

**LITURGIES FOR THE FIFTEENTH
WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME AND
THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

July 17 - 23, 2023

Monday, 7/17 † Weekday

6pm: Caroline Spence

Tuesday, 7/18 † Saint Benedict, Abbot

8am: Patti Griesback by Don & Sharon Barker

9am: A.S.

**Wednesday, 7/19 † Weekday, Saint Camillus,
de Lellis, Priest**

9am:

6pm: Anne Bennis by Father Terry

**Thursday, 7/20 † Weekday, Saint Apollinaris,
Bishop & Martyr**

8am: Scott

9am:

**Friday, 7/21 † Saint Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest
& Doctor of the Church, Blessed Francis
Jordan, Priest & Religious Founder**

8am: Liz

9am: Sr. Mary John Stern (26th Anniversary) by Jan
Duttlinger

Saturday, 7/22 † Saint Mary Magdalene

8:30am: Mary K. Powell (Birthday) by Joan Sickler

**Saturday, 7/22 † Vigil, Sixteenth Sunday in
Ordinary Time**

4:30pm: – Venture Pacilio by Wife, Marilyn

6pm: A. S. Joseph Wojdula by Family

**Sunday, 7/23 † Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary
Time**

7:30am: Ella

9am: A. S. Sonny (Birthday) by Great Grandma

11:00am: Parishioners

This week at SS. C & M & All Saints

Thurs. July 20– 2:15pm – Legion of Mary

Thurs. July 20 – 4pm – Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Sat., July 22 – 7pm – All Saints Finance/Pastoral
Council Mtng.

Religious Education Registration

Sign-up for Religious Education begins after the masses the weekends of July 22rd, 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!

Saint Vincent de Paul would sincerely like to thank all those who supported the Pork Chop dinner this past Sunday. We would like to thank those who worked the Dinner, especially all of the young people and family members of the Vincentians, who became our strength, backs & legs. God Bless You!! Please come back next year!!

Dear Padre

July 16, 2023

I have a friend who has been coming to church with me, and he often has questions I can't answer. The big one last week was, "Why don't Catholics have more Bible preaching instead of all this ceremony?" I try to explain, but I don't think I have the right words. Help!

Your friend's question is very common because our Catholic ceremony can be confusing to those of other faiths.

The Catholic Mass comes from two prayer traditions. First, there is the tradition of the Jewish synagogue service where people gather to read and study the word of God. Second, there is the tradition of the early Christians who met in their homes to celebrate the breaking of the bread.

The earliest Christians, Jewish converts, maintained their Sabbath tradition of reading and studying the word of God. They added to that the gift of the Eucharist that Jesus gave them. Our Mass puts these two together in the Liturgy of the Word (readings, preaching, prayers) and the Liturgy of the Eucharist (offering, eucharistic prayer, holy Communion).

The homily may not be as long as it is in some other Christian traditions, but the preaching should be solid, based on Scripture, and in line with the teaching of the Church. We are a Church of word and sacrament. We listen to the word of God and we celebrate the breaking of the bread. ●

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

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"The seed sown among thorns is the one who hears the word but then the cares of the world and the lure of riches choke the word and it bears no fruit." - Matthew 13:22

Does the lure of riches and material goods choke God out of your life? Are you so caught up in earthly activities that you have no time for God? Gratitude and generosity are virtues that we should strive to do on a daily basis. Every decision we make either takes us one step closer to God or one step further away. What we receive at Mass every Sunday should be shared with others all the other days of the week as well.

Good News!

July 16, 2023

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Isaiah 55:10-11 / Romans 8:18-23 /

Matthew 13:1-23 or 13:1-9

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Our lives seem to be plagued by an abundance of words, all seeking to influence us. Television ads try to convince us to buy; teachers seek to pass on knowledge; parents cajole, discipline, and beg; society warns against drinking and driving, smoking and drugs; preachers hope to convert and change. They all do so with limited and varying success, and at times seeming failure. Too often there is the presumption that more words will achieve greater results.

In the face of such questionable success, the prophet Isaiah proclaims that God's word "shall not return to me empty, / but shall do what pleases me, / achieving the end for which I sent it" (Isaiah 55:11). Yet the Gospel also suggests that the seed of God's word sown in our lives may wither and be choked off and fail to take root, though also promising that what does produce fruit will surpass anything hoped for.

Because war is news and the media is obliged to report on it, it may appear that war is prominent worldwide. Not so. Statistically there is less war today than ever before, less violence, less conflict. We are more likely to die in our beds than at any other time in history. While there is yet much hunger in the world, there is less than at any other time. Nations are more inclined to try to negotiate peace. Great generosity abounds amid natural disasters, and while injustice prevails, we still fight to overcome it. All of it the fruitfulness of God's word.

Creation is groaning in labor pains, says St. Paul, and we also groan. Yet the groaning attests to the pains of growing fruitfulness. ●

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Study shows women who abort their first child face increased risk of mental health issues

(LifeSiteNews) July 11, 2023— A recently published peer-reviewed study shows that women who end their first pregnancy through abortion use mental health services at significantly higher rates than women who had a live birth.

The women who gave birth to their first children actually used mental health services at a higher rate prior to their pregnancy than those whose first child was killed through abortion, suggesting that the abortion itself increases mental health issues.

A team of Charlotte Lozier Institute experts uncovered the findings by analyzing Medicaid claims data for over 4,800 women over a 17-year period in states where all claims for the period were submitted.

“By doing so, the team avoided the limitations of surveys that rely on self-reporting, such as low participation, loss to follow-up, and recall bias,” Charlotte Lozier Institute noted.

The researchers found that compared to women who gave birth to their first child, women who had their first child killed in abortion increased their use of mental health services in three categories:

Outpatient visits – 3.4x more likely to increase.

Inpatient hospital admissions – 5.7x more likely to increase.

Days of hospital stay – 19.6x more likely to increase.

Tessa Longbons, Lozier’s senior research associate and a co-author of the study, concluded, “The evidence is clear that abortion of a first pregnancy is associated with substantial mental health harms to women. Women have a right to know this and to understand the extent of these harms before they make such a life-changing decision.”

Lead author James Studnicki, Sc.D., CLI’s vice president and director of data analytics, pointed out that the team’s findings corroborate studies from Finland, Italy, China, Germany, Korea and the United States which have all linked abortion with a heightened risk of worsened mental health issues, including anxiety, depression, and suicide.

“Some researchers insist that any limits on abortion to protect mothers and children create ‘mental health harms,’” said Studnicki in a statement for CLI. “Our study using years of claims data adds to an extensive body of international, peer-reviewed science showing the opposite – abortion itself has a significant negative impact on several measures of mental health.”

The Institute’s Unwanted Abortion Studies has found that the majority of women who have had abortions describe their abortions as unwanted, coerced or inconsistent with their own values, which CLI noted is in turn “strongly associated with a self-described decline in mental health.”

One survey of 226 women with a history of abortion found that 33 percent identified their abortion as wanted, 43 percent as “accepted but inconsistent with their values and preferences,” and 24 percent as unwanted or coerced.

LifeSiteNews has frequently reported on findings that abortion is associated with negative mental health outcomes.

One study published in the British Journal of Psychiatry found that women who underwent an abortion experienced an 81 percent increased risk of mental health problems.

The research revealed that abortion was associated with a 34 percent increased risk for anxiety disorders; 37 percent greater risk of depression; 110 percent greater risk of alcohol abuse; and 220 percent greater risk of marijuana use/abuse.

Abortion was also linked with a 155 percent greater risk of attempting to commit suicide.

New study suggests abortion linked to depression, anxiety in mothers

June 14, 2019 ([LifeSiteNews](#)) — After more than three years of research, a team of behavioral neuroscientists at Franciscan University of Steubenville has released the findings of a study that suggests what many in the pro-life movement have suspected for years: There are significant negative biological and behavioral consequences caused by abortion.

The study, “Biological, Behavioral, and Physiological Consequences of Drug-Induced Pregnancy Termination at First-Trimester Human Equivalent in an Animal Model,” examined the effect of the commonly used pregnancy termination-inducing drugs, mifepristone and misoprostol, in rats in a controlled environment. Published in *Frontiers in Neuroscience*, the study found significant and adverse behavioral changes in the pregnant rats given the abortion-inducing drugs compared to the rats who did not receive the drugs or rats that received the drugs, but were not pregnant.

Among the biological, physiological, and behavioral changes exhibited by the rats in the abortion group were a loss of appetite, decreased exploratory movement, decreased self-care, and changes in vaginal impedance — a factor that appears to relate to fecundity, or the ability to reproduce — that were not present in the pregnant rats that carried their pregnancies to term. The findings suggest behaviors consistent with a wealth of scientific literature documenting the effects of moderate to severe stress on animal models, which scientists have long used due to the similarities in brain mechanisms between rats and humans.

“This is breaking new ground,” says Dr. Stephen Sammut, the professor of psychology at Franciscan University who led the research. “In the animal model, we observed depression-like behaviors, and we saw anxiety-like behaviors. The biochemistry indicated potentially long-term effects.”

According to Sammut, who is also conducting an extended research project assessing the potential viability of ectopic pregnancy transfers, the findings suggest that social pressure or stigmas — long suggested as cause of depression and anxiety in women who have had abortions — do not adequately explain the potential adverse effects caused by abortion-inducing drugs.

“There is something more than social pressure on a person who feels depressed after an abortion,” Sammut said. “There are potential physiological consequences that have not been investigated.”

The potential for abortion-related consequences on mental health has been the source of considerable debate in the scientific literature for the past 20 years, with little clear resolution. Experts say the lack of consensus, however, may be tied to institutional bias against studies that might implicate the abortion industry — a charge that is especially frightening given that the abortion-inducing drugs have not been subjected to the same rigorous scientific inquiry applied by Sammut and his team.

“Medical abortion researchers focused on how fast the drug could kill the baby and how much effort it would take on the part of the abortionists to handle complications,” said Donna Harrison, executive director of the American Association of Pro-life OB-GYNs. “This study (the first not performed by the abortion industry) raises serious concerns about mental health effects of drug-induced abortions and the differences between spontaneous and induced abortion. Such studies should have been performed long before drug-induced abortion was allowed on the market.”

Now that Sammut and his team have established a correlation between pregnant rats given abortion-inducing drugs and depression and anxiety-like behaviors, they hope to more closely examine the potential underlying mechanisms in the brains of the rats. Additionally, Sammut hopes to investigate, in detail, the potential for reversing the effects of the abortion-inducing drugs, guided by the same rigor, objectivity, and the pursuit of truth that have characterized his research at Franciscan University.

“If you have a desire to seek the truth through science, science will show you the truth,” Sammut says. “What Franciscan University has enabled is the capacity for this research to take place.”

For more information about the research that Dr. Sammut is conducting at Franciscan University, and to read his publications, visit franciscan.edu/faculty/sammut-stephen/.

Fulton Sheen's Warning About Counterfeit Catholicism

Locked, as he was, in the post war struggle with communism, Fulton Sheen's prophecies about the end time are somewhat dated, but his underlying vision is strong and sobering.

In his Communism and the Conscience of the West he discusses the Antichrist:

The Antichrist will not be so called; otherwise he would have no followers. He will not wear red tights, nor vomit sulphur, nor carry a trident nor wave an arrowed tail as Mephistopheles in Faust. This masquerade has helped the Devil convince men that he does not exist. When no man recognizes him, the more power he exercises.

We must always remember that Satan comes as an angel of light. What he presents is always eminently reasonable. He offers the seemingly sensible way, the soft way, the way of compromise and ease. If he showed himself as the monster he is all would run howling in terror. Instead he offers a way out when we are in a jam, an alternative when the way of Christ seems difficult.

Nowhere in Sacred Scripture do we find warrant for the popular myth of the Devil as a buffoon who is dressed like the first "red." Rather is he described as an angel fallen from heaven, as "the Prince of this world," whose business it is to tell us that there is no other world.

When watching for the anti Christ we should be careful not to become too obsessed with one particular historical or contemporary figure. To be sure, there will be an anti Christ one day who seeks to take over the world and there will be his prophet who is a religious leader who seeks to deceive people with a fake system of spirituality.

However, we should also remember that down through history there have always been anti Christs and false prophets. Furthermore, there have also been systems of thought that have been anti-Christs and systems of religion that are the false prophet.

At heart the Anti Christ is the ruler of this world. The false prophet teaches a religion that is only of this world.

All the world's systems and false religions combine to convince us of this fact. Here are some of the anti Christ systems of thought prevalent in our culture today:

Materialism: there is no other world. This is it.

Scientism only scientifically tested knowledge is valid.

Historicism there is not over-arching providence. History is random.

Evolutionism the natural world develops at random. There is no divine plan.

Utilitarianism what works is all that matters. Efficiency and economy are our gods.

Rationalism there is no such thing as Revelation. Your reasoning power is your only access to truth.

Sentimentalism your feelings are your only guide because there is no objective truth

Moral Relativism there is no great Law. Therefore you may do as you wish. In fact this is the motto of diabolism: "Do as you Will."

Fulton Sheen traces the logical consequence of a system that is bound only to this world and seeks to eliminate the unseen world.

Satan's logic is simple: if there is no heaven there is no hell; if there is no hell, then there is no sin; if there is no sin, then there is no judge, and if there is no judgment then evil is good and good is evil. But above all these descriptions, Our Lord tells us that he will be so much like Himself that he would deceive even the elect—and certainly no devil ever seen in picture books could deceive even the elect.

Of course the elect will be deceived and follow the antichrist. They already do. To see what I mean continue reading Archbishop Sheen.

How will he come in this new age to win followers to his religion? The pre-Communist Russian belief is that he will come disguised as the Great Humanitarian; he will talk peace, prosperity and plenty not as means to lead us to God, but as ends in themselves.

Always beware the promise of a better world. There is always a price to pay for Utopia. Do not swallow the bait. Remember there is always free cheese in a mousetrap. Do not spend your time making this world a better place without first making sure you are going to the Best Place. The antichrist always offers us this world. He offered Christ himself all the kingdoms of this world. He does the same to us. He offers a wonderful world...one without God and his Son Christ the King. Sheen explains what the religion of the anti Christ looks like:

this is the temptation to have a new religion without a Cross, a liturgy without a world to come, a religion to destroy a religion, or a politics which is a religion—one that renders unto Caesar even the things that are God's. In the midst of all his seeming love for humanity and his glib talk of freedom and equality, he will have one great secret which he will tell to no one: he will not believe in God. The antichrist will not believe in God, but he will be religious. Watch the political leaders give lip service to Christianity and the Church. During the election the politician will pray to get into office. After the election the people pray to get him out of office. The antichrist follows the Lord of this World and you can tell because all he cares about is this world.

Because his religion will be brotherhood of Man without the fatherhood of God, he will deceive even the elect. He will set up a counter church which will be the ape of the Church, because he, the Devil, is the ape of God. It will have all the notes and characteristics of the Church, but in reverse and emptied of its divine content. It will be a mystical body of the Antichrist that will in all externals resemble the mystical body of Christ. . . .

"The Ape of God" what a phrase! It reminds me of The Last Battle by C.S.Lewis in which an ape named Shift finds an old lion skin and persuades a stupid donkey named Puzzle to dress up as Aslan. The faithful Narnians are fooled by Shift and Puzzle because they had already given in and forgotten about Aslan. They had already compromised, so when the anti Aslan appeared they fell down before him.

Catholics need to wake up. Already most of us have adapted to the Spirit of the new age. Already we have compromised our standards and lowered our defenses. It has been a slow, gradual process, but why do we think that we might stand up to the antichrist when we have already swallowed his candy?

Look at the world around you. How many church leaders do you know who already preach a gospel that is no more than watered down socialism? How many sweet talking, smiling preachers do you already know who parade their political activism while neglecting the reality of Christ's true gospel? How many religious people do you know who already believe that it is all about the brotherhood of Man while neglecting the Fatherhood of God?

At this time there is no single false prophet or counterfeit church. Instead these false systems of thought have infiltrated all the Christian churches and the Catholic church is no exception. When I hear prelates talk more about saving the environment than saving souls I'm smelling sulphur. When I hear priests and prelates justifying a sexual immorality that breaks the sacrament of marriage and the natural order in the cause of "peace and mercy" I'm smelling smoke—and it ain't incense. When I hear prelates compromise the Catholic faith in favor of a false ecumenism I'm whiffing something vile from the sewers of Dis.

Already they have put before us "a new religion without a Cross, a liturgy without a world to come, a religion to destroy a religion, or a politics which is a religion—one that renders unto Caesar even the things that are God's."

Wake up, and don't be deceived. Remember the only thing Satan knows how to do is to lie. He is the Father of Lies and the Father of Flies, and where the flies gather there is already a corpse.