



JESUS
SUMMONED
THE TWELVE
AND BEGAN TO
SEND THEM
OUT.

Today's readings are about being chosen and sent. The prophet Amos was chosen by the Lord and sent to use his talents for the people of God. The Gospel recounts the story of the sending of the twelve. In the second reading, St. Paul reminds us that we, too, are chosen. **For what have I been chosen? To whom have I been sent?**

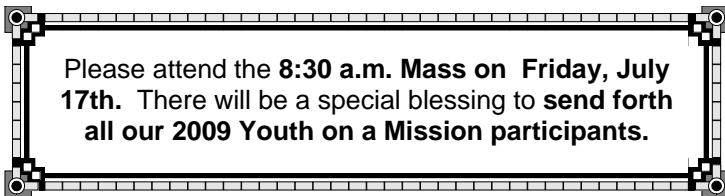


*LORD, Let Us See Your
Kindness And Grant Us
Your Salvation.*

Readings for the Week of July 12, 2009

- Sunday** **Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Am 7:12-15; Ps 85; Eph 1:3-14 or 1:3-10;
Mk 6:7-13
- Monday** **Saint Henry**
Ex 1:8-14, 22; Ps 124; Mt 10:34—11:1
- Tuesday** **Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha, virgin**
Ex 2:1-15a; Ps 69; Mt 11:20-24
- Wednesday** **Saint Bonaventure, bishop, doctor**
Ex 3:1-6, 9-12; Ps 103; Mt 11:25-27
- Thursday** **Our Lady of Mount Carmel**
Ex 3:13-20; Ps 105; Mt 11:28-30
- Friday** **Saint Camillus de Lellis, priest**
Ex 11:10—12:14; Ps 116; Mt 12:1-8
- Saturday** **Saint Camillus de Lellis, priest**
Ex 12:37-42; Ps 136; Mt 12:14-21
- Sunday** **Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Jer 23:1-6; Ps 23; Eph 2:13-18; Mk 6:30-34

Daily readings: <http://www.usccb.org/nab/index.htm>



Choosing Life

"This is the ultimate meaning of the Cross: not to seek life for oneself, but to give one's own life. ..."I command you this day, by loving the Lord your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his ordinances, then you shall live" (Dt 30: 16). At first sight we may not like this, but it is the way: the option for life and the option for God are identical. The Lord says so in St. John's Gospel: "This is eternal life, that they know you" (Jn 17: 3).

"Human life is a relationship. It is only in a relationship, and not closed in on ourselves, that we can have life. And the fundamental relationship is the relationship with the Creator, or else other relations are fragile. Hence, it is essential to choose God. A world empty of God, a world that has forgotten God, loses life and relapses into a culture of death. Choosing life, taking the option for life, therefore, means first and foremost choosing the option of a relationship with God." – **Pope Benedict XVI, March 2006.**



Mass
Intentions
Of The Week

JULY 14 THROUGH JULY 19

- TUESDAY** **5:30 P.M.** Pres Obama & VP Biden
Sherry Aaron
- WEDNESDAY** **8:30 A.M.** †Alfred & Joe Dale Psencik
- THURSDAY** **5:30 P.M.** †Ofelia Beltran
- FRIDAY** **8:30 A.M.** †Irene Dirba
- SATURDAY** **5:30 P.M.** †Tony Jaris
- SUNDAY** **8:00 A.M.** †Albert & Rosa Romano
†Joe & Lena Mandola
- 9:30 A.M.** Pres Obama & VP Biden
- 11:00 A.M.** †Sherman & Lillian Green

Names submitted for the prayer list will remain in the bulletin for one month. **Please call the parish office to submit a name to be listed in the bulletin** or to request a name be listed for an additional period of time.



Sherry Aaron, Kenneth Blanchard, Cathy & John Buettner, Kellie Chaney, Tom Elder, Arthur Haas, Gene Kanski, Judy Pacella, Tiffany Lynn Sanchez, and Tommy Tomlinson.

Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha
Feast day: July 14

Patron of the environment and ecology
b. 1656 d. April 17, 1680

Kateri was born near the town of Auriesville, New York, in the year 1656, the daughter of a Mohawk warrior. She was four years old



when her mother died of smallpox. The disease also attacked Kateri and transfigured her face. She was adopted by her two aunts and an uncle. Kateri became converted as a teenager. She was baptized at the age of twenty and incurred the great hostility of her tribe. Although she had to suffer greatly for her faith, she remained firm in it. Kateri went to the new Christian colony of Indians in Canada. Here she lived a life dedicated to prayer, penitential practices, and care for the sick and aged. Every morning, even in bitterest winter, she stood before the chapel door until it opened at four and remained there until after the last Mass. She was devoted to the Eucharist and to Jesus Crucified. She

died on April 17, 1680 at the age of twenty-four. She is known as the "Lily of the Mohawks". Devotion to Kateri is responsible for establishing Native American ministries in Catholic Churches all over the United States and Canada. Kateri was declared venerable by the Catholic Church in 1943 and she was Beatified in 1980. Work is currently underway to have her Canonized by the Church. Hundreds of thousands have visited shrines to Kateri erected at both St. Francis Xavier and Caughnawaga and at her birth place at Auriesville, New York. Pilgrimages at these sites continue today. Blessed Kateri Teckakwitha is the first Native American to be declared a Blessed. **Her feast day is July 14.** She is the patroness of the environment and ecology as is St. Francis of Assisi. Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin, has not yet been canonized.



Senior Friends BINGO will be held on **Tuesday, July 14th at 10:00 a.m. in the F-Wing.** Come join us! Bring a **Covered Dish** to share and **Bring a Friend!** There is no charge to play, and there are Prizes!



The Adult Faith Formation Team presents:

Summer at The Movies.

What do Moses, miracles, and mountains have to do with our Savior, salvation, and the sacraments? Find out in

MOSES

Signs, Sacraments, and Salvation

Come follow the footprints of God as we join the adventure of Steve Ray.

He will take us on an incredible journey of discovery through Egypt, Jordan, and Israel.

When: July 12, 2009

Where: Wolters Room

When: after 11:00 am Mass

Light lunch will be served.

Nursery will be provided for children under 3 years old.

Please sign up after all Masses in the Family Life Center.



- ◆ **The Gabriel Project** ® is a Parish-based crisis pregnancy intervention within the Catholic Church. We are in need of someone to take over this very important ministry. For more information, please contact the Parish Office, 297-3041.
- ◆ **The Men's CRHP Team 18 is looking for a few good men.** If you have participated in a Christ Renews His Parish weekend, but couldn't immediately serve on team, but you have the time and commitment now...or if you have served on team and feel you need a spiritual boost that the team experience provides, please call David Konvicka 297-0051.
- ◆ Crystal Crafters are set up at the Dream Center on 288B to **re-cycle eye glasses for people in our community who are in need.** The people are screened and get help. It is such a joy to be able to restore someone's sight! Will you help by **bringing your used, but no longer needed glasses to St. Michael's?** There is a box in the Family Life Center hallway for collection.



Wedding Anniversary Jubilee Mass

The **2009 Wedding Anniversary Jubilee Mass** honoring couples celebrating **Golden (50th)** and **Silver (25th) Anniversaries of marriage in the Catholic Church in 1959 or 1984** will be held on **Sunday, September 20th**

at **3:00 p.m. at the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart.** **Daniel Cardinal DiNardo** will be the preside. Whether or not a couple attends the ceremony, they are eligible to receive a special certificate signed by the Cardinal. **A couple wishing to participate is asked to contact Lynne** at the Parish Office at 297-3041 (lynne@smlj.org) and register their names, address, daytime phone number, wedding date and the name and location of the Catholic Church where they were married. **Deadline for registering is August 14th.** Those registered receive a letter from the Archdiocese with information about the Mass and an RSVP.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Black Bag Collection will be held **July 18th - 19th.**

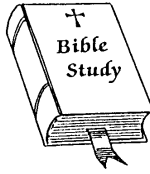


The Home Visit is the heart of the SVDP ministry. **Our Vincentians visit with those who are poor and needy in their homes.** It

is there, in the family setting, that Vincen-tians listen, offer humble advice, and render assistance. They collaborate with other people of goodwill in relieving need and addressing its causes, because in them, the members see the face of Christ. We invite you to show your love for our Lord by helping your neighbor who is hungry, hopeless, and alone. **Our Food Pantry is almost BARE** and the requests for food, as well as for assistance with utilities and rent, are VERY high at this time. **Next weekend your donation to the Annual Black Bag Collection goes directly to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul to help those in need.** You can also bring any **non-perishable food supplies** to the baskets located in the hall of the Family Life Center. **Thank you in advance for your generosity.**

DEEPER BIBLE STUDY

"Deeper" is a bible study for HS youth, including prayer and Praise & Worship time, lead by our Youth Ministry Coordinator, Mike Marshall.



DEEPER meets every **Wednesday night** from **6:30 p.m. — 9:00 p.m.** in the **A-Wing**. All High School students are encouraged to attend. Bring a friend!

St Michael's 2009 Youth on a Mission

Our Youth & Adults will be on Mission in San Juan, Texas from July 18th - 25th. Pray for the success of our Mission trip and for the safety of our Missionaries!

MISSIONARIES: Don't miss our **send-off Mass on Friday, July 17th at 8:30AM** fol-



lowed by a very brief **logistics mtg.** (where you will receive your mission shirts). Later, come at **11:00AM for pizza and dodge ball at All-Star Pizza in Clute**. Be very afraid - Mike is awesome at dodge ball.

A PRAYER FOR OUR PRIESTS

We thank you, God our Father, for those who have responded to your call to priestly ministry. Accept this prayer we offer on their behalf: Fill your priests with the sure knowledge of your love. Open their hearts to the power and consolation of the Holy Spirit. Lead them to new depths of union with your Son. Increase in them profound faith in the Sacraments they celebrate as they nourish, strengthen and heal us.

Lord Jesus Christ, grant that these, your priests, may inspire us to strive for holiness by the power of their example, as men of prayer who ponder your word and follow your will.

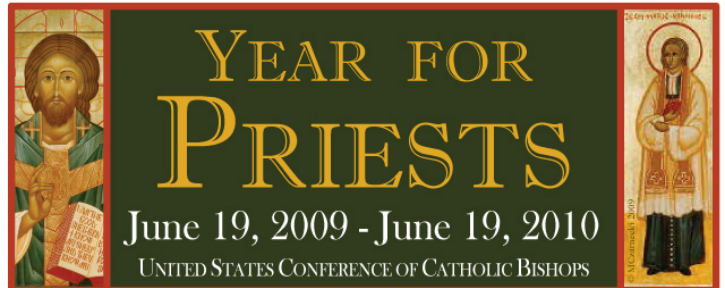
O Mary, Mother of Christ and our mother, guard with your maternal care these chosen ones, so dear to the Heart of your Son. Intercede for our priests that, offering the Sacrifice of your Son, they may be conformed more each day to the image of your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

St. John Vianney, universal patron of priests, pray for us and our priests.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
In Solidarity With Our Priests**

The Year for Priests • June 19, 2009 – June 19, 2010

Pope Benedict XVI has declared a "Year for Priests" beginning with the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus on June 19, 2009. The year will conclude in Rome with an international gathering of priests with the Holy Father on June 19, 2010.



**EXCERPT FROM
LETTER OF HIS HOLINESS POPE BENEDICT XVI
PROCLAIMING A YEAR FOR PRIESTS
ON THE 150th ANNIVERSARY OF THE "DIES NATALIS"
OF THE CURÉ OF ARS**

Dear Brother Priests,

On the forthcoming Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Friday 19 June 2009 – a day traditionally devoted to prayer for the sanctification of the clergy –, I have decided to inaugurate a **"Year for Priests"** in celebration of the 150th anniversary of the "dies natalis" of John Mary Vianney, the patron saint of parish priests worldwide. This Year, meant to deepen the commitment of all priests to interior renewal for the sake of a stronger and more incisive witness to the Gospel in today's world, will conclude on the same Solemnity in 2010. "The priesthood is the love of the heart of Jesus", the saintly Curé of Ars would often say. This touching expression makes us reflect, first of all, with heartfelt gratitude on the immense gift which priests represent, not only for the Church, but also for humanity itself. I think of all those priests who quietly present Christ's words and actions each day to the faithful and to the whole world, striving to be one with the Lord in their thoughts and their will, their sentiments and their style of life. How can I not pay tribute to their apostolic labours, their tireless and hidden service, their universal charity? And how can I not praise the courageous fidelity of so many priests who, even amid difficulties and incomprehension, remain faithful to their vocation as "friends of Christ", whom he has called by name, chosen and sent?.....*continues*.....

The entire text of the letter written by Pope Benedict XVI can be found at: http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/letters/2009/documents/hf_ben-xvi_let_20090616_anno-sacerdotale_en.html

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Amos 7:12-15

God-given Words

“Get out of here!” No one likes to hear those harsh words. Wherever we go, we like the assurance that the place where we have arrived is hospitable. Sometimes we trespass. Sometimes we say offensive words. Sometimes we perform an action that separates us from the community. If we upset the host, we may hear those awful words, “Get out of here!” That was the command that Amaziah the priest of Bethel leveled against the prophet Amos. Amos came from Tekoa of Judah in the southern part of the kingdom. At God’s command he traveled to Bethel in the north to prophesy. He warned the people of God’s judgment against them. The local priest didn’t like hearing the message Amos brought. So Amaziah gave Amos a blunt and derisive retort: “Go home. Get out of Bethel. Go back to Judah. Prophesy there. Leave us alone.” There was one problem. Prophesying in Bethel wasn’t Amos’s idea in the first place. It was God’s idea. God sent Amos from Judah to Bethel to bring divine judgment on the people.

Sometimes when people tell us to leave them alone, they are wrong. If God has given us words to speak, we stay and deliver them.

Ephesians 1:3-14

Blessings without Measure

Those born into a loving family receive blessings without measure. They are given a name and a nationality. They receive food and drink. They are kept clean and free from danger. They receive a language, a faith, a culture, customs, and education. The gifts a family bestows cannot be numbered or adequately acknowledged. As children of God, we have received blessings as well. The Letter to the Ephesians says we were adopted by God through Jesus Christ. We receive forgiveness. And we receive knowledge of the mystery of God’s will. This incredible package of gifts is ours due to the goodness of God. We are used to paying what something is worth, and receiving a wage for our work. But once in a while, some merchant does you a favor. You get a rebate. You buy one and get one free. A debt is relaxed. And it feels like the mercy of God has fallen into your lap. God has given us the greatest gifts freely. Such generosity inspires us to give freely as well. We share our income with those less fortunate—not because they did something for us, but because we want to be kind.

We give up our time to help the church or community—not because we cannot pay for a service, but because commitment requires muscles, brains, and patience as well. God has blessed us, and we can share our blessings with the world.

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