

**LITURGIES FOR THE SEVENTEENTH
WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME AND
THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD**

July 31 – August 6, 2023

Monday, 7/31 † Saint Ignatius of Loyola, Priest
6pm: Olivia

**Tuesday, 8/1 † Saint Alphonsus Liguori,
Bishop & Doctor of the Church**
8am: Finley
9am: A.S. Deceased Members of The Ladies Sodality

**Wednesday, 8/2 † Weekday, Saint Eusebius of
Vercelli, Bishop; Saint Peter Julian
Eymard, Priest**
9am: A.S.
6pm: Milo

Thursday, 8/3 † Weekday
8am: Colette
9am:

First Friday, 8/4 † Saint John Vianney, Priest
8am: Ryan
9am: A.S. Intention of Barbara Kearney by Jan
Duttlinger

**First Saturday, 8/5 † Weekday, The Dedication
of the Basilica of Saint Mary Major; BVM**
8:30am: Barker & Spence Families

**Saturday, 8/5 † Vigil, The Transfiguration of the
Lord**
4:30pm: – Bernice Kida by Donna Kida
6pm: A. S. Peggy Daly by the Potempa Family

**Sunday, 8/6 † The Transfiguration of the
Lord**
7:30am: Damond Quick by Don & Sharon Barker
9am: A. S.
11:00am: Marrienne Soplanda by Family

This week at SS. C & M & All Saints

Tues., Aug. 1 – 1-5pm – Bring in items for rummage
Sale, Parlor

Wed., Aug 2 – 1-5pm – Bring in items for rummage
Sale, Parlor

Thurs., Aug. 3 – 8am-5pm – Rummage Sale, Parlor

Thurs. Aug. 3 – 2:15pm – Legion of Mary

Thurs. Aug. 3 – 4pm – Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Fri., Aug. 4 – 8am – 4pm – Rummage Sale, Parlor

Sat., Aug. 5 – 8am – 3pm – Rummage Sale, Parlor

Religious Education Registration

Sign-up for Religious Education begins after the masses the weekends of July 22nd, 29th, and August 5th.

Cost per child is \$30 for the first child, \$20 for the second child and no charge for additional children.

The first day of class is Sunday, August 13th.
Class time will be 9:30 to 10:45am.

Rummage Sale

The Stewardship Committee at SS. Cyril & Methodius will have their rummage sale in the church parlor on Thursday, Aug. 3rd - 8am – 5pm, Friday Aug. 4th - 8am – 5pm & Saturday, August 5th – 8am – 3pm.

You may bring in items:

Tues., Aug. 1 – 1-5pm

Wed., Aug. 2 - 8am – 3pm

CSA Update

We got off to a great start but we have stalled a bit. We are nearly \$2,000 short in pledges from our assigned goal of \$ 12,681. As you know, the parish is responsible for any shortfall, so it's important that we all pitch in. If you haven't sent in your pledge, you may do so by using one of the envelopes in the back of the church or online www.dcgary.org/csa. Remember, you don't have to send in the total amount all at once and have until the end of the year to meet your pledge. Thank you to those who have so generously donated already. Many hands make light work!

In the Gospel, we find that the demand of daily Christian living is to spend our life primarily searching for the kingdom of God.

This month through your gifts to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to assist families, providing food, for utility and rent bills, etc. Thank You!

Dear Padre

July 30, 2023

What is spiritual Communion?

Saint Thomas Aquinas said spiritual Communion is "an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament"... and to lovingly embrace "Him as if we had actually received Him." It is the practice of desiring union with Christ in the Eucharist by those who cannot receive holy Communion for valid cause, such as an infirmity or an irregular marriage. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Pope Francis also said the practice is "highly recommended when it is not possible to receive the sacrament."

A prayer by St. Alphonsus Liguori is ideal for those unable to receive holy Communion:

My Jesus,

I believe that you are present in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul.

Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace you as if you were already there and I unite myself wholly to you.

Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

Saint John Paul II wrote, "It is good to cultivate in our hearts a constant desire for the sacrament of the Eucharist. This was the origin of the practice of 'spiritual Communion,' which has happily been established in the Church for centuries and recommended by saints....Saint Teresa of Jesus wrote: 'When you do not receive Communion and you do not attend Mass, you can make a spiritual Communion, which is a most beneficial practice; by it the love of God will be greatly impressed on you'" (*Ecclesia de Eucharistia*, 34). ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

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"We know that all things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose."- Romans 8:28

Do you really trust God? Do you really believe that God will provide all that you need? Faith is a challenge for everyone at times. Putting our trust in God, in everything we do, in good times and in bad, means that God's plan for our lives may be quite different than what we planned. When one door closes, another one opens. Trust in God, His plan is always better.

Good News!

July 30, 2023

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

1 Kings 3:5, 7-12 / Romans 8:28-30 /

Matthew 13:44-52 or 13:44-46

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Much like still-fishing, which is when the fish ultimately find the one sitting quietly waiting for the fish, most of the really treasured aspects of life somehow find us when we're not looking. Consider falling in love or discovering a friend; the job you enjoy so much that you'd almost do it for free; a hobby that gives you so much satisfaction; creative gifts you never knew you had until you stumbled upon them later in life. To say nothing of happiness for which so many go looking and never seem to find, while others are happy without ever seeking it out.

Wisdom, the gift Solomon asked for, is much like all of that. It seems to find us. Common sense, the stepchild of wisdom, is something most parents want their children to have, and, for some parents, it may be a source of great frustration as they try to make sure their children have it and use it. Wisdom is certainly a hint of the kingdom of heaven, but then so too is finding love and experiencing joy and living with a peace that refuses to be unsettled by the storms of life. All of those are the buried treasures of which the Gospel speaks, just as for others it is the pearl of great price for which they look and look until it finds them, not unlike still-fishing. All are buried treasures, hidden pearls, and tastes of eternal life. ●

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We Must Always Tell the Truth About God's Creation

Love demands that we never cooperate in a lie that seriously distorts human nature.

There is a national discussion about swimmer William "Lia" Thomas, a so-called transgender female (i.e., a man who claims to be a woman). Thomas has been competing against some of the best female swimmers in the world, defeating them by large margins and transforming the very nature of their sport. Something seems unfair.

But the real problem is not unfairness. The real problem is that calling a man a woman is a lie.

Let's be clear: People with true "gender dysphoria" deserve our love and sympathy. But they also deserve the truth and an approach that helps them accept what nature, and nature's God, has actually made them. In this rests their truest fulfillment and happiness. Lasting happiness is never found by lying or rejecting what God has set forth.

Yes, the real problem lies deeper, with people who should know better (especially Catholics), and who participate in this lie and spread its harm by being fearfully silent at best and cheerfully enthusiastic at worst. And those who cooperate in the lie, either out of fear or ideology, are participating in a serious distortion of human nature. Lying is a moral evil because it perpetuates what is erroneous and untrue. Lies do not bring happiness — they distort reality, create cynicism, destroy trust and stifle communication. They poison human interactions.

Lying is a very serious matter. Consider what the Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches on the nature of truth and the serious consequences of lying:

"[People] are obliged to honor and bear witness to the truth. They are also bound to adhere to the truth once they come to know it and direct their whole lives in accordance with the demands of truth" (2467).

"A *lie* consists in speaking a falsehood with the intention of deceiving. The Lord denounces lying as the work of the devil: 'You are of your father the devil ... there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks according to his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies'" (2482; see also John 8:44). "Since it violates the virtue of truthfulness, a lie does real violence to another. It affects his ability to know, which is a condition of every judgment and decision. It contains the seed of discord and all consequent evils. Lying is destructive of society; it undermines trust among men and tears apart the fabric of social relationships" (2486).

Exactly, and very well put. And we can see the harm that constant lying has done to our culture.

What institution garners trust any longer? So many institutions, groups and experts have broken trust. It is sadly reasonable to assume we are being lied to. The Church has also betrayed the trust of the faithful in many ways: sexual abuse cover-ups; unchecked liturgical abuses so rampant that the very validity of sacraments received has come into question; the widespread tolerance of both laity and clergy who spread errors and mislead the faithful.

Yes, lies are very destructive to human relationships and attack the very fabric of culture and nation. The warning of the Catechism is confirmed: Lying "contains the seed of discord and all consequent evils. Lying is destructive of reputations and society; it undermines trust ... and tears apart the fabric of social relationships."

The idea that a man can be a woman is also a lie because it contradicts Holy Scripture, the source of truth for all true believers. There are not multiple genders — there are only two sexes. As Genesis (1:27-28) says, "Then God said, 'Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.' So God created man in his own image; in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them."

Catholics know that Holy Scripture is no mere opinion. It is the truth. Therefore, whatever contradicts or seeks to undermine its teaching is not merely a different opinion — it is flat-out false and erroneous. And this is no mere cultural matter that was later distinguished or qualified in Scripture, such as kosher food norms — this is a clear and unchanging declaration about the very nature of the human person as created by the hand of God. Scripture warns us of the pride in rejecting what God has set forth (Isaiah 45:9-12):

“Woe to him who quarrels with his maker. Can the clay say to the potter, ‘What are you making?’ Woe to him who says to his father, ‘What have you begotten?’ ... Thus says the Lord, the Holy One of Israel, and its maker: ‘How dare you question me ... or instruct me in the work of my hands? It is I who made the earth and created man upon it. It was my hands that stretched out the heavens, and I set forth all its stars.’”

Yes, we are all sinners, and in so many ways we are prone to “quarrel with our maker,” which is what people are doing when they say, “Why did you make me thus? You should have made me different than I am. I will correct your error by declaring myself to be another sex than you made me. I will recreate myself in my own desired image.”

Unbelievers may not know explicitly that they are saying this, but Catholics and others who believe in God have no excuse and must be clear that we have no right to lie or reinvent reality or human nature. To do so is to disobey God, and to indulge in a lie contrary to God’s revealed truth. We must actively resist those who promote this lie and pressure others, through intimidation, to join in the lie or be silent about its terrible error.

Some have tried to avoid the concern that we are lying by speaking of “biological males” and “biological females.” But it still is a lie since there is no male other than a biological male and no female other than a biological female. Maleness or femaleness is etched into our very bodies in the clearest possible way. And even if some engage in voluntary genital mutilation and wreck their bodies with the wrong hormones, the maleness and femaleness go to the deepest possible levels. A man cannot be a woman; a woman cannot be a man. It just isn’t possible or real.

Most egregious in this terrible lie are those who mislead children and draw them into decisions, dangerous hormonal “therapies” and even surgeries that are sure to end in disaster. It is predictable that lawsuits will emerge in the near future when these children as young adults wake up to the awful reality of trying to be someone they are not. They will ask fundamental questions: “Why did you let me do this? I was just a kid. Why didn’t you stop me?” Parents, doctors and teachers who have promoted this lie will have a lot to answer for.

No one can take a glass of arsenic, call it “wine” and simply expect reality to obey. With every sip one will grow sicker and sicker. Calling a thing something it is not is dangerous and harmful. Saying a man is a woman does not make it so.

And note, this is no mere debate over nomenclature such as whether we call a beverage “soda pop” or “soft drink.” This is a lie about the very reality of human nature and the human person — about foundational issues such as sexuality, marriage and family. These are the truths at the very root of what makes for a civilization, a culture and a nation. Get human nature and sexuality wrong and everything else soon crumbles.

Resist this and call it what it is — a harmful lie. Msgr. Charles Pope April 2, 2022

ALL SAINTS & SS. CYRIL & METHODIUS



Annual Parish Picnic

SS. Cyril & Methodius & All Saints will be having our Annual Parish Picnic on **Saturday, August 19, 2023** at the North Judson town park beginning with Mass at 4:00 pm. (this will replace both the 4:30pm Mass at SS. Cyril & Methodius & 6:00pm Mass at All Saints).

There will be horseshoes, basketball, volleyball available (please bring your equipment), & the infamous water balloon toss. There will also be bingo & fun activities & games for children of all ages with prizes.

Please bring table settings for your family and a covered dish according to the first letter of your last name as follows. Also, it might be a good idea to bring lawn chairs and mosquito spray.

A - G: Salads

H - M: Desserts

N - R: Vegetables

S - Z: Casseroles

(sheet cake provided)

Chicken, Hotdogs, Brats & Drinks will be provided

