

St. Mary’s Catholic Church

Annunciation Church of B.V.M., Shumway, IL

+Bishop Thomas John Paprocki

Fr. Adam Prichard, Pastor

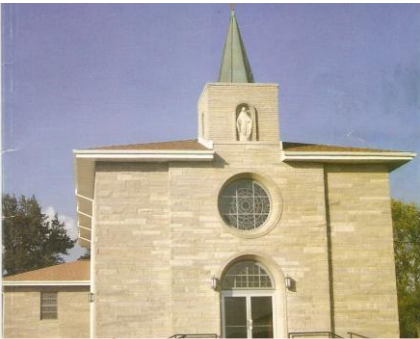
aprichard@dio.org

“Office” Phone: 1-844-536-6514 (leave a message)

Website: www.stmaryshumway.org

Email: stmarysshumway@gmail.com

Address: PO Box 96, Shumway, IL 62461



To reserve the church basement please call 1-844-536-6514.

Cemetery Committee

John Adams 618-322-2874

Matt Childerson 217-254-5896

Daphne Hoffman 217-821-7268

Funeral Meal Coordinators

Leslie Kemme 217-821-3399

Dot Thomas 217-259-8560

Shumway Mass Times:

Tuesday – 5:15 pm

Adoration 4-5 pm

Wednesday 8:00 am

Saturday 4:00 pm

Reconciliation-3pm

Sunday 8:00 am

Green Creek Mass Times:

Thursday – 5:15 pm

Adoration 4-5 pm

Friday – 8 am

Saturday – 6 pm

Sunday – 10:00 am

No Adoration/Mass when it falls on a Holy Day

Victim Assistance Contact Information-To Report Child Sexual Abuse by Church Personnel or to inquire about Safe Environment Programs in the Diocese of Springfield call 217-321-1155 or Children & Family Services Child Abuse Hotline 1-800-25-ABUSE

SAT 4pm	Aug. 16 Church picnic	Aug. 23	Aug. 30	Sept. 6	Sept. 13
Servers	Aubrey Brown Abby Brown Anna Brown	Trey Brown Tryston Brown Madalyne Brown	Isaac Wells Abby Brown Anna Brown	Aubrey Brown Tryston Brown Madalyne Brown	Trey Brown Isaac Wells Abby Brown
Lector	Donna Davis	Christy Brown	Alaina Miller	Mike Holland	Doug Brown
Usher	Mike Holland Jason Wells	Don Brown Doug Brown	Jason Wells Don Brown	Don Brown Doug Brown	Mike Holland Jason Wells
Ech Min	Donna Davis Mike Holland Rosemary Holland	Katrina Davis Kathy Brown Don Brown	Katrina Davis Kathy Brown Don Brown	Donna Davis Mike Holland Rosemary Holland	Katrina Davis Kathy Brown Don Brown
Gift Bearers	Doug Brown Family	Jason Wells Family	Kathy Brown	Jesse Davis Family	Don Brown Family
SUN 8am	Aug. 17	Aug. 24	Aug. 31	Sept. 7	Sept. 14 Families in Faith
Servers	Garrett Hoene Braxton Hoene Olivia Vonderheide	Rory Miller Wylie Miller Daisy Miller	Wade Conder Zoey Conder Jacob Vonderheide	Garrett Hoene Braxton Hoene Olivia Vonderheide	Rory Miller Wylie Miller Daisy Miller
Lector	Lisa Thompson	Terry Hoene	Lisa Thompson	Terry Hoene	Lisa Thompson
Ushers	Jason Vonderheide Charley Vonderheide	Larry Lieb Jim Vonderheide	Roy Waldhoff Joe Conder	Gene Doedtman Tom Doedtman	Josh Miller Justin Conder
Ech Min	Roy Waldhoff Barb Vonderheide Lisa Waldhoff	Leslie Kemme Timber Miller Lisa Thompson	Linda Doedtman Barb Vonderheide Lisa Waldhoff	Roy Waldhoff Leslie Kemme Timber Miller	Linda Doedtman Barb Vonderheide Lisa Waldhoff
Gift Bearers	Justin Conder Family	Greg Michelle Spannagel	Deb Stremming	Wanda Ohnesorge	Rodney Hoene Family
Greeters	Charley Rhonda Vonderheide	Barb Vonderheide	Roy Lisa Waldhoff	Jason Pruemmer Family	Larry Lieb
Money Counters	Bales, Richards Sheehan, Hackman	Stremming Conder	Doedtman Shadwell	Waldhoff Hoene	Kemme Adams
WED. 8am Lectors	Aug. 20	Aug. 27	Sept. 3	Sept. 10	Sept. 24
	Linda Doedtman	Irene Koester	Alice Richards	Mike Holland	Linda Doedtman

PRAYER LIST: Please remember them in your prayers!



Call: 1-844-536-6514 to add or remove someone. Thank You.

Carl Gross
Trevor Roy
Tony Bierman
Tori Schairbaum
Tom Laue
Jerry Worman
Mardell Sheehan
Elsie McKay
Kathy Miller
David Brown
Kathy Wakefield
Larry Nation

Norma Bloemer
Beth Hewing
Jim Gordon
Don Kemme
Don Clark
Steve Moore
Sally Wakefield
Pat Kuhns
Bill Hamilton
Christie Dust
Helen Kollinger
Bill Nuxoll
Cinda Held



September Committee: Gail Brandt, Jenni McKay, Lacey Krueger, Rita McKay, Timber Miller, Maridon McKay

Weekly Offering.....8-24-25
Adult.....\$1370.00
Loose.....542.00
Assumption.....10.00
Total.....\$1922.00
Masses \$20.00
Parish Hall update \$130,344.97

St. Mary’s Catholic Church, Shumway
MISSION
(who we are and what we do, our purpose)
Be a growing community of disciples, centered on the Eucharist, that imitates Jesus by proclaiming the Gospel and serving our neighbors with love.

VISION
(where we are going, our focus)
Building the Body of Christ through families of faith with vibrant spiritual formation, joyful community fellowship and service, and a welcoming presence to all.



The parish would like to welcome its newest members to our family.

Shawn and Kristen Buehler and children Hunter, Michael, Sarah, Tyler, and Hannah

Trevor and Vanessa Floyd

We are glad you are here.

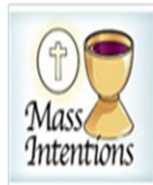
Don Kemme is turning 90 on Sept. 1. He would love to receive cards. Don currently resides at Lakeland Rehabilitation and Health Care Center. Please send cards to his son, Paul.
Don Kemme
c/o Paul Kemme
13247 N. 1000th Rd
Effingham, IL 62401

The Effingham Knights of Columbus Council #665 will be hosting it's yearly Labor Mass on September 1st, 2025, at St. Anthony Church at 9am.

Bible Study @ St. Mary's, Shumway

This year we will take "A Journey Through Church History." We will do 10 sessions in the fall and 10 sessions in the spring. We will meet every Wednesday starting on the Sept. 10th at 6:30pm in the basement. We will not meet on the first Wednesdays due to the parish council meetings. To order a workbook go to <https://ascensionpress.com/collections/epic-a-journey-through-church-history#study-materials> If you have any questions contact Donna Davis 217-690-2640. See the flyer on the bulletin board for more info.

CCW Meeting – Tues. Sept. 2 @ 6:30pm
Council Meeting – Wed. Sept. 3 @ 6:30pm



† This symbol denotes-deceased.

Saturday, Aug. 30- †Leonard Montello by Jane Montello
Sunday, Aug. 31 – †Edward Kirchhofer by Jim Mary Miller
Tuesday, Sept. 2 - †Marita Kemme by Deb Josh Ochs
Wednesday, Sept. 3 - †Joseph H Willenborg by his daughters
Saturday, Sept. 6 – †Dan Zacha by Family
Sunday, Sept. 7- Parishioner of St. Mary's
Tuesday, Sept. 9 –
Wednesday, Sept. 10- Special Intention by Barb Vonderheide

Please call or email (info on front page) to schedule an intention or put an envelope in the collection basket with the information. Envelopes can be found in the mailbox in the cry room. There is a calendar of available dates located in the cry room.

Happy Birthday



Josh Spannagel 9-1
Emmalyn Brown 9-1
Jacob Vonderheide 9-4
Aubrynn Niebrugge 9-4
Wade Conder 9-5
Mila Wakefield 9-5

Families in Faith (PSR) will begin on Sunday, Sept. 14 after mass. There is a sign-up sheet in the cry room for any new students grades Pre-K through high school.
Also remember that there is a class also for all adults in the parish. You don't have a child in a class to participate!!! If you have any questions, contact Leslie Kemme 217-821-3399

On Tuesday, Sept. 9 @ 7pm there will be training for Lectors and Extra Ordinary Ministers. This for anyone who current is or those who would like to be.
AND on Saturday, Sept. 27 @ 9am there will be server training. This for current servers and anyone one else who would like to serve (need to have made your first communion).

Youth Group Kick Off Cookout on Sept. 7 from 5-7pm. See the fliers on the bulletin board for details.

Happy Anniversary

Lance & Ellie Clark 9-2-2021
4 years

JOSH & BETH SPANNAGEL 9-5-2009
16 years

Dan & Angela Woods 9-7-1985
40 years

The parish family extends its deepest sympathies to Mardell Sheehan and Jim & Marylou Vonderheide on the passing of Kenny Kreke.
He was Mardell's brother-in-law and Jim & Marylou's nephew.
May he rest in peace.

We also extend our sympathies to the Shawn and Kristen Buehler family on the passing of Kristen's grandpa, Bill Funneman.
May he rest in peace.

All women are invited to the **Springfield Diocesan Council of Catholic Women's annual convention** on Wednesday, October 1, at St. Paul's Church and Trinity Hall, 1411 Main St., Highland, IL. For more info see bulletin board. Forms to register are on the bulletin board. Forms are due by September 14

Married 50 Years or More? Let Us Celebrate You! – at a special Anniversary Mass on Sunday, September 21 at 2 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Springfield. This celebration honors your beautiful witness to the vocation of marriage. A light reception will follow Mass. RSVP by September 9 at dio.org/events, or contact Gracie Ortiz at gortiz@dio.org or (217) 698-8500. Let us honor your milestone of faith and love!

Fr. Adam and Jesse Davis are offering OCIA this year. What is the OCIA? The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) is designed for non-Catholics who wish to learn more about the Catholic Church.

The OCIA process explores the meaning of faith and how Catholics express that faith in the community and in the world. It offers a chance to ask questions, raise doubts, acquire information, share, learn and grow. What's the commitment? First of all, you're not making a commitment to join the Catholic Church. You won't be pressured into making any decisions; you can stop attending the meetings at any time. You will continue to be welcome at the meetings and in the parish no matter what your decision.

You might want to share this information about the OCIA with anyone to whom you wish to offer an invitation. Perhaps to give them support and encouragement, you might offer to accompany them to one of the meetings.

If you have any questions or an interest, please email Fr. Adam at aprichard@dio.org or Jesse at jrdavis6698@gmail.com or call the parish office and leave a message."

EIU Newman Center Annual Gala Are you an alumni, friend, parent, or have a connection to EIU and the Newman Center? Consider attending this year's Newman Night Gala, October 25th, as we remember our past, celebrate the present, and ensure the future of our catholic student community and center here at EIU. For more details call 217-348-0188, visit our website eiunewman.org/newmannight or email John Johnson at development@eiunewman.org



The 35th annual Family Camp will be held September 20-21 at Lake Williamson Christian Center in Carlinville. This fun and relaxing weekend is for those with intellectual and/or physical disabilities, along with their family and friends. Registration forms are available at www.sheff.org or by contacting Elaine Vonderheide at 217-821-1995.

Do you have questions about Medicare?

Join us for an informational class.

Preregistration Required | Free to the Public | Only 20 Seats Available!

**Effingham Catholic Charities
Conference Room**

1502 E Fayette Ave, Teutopolis

Call 217-857-1458 to Register

Dates Available

September 2 - 10 AM	September 16 - 10 AM
September 4 - 10 AM	September 18 - 10 AM
September 9 - 1 PM	September 23 - 1 PM



Upcoming DeColores Fall Weekends:
Men's Weekend: October 16-19;
Lay Leader: Tim Hodge.
Call or Text him at 217-821-0113

Women's Weekend: October 23-26; Lay Leader: Sandy Deters.
Call or Text her at 217-259-2417

The weekends are held at Camp Walter Scott south of Effingham (Must sign up prior to attending.)
Call or text for an application.

In the last two weeks, we've looked at the importance, the need for forgiveness, particularly as Jesus calls us to be merciful to those whom we encounter. We are called to give ourselves entirely to God so that we may continually grow and develop into who God is calling us to be. When we sin, whether it's a sin of commission (when we choose to intentionally do something) or a sin of omission (when we intentionally withhold an act of mercy or justice or charity), by our choice, we are saying "I do not want to do what Jesus calls me to do, so I'm not going to." We are refusing to live according to our universal call to holiness. We also are shown, both in the Old Testament and the New Testament, that our choices, whether towards sin or towards God, affects others. There is truly no such thing as a private sin. Our choices not only affect us personally, but they also affect others. And we may ask, if we do something in private, and no one else ever finds out about it, how does it affect others? And there are multiple answers to this. What we choose to do, even in private, particularly if we believe that we can continue to "get away with it", affects how we treat others. We may take others for granted more, believe that we're smarter than them because they haven't found out about us, or we may disconnect from people because we're so afraid that they will discover that we are not the person that they think we are. We also know that, even in the Old Testament, the prophets called the people to treat with dignity and respect; to care for the poor, for the widows, for the orphans, for those who are looked upon as the least valuable people.

In Mark 2:1-12, it is demonstrated that Jesus, the Second Person of the Holy Trinity, possesses the power to forgive sins. We also see, in Matthew 16:19, that this power has been given to Peter, and in Matthew 18:18, to all the apostles. We also see this in John 20:23. And through the continuation of the ordained priesthood, the Church has maintained the fact that the Sacrament of Reconciliation has not ended, and that it is important to receive it, for it to be celebrated. We also see that the forgiveness of sins Sacramentally begins with Baptism. We die to ourselves, that we may rise with Christ. But we also know that we are not perfect, that we fall and fail at times, we continue to need the mercy of God. And this isn't something that is to be looked upon with shame, it's something that the more we grow in humility, the more we can be grateful for the mercy and grace of God, and the fact that Jesus gifted us the Sacrament of Confession. The more we understand the Sacrament of Confession, the more we are aware of our need for it, the more we are grateful for this Sacrament that Jesus has gifted us. And if we are aware and grateful for it, the more we are going to receive it, and the more we are going to share, although it can be daunting, the encouragement that others receive it as well. Because we want them to experience the same freedom and grace that we have experienced and receive.

More next week! God bless!
Fr. Adam

Sacrament of Marriage-Please contact our parish office (1-844-536-6514) at least 9 months before your anticipated wedding date to begin your spiritual preparation. One or both persons must be registered and actively living their faith. All couples planning to be married at our parish must attend a Pre-Cana program, Natural Family Planning program and FOCCUS evaluation.

Sacrament of Baptism - A family must be registered & actively living their faith. Godparents must also be registered in a Catholic parish or other Christian church & actively living their faith. A Baptism Class is required for all parents. We ask that both parents attend this class together. Godparents are also encouraged and welcome to attend. For more information, please call the parish office (1-844-536-6514).

ATTENTION MEN: UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES TO GROW YOUR FAITH

Prayer Campaign for LIFE

Sept. 24 – Nov. 2

We will be joining people of faith across our nation to pray, fast, and serve to end abortion and to fight assisted suicide during the “Prayer Campaign for Life”, 40 days focused on building a pro-life culture. This will take place from Sept. 24 to Nov. 2. Please consider participating in all 3 parts of this pro-life campaign:

- Part 1: Commit to an hour of prayer on Tuesday, Sept. 30 and Tuesday, Oct. 7. Come to the church for an hour or pray at home if you can not get to church. 4-5pm each of those days is our normal hour for adoration with mass afterwards.
- Part 2: Commit to fast for an end to abortion (no sign-up required).
- Part 3: Choose an hour or more to volunteer at the Silk Purse Thrift Store in Effingham. Choose any hours between 9 am - 4 pm, Monday through Friday. Contact Valerie Kemme (217) 663-2738 to get on the schedule. Sign-up sheets will be coming soon!!!

National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children

Sept. 13 (Saturday), 8:30 am, outside at the Teutopolis KC Memorial to the Unborn, in front of the Seminary Tower (near the Teutopolis KC Hall).

Effingham Area Right to Life invites the community to join in a solemn tribute for the 13th annual National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children. Please join us as we honor the memory of the lives lost to abortion and stand united in our commitment to protecting the dignity of all human life. Like and follow “EffinghamAreaRightToLife” on Facebook to stay up to date on local pro-life events and issues.

Bring your own chair to this memorial service if desired. If raining, we will pray under the north canopy of the Banquet Hall. Together, let us remember the victims of abortion and pray for a final end to this injustice in our land.

St. Charbel’s First Class Relic and relics of other saints coming to Vandalia/Springfield in

October – A First Class relic of St. Charbel Makhlof, the miraculous Maronite priest, monk, and hermit from Lebanon, is coming to our diocese for the first time from his homeland—and Catholics across Illinois are invited to this rare spiritual encounter. The relic will be available for public veneration at two locations: the Sanctuary of the Sorrowful Mother in Vandalia on October 7–8 (Mass at 5 p.m., veneration from 4–8 p.m. both days) and the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Springfield on Sunday, October 19, following the 10 a.m. Mass. Additional relics of holy men and women—including St. Padre Pio, St. Carlo Acutis, the three Fatima children, and a piece of the True Cross—will also be present. Come bring your intentions and experience the powerful intercession of the saints. No RSVP required. For more information, visit OSMM.org or email KeckVanessa7@gmail.com.

SonRise Fridays are BACK! – All Men Invited – September 5

SonRise Friday Men’s Breakfast returns to St. Anthony’s Parish Center Sept. 5 for men of all area parishes. Together we will dive into: **“Becoming a Man After God’s Own Heart”**, a video series produced by Parades Dei’s That Man Is You!

Experience a renewed sense of purpose as you discover the Scriptural Vision of man, including the four leadership roles entrusted to him, and the five personal leadership traits to get there. Join us for food, fellowship and faith 6:15 AM, Friday, Sept. 5, St. Anthony Parish Center, Effingham.

All men are welcome. Learn more at thatmanisyou.com, or Dan Woods, 217-821-1495. danwoodsface@gmail.com

Office for the Permanent Diaconate - Interested in becoming a permanent deacon?

Join us after 10am Mass Sunday, September 7th at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Following Mass there will be an informational meeting in the atrium. Wives are welcome and encouraged to attend with their husbands. Please visit <https://dio.org/diaconate/> for more information about the diaconate.

Catholic Men’s Overnight Retreat, September 27-28, Villa Maria Retreat Center -

“Sons of the Father, Men in Christ.” Visit dio.org/events for a more detailed schedule and to register. The cost is \$150 and includes overnight accommodations (single occupancy), meals, and retreat materials. Deadline--September 22. Contact events@dio.org with questions.

Men’s Leadership Summit taking place in Edwardsville Oct. 18 – Do you feel like just another guy in a pew? You’re not alone. The Diocese of Springfield in Illinois has invited John Edwards from Just a Guy in the Pew to host a Men’s Leadership Summit on Saturday, October 18, 2025 at St. Boniface Church in Edwardsville (110 N Buchanan St.) to bring single and married men together to support one another, get inspired by their faith, gain and enhance leadership skills, and discuss best practices for men’s ministry. John is a dynamic, inspirational spiritual leader who has a powerful witness story of hard drug use to finding Christ in a radical way.

Register at dio.org/events. Cost: \$30. Includes materials/food and drink. Deadline to register is Oct. 1. Contact: Gracie Ortiz, Director of Marriage and Family Life at gortiz@dio.org or 217-321-1124 for questions.

IF YOU WERE ASKED ABOUT...

THE CRUSADES,
THE INQUISITION,
"THE DARK AGES",
THE GALILEO AFFAIR,
WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?



EPIC

A JOURNEY THROUGH CHURCH HISTORY

Do you know your family history? The history of the Church is the story of our family. It is the epic story of our ancestors in the Faith – the heroic men and women who shaped civilization and spread the Gospel throughout the world. Knowing this story is crucial to our identity as Catholics. Just as we would uncover exciting and interesting stories of our ancestors through the study of our family genealogy, we can uncover our Catholic past through the study of Church history.

Many in our society misunderstand and even attack our Church for the supposed misdeeds of the past. Topics such as the Crusades, the "Inquisition", and Galileo are used in an attempt to discredit the Church and her role in the world. What is the truth concerning these events and persons? How can you answer the objections?

Join us for this exciting journey through Church history and you will:

- Learn about the major people, places, and events of the two-thousand years of Church history.
- Remember the 12 time periods of Church history using a unique color-coded system.
- Learn the true story of the Crusades .
- Discover the revolutionary character of the Protestant Reformation.
- Discover the massive persecution of Christians in the 20th century.
- See the workings of the Holy Spirit throughout Church history and much more!

Dates, Time, Location

St. Mary's Shumway
Wednesdays @ 6:30pm
starting Sept 10
(skip 1st Wed. of the month)
Church basement

For More Information

Call/Text Donna Davis
217-690-2640

About Steve Weidenkopf



Steve Weidenkopf has a gift for making Catholic Church history come alive for any audience. He currently serves as a lecturer in Church History for the Notre Dame Graduate School of Christendom College.

www.CatholicTimeline.com



**ALL WOMEN ... COME TO THE
SPRINGFIELD in IL DIOCESAN COUNCIL OF
CATHOLIC WOMEN (SDCCW)**

2025 Convention

Wed., Oct. 1

**8:00 AM – 9:00 AM: Registration &
Refreshments**

9:00 AM – 3:30 PM Convention

11:00 AM Mass

Bishop Thomas Paprocki, Main Celebrant

Hosted by the Alton Deanery Council of Catholic Women

St. Paul's Church and Trinity Hall

1411 Main St., Highland, IL



"LET YOURSELF BE LOVED"

St. Elizabeth of the Trinity

Canonized by Pope Francis, Oct. 16, 2016

July 18, 1880 - Nov. 9, 1906



Claire Dwyer desires that all women know how deeply they are loved by God. She is a wife and mom of six and grandmother of two, living and working remotely for the Avila Foundation as Content Editor of Spiritual Direction.com from her home in Arizona. She is a speaker, retreat leader, and author of *This Present Paradise: A Spiritual Journey with St. Elizabeth of the Trinity*.



SDCCW email: sdccwinil@gmail.com

FB Page: Springfield Diocesan Council of Catholic Women

Please receive the registration form from your church --- due Sept. 14.

President of the SDCCW: Janet Zimmerman: 217-494-4743

Forms on bulletin board

St. Mary's Youth Group Presents:

KICKOFF COOKOUT

Sunday, September 7

5-7pm - on the church lawn

School is back in session & so are we!

All 7th-12th grade students & families are invited to a fun evening of food & fellowship as we gear up for the year ahead! Hamburgers, hot dogs, & drinks will be provided; feel free to bring a snack/side to share.

Some fun games are also in store, so be sure to wear shoes you can run in & clothes that can get a little messy! (Parents welcome to participate, too!) And don't forget a lawn chair. Can't wait to see you there!

Don't miss out -

RSVP Now!

 Katrina Davis:
217-240-4291



Diocese of Springfield in Illinois in partnership with
Just a Guy in the Pew presents



MEN'S LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

OCTOBER 18, 2025

St. Boniface Catholic Church • 110 N. Buchanan St., Edwardsville, IL

SATURDAY

- 9 a.m.** Holy Mass
 - 9:30 a.m.** Coffee & Check In
 - 10 a.m.** Session 1: **HEART & MIND OF A LEADER**
 - 10:45 a.m.** Small Group Questions/Discussion
 - 11:15 a.m.** Session 2: **WHAT MEN WANT/WHAT MEN NEED**
 - 11:45 a.m.** Small Group Questions/Discussion
 - 12:15 p.m.** Lunch provided by Edley's BBQ
 - 1 p.m.** Session 3: **HOW TO BUILD OR ENHANCE A SUCCESSFUL MEN'S GROUP**
 - 1:45 p.m.** Small Group Questions/Discussion
 - 2:15 p.m.** Session 4: **NEXT STEPS/PRACTICAL DISCUSSION**
 - 2:45 p.m.** Q&A with John Edwards and Large Group Discussion
- QUESTIONS?** Contact Gracie Ortiz at gortiz@dio.org or 217 321-1124



OUR SPEAKER:
JOHN EDWARDS
Founder of Pew Ministries and host of
"Just a Guy in the Pew" podcast



Watch John's story at dio.org/events/mens-leadership-summit/

The cost is \$30 to register • Deadline is October 1, 2025

go.dio.org/mls

Dear Padre,

Is it sacrilegious to throw away a sacramental?

“Sacramentals do not confer the grace of the Holy Spirit in the way that the sacraments do, but by the Church’s prayer, they prepare us to receive and dispose us to cooperate with it” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1670). Therefore, sacramentals confer grace through the Church’s power of prayer and, if blessed, should not be thrown away but burned and/or buried. If the object has not been blessed, it can be discarded; however, it could also be donated to a Catholic ministry (school, prison, hospital, etc.) that would benefit from its distribution. (If a religious object was included in an unsolicited appeal letter from a charitable organization, it is safe to assume that it was not blessed.)

If the object is worn or broken, it should be substantially altered so that it loses its form as a sacramental and then returned to the earthly elements. For example, a worn scapular should be burned and the ashes buried; a damaged statue should be further broken into smaller fragments and buried. A European tradition on the Vigil of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist (June 23) is to burn old sacramentals in bonfires and bury the ashes. Burning and/or burial respects the sacred nature once held by these items and prevents their adaptation for trivial use. Reverence and discretion are proper for whatever method of disposal. ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.



TACIO PHILIP SANSONOVSKI / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

To follow [Jesus]...means “carrying one’s cross”: shouldering, like him, one’s own burdens and those of others, making one’s life a gift, not a possession, spending it in imitation of his own generous and merciful love for us. These are decisions that engage the totality of our lives.

HOMILY, ROME, SEPTEMBER 4, 2022

GOOGLE GEMINI



Monday

September 1
Weekday
1 Thes 4:13–18
Lk 4:16–30

Tuesday

September 2
Weekday
1 Thes 5:1–6, 9–11
Lk 4:31–37

Wednesday

September 3
St. Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church
Col 1:1–8
Lk 4:38–44

Thursday

September 4
Weekday
Col 1:9–14
Lk 5:1–11

Friday

September 5
Weekday
Col 1:15–20
Lk 5:33–39

Saturday

September 6
Weekday
Col 1:21–23
Lk 6:1–5

Sunday

September 7
Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Wis 9:13–18b
Phlm 9–10, 12–17
Lk 14:25–33

Our Parish COMMUNITY

August 31, 2025

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Sirach 3:17–18, 20, 28–29 / Hebrews 12:18–19, 22–24a / Luke 14:1, 7–14



Life Out of Focus

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

I found myself angry the other day, as we all do, I suppose, whenever we put our foot in our mouth, or forget about an important engagement, or scramble whatever it was we had hoped would be picture-perfect. What I had scrambled was a homily. For some reason, the image came out wrong, or the example did not fit, or it just did not come together the way I had hoped. And I was angry with myself to the point that it caught me off guard. It was an unexpected glimpse of what I didn’t want to admit: the fact that the way people might perceive me as a preacher had taken on more importance than preaching God’s word. Life had gotten out of focus. A perspective had been lost.

It happens to us all in the course of our lifetimes,

and more than once. Grades become more important than learning, or being right more important than the relationship, or the address of where we live more important than the people living together. It happens between parent and child when a parent places greater significance on the son’s or daughter’s profession than on that son’s or daughter’s happiness. Like in the parable of Jesus, where we sit at table takes on greater meaning than the people who gather or the meal that is shared. That is what pride does. It distorts what is real and shifts the focus of life to ourselves. The antidote? A prayerful awareness of who we are and who God is. ●

Reflect

What is more important to me than it should be?



[Jesus said,] “Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

LUKE 14:11