



"Whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it."

MATTHEW 16:25

Called to Be Faithful

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Somewhere in every life, along its twisting curving path, we find ourselves wondering if we would not be better off somewhere else doing something different, as if with the flip of the channel we could live a parallel life. Except that changing life is never that simple. And so we live on with our foibles and our insecurities. We make do for one more day in a job that is less than satisfying, or a relationship that is worn and fraying, or caring for aging parents as we juggle the needs of two households. In every niche of life, we may find ourselves dealing with difficult people, listening to others' woes, wondering if anyone cares. Like

the prophet Jeremiah, we can feel we've been duped by the Lord God.

We don't need to go looking for crosses. They come our way. And it is our crosses that allow us to save our lives by losing our lives. It is these very same lives from which we wish we could escape that bring us to holiness, if for no other reason than that we *do* struggle not to have our own way all the time. Spirituality has been defined as an inner set of values by which we live an outer set of circumstances. As people of faith, we try to do just that: to live in the style of Jesus. Somehow, it seems that God brings us to places we should be. ●

Reflect

What does it mean to be faithful in the circumstances of your life?



Holy Trinity



St. Thomas More



St. Patrick

Holy Trinity Catholic Church
212 S. Main St. PO Box 159
Cherry, IL 61317-0159
Phone 815-894-2006
Office Email
HolyTSP@gmail.com

Pastor of the Three Churches
Fr. Thaddeus Tran

Main Office: Holy Trinity Rectory
Pastoral Assistant: Julie Hollinger
Email: JulieHTC@outlook.com

Office Hours
Tuesday - Friday 9 am - 1 pm

St Thomas More Catholic Church
302 Chestnut St.
Dalzell, IL 61320
Phone 815-663-6201
Email
thomasmore32@gmail.com

Adoration Room at STM
Open Monday - Sunday
Regular Hours
9 am - 6 pm

Rav/Tort Group taking orders now
Orders will be filled starting in Sept.
To place your order, call 815-252-2215.
Leave name, phone number, & your order
Ravs/Tort are \$8.00/bag

St. Patrick Catholic Church
106 Church St.
Arlington, IL 61312
Phone 815-894-2006
Mail: PO Box 159 Cherry IL 61317

Website for the Three Churches
www.bureaucatholic.org
and on Facebook at
"Bureau Catholic Churches"

Facebook for the Three Churches
Use Link on Home Page
www.bureaucatholic.org

Emergency Number for all 3 Churches 779-248-2164



We wish all members of our 3 churches a safe
and enjoyable Labor Day celebration.

Daily Mass Intentions for the Week of September 3, 2023

Monday	9/4			+ No Mass
Tuesday	9/5	9:00 am	STM	+ Sharon Riva
Wednesday	9/6	5:30 pm	HT	+ Michael Bickett
Thursday	9/7	9:00 am	HT	+ June & Alex Wiltse
Friday	9/8	9:00 am	STM	+ Ursula Morrison

Mass Intentions for the weekend of September 9-10, 2023

Saturday	9/9	4:00 pm	St Thomas More	+ John & Mary Micheli
Sunday	9/10	8:30 am	Holy Trinity	+ Rita Hoscheid
		10:30 am	St Patrick	+ Merv & Delores Nauman
		5:00 pm	St Thomas More	+ For The Parishioners

A Reflection On Mary's Nativity

Feast Day: Friday, September 8th

Today's Feast of the Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary is celebrated exactly nine months after the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, just as Christmas is celebrated nine months after the Church remembers the Incarnation of the Son of God on the Solemnity of the Annunciation. The birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary is one of three liturgical feasts in which we celebrate a birth: Christmas, the Birth of Saint John the Baptist, and the Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Only the three most consequential figures in the Bible receive the honor of a liturgical celebration to commemorate their births.



Nothing is known for certain about the birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary or of her upbringing, since the Bible only introduces the Mother of God to us for the first time during the Annunciation. However, an early second-century apocryphal text called the Protoevangelium of James (The Gospel of James), paints a detailed picture of her conception, birth, early years, and betrothal to Saint Joseph. Though the account is not part of the canon of Scripture, it has been a source of reflection throughout the centuries and is the source of the traditional names of the Blessed Mother's parents, Joachim and Anne.

Regardless of whether the apocryphal Gospel of James presents accurate historical truths regarding the conception, birth, and early life of the Blessed Virgin Mary, it is not difficult to prayerfully ponder the importance of her birth and childhood. Saint Andrew of Crete beautifully relates that on this day, the "Creator of the world constructed His temple..." Mary is that temple, that Arc of the New Covenant, the tabernacle and first dwelling place of God Incarnate. Her soul was born pure, spotless, and holy. As she grew, she manifested every virtue perfectly. All who knew her as a child would have been deeply impressed by her sanctity.

As we celebrate the birthday of the Mother of God, spend time pondering her soul. Though much of her earthly life has remained hidden from our eyes, she is the greatest saint to ever live and the holiest daughter of God this world has ever known. In Heaven, we will be in awe of her virtues and will forever rejoice in the great things God did in and through her. Begin that rejoicing today by prayerfully honoring her and pondering her, seeking her prayer for your life and for the whole world. (An Excerpt from CatholicLife.com)

2023-2024 ADA Heads-Up

Next weekend, September 9-10, we will begin our Annual Diocesan Appeal, which is an opportunity to help the Catholic Diocese of Peoria raise necessary funds for many ministries and apostolates that we as a single parish cannot offer. This week, parishioners throughout the Diocese will receive a mailing asking for a pledge to support the Appeal. The mailing will include a pledge card and a return envelope addressed directly to the Diocese. Please prayerfully consider making a pledge over eight months or a one time gift. We will have pledge cards available in the pews next weekend for those who have not received them in mail.

Thank you for your continuing support of our parish, diocese, and the work of the Church throughout the world.



9:45 am - 11:00 am at Cherry Church Hall
Sunday, September 10th - K thru 4th grade & Confirmation class
Sunday, September 17th - 5th thru 8th grade

Please note the Confirmation Class will meet every Sunday.
We are still looking for **volunteers** to be either a **teacher or helper** for our 3 church Religious Education Program. If interested please call Michelle Bickett 815-751-2656 or email holytrinitycherry@gmail.com or contact the church office.

LATEST OFFERING'S

AUG 27TH WEEKEND

HT - \$1,076.00

SP - \$ 815.00

STM - \$1,457.00

PETER PENCE \$25

WITH DEEPEST
Sympathy

Remember in prayer, family & friends of

Judith Guerrini - STM

CONFESSIONS

THE NEXT CONFESSIONS

WILL BE SAT. SEPT 9TH

10:30 - 11:15 AM AT

ST THOMAS MORE

IN THE HALL

Dear Padre,

Are we supposed to pray a specific prayer after we genuflect and kneel in the pew before we take our seats? What about after Communion?

There is no particular prayer to say when we genuflect, enter the pew, and kneel for a while. Genuflecting and kneeling are powerful expressions and prayers in themselves—we kneel only to God. But these gestures can become mere routine unless we accompany them with a moment of awareness and recollection and maybe a prayer like, “I adore you, O Christ, and I bless you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.”

Neither are there required prayers to say in the moments after holy Communion as we return to the pew. But this is a most special time. “Holy souls endeavor to remain as long as possible in prayer after Communion,” wrote St. Alphonsus Liguori in *The Holy Eucharist*. “There is no prayer more agreeable to God, or more profitable to the soul, than that which is made during the thanksgiving after Communion.” Eucharist is from the Greek *eukharistia*, which means “thanksgiving,” and this is a time for giving thanks. We remain silently focused on the astonishing passion and affection of our Lord in giving himself to us to eat and make part of ourselves. So much depends on awareness; so much depends on gratitude. Prayer books may help us enter a time of thanksgiving. But we can also say simply, “Jesus, I love you.” ●



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The Redemptorists / 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*.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
September 4 Weekday	September 5 Weekday	September 6 Weekday	September 7 Weekday	September 8 The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary	September 9 St. Peter Claver, Priest	September 10 Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time
1 Thes 4:13–18 Lk 4:16–30	1 Thes 5:1–6, 9–11 Lk 4:31–37	Col 1:1–8 Lk 4:38–44	Col 1:9–14 Lk 5:1–11	Mt 5:1–4a or Rom 8:28–30 Mt 1:1–16, 18– 23 or 1:18–23	Col 1:21–23 Lk 6:1–5	Ez 33:7–9 Rom 13:8–10 Mt 18:15–20



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Let us make sure that the cross hanging on the wall at home, or that little one that we wear around our neck, is a sign of our wish to be united with Christ in lovingly serving our brothers and sisters, especially the littlest and most fragile. The cross is the holy sign of God's love.

ANGELUS, ROME, AUGUST 30, 2020

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