



They left everything
and followed him.

LUKE 5:11

Unsolicited Calls

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Sometimes life calls us to a place that feels just right, as if it's where we're meant to be. I know a person who has always wanted to be a dad, and so he is—a stay-at-home dad of three, and he loves it. On the other hand, sometimes life's calls unfold in directions beyond our plans and seem to flow from a wisdom greater than our own. Author John Grisham studied to be a lawyer, something that unfolded into his becoming a writer of mysteries and thrillers instead. Calls seem to be written upon our spirits. How else would God call us?

Isaiah, Paul, and Peter found themselves called by God into lives they never wanted, baffled by God's whys and wherefores. Their calls pushed them into lives they initially resisted.

Such calls can happen to us as well. A man finds himself caring for his aged mother after his father's death. His siblings seem unwilling or unable to help, so there is no one else. Grandparents find themselves raising their grandchildren because their son's or daughter's life is frayed beyond repair, and there is no one else to nurture and love the children. The calls of God at times are calls into lives not of our own choosing. They arise from greater needs when there seems to be no one else but us to say "yes." Our reluctance and anxiety may attest that these calls come from God. They then become paths to ever-deepening faith and trust in God. ●

Reflect

***Do you experience God calling you?
What is your answer?***



St. Thomas More
 302 Chestnut Street
 Dalzell IL 61320
 Phone 815-663-6201
 Email: thomasmore32@gmail.com

Adoration Room at STM
 Open Daily from 9 am - 6 pm

Holy Trinity Catholic Church

212 S Main Street
 PO Box 159
 Cherry IL 61317
 Phone 815-894-2006
 Email: HolyTSP@gmail.com



Church Office Info

Pastor: Father Thaddeus Tran
 Pastoral Assistant: Julie Hollinger
 Parish Secretary: Melissa Pasillas Email: Melissahtc@outlook.com
 Office Hours at HT: Tuesday-Friday 9am-1pm
 Website: www.bureaucatholic.org

Emergency Number: 779-248-2164

Confession Info

Confessions: Saturday morning, alternating between STM & HT 10:30 am-11:15 am

Upcoming/Ongoing Church Events

Fundraiser: STM Rav/Tort | call 815-252-2215 (leave name/phone number/order) | \$9.00/bag

CCD Classes

Sunday, February 9th - K thru 5th Grade

Sunday, February 16th - 6th & 7th Grade



Daily Mass Intentions for the Week of February 10, 2025

Monday	2/10			+ No Mass
Tuesday	2/11	9:00 am	STM	+ Phil Maggio
Wednesday	2/12	5:30 pm	HT	+ No Mass
Thursday	2/13	9:00 am	HT	+ Geraldine Sondgeroth
Friday	2/14	9:00 am	STM	+ No Mass - Nursing Home

Mass Intentions for the weekend of February 15 - 16, 2025

Saturday	2/15	4:00 pm	St Thomas More	+ Dominic Orlandi
Sunday	2/16	8:30 am	Holy Trinity	+ For the Parishioners

CELEBRATING WORLD MARRIAGE DAY

World Marriage Day is celebrated every second Sunday in February, coinciding with Valentine's Day.

In today's world, most couples begin a relationship and see where it will go. Once they reach a certain milestone, they will consider marriage. When we, as Catholics, commit to marriage, our love and commitment rise to a new level. When we agree to marry our future husband or wife, we also agree to bring GOD into our lifelong commitment to each other, because we enter into a covenant with GOD.

A covenant is a relationship of commitment with GOD and HIS people. As couples prepare for marriage, they choose scripture that will be used during their wedding ceremony. Most couples will choose scripture from 1 Corinthians 12:31-13:8a, because of the beautiful words, "Love is patient, love is kind... It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails."

These are beautiful words. They are powerful words. They really help us to understand that love as a universal understanding does not describe an emotion. Love is an action. Love, as an emotional description is simple, too simple. We can love people, pets, food, etc., if we talk about how those things make us feel. But if we truly want to discuss love, especially for a husband or wife, we must talk about action as in the scriptures aforementioned. Bearing, believing, hoping and enduring are ways that we act or react to our husband or wife.

Marriage is such a beautiful experience. Whether we experience the joys of marriage or the challenges of marriage, the beauty of our married lives is that every day, we have the opportunity to love one another more than we did yesterday. Why? Because "Love never fails". Each and every act of love that we experience gives us the opportunity to fall deeper in love as a married couple. What better example do we have of love than GOD? After all, GOD is LOVE... (excerpted from www.occatholic.com "Deacon Tony Mercado")

Church Announcements

Diocesan 150th Anniversary at the Cathedral

There will be no 5:30 evening Mass next Wednesday, February 12th. Father Thaddeus will be joining the bishop and other diocesan priests for the celebration of the 150th Anniversary Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral.

TEC- Teens Encounter Christ

For more information please visit peterstowntec.com or by contacting Jim Hoscheid 815-228-2525

Next event: TEC #230 (Boys) March 1-3, 2025

Latest Offering's:

February 2nd Weekend

STM - \$ 982.00

HT - \$1,879.00

Cemetery \$250

SP - \$ 245.00

The history of the holiday

St. Valentine's Day is a religious holiday. Do you know, who was St. Valentine? One of the legend says, he was a Christian priest, who had been thrown in prison for his teaching. On February, 14 Valentine was beheaded, not only because he performed a miracle- he cured the jailer's daughter from her blindness the night before he was executed- but he wrote a letter to the girl signing it «From your Valentine».



Confessions:

Sat. February 15th
10:30 am - 11:15 am
St. Thomas More
in the hall

Dear Padre,

Who was St. Valentine? Do our Valentine's Day traditions of love and romance have anything to do with the actual St. Valentine?

There were actually three St. Valentines. One was a priest who was beheaded in Rome on February 14 in the year 269. Another was a bishop, who was also martyred in the third century. Both are buried on the Appian Way in Rome. The third St. Valentine is a lesser-known saint who died in Africa with a number of companions during the early centuries of the Church. The tomb of this St. Valentine became a center of popular devotion in the early Middle Ages. In 496, Pope Gelasius set aside February 14 to honor this particular St. Valentine.

The popular romantic customs that surround our present Valentine's Day trace their origins back to the Middle Ages. The English writer Geoffrey Chaucer noted that halfway through the second month of the year, February 14, the birds begin to choose their mates. For this reason, the day was looked upon as specially consecrated to lovers and as a proper occasion for writing love letters and sending lovers' tokens. People who gave or received these tokens or letters were referred to as "valentines." In the Middle Ages, a legend also developed that St. Valentine the priest left a farewell note for his jailer's daughter, who had become his friend, and that he signed that note "From Your Valentine." ●



SOEON SPACE / SHUTTERSTOCK

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
February 10 <i>St. Scholastica, Virgin</i> Gn 1:1-19 Mk 6:53-56	February 11 <i>Weekday</i> Gn 1:20-2:4a Mk 7:1-13	February 12 <i>Weekday</i> Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17 Mk 7:14-23	February 13 <i>Weekday</i> Gn 2:18-25 Mk 7:24-30	February 14 <i>Sts. Cyril, Monk and Methodius, Bishop</i> Gn 3:1-8 Mk 7:31-37	February 15 <i>Weekday</i> Gn 3:9-24 Mk 8:1-10	February 16 <i>Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> Jer 17:5-8 1 Cor 15:12, 16-20 Lk 6:17, 20-26



ANTOINETTE Y. MOKARY / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

With Jesus, we sail the sea of life without fear...without giving up and saying, "there is nothing more that can be done."

Always...there is something beautiful and courageous that can be done, always. We can always start over.... So let us accept the invitation: let us...put out to sea with Jesus!

ANGELUS, ROME, FEBRUARY 6, 2022