

## Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – July 4, 2021

### MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

<b>Monday</b>	<b>July 5<sup>th</sup></b> <b>St Anthony Zaccaria, Priest; St. Elizabeth of Portugal</b>
<b>8:30 a.m.</b>	Connie Losada by José Losada
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>July 6<sup>th</sup></b> <b>St. Maria Goretti, Virgin and Martyr</b>
<b>8:30 a.m.</b>	Intentions of Bill Lenihan by The Rosary Group
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>July 7<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>8:30 a.m.</b>	Joseph Pisapia by Maria & John De Lucia
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>July 8<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>8:30 a.m.</b>	Joseph Avaltroni by Michael & Rosemarie Puma
<b>Friday</b>	<b>July 9<sup>th</sup></b> <b>St. Augustine Zhao Rong, Priest &amp; Companions, Martyrs</b>
<b>8:30 a.m.</b>	Connie Losada by José Losada & Family
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>July 10<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>4:00 p.m.</b>	Father Ed by Elizabeth Nemeth
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>July 11<sup>th</sup></b> <b>Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	Greg Roga by Mother, Louise Roga
<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	Michael Rainsford by Mary Frances Catherine Kolarchick by Carole Anstett

The weekend collections:  
June 27<sup>th</sup> – \$9,587

**Thank you for your continued support  
of our parish!**

### ONLINE GIVING

Nativity of Our Lord now offers online giving. Our location of the Online Giving is located to a more visible spot on the homepage of our website. Church donations can be made through the link on our website, all are encouraged to consider this option for supporting the mission of our parish. Thank you for the continue support!!!

### CANDLE OFFERINGS

**Sanctuary:** Dr. William Corbett by Virginia Pitarresi  
**Blessed Virgin Mary:** Frances Vassallo  
**St. Theresa:** Julia Ann Cagliostro by Daniel Hardaker & Scott Farro  
**Padre Pio:** Father Ed by Peggy Steinbeck  
**Sacred Heart:** Gerard Peracchio by Family

### CANDLE & FLOWER OFFERINGS

For those who wish to remember their loved ones or pray for a special intention, we now have the following available:

**Candle intentions:** These are 8 votive candles in the church Sanctuary, before the statues of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Joseph, Sacred Heart, Padre Pio, St. Theresa, St. Jude, St. Anthony or Blessed Pauline (\$15).

**Church flowers:** \$200 for two floral bouquets for the reredos. \$150 for two floral bouquets for the tabernacle. \$50 per tray placed near the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Joseph statue or other statues.

**Purgatorial Society enrollments:** Members share in the graces of all Masses celebrated in our Church. In addition, a Mass is celebrated each month on the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday for one year for those enrolled (\$25). Stop by or call the parish office for more information 609-371-0499 ext.10.

### STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

*“As the Lord spoke to me, the spirit entered me and set me on my feet, and I heard the one who was speaking say to me, ‘Son of man, I am sending you...’”*  
EZEKIEL 2:2-3

God has a plan for each of us. He calls us to do something for Him. But, He doesn't leave us on our own to figure it out. He gives us the resources we need to do His work. Are you listening for God's call? When you hear it, do you get on your feet and do the work He asks of you? Do not be afraid. God doesn't call the equipped, he equips the called. Answer His call.

Dear Parishioners,

Happy Fourth of July!

I'm hoping you're doing something fun to celebrate, while at the same time you're remembering why we're celebrating! It's not just about a picnic, or the beach, but about celebrating the founding of our nation and the principles on which it was founded. Let us be grateful we get to live in this great land and so have the freedoms we enjoy, freedoms that not everyone in this world gets to enjoy!

At the same time, this week our parish is celebrating! Our parish community, Nativity of Our Lord, was established by Bishop Edward Hughes on July 7, 1992, which means that our 29th Anniversary is this Wednesday. Let us say a prayer of gratitude for our parish on Wednesday, thanking the Lord for the many ways in which we have been blessed as a community of faith!

Of course, this means that next year our parish will be 30 years old, and we believe that's something to celebrate! Prior to the pandemic our parish was scheduled to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the dedication of the church building, but that celebration had to be postponed. Fortunately, the venue is allowing us to move the date to another time, and so we have reserved Sunday, November 20, 2022. On that date we will celebrate the 30th Anniversary of our parish community (and, retroactively, the 25th Anniversary of our church building and, perhaps the end of the pandemic and a return to normalcy!). So mark your calendars even now!

Note that beginning next weekend most parish baptisms will be celebrated during Sunday Mass. This will enable the community to rejoice with these families and to appropriately welcome our youngest members into our community of faith! I believe you will enjoy these celebrations, which will take place no more than once a month, typically at the 10:00am Mass. It is important that Christians recognize the communal nature of each sacrament and that we, together, welcome people into the Christian community. Celebrating baptisms during Mass enables us to do this!

Happy Anniversary!

In Christ,

Msgr. Robert

**Sunday**

Ez 2:2-5; 2 Cor 12:7-10; Mk 6:1-6a

**Monday**

Gn 28:10-22a; Mt 9:18-26

**Tuesday**

Gn 32:23-33; Mt 9:32-38

**Wednesday**

Gn 41:55-57, 42:5-7a, 17-24a; Mt 10:1-7

**Thursday**

Gn 44:18-21, 23b-29, 45:1-5; Mt 10:7-15

**Friday**

Gn 46:1-7, 28-30; Mt 10:16-23

**Saturday**

Gn 49:29-32, 50:15-26a; Mt 10:24-33

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**Spiritual Communion Prayer**

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this time receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen

**Prayer for Our Nation**

Dear God,

As we face these uncertain times in our nation and the world, we ask you, Lord, to dwell among us. We are comforted by the knowledge that You alone are our Savior and Lord, and the ultimate Master of life. We trust our nation to Your loving care, Lord. Send Your Spirit to touch the hearts of our nation's leaders. Give them the wisdom to know what is right, and the courage to do it. Give us Your light and Your truth to guide us in our ways so that we may seek Your will in our lives and impact the world around us for Your Kingdom. In Jesus' Name we pray.

Amen

## LIFTING RESTRICTIONS

As you probably know by now, we are in the midst of modifying the restrictions that were put in place by our governor and bishop to get us through the pandemic.... that is good news, it means we're making progress!

And so, now effective:

1. Masks are no longer required. However, if you're not yet vaccinated, or simply feel safer with one on, please do so!
2. The bishops of the State of New Jersey have restored the obligation to attend Mass. Of course, if you're not feeling well, then please stay home.
3. We will continue livestreaming the 10:00am Mass, but the hope is you'll make every effort to join us in person!
4. Other practices may be restored soon, a few may wait until September, but we will certainly keep you posted.

As always, thank you for your cooperation! Your assistance these past many months has gotten us to this point. Let us continue to be safe and to respect each other's comfort levels!

Be assured of my prayers,

Msgr. Robert

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## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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If you haven't registered your child/children for this year's 2021-2022 Faith Formation program, please do so. Deadline is August 1, 2021. If you have not received the link, or have any questions feel free to contact Tara Vigario at [reoa@nativitymonroe.org](mailto:reoa@nativitymonroe.org).

If you haven't signed up for Flocknote yet, simply text message [nativitymonroe](mailto:nativitymonroe) to the 5-digit phone number 84576. The goal is to have every family signed up for Flocknote so we can communicate more efficiently when the programs begin. If you have no idea what Flocknote is... please read about it in the back of the bulletin.

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## MINISTRIES

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**St. Vincent DePaul** - If you are experiencing financial hardship due to a temporary loss of employment, illness, or disability, the St. Vincent de Paul Society is available to provide assistance for your everyday needs such as food, rent, utility assistance, or agency referrals. Please dial the parish number (609) 371-0499, then press 8, and leave a message with your name and phone number. Someone will return your call. All calls are handled in strict confidence.

**Fair Trade**: Fair Trade coffee, tea, chocolate and cocoa are available in Fr. Congdon hall. A list of available products from Equal Exchange is also available. Any questions or requests please let Mary Anne Sheerin know at 609 937-4963. And thank you for your continued support of Equal Exchange and the many farmers and families they represent.

**Card Ministry**: I want to wish everyone a happy and healthy summer. It feels so good to finally be able to enjoy the great outdoors and of course it goes without saying being able to gather with family and friends again is a real blessing. I wanted to remind you not to forget about our friends in the nursing homes. They have had a very trying and lonely year. Thanks to all who were able to send cards and letters to enhance the life of those who are feeling alone. At this we are in need of a few more volunteers in order to complete our mission. If your heart is drawn to this ministry, please contact me and I will provide you with the information. Any questions call Antoinette at 732-615-8594.

May God continue to keep you and your family safe.

**Prayer Shawl**: Did you know that our group of approximately 25 women started in July 2006 and has made more than 3,500 prayer shawls since its inception? This beautiful ministry has provided prayer shawls to hospice patients, veterans, elder nuns, cancer patients, hospitals and to healing Masses. The group has an album full of letters of thanks and appreciation for the prayers and the shawls. We meet on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month from September until June. If you would like more information, please call Liz Coulston @ 732-561-4139.

## Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



As Catholic Christians, we think we know what we hope for in Jesus – peace, guidance, salvation. But how often do we reflect on what Jesus hopes for in us?

Today's Gospel is clear. Jesus hopes to find faith in our hearts. Without the faith of His neighbors and kin, He was "not able to perform any mighty deed". Without our faith, He is not able to answer our prayers either. How important our faith is! How essential it is to plant the seeds of faith in others! Perhaps you're the one to plant those seeds in those you know who are not yet part of the Church. Once you've done that, leave it to the Lord. How do you plant seeds? Have a conversation about faith with someone who is not Catholic. Consider inviting them to a Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) Inquiry Session where they may begin the journey to faith and to belonging.

Through the RCIA they will learn more about the Good News as taught by the Catholic Church. Those who are unbaptized, baptized into another Christian denomination, or are baptized Catholics who have never received BOTH sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist are all welcome to attend.

For information about the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) in this parish, contact JoLynn Krempecki at 732-690-2610 (jollynnkrempecki@msn.com ) or Sister Marie Colette at 609-371-0499 (pa@nativitymonroe.org ). Our diocesan RCIA office can be reached at [rcia@diometuchen.org](mailto:rcia@diometuchen.org) .

### Breaking Bread 2021 eMissal

Offering music, readings, prayers and the Order of Mass, this [USCCB-approved digital resource](https://www.usccb.org/digital-resource) was designed to help parishioners participate in the liturgy, whether at home or in church. Check it out at <https://www.ocp.org/en-us/breaking-bread-emissal>.

## Missionaries of St. Francis De Sales

On July 18<sup>th</sup> we will have the Annual Mission Appeal in our parish. This year the homily will be offered by a priest from the Missionaries of St. Francis, otherwise known as the Fransalians. Although their congregation was founded in Annecy, France in 1837, as missionaries, their major presence is now in Asia and Africa along with new missions in South America.

They are now globally present in 29 countries with 12 provinces, one region and four delegations with total membership of more than 1500 confreres. Their main missionary charism is the pioneering evangelization in the non-evangelized countries and the education of the less privileged youth through children's homes and orphanages. More than 3500 economically poor, semi orphan or orphan children are cared for and educated in their 93 children's homes both in India and Africa.

The Fransalians are also active in the Philippines, Ecuador, Indonesia and Brazil where they promote and train missionary vocations to prepare individuals for both pioneering evangelization and the renewal of Christian life in different countries and are actively engaged in the empowerment of women and the marginalized.

Let us welcome our missionary Fr. George Valliamthadathil, MSFS

### St. Maria Goretti



**Maria Teresa Goretti:** October 16, 1890 – July 6, 1902) is an Italian virgin-martyr of the Catholic Church, and one of the youngest saints to be canonized. Her father died when she was nine, and they had to share a house with another family, the Serenellis. Maria took over household

duties while her mother, brothers, and sister worked in the fields.

One afternoon, Alessandro, the Serenelli's twenty-year-old son, made sexual advances to her. When she refused to submit to him, he stabbed her fourteen times. She was taken to the hospital but she died forgiving him. He was arrested, convicted, and jailed. After 27 years he was released from prison and visited her mother to beg forgiveness, which she granted. He later became a lay brother in a monastery, dying in 1970. She was beatified in 1947, and canonized in 1950. She is especially venerated in the Congregation of the Passion.



## HOW DO I SIGN UP?

The easiest and quickest way is through your cell phone! Simply text message nativitymonroe to the 5-digit phone number 84576. That's it...just text nativitymonroe to 84576. Realize it's one word, no spaces for nativitymonroe.

Once you send the text, Flocknote will text you back with a confirmation message and another message with a link you'll need to click on to complete the process.

As part of the sign-up process, you're automatically included in the everyone group.... but be sure to indicate if you wish to be included in the daily Mass group, or to receive more regular notes from Msgr. Robert, or any other groups listed. Note that over the next few months many more groups and ministries will be added.

Text STOP to 84576 to stop txt notifications at any time. Text HELP for help. There is no charge for this service, but your carrier message and data rates may apply. View privacy policy & terms at [flocknote.com/txt](http://flocknote.com/txt).

## WHAT IF I DON'T HAVE TEXTING?

You can still sign up! As long as you have an email address, just go online to [flocknote.com/nativitymonroe](http://flocknote.com/nativitymonroe) to join and to learn more.

## WHAT IF I'M HAVING TROUBLE SIGNING UP?

Be patient! Flocknote can help you, if you ask. Flocknote also has videos and information on their website. And it is our hope that within a short time we'll have parishioners available to assist you as well.

## CHURCH ANNIVERSARY PRAYER

Heavenly Father, thank You that we are celebrating this church anniversary. We thank You that we are all One in Christ, and we pray that as members of Your body, Your Holy Spirit would knit us together in the bonds of unity and love.

Lord, You have promised that You are the One that would build Your Church and we ask that You would continue to equip each of us, both individually and corporately with the talents and gifts that may be used to Your praise and glory for the edification of the rest of the saints of God.

Protect us from the wiles of the enemy who seeks to destroy and cause divisions among Your body. Help us to be sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable and gentle one towards each other. Let us not be motivated by selfishness but in humility may we seek to regard the needs and necessities of others before our own.

Give wisdom to the elders and deacons and give wisdom to those that teach and a teachable spirit to those that listen. And may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of the Father and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all this day and forever. In Jesus' name we pray,

Amen.

