



**Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
August 2, 2020**

All you who are thirsty, come to the water!

— Isaiah 55:1a

**OUR DEEPEST NEEDS**

The word of God serves up a tremendous feast for us today. Isaiah beckons all who hunger and thirst to come to the Lord for satisfaction. The psalmist cries out, "The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs" (Psalm 145:16). Saint Paul tells us that nothing can separate us from the love of God. Finally, in the Gospel, we hear the story of the miraculous feeding of over five thousand people from a mere five loaves and two fish. Most of us have our material needs met on a day-to-day basis. These scriptures, nevertheless, have much to say to the contemporary believer. We must ask ourselves, "Where are my deepest hungers? Where are my thirsts?" After material needs are satisfied and, in some cases, over-satisfied, many people still experience a deep longing for spiritual balance and well-being. As the loaves and fish are multiplied in today's Gospel, perhaps our prayer can be a longing for the satisfaction of the deepest needs that only God can fill.

--J. S. Paluch Co.

**SAINT JOHN MARY VIANNEY (1786-1859)  
August 4**

A busy pastor jokingly suggests the secret of John Vianney's holiness: "He died seventeen years before telephones!" Call they didn't, but visit they did, keeping Vianney eighteen hours a day in the confessional. Stories abound of reading hearts and exorcisms, but Vianney's first miracle was getting ordained. Difficulty with studies delayed him, prompting the rector's apology to the bishop, "So far to ordain just one, especially *this* one!" The bishop, who could not know he was ordaining the future patron saint of parish priests, replied, "No burden to ordain one good priest!" In Ars, only an elderly handful attended Mass, "praying," one told Vianney, "for a priest with brains." But he stayed forty-two years, fulfilling the promise he made the day he arrived. In a sculpture just outside the village Vianney points skyward: "Show me the way to Ars," he tells a boy, "and I'll show you the way to heaven." To someone who feared there was no heaven beyond the grave, Vianney smiled, "My child, it would have been heaven enough to have lived as Jesus' disciple on earth."

--Peter Scagnelli, ©J. S. Paluch Co.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Monday: Jer 28:1-17; Ps 119:29, 43, 79, 80, 95, 102; Mt 14:22-36  
 Tuesday: Jer 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22; Ps 102:16-21, 29,22-23; Mt 14:22-36  
 Wednesday: Jer 31:1-7; Jer 31:10-12ab, 13; Mt 15:21-28  
 Thursday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9; 2 Pt 1:16-19; Mt 17:1-9  
 Friday: Na 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7; Dt 32:35cd-36ab, 39abcd, 41; Mt 16:24-28  
 Saturday: Hb 1:12- 2:4; Ps 9:8-13; Mt 17:14-20  
 Sunday: 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a; Ps 85:9-14; Rom 9:1-5; Mt 14:22-33

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

Sunday: Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
 Tuesday: St. John Vianney  
 Wednesday: Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major  
 Thursday: The Transfiguration of the Lord  
 Friday: St. Sixtus II and Companions; St. Cajetan; First Friday  
 Saturday: St. Dominic

**PRAYER AND HUMILITY**

Arm yourself with prayer rather than a sword;  
 wear humility rather than fine clothes. —St. Dominic

**Finance Corner: Your generosity is greatly needed and appreciated!**



For the month of **July/August** offerings:

PLEASE mail to St. Philip/St. Teresa Parish, P. O. Box 339, Occidental CA 95465. Or donate at our website [www.stphilipstteresa.org](http://www.stphilipstteresa.org) via Paypal or card. Include your offering envelope # with your donation.

**July 26: 1<sup>st</sup> Collections: \$1512. Rural Food: \$2651.**

**[July month totals : Rural Food: \$4458. Cap. Exp.: \$750.]**

Upcoming: 8/2: Peter Pence. 8/9: Capital Expenditures.

**Mark your Calendar for Future Events & Meetings:**

- Parish Council [PC]:** TBA Zoom
- Finance Council [FC]:** TBA Zoom
- Liturgy Committee:** TBA Zoom
- St. Teresa Ladies Guild:** Contact Diane, 823-6044
- St. Philip Ladies Guild:** Contact Penny, 559-367-7403
- Every Friday, Centering Prayer:** cancelled for now
- Coffee & Goodies:** cancelled for now
- Mondays & Wednesdays-Seniors Lunch at 12noon:** cancelled for now

**✠ ♥ ✠ Mass Intentions ✠ ♥ ✠ Schedule**

All Mass Intentions requested before Covid-19 mid-March closure are now being rescheduled for Sunday outdoor Masses. New requests will be appended to later in the 2021 calendar.

- 8/02 Sun. 8am Mass ✠ Emily & Joe Palmer
- 8/02 Sun. 9:30am Mass ✠ Brendan Smith
- 8/09 Sun. 8am Mass ✠ Ron Schultz
- 8/09 Sun. 9:30am Mass ✠ Bob Tiller

**Prayer Requests: Leave a message at 707-408-2650.** Teresa K., Pat K., Thomas T., Susan B., Lorri McC., Sarah, Clifford J., Terri A., Fred P., Theresa S., Sara, Mary Anne P., Barbara, Dave C., Jim P., William, Parson P., Dave, Mary O., Bill Z., Daniel, Sally T., Mary K., Michael D., Richard M., Kathleen, Peter, Rosa S., Susan B., Joyce D., Anita C., George H., Mimi H, Steve, Barry, Lorrin K., Hugh P., Robert S., Britney N., Jacque W., Rebecca A., April K., Jacinta G., Leo A., Ed C. family, Kathy R., Donna W., Jim K., Sherry S., Papke family., Gail F., Marie N., Christine, James, Pat P.

"Reflections on the Liturgy" Each week Patrick Griffith writes one or more reflections on Scripture, including the Liturgy for the coming Sunday. The objectives are to tie Scripture into our daily lives and address spiritual and moral issues of the world around us. The reflections can be found at <http://thesoulprosper.blogspot.com>. Selected reflections are also recorded and posted on the Parish website.

saint snippets
August 8

**St. Mary MacKillop**  
20th-century Australian nun who founded a religious order that focuses on educating the rural poor. In 2010, she became the first Australian to be canonized.

Trust in God who helps you in all things.

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## RURAL FOOD PROGRAM UPDATE: JULY 2020

Over seventy recipient families were very appreciative of the fresh produce, dairy products, proteins and other much needed food which filled their vehicles as they made their way through our drive through distribution. We continue to maintain our use of social distancing, hand sanitizer, gloves and masks as indicated.

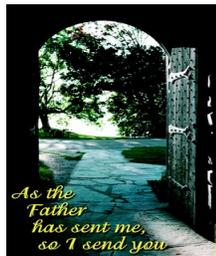
As we welcomed them we began discussing how we can meet the needs as schedules and weather conditions change. We will continue providing handmade, cloth masks for adults and especially school age children.

Again this year we are collecting blankets for our families. Gently used blankets can be dropped off in the hall after St Philip Sunday masses or leave a message at 707-408-2650 to arrange pick up. If you prefer, send a donation to the parish office for purchase of new blankets for our families. This program is funded through the Rural Food Collection each month, private donations, and awesome volunteers. **Thank you for your donations of time, talent, and treasure as we strive to meet the nutritional needs of all attendees at our food distributions.**

**RURAL FOOD VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES in Parish Hall:**  
**Saturday, August 8, 9-10:00 am: repackaging**  
**Monday, August 10, 10:00 – 12:00pm: set up**  
**Tuesday, August 11, 8:30 – 11:00am: distribution of food to clients.**

## Special Announcement....

We are happy to announce that some of our children received First Communion and some received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday, August 1, 2020. Please keep those children and families in your prayers. Our great appreciation to the CCD staff, volunteers, and parents for their inspiring collaboration!



<http://www.mariansisters.com/request-a-prayer.html>

## Saints in early August calendar

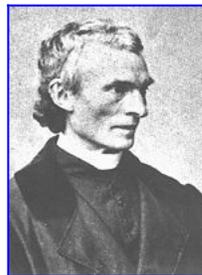


August 1

**Alphonsus Liguori** (1696–1787), sometimes called **Alphonsus Maria de Liguori** or **Saint Alphonsus Liguori**, was an Italian **Catholic bishop**, spiritual writer, composer, musician, artist, poet, lawyer, **scholastic philosopher**, and theologian.

He founded the **Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer**, known as the Redemptorists, in November 1732. In 1762 he was appointed **Bishop of Sant'Agata dei Goti**. A prolific writer, he published nine editions of his **Moral Theology** in his lifetime, in addition to other devotional and ascetic works and letters. Among his best known works are **The Glories of Mary** and **The Way of the Cross**, the latter still used in parishes during Lenten devotions.

**Patronage:** confessors, moralists, theologians, vocations



August 2

**Peter Julian Eymard** (**French:** *Pierre-Julien Eymard*, [*pjɛʁ.ʒy.ljɛ̃ ej.mɑʁ*]; 4 February 1811 – 1 August 1868) was a French **Catholic priest** and founder of two **religious institutes**: the **Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament** for men and the **Servants of the Blessed Sacrament** for women. Eymard entered the novitiate of the

**Oblates of Mary Immaculate** in June 1829. His first attempt as a seminarian ended because of serious illness. Throughout his life, Eymard suffered from poor health, particularly 'weakness of the lungs' and migraine headaches.

**Attributes:** **Eucharist, Monstrance, Eucharistic Adoration, Eucharistic Congress, Cope, Humeral Veil, Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament, Servants of the Blessed Sacrament, Real Presence**



August 3

**Nicodemus** (/ˈnɪkəˈdiːməs/; **Greek:** Νικόδημος, **translit.** *Nikódēmos*) was a **Pharisee** and a member of the **Sanhedrin** mentioned in three places in the **Gospel of John**:

- He first visits Jesus one night to discuss Jesus' teachings (**John 3:1–21**).
- The second time Nicodemus is mentioned, he reminds his colleagues in the Sanhedrin that the **law** requires that a person be heard before being judged (**John 7:50–51**).
- Finally, Nicodemus appears after the **Crucifixion** of Jesus to provide the customary embalming spices, and assists **Joseph of Arimathea** in preparing the body of Jesus for **burial** (**John 19:39–42**).

**Attributes:** **Pharisee**  
**Patronage:** **Curiosity**

THIRST

You have put salt in our mouths that  
we may thirst for you.  
—St. Augustine

## Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net thrown into the sea . . .

The closest I ever came to ocean fishing was a long time ago. I was home on vacation from the seminary and my baptismal godfather – who liked to fish – took me with him to one of the inlets near Atlantic City, New Jersey. Inlets were lagoon-like bodies of ocean water that crept through openings in the frontage beaches of the Jersey coast. You rented a motored row boat, bought some minnows for bait and went out about a mile to anchor and cast your lines – and then sat there all day in the sun and quiet, ate lunch, occasionally hooking a sea bass or even a flounder to take home. We caught six sea bass that day and almost a flounder, a large one that yanked my godfather around – but then broke loose.

Upon arriving back in West Philadelphia that evening my godfather tried to impress his wife with the size of the flounder that escaped. He asked me to confirm the event. But I creased my brow and said, *A large flounder? Pulled you around? I don't recall that. We just spent the day – nothing unusual.* And his wife displayed a wry smile to her husband and said: *Yeah, like all those other fish stories you tell.*

So this Sunday we have, among other parables, a fishing parable – one that the lectionary would allow us to skip since it plays upon our fears – the fisher's catch pulling up good fish and bad – alerting us not to suffer the fate of the bad. But we are lucky to have another version of this fishing parable. It's to be found in the Gospel of Thomas, discovered in 1945 – a collection of sayings of Jesus traceable to the 100's AD. It goes: *The Man is like a wise fisherman who cast his net into the sea; he drew it up from the sea full of small fish; among them he found a large (and) good fish, . . . he threw all the small fish down into the sea; he chose the large fish, without regret.* In this age of modern media offering opinions, ideologies of every kind, books being published by anyone who has anything to say, “publish or perish” being the requirement of so many in academic life . . . and how much of it saying the same things in different dialects! So many little fish to distract us from the Gospels about the big Fish, Jesus – whom the early church summed up in the Greek phrase: *īēsous Christos, Theou Yios, Sōtēr* [Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior] the

first letters of which become *Ichthus*, the word for fish – so that Jesus became symbolized



as a very big fish that swims deep and can introduce you to the deeper regions of your mind – the deeper meaning of your existence and destiny.

--Geoff Wood, 8/2/2020



### 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Gospel [reflection by Fr. Thomas Hoisington](#)

What do you think is the meaning of Jesus feeding a crowd of more than five thousand people with only a few loaves of bread and a couple of fish? Was Jesus simply showing his power to work a miracle: demonstrating his power over material things? Of course that was a part of it, but this miracle of feeding the five thousand has far more to tell us about Christ than just this.

Being compassionate, Jesus was certainly concerned with the physical well-being of the people who had come to hear Him preach. Just how deep Christ's compassion was is made obvious when we consider again something the first verse of this passage tells us: Jesus is told about the hunger of the crowds right after he had heard of the death of John the Baptizer, and had withdrawn by boat to a deserted place by Himself. If we were to take time to imagine this, we could very clearly see just how human Christ was, responding in grief and perhaps anger at the murder of His own cousin. He withdrew from others to be by Himself. Yet even at this point in His life, the needs of others pressed upon Him. His response was that of God Himself: He turned to help those in need.

We could look at this compassion of Jesus and see in it an example for ourselves. As Christians, we are called to walk in the footsteps of Christ and imitate Him. We are especially to imitate the sort of self-sacrifice that He shows in this passage, the sort of self-sacrifice that came to full expression in His death on the Cross.

But this passage is not so much about our need to imitate Christ. We all have our limits. Very likely, if we learned of the murder of a close relative, we'd be of little help to others. None of us can expect to match the depth of Christ's self-sacrifice.

But again, that's not the chief point of this passage. In this event in Christ's life we don't see an example for us in the response of Jesus as much as we do in the response of the crowds themselves. The crowds seek out Jesus, because they know that they are in need. But what kind of need do they really have?

Being compassionate, Jesus was certainly concerned with the physical well-being of the people who had come to hear Him preach. But He knew the people in the crowds better than they knew themselves....

[Continue reading at this link:](#)