

ST. JOHN BOSCO PARISH

12934 MARINE AVENUE ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63146

Do not be afraid;
you are worth more than many
sparrows.

Matthew 10:31



June 21, 2020 • Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Celebration of the Holy Eucharist
Live-streaming Sunday Mass at 9:30 a.m.

*The eyes of all
look to you, Lord,
and you give them
their food in due season.*

Psalm 145:15

Clergy

Rev. Gerard R. Welsch
Rev. Ray Iwaji
Rev. Matthew Ma, SJ
Deacon Paul Craska
Deacon John O'Hara

Rectory Staff

Sr. Maria De Jesus Tovar MEST
Sr. Celia Perez MEST

Pastoral Associate

Cindy Meirink

**Pastoral Associate
Assistant**

Michele Johnson

Music Minister

Amy Smith

Liturgical Coordinator

Jodi Toliver

**Parish Secretary &
Safe Environment
Program Coordinator**

Anita Walth
Protecting God's Children:
<https://www.preventandprotectstl.org>

PSR Secretary/Housekeeping

Julie Meinert

Rectory Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

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Sunday, June 21, 2020 A PROMISE FOR LIFE EVERLASTING

Today's Readings: Jeremiah 20:10-13; Psalm 69:8-10, 14, 17, 33-35; Romans 5:12-15; Matthew 10:26-33.

In today's gospel, Jesus is preparing his followers to spread Christianity, and, in describing the dangers of fear and denial on this journey, he also promises that their souls shall live forever. What does this gospel mean for us today? We are faced daily with situations in which we can expose our faith or keep it hidden. I can think of many discussions in which I have not spoken up in defense of my beliefs. For this, will I be denied as the gospel describes? Jesus also reminds us that we are so precious in God's eyes that each hair on our heads is numbered. So what will it be? Are we so loved that when we fail to proclaim our faith we will be forgiven? Then what is the denial that Jesus mentions? "Are not two sparrows sold for a small coin? Yet not one of them falls to the ground without your Father's knowledge." When we fall, we must remember that we are still in the Lord's care. We can proclaim God's love from the rooftops, as have many believers before us. We have all been promised a chance for life everlasting.

Monday, June 22

In looking at other people's lives, I seem to see so much more clearly than when I look at my own. Why is that? Jesus is remarking on how easy it is to pick out the faults of others while struggling to see our own. Perhaps we could turn this unfortunate tendency a bit and use it to grow in holiness rather than judgment. In short, how would I like to see my best friend act? If I'm tempted to do some evil, what would I tell a friend in a similar situation? I'd probably find it easy to see the good that he or she should do. Turning to myself, I might then avoid the tendency to excuse and rationalize my way into constructing yet one more huge beam. Lord Jesus, remove the beam in my eye and help me see myself clearly, as you do. *Today's Readings: 2 Kings 17:5-8, 13-15a, 18; Psalm 60:3, 4-5, 12-13; Matthew 7:1-5.*

Tuesday, June 23

Some Sunday mornings, I seem to do everything during Mass but ponder the kindness of God, distracted continually by what I've decided are the needs of those around me. Surrounded by distractions, I can't pray. But whose fault is that? Could it be mine, since I've chosen, for that hour, to suddenly define those who are so close to the center of my life as distractions? Perhaps I should just calm down, let my gaze rest on my own family and my parish family in gratitude, and instead of being distracted by our imperfections, choose to ponder God's kindness in placing me here. *Today's Readings: 2 Kings 19:9b-11, 14-21, 31-35a, 36; Psalm 48:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 10-11; Matthew 7:6, 12-14.*

Wednesday, June 24 - Nativity of St. John the Baptist

I've seen lots of glorious, almost unspeakable beauty in my life—people and places that have taken my breath away. I remember watching my bride walk up the aisle almost 34 years ago. I still get a little weakkneed thinking about my first glimpses of my children and grandson. I've stood awestruck watching the sun set over the ocean or illuminate the red rock formations of northern Arizona. Simply glorious. Isaiah reminds us that we, too, are glorious because the God of all creation makes us so. God sees us, is mindful of us, and we become as majestic in God's eyes as the southern rim of the Grand Canyon or a great work of art. The beginning of prayer, St. Ignatius says, is to consider that God "beholds" us. It's incredible enough to consider that the God who made everything pays any attention to us at all. It's quite something else to realize God thinks we're glorious. God of creation, thank you for making me glorious. *Today's Readings: Acts 20:28-38; Psalm 68:29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab; John 17:11b-19.*

Thursday, June 25

"Everyone who listens to these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock." (Matthew 7:24). We have many choices when it comes to a most important question: On what will we build our lives? Education, common sense, healthy living, wise investments, family: all of these are good to have in the overall plans for our lives. They are, perhaps, the walls and ceilings and floors of our lives. But none of these are strong enough to be the foundations on which the rest is built. Only the Word of God and a relationship with Jesus, the incarnate Word of God, have the capacity and strength to provide a foundation that will never falter, a solid rock footing that will never crumble. Only in God is our soul safe and at rest, both now and forever. The rest, however valuable it may be for a while, is shifting sand and the destructible work of our hands. God, be my rock and my foundation. Be the Word of my life. *Today's Readings: 2 Kings 24:8-17; Psalm 79:1b-2, 3-5, 8, 9; Matthew 7:21-29.*

Friday, June 26

The Psalmist sings the exile of the people of Israel to Babylon. The lament is born of grief, rage, and loss. The wrenching question sung in the shadow of exile may puzzle us, unless we remember that up to this point in history, the faith of Israel had been inextricably tied to a place: the Promised Land God had given Abraham. Torn from God's Holy Place, how could they be sons and daughters of God away from this home? Our exiles are different, but they are just as real. We grow into a relationship with God assuming certain things: I know God loves me because God has blessed me with health, with family, with talent. What happens when illness strikes? Divorce and death? When our talents are unappreciated and ignored? In those situations, we're ripped from the ground in which our faith has grown, and that is terribly difficult. But, keeping our eyes fixed on God, we, like the people of Israel long ago, just might find a deeper understanding waiting, even in the pain of exile. Lord, help me use my uncertainties to grow in faith. *Today's Readings: Acts 25:13b-21; Psalm 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab; John 21:15-19.*

Saturday, June 27

"Pour out your heart like water in the presence of the Lord" (Lamentations 2:19). It's simple physics, really. To pour liquid from a vessel, we must open the container by removing the cap or cork and then tilt it so that the liquid inside flows freely through the open hole, the path of no resistance. In the same way, pouring out our hearts to God in prayer requires a little work and positioning on our part and much faith that our attempt—however humble and faltering—will flow directly to the presence of God. Our "work" is to open ourselves, to remove the obstacles that keep us from being honest with an all knowing God, and then place ourselves in a position of prayer, inclined toward God who waits with open arms and a receptive, forgiving heart. God, receive my prayer as it flows from me to you. *Today's Readings: Lamentations 2:2, 10-14, 18-19; Psalm 74:1b-2, 3-5, 6-7, 20-21; Matthew 8:5-17*

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*Reflections by Julianna Deutscher,
Amy Welborn and Steve Givens*

June 21, 2020

Note From Father - June 16

Dear St. John Bosco Parishioners,

In this coming Sunday's Gospel, Jesus says more than once to his disciples, "do not fear." With all of the uncertainty that we are living with these days we need to hear these words of encouragement for ourselves. Unfortunately this seems like it is going to go on for a while before we find an end to all of the unrest taking place. Please do not hesitate to call the office with questions. Again, the best way to keep in touch is to visit our website often. [Sunday Mass](#) live stream starts at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday morning and it is accessible for the rest of the week as well. We want to remind you that St. John Bosco Church is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily for prayers and meditation. Let us continue to pray for one another during these stressful days.

Rev. Gerard R. Welsch

Memory Lane

You are invited to take a pictorial walk with us as we remember the last twenty years. Just click on the tab titled "[MEMORY LANE](#)" on the website. We will be posting pictures of the many treasured memories at St. John Bosco.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Prayer shawls are available in the church lobby. These blankets, shoulder wraps and lap coverings are available to anyone with health concerns. Blankets are made by someone who is praying while knitting or crocheting the blanket. For those who receive these blankets, they provide "hugs from God." These prayer shawls are free; donations are also accepted.

Father's Day Wishes

Even if you aren't able to wish your biological father a "Happy Father's Day", we encourage you to share wishes with another father you love and appreciate. It can be your husband, son, grandfather, godfather, an influential priest, or any man you consider a paternal influence in your life. You never know how your words may touch his heart! Visit [FATHER'S DAY](#) on our website.

For the Big-Hearted Father

"The heart of a father is the masterpiece of nature."

-Antoine Francois Prevost.

For the Father Who is Always There For You

"Every family needs a father-a father who shares in his family's joy and pain, hands down wisdom to his children and offers them firm guidance and love." -Pope Francis

For the Father Who Somehow Does It All

"In Catholicism, the pint, the pipe and the cross can all fit together." -G.K. Chesterton

Thank You for Your Support

Thank you for your continued support of our parish through the weekly offerings. We are extremely grateful to **Marcie Schellhase** and **Mike and Mary Ann Sei** who remembered St. John Bosco in their wills.

Rest in Peace

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Barbara Curtis**, sister of Pat Koebbe.



May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen

Pray For

Geraldine Appelbaum, Leo Bachinski II, Gloria Bainter, Murphy Baker, Tina Bega, Jen Berkbigler, Gabrielle Bevans, Gloria Brown, Andi Buechter, Margaret Buechter, Korby Buhr, Tom Burkhart, David Burns, Joe Carey, Ida Cervantes, Boyce Clark, Nancy Clayman, Bill Crow, Amy Cutrell, Chris Davidzuk, Nancy Davies, Mary Lou de Garcia, L. Dempsey, Debbie Denton, Brandon Doggett, Tony Doggett, Al Drury, Barbara Dwellingham, Ryan Edwards, Betty Garrido, Tim Gentilcore, Richard Haberstroh, Jr., Jason Hames, Chris Hemmersmeier, Kay Henry, Dolores Hill, Patricia A. Kurani, Gavin L., Andrew Latuda, Bruce Lehman, Nick Lockhart, Tony Margherio, Jaime Martinez, Tom Mason, Bill McClennan, Tracy McComas, Matt McKelvey, Robyn Meyer, Candy Brown-Migneco, Steve Moylan, Bill Mueller, William G. Mueller Jr., Teresa A. Nickell, Molly O'Hara, Mary Ottes, Rich Ottes, Butch Patton, Stephanie Pemberton, Bernardo Perez, Emerson Perez, Fran Phillips, Margaret R. Pittman, Susan M. Pittman, Meredith Platt, Nancy Polson, Ann Pope, Donna Redenbough, Jane Redshaw, Theresa Reeves, Robert Rohrer, Madeline Rousselow, Mary Saey, Payton Saey, Angie J. Schelker, Liam Schelker, Barb Schlueter, Francis Schlueter, Eleanor Schwering, Mary Jo Shaughnessy, Steven Sherman, Elizabeth Simon, Kevin Spooner, Kathleen Sweeney, Bev Thurston, Kathy Ulrich, Gerry Vigna, Sandy Vojvoda, Christine Woracheck, Tim West, Emily Winders, and Benjamin Yeargain.