked goods. Amen!

St. Mary's Liturgical Assignments July 21 & 22, 2018

MINISTRY	Saturday 5PM	Sunday 10:30AM
Lector	Lori Fitterer	Jim Gardner
Mass Servers	Mark S./Will S.	Kayla E./Leah E.
Eucharistic Ministers	Leonard G./Martina S.	David H./Vivian H.
Gifts	Maddie Rayhorn	Elliott Ehlis Family
Rosary Leader	Martina Stagl	Ann Wandler
Greeters	Scott Schmidt Family	Helen Koppinger
Homebound Minister	Toni Jung	Toni Jung

Collection Report St. Mary's July 7 & 8, 2018

Adult		Youth
\$ 2306.00	Envelopes	\$ 4.77
\$ 56.00	Loose Plate	\$
\$ 2366.77	Total	\$
\$ 4223.77	Monthly Total	\$ 11.77
		Peter Pence Collection \$ 50.00

St. Elizabeth's Liturgical Assignments July 22, 2018

Lector	Fran
Mass Servers	Elizabeth
Eucharistic Ministers	Arlene & Trish
Gifts	Fran & Cindy
Greeters	Darrell & Dorita
Ushers	Greg K. & Deran

Collection Report St. Elizabeth's July 7, 2018

Adult		Youth
\$ 475.00	Envelopes	\$ 20.00
\$ 742.00	Loose Plate	\$
\$ 1237.00	Total	\$
\$ 1643.00	Monthly Total	\$ 31.00

Difficult Moral Issues, “Is it permissible for a woman to have a hysterectomy?”

To many women, a hysterectomy is just a medical procedure, allowing one to make the marital act infertile and to permanently avoid having a child or further children. But, it is not that simple. The dire implications for marital unity, love, respect, and later regrets are tragic outcomes of a hysterectomy. Yet, some may ask, “Is it ever morally permissible to have a hysterectomy?” Yes, but in very limited circumstances and to define these, I call upon the wisdom of Dr. Janet Smith and Christopher Kaczor, in their excellent book, *Life Issues, Medical Choices*, pages 94-95. Their response is as follows.

The Church teaches that if a woman’s uterus is so unhealthy that it poses a threat to her well-being, it would be moral for her to have the uterus removed, that is, to get a hysterectomy. It is moral to remove organs and body parts that pose a threat to an individual’s well-being. For example, if a kidney or a uterus develops cancer and there is no hope that surgery, chemotherapy, or radiation, will eradicate the cancer, these body parts can be removed.

Sometimes, however, the uterus is not a threat to a woman’s health when she is not pregnant but may become a threat were she to become pregnant. For instance, a woman may have scar tissue on her uterus that might cause the uterus to rupture as it expands in pregnancy, thus causing life-threatening hemorrhaging. Many doctors recommend that such women get hysterectomies, in order to make a future pregnancy impossible.

Some doctors recommend not a full hysterectomy, to prevent pregnancy, but what is called a “uterine isolation”. This procedure is identical to a tubal ligation: a woman has her fallopian tubes “tied”, thus isolating the uterus from the fallopian tubes.

The Church, through a Declaration by the Congregation for the Doctrine of Faith, has declared that hysterectomies to prevent future pregnancies and “uterine isolations” for the same purpose are not morally permissible. Both procedures involve the direct intent to prevent pregnancy, and that is a contraceptive or sterilizing intent. The Church teaches that acts that cause sexual acts to be infertile are intrinsically wrong.

Couples facing serious medical situations of this type want to learn a very reliable method of Natural Family Planning (NFP) and follow it with due diligence. More importantly, they must place all aspects of their marriage, including their fertility and physical well-being, into the loving hands of our Father in heaven. He has a divine plan for their marriage and they must trust it as it beautifully unfolds.

A need for a Gardening Angel

When I am away from the parishes from July 18th-22nd, I need someone to take over my weeding and watering of the flowers around the church. With the hot days of July upon us, it is necessary to water virtually every day, so that the beautiful flowers and plants don’t dry up and die a painful death. If you are interested, please contact Fr. Gary at 701-509-9504. Out of gratitude, I will pay you in kuchen . . . I have a whole freezer full. Name your flavor and it will be yours. Who wants money when you have the German Gold . . . kuchen.

A point to ponder

Reputation is made in a moment; character is built in a lifetime.