



Our Lady of Guadalupe

135 N. White Horse Pike, Lindenwold, NJ 08021

Parish Office 856-627-2222 FAX 856-627-8210

Website: guadalupeparishnj.org

July 31, 2011

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Rev. Joseph P. Capella, Pastor
Rev. Wilson Paulose, Chaplain, Kennedy Hospital
Rev. James Bartoloma, In Residence-Diocesan Tribunal
Permanent Deacon John Berstecher
Sacristan, Francisco Torres
Mrs. Helen Persing, School Principal - 856-783-3088
Ellen Henehan, Director of Ministries - 856-627-2222
Gelen Hernandez, Director of Hispanic Ministries
856-627-2222
Religious Education Program 856-627-2222
Maria Nieva, Music Director-856-627-2222
Immaculata Hall Dan Farr 856-783-1586
Parish Office Hours: Mon. to Fri., 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Honario de oficina para la Comunidad hispana Por
favor de llamar Martes a Viernes de 10 am a 4 pm
Mass Schedule - St. Luke Church

Daily Mass: 8:00 a.m. Mon., to Sat.
Liturgy of the Hours following 8 a.m. daily Mass
Miraculous Medal Novena - Tues. after the 8 a.m Mass
Saturday: 4:30 p.m.
Sunday: 11:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.
Confessions: 3:45 p.m. Saturdays

Mass Schedule - St. Lawrence Church
Daily Mass: 6:45 a.m. & 7 p.m. Mon-Fri
Saturday: 4:15 Confessions & 5:00 p.m. Mass
Sundays: 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., & 1 p.m. Spanish Mass
Confessions: M-F 6:30 to 6:50 p.m.

Adoration & Divine Mercy Chaplet

Mon., after 7 p.m. Mass

Miraculous Medal Novena

Tues., after 7 p.m. Mass

Eucharistic Adoration

Thurs., 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Perpetual Novena

Every Thursday after morning and evening mass

OUR LADY'S GIFT SHOP

St. Lawrence Church Site
Candles, prayer cards, Rosaries,
Communion, Confirmation items,
statues and many more religious
items

NOW OPEN!

After the following Masses:
Saturday, 5 p.m., Sunday 7:30 a.m.
Sunday, 9:30 a.m. & Sunday, 1 p.m.



Horario Misas:

Cada jueves, 6:00pm

Cada domingo, 1:00pm

Bautismos de los niños:

Los cuartos domingos durante la Santa Misa, 1:00pm
Charlas para los cursos prebautismales (padres y padrinos);
los terceros domingos despues de la Santa Misa, 2:30pm

Matriomonio:

Por favor, habla con el Padre para informacion de cursos
prematrimoniales y todas las reglas para las boda Catolica

Grupo Juvenil

Pm Grupo Juvenil en el Centro Juvenil St. Juan Diego,
jueves 7 pm

Movimiento Juan 23

Reunion en Cafeteria los martes de 7 pm a 9 pm

Encuentros

Sabados alas 7:00PM – 10:00PM Renovacion carismatica
en cafeteria

Lunes

7 pm-9 pm Rica formacion de los adultos cafeteria.

Estudios Biblicos

Martes 7 pm a 8:30 pm cafeteria

Infant Baptism

2nd Sunday of each month at 3:00 p.m., Lindenwold
campus. Catechesis for parents and sponsors takes place on
the 1st Tuesday of the month at 7:45 pm. Arrangements are
to be made in advance at the Parish Office.

Christian Initiation

For those desiring to become Catholic, or for Catholics who
have not received all of the Sacraments of Initiation. Please
call the Parish Office for information.

Priesthood or Consecrated Life

For those interested in becoming a Priest or entering the
Consecrated Life (i.e. Religious Brother or Sister) please
call the Parish Office or see one of the Priests of the parish.

Anointing of the Sick

In case of emergency, ANY TIME, day or night, please call
the Parish Office number above, and listen to the prompt
that will direct you. The sick will be anointed at home any
time by request. Communal anointing of the sick and
elderly will be celebrated in the church as announced.

Communion for the Sick

Call the Parish Office to arrange an appointment.

Marriage

Ideally, Catholic marriages take place at Mass. To insure
proper preparation, arrangements should be made one year
in advance. Because of the preparation needed, six months
notification is mandatory. Please call the Parish Office.

MASSES for the WEEK

S-Stratford Church L-Lindenwold Church

Saturday, July 30, 2011

- S 8:00 a. m.** **Peter DiGiosaffatto**
R/b His Loving Sisters
- S 4:30 p. m.** **Cathy Hance**
R/b Mom & Dad
- L 5:00 p.m.** **George Whelan**
R/b Elizabeth Anderson & Family

Sunday, July 31, 2011

- L 7:30 a.m.** **Eleanor Moke**
R/b John & Pam Brennan
- L 9:30 a.m.** **Rey Nieva**
R/b Ronnie Brown
- S 11:30 a.m.** **Rev. James Boyle**
R/b Jill DiZio
- L 1:00 p.m.** **Spanish Mass**
- S 5:00 p.m.** **Eleanor Moke**
R/b Steve, Jill & Matthew Gagliardi

Monday, August 1, 2011

- L 6:45 a.m.** **Andrew Louis Morgan**
R/b Mr. & Mrs. Edward Broadwater
- S 8:00 a.m.** **Nelson Pardo**
R/b Maria Nieva
- L 7:00 p.m.** **Patricia McLaney**
R/b McCunney Family

Tuesday, August 2, 2011

- L 6:45 a.m.** **Rose Barrow**
R/b Edith Guadagno
- S 8:00 a.m.** **Colleen Laurent**
R/b Al & Eileen Wagner
- L 7:00 p.m.** **Family of Claudine Johnson**
R/b Claudine Johnson

Wednesday, August 3, 2011

- L 6:45 a.m.** **Jane Hacker - 5th Anniversary**
R/b Paul Family
- S 8:00 a.m.** **Connor O'Kane**
R/b Joseph Orthey
- L 7:00 p.m.** **Josephine Verna**
R/b Mary Pocchano

Thursday, August 4, 2011

- L 6:45 a.m.** **Andrew Kasper**
R/b His Loving Family
- S 8:00 a.m.** **Eileen Brennan**
R/b Joan Vivian & Family
- L 6:00 p. m.** **Spanish Mass**
- L 7:00 p. m.** **Albert J. Becker**
R/b Tom & Terri Quaille

First Friday, August 5, 2011

- L 6:45 a.m.** **John Frank Hambley**
R/b Ruth Luczak
- S 8:00 a. m.** **Benjamin Vukicevich, Sr.**
R/b Jim & Linda Maslen
- L 7:00 p. m.** **Frank Cifone**
R/b His Loving Family

Saturday, August 6, 2011

- S 8:00 a. m.** **Jim Diodato**
R/b Dearest Good Friend, Jean
- S 4:30 p. m.** **Rey Nieva**
R/b Bob & Alice Bakley
- L 5:00 p.m.** **Rich Bucher**
R/b Pfaffman Family

READINGS OF THE WEEK

- Monday: Nm 11:4b-15; Mt 14:22-36
- Tuesday: Nm 12:1-13; Mt 14:22-36 or
Mt 15:1-2, 10-14
- Wednesday: Nm 13:1-2, 25 — 14:1, 26-29a, 34-35;
Mt 15:21-28
- Thursday: Nm 20:1-13; Mt 16:13-23
- Friday: Dt 4:32-40; Mt 16:24-28
- Saturday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; 2 Pt 1:16-19; Mt 17:1-9
- Sunday: 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a; Ps 85; Rom 9:1-5;
Mt 14:22-33

The sanctuary lamp at the Stratford Church burns in loving memory of Mary Galone, requested by her daughter, Carmela



The Blessed Mother candle burns in loving memory of Catherine Gardner, requested by Rita Lafferty

The St. Joseph candle burns in loving memory of Andrew Louis Morgan, requested by Patricia Escobar & Family

The sanctuary lamp at the Lindenwold Church burns in loving memory of the deceased members of the Nativity Council #2976, requested by Knights of Columbus Nativity Council #2976

Please pray for those in our Military

Brandon Carney Jessica Carney
Thomas Flynn Rev. Christopher Kopec
Alicia McCollum Michael Mortka
N. J. National Guard
Justin Jackson, III

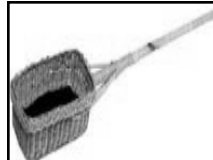


Army

Thomas Backenson, M.D.	Mark Bergman
Kevin Bradley	Sean Bradley
Michael Delcampo	Jonathan Haubrich
T. J. Homan	Paul Kupiec
Craig Leib Jr.	Colin J. McElroy
David Osisek	Chris A. Roesch
Todd Shriver	Robert Terry

Navy

Benjamin Kyler	Drew Hance
<u>U.S.M.C.</u>	
Michael Barikian	Ryan Dougherty
Trevor Dunkelberger	Matthew Eagan
Michael Turner	
<u>U. S. A. F.</u>	
John Early, Sr.	Thomas Early, Jr.
John Early, Jr.	James Early
Thomas J. Mackin	



**Collections for
July 23rd & 24th will be announced
next week due to early transmission
of the bulletin**

Parish Registration

We welcome all new members to our parish community. We want to know and serve you and we hope you become an active member of our parish. To register in the Parish you may call the **Parish** office at **856-627-2222** Mon. to Fri., 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and we can mail or email you a form to complete and return by mail or you may go to our website: guadalupeparishnj.org to download the form. Young adults - remember to register yourselves on your 18th birthday! You no longer are under your parent's registration.

School of Peace

We learned the story of Joseph and his coat of many colors! Then we made our own "coats of many colors" and showed them to the staff in the Parish Office! Each day is another lesson, prayer, a craft, a movie and sharing time! We love Ms. Ellen, Ms. Helen, and all our helpers who share each day with us and make this summer special.



PARISH FIBER MINISTRY - FOR CRAFTERS

We meet every 2nd & 4th
Thursday of the month.

NEXT MEETING - AUGUST 11TH - 7 P.M.
ST. LAWRENCE SCHOOL CAFETERIA
ALL ARE WELCOME! YOU MAY EMAIL:
alicegarbarino@comcast.net



Every Thursday
Evening - 7 p.m.
St. Juan Diego Center

Come & Bring a Friend!

WEDDING BANNS



Congratulations on your upcoming nuptials!

Lauren Krason & Brian Ritz - First Banns

"To everything there is a season and time for every purpose under heaven." Ecclesiastes 3:1

"...a time to be born..."

"...a time to embrace..."

"...a time to heal..."

Gloria Aceto, Anna Marie Agresti, Veronica Ahern, Kevin Allen, Joseph Allen, Joseph Angelucci, Marie Anlate, Laura Antonio, Robert Bacisin, Frank Bada, Rose Belz, Anna Grace Berry, Frances Barber, Rosemarie Berger, Richard Boston, Trudy Bove, James Boyle, William Buehler, Elizabeth Buehler, Tina Burke, Gail Capriotti, Anthony Catanella, Kylee Cimoineva, Sr., Joseph Colasurdo, Elaine Cook, Richard Cook, Tom Crowley, Rich Cunane, Rose DeSalvor, Dr. Richard M. Dressler, Thomas Falkie, Angela Ferriola, Bill Flanagan, Tom Flynn, Brian & Kurt Gahm, Emmanuel Galone, Patricia Goslin, Charles & Susan Greenman, Eugene Guido, Joan Guido, Luke Guido, Bernard Hartigan, Peter Herbert, Catherine Hodges, Marie Hunsicker, Nora Jacoby, William Jones, Carole Katz, Mary Katz, Bill Klatt, George & Katherine Kniaz, Sharon Logiudice, Ruth Manella, Michele Mason, Joseph Mastrando, Joseph Matarazzo, Ava Maturo, Ray McCart, Jr., Cuyler McCausland, Dominic McDowell, Jack McGuigan, Kevin & Vickie McGuire, Carol Meehan, Bernice Mesisca, Ruby Moorehead, Terry Mulhearn, Dot Murtaugh, Marie Myers, Baby Andrew Newhouse, Debbie Osisek, Cynthia Pandolfo, Marion Pandza, Doris Penn, Phylis Pfeiffer, Betty Pizzo, Thomas H. Powell, Tracey Reinert, Carl Richards, Trish Riebel, John Roach, Cindy Robertson, Maggie Russo, Mary Sanders, Tori Schmitz, Karen Schellhorn, Krista Sheehan, Steven Shute, Sue Moreno, Anne Springer, Julia St. Maur, Bill Steinert, Magdalen Stengel, Lillian & Lee Stiles, Vera Sutton, Frank Turchi, Eileen Turner, Kevin Turner, Cecelia Vitale, Barb Waddington, Barbara Walker, Eric Warner, Clara & Elizabeth Warrington, Bill Waples, Toni Welsh, Anna Worst

Please pray for those in the hospital:

Marie & James Analage, Charlene Brumbach, Sherry Burns, Valerie Cohen, Betty Lentz, Christopher O'Rourke

Please pray for those in nursing homes:

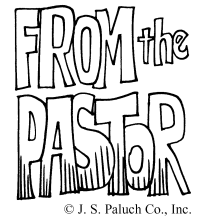
Marie Calabrese, Betty Carmac, Frances DiGiovanni, Theresa Di Tullio, Ann James, Emily Jalonek, Phyllis Johnson, Theresa McCann, Helen Maloney, Evelyn Simmons, Eleanora Solly, and Theresa Taylor

"...a time to die..."

James McCue & Andrew Louis Morgan



Dear Parishioners and Visitors to Our Lady of Guadalupe,



I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the committee that planned and helped to ensure a very meaningful experience for all who are participating in the annual St. Anne Novena. Thus far, the speakers who are sharing a brief reflection during each night of the Novena have been very inspiring and informative. I encourage you and your family and friends to attend the closing evening of the Novena this coming Tuesday evening. Immediately following the Mass, there will be a Eucharistic procession within the church, a brief period of Adoration, Benediction and the final veneration and blessing with the St. Anne relic.

Last week I mentioned that I was going to share a series of Pastor's Letters entitled: "Did You Know". Well, I'd like to continue with that theme this week. Did you know that the latest ministry begun here at OLOG is the ministry of Bereavement & Consolation. This ministry exists to offer emotional and spiritual support to those who are grieving a loss. As I minister to many of our families who face the death of a loved one or other challenges and tragedies, I am often asked about how they can find hope through our Catholic Christian faith. Often times, we cannot realize this sense of serenity, inner-peace, healing and trust in God on our own. As human beings we are created for community, for unity first with others but ultimately with our God. Therefore, it can be very difficult to go through an extremely difficult experience for the first time in our lives or face it once again feeling isolated and alone. The ministry of Bereavement & Consolation allows us to connect with others who have been or are now going through the same issues which we might be facing.

This is a very free-flowing, ongoing ministry and isn't a "class" or simply a time for troubled folks to be mired down in their grief. Rather, it is gathering with trained facilitators who assist participants to approach what they are going through from the perspective of our faith and to do so with others who can understand and relate. The ministry respects everyone's privacy and affords confidentiality. If you are interested, please check the bulletin for information or call the parish office for information.

Be sure to look out for other ministries beginning towards the end of the summer. Until then, please be sure to enjoy the summer. As always, we are very glad that you are among us this weekend as a member of our parish community or perhaps a visitor for the weekend. Through the intercession of Our Lady, may our good God grant us the desire to live our faith without apology and with great love for all of our brothers and sisters. Remember, the only reason that God would not use your life to spread His gospel is if you refuse to offer it to Him in faith. God bless you and have a great week.

Fr. Joe



JOHN PAUL II

~ Regional School ~

OUR SUMMER HOURS

Monday through Thursday - 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Fridays - 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**John Paul II Regional School Graduates
Receive Honors in High School
2010-2011 school year**

Paul VI First Honors

Christopher Bakey
Amanda Darley

St. Joseph's Prep First Honors

Dante Keeler

St. Joseph's Prep Second Honors

Michael Catrino

Merion Mercy Academy

Distinguished Honors

Christina DiGiacomo

Paul VI Second Honors

Sarah Comitale
Paul Fitzpatrick

Thomas Lang
Gabrielle Lynch

Leo Mount

Jabari Mani

Jennifer Pham

Alfred Simpkins

Monica Thomas



John Paul II Regional School is pleased to
announce its 3rd annual
Golf Tournament!

Friday, October 7, 2011

Valleybrook Country Club

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE!

More information on its way soon...



Consolation Ministry

In our continued efforts to identify and respond to the Spiritual needs of our Parish community, we have formed a Consolation Ministry to provide comfort, and a pathway to healing, to those who are grieving and suffering a loss in their lives. For more information, please call the Parish Office at 856-627-2222 or Bill Hughes at 856-435-2025.


"For just as the sufferings of Christ flow over into our lives, so also through Christ our comfort overflows."



The St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry will be open on the **second Tuesday, August 9th, from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. and the fourth Saturday, August 27th, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.** The need to help the less fortunate is most great and we truly appreciate your generosity in our endeavor to feed the poor. **We are in need of toothpaste, shampoo & cereal.** Please place your donation in the barrels by the doors. Monetary donations are also greatly appreciated.



FAITH SHARING GROUP
August 4th, 2011 &
First Thursday of each Month
7:30 p.m. - in St. Lawrence School
For more information, please call
Barbara at 856-784-8940

	August 6th Saturday St. Luke 4:30 p.m.	August 6th Saturday St. Lawrence 5:00 p.m.	August 7th Sunday St. Lawrence 7:30 a.m.	August 7th Sunday St. Lawrence 9:30 a.m.	August 7th Sunday St. Luke 11:30 a.m.	August 7th Sunday St. Lawrence 1:00 p.m.	August 7th Sunday St. Luke 5:00 p.m.
Celebrant	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
Lector	D. Ingraham & J. Njoku	C. Cutter & R. Harman	V. Wishropp	B. & E. Shook	R. Cruz & L. Springle	Spanish	B. Mayovich
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	D. Conlin, S. Greco & E. Junikka	F. Caramiello, J. Jackson & C. Sciarra	G. Chant, M. McShane, A. Odorisio & D. Owens	S. Cappuccio, J. Considine, B. Dougherty, D. Hughes & C. Kellogg	P. Bakey, K. Corcoran & S. Happ	Mass	M. Ebling, T. Tucker & D. Zadjeka
Altar Servers	B. Flannery, N. Rendine & M. Strickland	H. & P. Buechele & A. Lepperd	A. Murray & M. & J. Tiedge	S. Davis, J. DiMeo & J. Klingenberg	A. Evans, S. & S. Robbins		J. Hughes, J. Romano & B. Smith



We are currently taking registrations for the upcoming 2011-2012 year. Registration Forms are in the back of both churches or you can call the Parish Office at 856-627-2222 and we can email or snail mail one to you.

EVERYONE MUST REREGISTER!

Grades K-5 will meet Sun., 8 a.m.– 9:15 a.m. OR they will meet Mon., 3:45 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Grades 6 - 8 will meet Mon., 6:45 p.m. - 8 p.m.

FEES: 1st Child - \$80 Two Children - \$110 3 or more children \$140

The Religious Education Program is seeking adult teachers of religion to echo the Word of God and share their faith through a guided curriculum with the young people of our parish community. As we plan for September classes catechists are needed for the following grade levels, days, and times:

Sundays, 8 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. - grades K to 5

Mondays, 3:45 p.m. to 5 p.m. - grades K to 5

Mondays, 6:45 p.m. to 8 p.m. - grades 6 to 8

Prior teaching experience is a plus but NOT necessary. For more information call Ellen or Billie at the parish office 856-627-2222.

Can't make a weekly commitment? The Religious Education Program appreciates substitute catechists who are available to occasionally share their faith with a class. Guides and resources are made available to assist you.

COMPANION CATECHISTS – We welcomes students with Special Needs to our Religious Education Program. Some children with learning and / or developmental issues benefit from one on one assistance in the classroom. “*Companion catechists*” work with a specific child while participating in a regular classroom while a lead teacher conducting the week’s lesson. If you are interested in this ministry please call Ellen or Billie at the Parish Office 856-627-2222

CHURCH MINISTRY INSTITUTE

Interested in learning more about your faith? Do you want to develop skills that will assist you in your volunteer ministry within the parish?

Classes are forming for the **Church Ministry Institute of Camden**, a three-year non-credit bearing certificate program. Adults of all ages are welcome. Classes will be held at St. Simon Stock

Parish on Wednesday evenings beginning September 7. For further information call or e-mail Linda K. Robinson @ 856-683-611 or

linda.k.robinson@camdendiocese.org

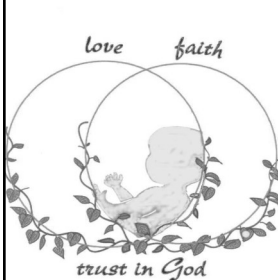
You may also wish to visit our website:

<http://lmfp.camdendiocese.org>

HELP WANTED!

COME AND SHARE YOUR GIFTS

Each Sunday we pray the words of the **Stewardship Prayer**: “I offer my gifts of time, talent and treasure to you as a true act of faith and to reflect my love for you and my neighbor.” How is God calling you to share the talents that he has given to? Or maybe God is asking you to share a special gift. It might be sharing something you love like music or art. It could be that we need a skill that you have such as **welcoming others to the Mass or volunteering to usher, or to launder the altar linens, Would you be interested in caring for the garden or helping to drive someone to Mass on the weekend?** There are many opportunities to share your gifts with your fellow parishioners. Just call Ellen at 627-2222 for more information or to volunteer. Thank you!



National Natural Family Planning Awareness Week

July 24 – 30, 2011

Theme: “**God’s Love, Our Love, Our Marriage**”

“Celebrate and reverence God’s vision of human sexuality.”

To find out more about Natural Family Planning and the many benefits for couples:

www.pnfpn.org www.njnfp.org

A new NFP Course begins on **Fri., Sept. 30, 2011; 7:00 pm – 9:30 pm** at St. Andrew the Apostle in Gibbsboro. For registration: www.ccli.org (click on Search/Register for Class)



Knights Knews!

**PULL TAB COLLECTION
MAY 21ST TO LABOR DAY**

Designated boxes will be near each door of the churches. The collection benefits the Ronald McDonald House for families of children in the hospital for treatments.

Sponsored by the Nativity Council.

**8TH ANNUAL HENRY J. KEATING
MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT**

**VALLEYBROOK COUNTRY CLUB - BLACKWOOD
SATURDAY, AUGUST 13TH 10 A.M. REGISTRATION**

11 A.M. SHOTGUN START \$100 PER GOLFER

(Includes green fees, golf cart, prizes, beer and buffet)

Features include various contests and Chinese Auction

All are welcome! For more information or to sign up,

Call Bill Fean 856-309-7237

SUNDAY, JULY 31, 2011

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

WHAT DOES YOUR BREAD BUY?

It is not always easy to distinguish between what is and is not bread—what will and will not fail to satisfy. Many things we spend our money on do, in fact, satisfy. Sometimes they even make possible a more joyful life: a big, comfortable chair, for example, especially if it's used regularly to read with a small child. The truth is we always know what will lead to a more love-filled life and what will not. It just takes some time to surface. Give some thought today to what you value.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 55:1-3; Romans 8:35, 37-39; Matthew 14:13-21 (112)* "Why spend your money for what is not bread; your wages for what fails to satisfy?"

MONDAY, AUGUST 1 FEAST OF ALPHONSUS LIGUORI, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH LET'S NOT GO TO EXTREMES

Skeptics abound. Those who retain their faith are tempted toward the fringes: a severe expression of religion that lacks mercy or a laxity that makes everything seem relative and even irrelevant. Does that sound like a description of our generation? Actually, it's how many described the 18th century. In that divided age Saint Alphonsus Liguori became the champion of the middle ground. "Nothing else is required than to act toward God, in the midst of your occupations, as you do toward those who love you and whom you love." In good times and in bad, love knows how to behave.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Numbers 11:4b-15 (407); Matthew 14:22-36 (408)* "Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid."

TUESDAY, AUGUST 2

Let's hear a shout-out for humility

You have to admire Moses. Two people close to him—Aaron and Miriam—had started asking why *they* couldn't be prophets, too. To settle the matter God called the three of them out for a talking-to: God trusted Moses, God said—end of argument. What's more, God punished Miriam with an instant case of leprosy. But Moses just as quickly asked the Lord to forgive Miriam. We see something similar when Jesus called Saint Peter to walk out on the water to him. Peter's initial faith sank pretty quickly once he was out on the water, but Jesus caught him before he could go under. It's a virtue to keep faith—and to reach out a forgiving hand to others when they have not kept faith with you.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Numbers 12:1-13; Matthew 14:22-36 or 15:1-2, 10-14 (408)* "Why, then, did you not fear to speak against my servant Moses?"

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3

Get a new perspective

The story of Jesus' encounter with a Gentile woman distraught over her daughter's illness is troubling. Not only does Jesus seem reluctant to help, but he even calls her a dog, as if to dismiss her as not worthy of him. The woman is undaunted and persists, and Jesus not only relents but is profoundly impressed. While we may not like seeing Jesus in this unkind light, the point may be that Jesus—human like us in all things but sin—*learns something* in a human way. When the wideness of God's mercy confronts cultural prejudice, Jesus matures in his thinking, just as we all do if we are open to the grace of seeing beyond our assumptions.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Numbers 13:1-2, 25-14:1, 26-29a, 34-35; Matthew 15:21-28 (409)* "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish."

THURSDAY, AUGUST 4

FEAST OF SAINT JOHN MARY VIANNEY, PRIEST

The call is here and now

Saint John Vianney was a member of an endangered species—a French Catholic priest in the aftermath of the French Revolution. Times were difficult and persecution of the church had been heavy, yet Vianney found a way to live his vocation with such devotion that the town of Ars where he was posted attracted thousands of pilgrims a year. It is said that in his final years he put in 16 to 18 hours a day in the confessional. Though he yearned for a life of quiet contemplation, he stuck it out. The lesson for all of us: Our call to serve begins right here, right now.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Numbers 20:1-13, Matthew 16:13-23 (410)* "I will give you the keys to the Kingdom of heaven."

FRIDAY, AUGUST 5

DEDICATION OF THE BASILICA OF SAINT MARY MAJOR IN ROME

Let it snow

The longer a building has been around, the more likely it is to attract legends. Few structures have stood longer than the Basilica of Saint Mary Major of Rome, which dates to the fourth century. Perhaps it is no surprise that this beautiful basilica—the largest in the world to honor the Mother of God—has attracted its share of lore. According to one story, a wealthy Roman couple pledged their fortune to Mary, and she responded with a miraculous summer snowfall, instructing them to build a church on the site. Today, the day of dedication for "Our Lady of the Snows" has sometimes been celebrated with a shower of white rose petals released from the basilica's dome. If a white rose is not at hand, wear something white today to honor the Blessed Mother and the buildings dedicated to her.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Deuteronomy 4:32-40; Matthew 16:24-28 (411)* "What can one give in exchange for his life?"

SATURDAY, AUGUST 6

FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD Be all that God wants you to be

The ways faith can transfigure us may not be as dramatic as the Lord's—whose "face shone like the sun" and "clothes became white as light"—but they are just as real. Step into a meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous and listen to the stories of how faith has transformed people's lives. Look at the icons of pop culture who credit their own creative transformations and success to God. During the final episode of her namesake show, Oprah Winfrey said: "Nothing but the hand of God has made this possible for me." What has the hand of God made possible in your own life? What more needs transformation? Ask and receive!

TODAY'S READINGS: *Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14; 2 Peter 1:16-19; Matthew 17:1-9 (614)* "He was transfigured before them."