



TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
AUGUST 23, 2026



Dear Friends in Christ,

In the second reading for the Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time of year A (Gospel from Saint Matthew), we hear Saint Paul in the letter to the Romans talk about the Wisdom and Knowledge of God. How deep and rich they are! "Who has known the mind of the Lord or who has been His counselor?"

God's wisdom and knowledge go far beyond our understanding and imagination; they are above our knowing and searching. The creation: the universe (the big and small worlds), the human being (body, mind, and spirit), and His laws, commandments, and decrees tell us the wisdom of God.

In today's gospel God's wisdom is shown to us again through Jesus' selecting Simon to be Peter (the rock), affirming upon this rock He will build His Church, and giving him the Keys to the Kingdom of Heaven. Through the Gospel we know who Peter is and what he has said and done. He was an uneducated man - a fisherman; he misunderstood His Master's teachings; he was weak or we could say he was a coward. He was actually not fit to be the Rock upon whom Jesus would build His Church, but here again; the Wisdom of God goes beyond our understanding!

Through centuries, the Church, under the leadership of Peter and his successors (now Pope Francis), especially under the guidance of God's wisdom through the Holy Spirit, continues to stand firm and grow stronger to proclaim the goodness of the Lord, the truth of the Gospel and to bring the salvation to the world despite any challenges and difficulties coming from inside and outside.

God chose the weak and made them strong to do His works! God chose the ordinary men to do the extraordinary works! It is God's wisdom. The Pope, Bishops, and Priests are ordinary men, but God chose them to do the extraordinary things for His Church. They have their own weaknesses and strengths, but the wisdom and the strength of God are with them.

Let us continue to pray for the Church and its shepherds. May God's wisdom always be with the Church and its shepherds. And let us also show our fidelity to the Church no matter what happens for this is the Church that Jesus established and built on the Rock/Peter.

The Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament is one of the evidences that He keeps His promise to be with His Church to the end and no power can destroy it. Remember the Boat/the Church will never be sunk under the water by the strong waves or wind, nor will it be broken for there is Jesus on the Boat or in the Church.

Keep your faith in Jesus Christ; be faithful to His Church; remain in His Church.

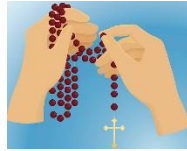
Peace in Christ,
Fr. Tien

Our Sanctuary Lamp this week
is in memory of
Deborah J. Swanson-Busby
by Charlene Galbrecht.



Rosary for Life

The Rosary is a devotion strongly embraced by the pro-life movement. This is so for good reasons because in the Hail Mary we praise a mother and we worship the fruit of her womb Jesus. Here at St. Francis of Assisi the Rosary for Respect for Life, "From The Moment Of Conception To That Of A Natural Death" is prayed 1/2 hour before the Saturday vigil Mass and Sunday Masses. We are lead in this prayer by dedicated volunteers.



Why does the priest kiss the altar before Mass begins? The priest kisses the altar because it symbolizes Jesus. The same is true with the text of the Gospel. After the priest reads the Gospel, he kisses the text. A third kiss can be found at all liturgies. Although we may shake hands, the action is called the Kiss of Peace. We kiss items where we find Christ: on the altar in His Body and Blood, in the Book of the Gospels which contains His word and in Christ who is present in each of us. When we exchange the sign of peace at Mass, we exchange the peace of Christ only to those nearby with a simple handshake or a bow. This should be done in a dignified manner and in holy silence which will not distract from the solemnity of the service.

For additional information, or if you did not get a bulletin, you can go to our website at stfrancisassisifranklin.org.

Website

Prayers for healing: Donna Barbaro, Dolores Botti, Chad Cook, William Crunkleton, Susan Darby, Lillianne Duong Davis, Tony Frede, Dariel Hellerer, Wayne Hirsch, Guyla Ivers, Anette ML Jigla, Sandra Kanter, Georgette Lee, Terry McConnell, Michelle Mercer, Dee Moffitt, Delphine Moss, Monica Moya, John Ontiveros, Freeman Robinson, Josette Roisin, Kathleen Rogers, Mike Scarborough, Roxanne Lumia Smith, Wanda Stamey, Irene Tisdale, Art Todesco, Alan Tucker, Ruby Christina Tucker, Joe and Charlene Youdell, Rosalie Perreault, David Ramsey, Susie Lopez Pineda, Kamri Peck, Kathy Tallent, Denise Burkart, Connie Blackburn, Sharon Beals, Josephine Jennings, Dominga Feria Lopez, Bill Garbinski, Nick Birchard, Mary Ann Janda, Josiah Mihok, Robert Horgan



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Saint Francis Parish in your will.



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Mass Schedule and Intentions

Saturday, August 22

The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

5:00 P.M. ✠ Bill Holten by the Choir, ✠ Ralph Dicharry
Ron Zeagler

Sunday, August 23

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 A.M. ✠ Bill Holten by the Choir
✠ Germaine & ✠ Bill Moffitt, ✠ Caleb Watson by Dee Moffitt
✠ Deborah J. Swanson Busby by Charlene
11:30 A.M. ✠ Holy Souls in Purgatory

Monday, August 24

Saint Bartholomew, Apostle

9:00 A.M. ✠ Holy Souls in Purgatory

Tuesday, August 25

Saint Luis; Saint Joseph Calasanz, Priest
NO MASS

Wednesday, August 26

5:30 P.M. ✠ Holy Souls in Purgatory

Thursday, August 27

Saint Monica

9:00 A.M. ✠ Holy Souls in Purgatory

Friday, August 28

Saint Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

9:00 A.M. ✠ Holy Souls in Purgatory
Gerardo Y Francisco, Martinez Elias

Saturday, August 29

The Passion of Saint John the Baptist

5:00 P.M. ✠ Jeanette Koegler

Sunday, August 30

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 A.M. ✠ Sean Aten
11:30 A.M. ✠ Holy Souls in Purgatory by Basilia

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday 6:15 p.m.

The Rosary

The Rosary is recited
one-half hour before Mass.