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July 12, 2026

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

ST. JAMES CATHOLIC CHURCH



(Photo courtesy of Jeremy Boyer)

Mass Schedule July 2026

Monday: 8am @
St Joachim

Tuesday: 8:15am @
St. James

Wednesday: 8:15am @
St. Joachim

Thursday: 8am @
St. James

Friday: 8am @
St. Joachim

Saturday 4pm
(1st & 3rd weekend @
St. James; 2nd & 4th
weekend @
St. Joachim)

Sunday: 8am @
St. Joachim
10am @ St. James

• Email:

stjameschurch@centurylink.net

• Phone: 573-438-4686

201 N Missouri St. Potosi, MO
63664

www.stjames-potosi.org

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, July 13:
@ St. Joachim:
Austin Rogers

Tuesday, July 14:
Joan Knott

Wednesday, July 15: @
St. Joachim:
Kevin Thebeau

Thursday, July 16:
Charles Gibson

Friday, July 17:
@ St. Joachim:
Tracy Coleman

Saturday July 18:
4pm: Snead/Coffey
Families

Sunday July 19:
8am: Robert Ross @
St. Joachim
10am: Parish Family

Mass Intentions are \$10.
Please call the office or
drop by to schedule them.

CONFESSIONS

Saturday 3:15-3:45pm
Prior to Saturday
evening Mass or by
appointment



St. James Staff



Rev. Anthony Dattilo- Pastor
AnthonyDattilo@archstl.org
Phone: 573-854-0291 (St. Joachim Rectory)

Rev. Vince Nyman-Associate Pastor
Phone: 314-614-0718

Angie Mitchell
Office Manager (Part-time)
parish353@archstl.org

Vicki Thurmond
Parish Secretary (Full time)/
OCIA Coordinator
573-854-1257
stjameschurch@centurylink.net

Judy East: Custodian

Tommy Roy: On Call Maintenance

St. James PSR
Dr. Melissa Cordia
Co-Coordinator
Laura Allen
Co-Coordinator
Jamie Thompson
Co-Coordinator

July 19th : Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Lector:
Saturday 4pm: Mary Campbell
Sunday 10am: Danny Mueller

Eucharistic Ministers:

Saturday 4pm Sunday 10am
C: Vikkie Neier Nikki Warden
L: Judy East Jamie Warden
R: Paul Villmer David Woodland

Servers
Saturday 4pm: Madison Battreal
Sunday 10am: Meadow Henson

Music:
Sat: 4:00pm. Chala Short
Sun. 8:00am Rebecca Richards
Sun: 10:00am Anita Govero or The Little Way Band

Daily Mass Lectors

Tuesday July 14: Joyce Politte
Thursday July 16: Rhonda Politte
Tuesday July 21: Catherine Dickey
Thursday July 23: Judy Wright
Tuesday July 28: Mary Campbell
Thursday July 30: Vicki Thurmond

**If you cannot be available for your scheduled day, please notify the parish office. Thank you!

Heavenly Dusters

Bobbie Heifner 7/17
Need Volunteer 7/24
Laura Allen 7/31
Nancy Davis 8/7

Altar Linens

Glenda Whitten 7/13
Bobbie Heifner 7/20
Diane McGirl 7/27
Glenda Whitten 8/3/26

Money Counters

Jeanne & Rhonda 7/14
Pat & Tina 7/21
Mary Ann & Donna 7/28
Becky & Rhonda 8/4

Thank You !!

Weekly Collection 07/05/26

Envelopes:	3105.00
Loose:	493.00
Online Giving	420.00
Maintenance:	345.00
St. Vincent de Paul:	289.00
Votives:	64.00
Church in Africa	50.00
Cemetery Upkeep	125.00

Total Giving: \$4891.00
of Contributors: 50
Thank you for your generosity!



FIFTEENTH
SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY
TIME

July 12, 2026

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“For my yoke is easy, and my burden light.” - MATTHEW 11:30

When we think of being good stewards, we may think that God is asking too much of us when He calls us to generously share our time, talent and treasure. However, we must remember that we are not “owners” of anything, we are merely “stewards” of the gifts God has given us. All He is asking is that we give back a small portion, in gratitude, of what He has already given to us.

Reflection on Matthew 13:1-23

The Parable of the Sower

The heart of this Gospel is simple and searching:
God is always sowing His Word, but the fruit depends on the soil of our hearts. Jesus isn’t just describing four types of people—He is inviting each of us to examine the places in our own heart where the seed thrives, and where it struggles.

1. God is a generous sower
Jesus begins with an almost extravagant image: a sower who scatters seed everywhere—on the path, on rocky ground, among thorns, and on good soil. This is not careless farming. It is **God’s generosity**. He does not wait for perfect conditions. He does not sow only where success seems likely. He offers His Word to every heart, every day, in every circumstance. This means: **No part of your life is too messy, too hardened, or too tangled for God to try again.**

2. The hardened path — when the heart is closed
Some seed falls on the path and is quickly taken away. This is the part of us that has grown **hard**—through disappointment, sin, fear, or simply routine. The Word cannot penetrate because we do not let it. The invitation: Ask Christ to soften what has become rigid—old wounds, old habits, old defenses. Grace begins where the heart cracks open.

3. The rocky ground — when faith is shallow
Here the seed springs up quickly but has no root. This is the part of us that responds to God with enthusiasm but not endurance. We love the idea of holiness, but when discipleship costs something, we wither. The invitation: Let the Word sink deeper through prayer, silence, and perseverance. Roots grow slowly, but they grow strong.

4. The thorns — when the heart is crowded
The thorns represent “the cares of the world and the lure of riches.” Not evil things—just **distracting things**. Good soil becomes unfruitful when too many other loves compete for first place. The invitation: Simplify. Choose what matters. Let Christ reorder your priorities so your heart can breathe again.

5. The good soil — when the heart is receptive
Good soil is not perfect soil. It is soil that is **willing**—willing to listen, willing to be changed, willing to let God work slowly and deeply. The promise: When the heart is open, the Word bears fruit far beyond what we imagine—thirty, sixty, a hundredfold. God does not measure by our standards. He multiplies what we surrender.

6. The deeper message: God wants fruit, not just hearing
Jesus ends with a challenge: “*Whoever has ears ought to hear.*” Hearing is not enough. The Word must be received, cherished, and lived. The true disciple is not the one who listens well, but the one who **lets the Word transform their life.**



Magnifica Humanitas

Pope Leo XIV issued his first encyclical, Magnifica Humanitas on May 25, 2026. Over the next few weeks, we will be sharing the 10 most powerful quotes from this encyclical courtesy of Ascension Press.

"7. Today, among the goods that are universally intended for everyone, we must also include new forms of property, such as patents, algorithms, digital platforms, technological infrastructure and data (Magnifica Humanitas, 67).

Pope Leo XIV teaches that in our modern world, the “goods of the earth” that God intends for everyone now also include the digital realities that shape daily life-- things like data, algorithms, patents, and the technological systems behind communication and work. From a Catholic perspective, this builds on the idea that God created the world for the good of all, not just a few. That principle now extends into the digital age. These technologies are powerful and influential, so they carry moral responsibility. They should be ordered toward the common good, respect human dignity, and help people flourish--rather than become tools of exclusion, control, or profit without concern for others."

**direct quote from the following article:
https://ascensionpress.com/blogs/articles/10-most-powerful-quotes-from-pope-leo-xiv-s-first-encyclical-magnifica-humanitas?srsltid=AfmBOoow5KlXT1kz8-Sj2-mHTgFx8QImAk1_TW_-2quCsNefOt63GC4C

<https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/encyclicals/documents/20260515-magnifica-humanitas.html>

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!

We are in need of Lectors, Altar Servers and Eucharistic Ministers, especially for the 4pm and 8am Masses. If you can help or have questions, please contact Father Tony or the parish office for more details.





[Jesus said,] “For my yoke is
easy, and my burden light.”

MATTHEW 11:30



Take Up the Yoke

ANN M. GARRIDO

The invention of the yoke 6,000 years ago marked one of the great advances in human history. The yoke—a wooden beam fitted across the neck—harnessed the energy of two cattle pulling in the same direction, hastening the tilling of soil and transport of goods.

It is easy to see why, among many ancient peoples, the yoke became a symbol of subjugation. When the Roman army won a battle, they forced defeated soldiers to walk beneath a “yoke” of spears to indicate they were now in a state of servitude. The prophet Jeremiah once walked through Jerusalem wearing a yoke to warn the people they were about to be conquered by Babylon.

In Judaism, however, the Torah was also sometimes referred to as a yoke. It was a law to be submitted to, but it also was a way of life that offered an alternative to the cruel “yokes” imposed by kings. The Book of Sirach encourages youth to “Take [Torah’s] yoke upon your neck; that your mind may receive her teaching.... See for yourselves! I have labored only a little but have found much” (Sirach 51:26–27).

It is unclear exactly what Jesus meant when he invited us to accept *his* yoke, but it is likely that he was echoing the invitation of Sirach. He wanted us to know that following God’s law makes it possible for us to work together, accomplishing much that we could not do on our own. And that God’s law is a gentle law—one that enables rather than oppresses. Are you willing to receive Christ’s gentle teaching and make it your own? ●

Reflect

Is there a teaching of Jesus you find challenging?

THE COUNCIL'S CORNER

****Our next meeting is August 11 @ 5:30pm.**

Mark Your Calendars! Our next Fifth Sunday brunch will be on August 30th after the 8am Mass. Please join us for some great food and fellowship! The Ladies Sodality will be honoring the Ladies who are retiring after their many years of selfless service to our parish. We are so grateful for all their work and help throughout the years. Come celebrate them with us!

*“Following St. James, we strive to lead our parish with humility,
strengthen our community, and walk together toward Christ.”*

***IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, CONCERNS OR ISSUES,**

Ladies Sodality

Our next meeting is **Aug. 4**. The hall pantry & cleaning day is rescheduled for **Aug. 10**. At our Fifth Sunday Brunch after the 8am Mass on August 30th, we will be honoring our Ladies who are retiring after many years of invaluable service to our parish. We thank them for all they have done for our church community!

Bobbie Heifner, President

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

We were able to serve 163 families (406 total individuals) with 112 of them who were 65 & older this month through the generosity of our parishioners & other generous donors. We thank all those who donate their time, talent & treasure to help our community. We especially thank those who help us pack and distribute on our pantry distribution day.

*"Lord, help me to make time today to serve you in those who are most in
need of encouragement or assistance."*

St. Vincent de Paul

***St. Vincent de Paul collection:
Canned meat, canned chili w/meat,
Boxed Cereal, powdered milk, breakfast items***

July 12, 2026

Keeping Neighbors Cool This Summer

Summer can be dangerous for seniors, people with disabilities, and families without reliable air conditioning. Extreme heat is more than uncomfortable—it can be life-threatening.

Each year, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul helps vulnerable neighbors stay safe through utility assistance, fans, air conditioners, and other emergency support.

As temperatures rise, please remember those who may be suffering in silence. A simple act of kindness, a phone call, or a donation can help protect someone from the dangers of extreme heat. Together, we can be the hands and feet of Christ for our neighbors. Learn more about the Society of St. Vincent de Paul at:



Parish Calendar

July 13: St. Vincent de Paul Meeting 6pm

July 14: Knights of Columbus Meeting 6:30pm

July 18: Food Pantry Distribution Day
10am Mass at the Cathedral Basilica for the
Bicentennial Jubilee

July 20-July 25: Father Tony is on vacation

July 23-OCIA Biblical Walk Through The mass
6:30pm at St. Joachim

July 25-26: Coop Speaker Weekend; Special
Collection

*“If you do not know your own dignity and
condition, you cannot value anything at its
proper worth.”*

*– Saint Bonaventure, **Holiness of Life***

**Interested in Becoming Catholic or Learning
more about the Catholic Faith? (OCIA: Order
of Christian Initiation of Adults)**

*OCIA will offer *Biblical Walk Through the
Mass* with Dr. Edward Sri in the Incarnate Word
Center on Thursday evenings at 6:30 p.m. during
the summer for our OCIA class and anyone else
that wants to attend. Mark the dates on your
calendar: July 23 and August 6.
Everyone is invited to participate.

*Formal OCIA classes will resume August 20.
If interested in becoming Catholic, are missing
the Sacrament of Confirmation or in learning
more about the Catholic faith, call St. Joachim or
St. James rectories or Vicki Thurmond (573-854-
1257).



Calvary Cemetery Update:

We are in the middle of grass cutting season. We would like to remind you of the policies regarding decorations, etc.

*No more than two decorations per grave. The cemetery reserves the right to remove & discard any excess decorations.

*No planting of flowers or shrubs, **NO SHEPHERD HOOKS**, no votive lights, solar lights, benches, decorative stepping stones or regular stepping stones, glass vases, eternal flames, balloons, whirling pinwheels/wind catchers, beer or soda cans or any other unsightly grave decorations are permitted nor are they appropriate.

*The cemetery is not responsible for theft or damage under any circumstances whatsoever.

*After internment, flowers will remain for two weekends after burial before removal.

*NO PETS ARE ALLOWED IN THE CEMETERY

*Flowers and all grave decorations will be removed periodically by cemetery personnel as follows: **ON THE SECOND WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH EXCEPT DECEMBER AND JANUARY.**

MONDAY
July 13
Weekday
Is 1:10-17
Mt 10:34-11:1

TUESDAY
July 14
St. Kateri
Tekakwitha, Virgin
Is 7:1-9
Mt 11:20-24

WEDNESDAY
July 15
St. Bonaventure,
Bishop and Doctor
of the Church
Is 10:5-7, 13b-16
Mt 11:25-27

THURSDAY
July 16
Weekday
Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19
Mt 11:28-30

FRIDAY
July 17
Weekday
Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8
Mt 12:1-8

SATURDAY
July 18
Weekday
Mi 2:1-5
Mt 12:14-21

SUNDAY
July 19
Sixteenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
Wis 12:13, 16-19
Rom 8:26-27
Mt 13:24-3 or
13:24-30

Dear Padre

July 12, 2026

I look at what’s going on in our world today, and I start to lose faith. How can I keep my faith strong in a time that seems faithless?

Evil isn’t a new phenomenon. The Book of Judges, for example, presents a faithless time that may rival what’s happening in our world today. Judges’ twenty-one chapters are so full of vandalism and war, murder and assassination, fratricide and suicide, that it makes a grim statement on the worst of humanity. Judges reminds us of humanity’s need for salvation. In A Catholic Guide to the Bible, author Oscar Lukefahr writes, “Left to itself, humanity degenerates into a frightful caricature of what we ought to be. We see such lessons repeated in recent history.... In the Book of Judges, we see our need for God.” It’s easy to lose faith when our focus is on how bad the world is rather than on how we can do our part to make it holy. Pope St. John Paul II wrote in Crossing the Threshold of Hope, “Awareness of our own sinfulness, including that which is inherited, is the first condition for salvation; the next is the confession of this sin before God, who desires only to receive this confession so that he can save man. To save means to embrace and lift up with redemptive love, with love that is always greater than any sin.” Don’t lose Christian hope! While Christ already triumphed over sin and death, the reality of evil remains until God’s kingdom is fully realized on earth as it is in heaven. (See 1 John 5:18-20.) ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR / DearPadre.org

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Sunday MATRIMONY MOMENTS Week #2- Sowing Seeds of Love and Understanding

Sunday Scripture: “As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth... so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty.” (Isaiah 55:10-11, adapted)

Couple Prayer: Heavenly Father, let Your Word fall like gentle rain on our marriage. Help us sow seeds of kindness, patience, and encouragement daily so that our love may grow fruitful and bring joy to You and to each other. Amen.

Marriage Motivation Tip: Intentionally “water” your spouse’s strengths and dreams with words of affirmation and attentive listening. Consistent small acts of love yield abundant intimacy and shared joy over time.

Couple Conversation Question: What “seeds” (habits, words, or gestures) have helped our marriage grow the most? What new seed of love would you like us to plant together this week?

Find more ways to strengthen and energize your marriage at ArchSTL.org/Jubilant-Marriages



This Week on Formed

St. Kateri Tekakwitha | God's Princesses

Follow along with Sister Imelda as she tells of the inspiring journey of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, a young Mohawk girl who comes to know the Gospel with the help of pioneering priests. Choosing to follow Jesus, Kateri is faced with great challenges as she does her best to bring God's love to her own people! A fun and inspiring example of not giving up!

St. Bonaventure | Catholic Saints

A Franciscan cardinal-bishop and contemporary of St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Bonaventure is an excellent example of saintly humility. Known as the "Seraphic Doctor," St. Bonaventure loved God above all else. Join Dr. Chris Mooney and Mary McGeehan as they explore the life of this great saint.

What Catholics Believe About Mary: Immaculate Conception, Virginity & the Rosary

Join Dr. Edward Sri as he answers some of the internet's most asked questions about Mary. Who is Mary? Why do Catholics pray to Mary? How could she be a virgin if Jesus had brothers and sisters according to the Bible? Find out answers to these and more questions in this episode of What Catholics Believe.

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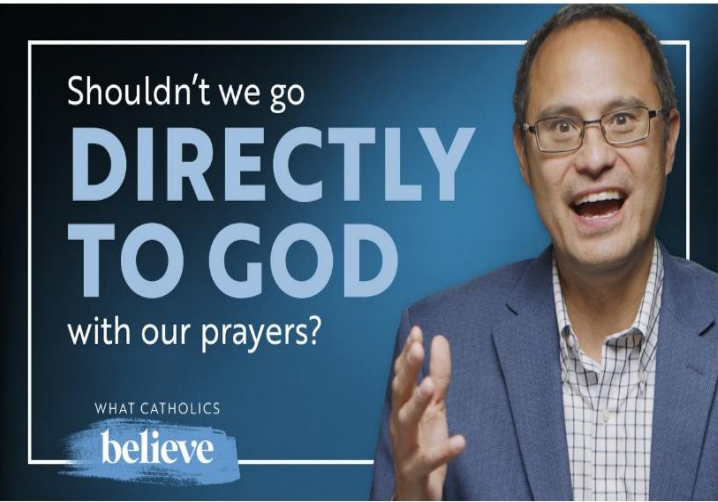
We now accept Apple Pay



July 12th

“I greet you with affection, dear parents and children!... To adopt a child is a great *work of love*. When it is done, much is given, but much is also received. It is a true exchange of gifts....you have put yourselves with Christ on the side of children. May the Lord fill you with every consolation and sustain you in the difficulties of your journey.”

Pope John Paul II, Address to the Meeting of Adoptive Families, September 5, 2000
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What Catholics Believe About Mary: Immaculate Conception, Virginity

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