

SAINT POLYCARP CATHOLIC CHURCH

8100 Chapman Avenue, Stanton CA 90680 | (714) 893-2766 | www.stpolycarp.org

MISSION STATEMENT

We are a faith-based Catholic community whose members are enriched by the celebration of the Sacraments and opportunities to deepen our prayer lives. Guided by the Word of God and family values, we strive always to be a beacon of light for the lost, the lonely, the marginalized, and all those seeking the truth as we walk in the footsteps of those first disciples of Jesus and our patron St. Polycarp.

CLERGY

PASTOR

Rev. Viet Peter Ho

PAROCHIAL VICAR

Rev. Nicolaus Duy Thai

Rev. Luis Segura

Rev. Francis Ang

DEACONS

Dcn. Ramiro Lopez

Dcn. Larry Leone

Dcn. Davis Tri Do

Dcn. Juan Ochoa

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday

5:00 PM English

7:00 PM Vietnamese

Sunday

7:30 AM English

9:00 AM Spanish

11:00 AM English

1:00 PM Spanish

4:00 PM Vietnamese

6:00 PM Spanish

WEEKDAY MASSES

6:30 AM English (Mon-Fri)

8:30 AM English (Mon-Sat)

6:30 PM Spanish (Mon)

6:30 PM Vietnamese (Fri)

SUPPORT STAFF

BUSINESS MANAGER

Tom H. Ma

FAITH FORMATION (ENGLISH/SPANISH)

Sister Jessica Corral

FAITH FORMATION (VIETNAMESE)

Sister Mary Anne Thiên

Hương Nguyễn

CONFIRMATION PROGRAM

Sister Anna Anh Trâm Trần

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Kara Ford

YOUTH COORDINATOR

Joseph Do

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

9:00 AM - 10 AM (Fri)

3:30 PM - 4:30 PM (Sat)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

7:15 PM (Monday)

9:00 AM (Friday)

3:30 PM (Saturday)

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday

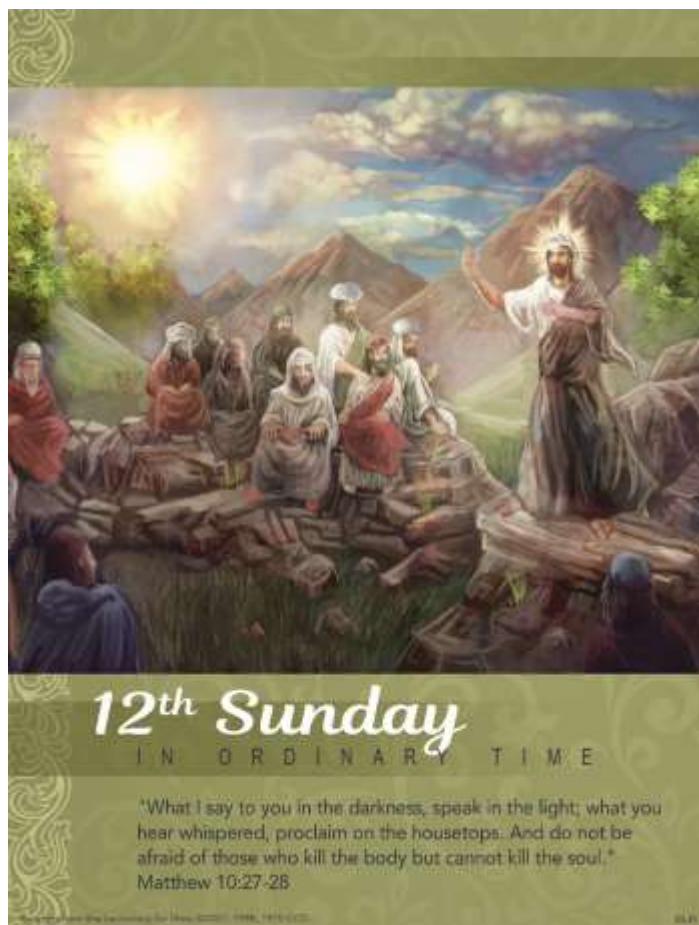
9:30 AM - 12:00 PM,

1:30 PM - 5:30 PM

Sunday

8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

1:30 PM - 3:30 PM



POPE'S INTENTION - JUNE

For the Values of Sports

Let us pray that sports be an instrument of peace, encounter, and dialogue among cultures and nations, and that they promote values such as respect, solidarity, and personal growth.

info@stpolycarp.org
BULLETIN: editor@stpolycarp.org

June 21, 2026

**MASS INTENTIONS/INTENCIONES DE MISA/
XIN Ý LỄ CẦU NGUYỆN**

Saturday, June 20, 2026

5:00 PM Ana Maria Hernandez✠
7:00 PM Peter Kim Long✠ & The Sacred Heart Choir;
Francis✠ & Xavier✠

Sunday, June 21, 2026

7:30 AM Fernando Busuigo✠ & Jun Yabut✠;
Paul Lucia Quang Hien✠ & All Ancestors
9:00 AM Alejo Villegas✠; Pedro Lamas✠
11:00 AM Frank Villa✠; Linda Hernandez
1:00 PM Luis F. Ayala✠ & Samuel Ramirez✠;
Maria Hernandez✠ &
Vicente Hernandez Ocampo✠;
Jose Jesus Fernandez Contreras✠
4:00 PM All Souls
6:00 PM Jesus Villegas Garcia✠;
Maximo Pedraza✠ & Bernardo Mendoza✠;
Oscar Buenrostro✠

Monday, June 22, 2026

6:30 AM Theresa Doan Xinh✠; Petra Garcia Diaz✠
8:30 AM Horacio Cardona Barrera✠;
Reyna Avila (Birthday) & Jesica Cedillo
6:30 PM Jesus Villegas Garcia✠; Maria Teran✠ &
Carolina Florencio✠; Kalis Barajas

Tuesday, June 23, 2026

6:30 AM Maria Cruz✠ & Jesus Rodrigo✠;
Blessed Souls of Purgatory
8:30 AM Jose Manuel Nares Lemus Finado✠ &
Miguel Nares Ortiz Finado✠

Wednesday, June 24, 2026

6:30 AM Joel Rodrigo✠; Margarita Chavez &
Cruz Dorado
8:30 AM Juan Garcia Diaz✠ & Elfega Avila Anzurez✠

Thursday, June 25, 2026

6:30 AM Thanks to the Lord
8:30 AM All Souls

Friday, June 26, 2026

6:30 AM Salomon Villa Jr.
8:30 AM Catarina Hong Pham✠
6:30 PM All Souls

Saturday, June 27, 2026

8:30 AM Tran Ngoc Khiem (Health)

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: Jer 20:10-13/Ps 69:8-10, 14 and 17,
33-35/Rom 5:12-15/Mt 10:26-33
Monday: 2 Kgs 17:5-8, 13-15a, 18/Ps 60:3, 4-5,
12-13/Mt 7:1-5
Tuesday: 2 Kgs 19:9b-11, 14-21, 31-35a, 36/
Ps 48:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 10-11/Mt 7:6, 12-14
Wednesday: **Vigil:** Jer 1:4-10/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5-6ab,
15ab and 17/1 Pt 1:8-12/Lk 1:5-17
Day: Is 49:1-6/Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab,
14c-15/Acts 13:22-26/Lk 1:57-66, 80
Thursday: 2 Kgs 24:8-17/ Ps 79:1b-2, 3-5, 8, 9/
Mt 7:21-29
Friday: 2 Kgs 25:1-12/ Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6/Mt 8:1-4
Saturday: Lam 2:2, 10-14, 18-19/ Ps 74:1b-2, 3-5, 6-7,
20-21/Mt 8:5-17
Sunday: 2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a/Ps 89:2-3, 16-17,
18-19/Rom 6:3-4, 8-11/Mt 10:37-42)



SCAN QR CODE TO DONATE



June 13/14 Masses \$ 22,285.50
June 13/14 Online \$ 2,333.43
Total collection: \$ 24,618.93

Universal Church Collection \$ 9,422.00

*Thank you for your support! ¡Gracias por su apoyo!
Cảm ơn tấm lòng quảng đại của mọi người.*

lecturas de la semana del 21 de junio

Domingo: Jr 20, 10-13/Sal 68, 8-10. 14 y 17. 33-35/Rom 5, 12-15/Mt 10, 26-33

Lunes: 2 Re 17, 5-8. 13-15. 18/Sal 59, 3. 4-5. 12-13/Mt 7, 1-5

Martes: 2 Re 19, 9-11. 14-21. 31-35. 36/ Sal 47, 2-3. 3-4. 10-11/Mt 7, 6. 12-14

Miércoles: *Vigilia*, Jr 1, 4-10/Sal 70, 1-2. 3-4. 5-6. 15 y 17/ 1 Pe 1, 8-12/Lc 1, 5-17 *Día*, Is 49, 1-6/Sal 138, 1b-3. 13-14. 14-15/Hch 13, 22-26/Lc 1, 57-66. 80

Jueves: 2 Re 24, 8-17/ Sal 78, 1-2. 3-5. 8. 9/Mt 7, 21-29

Viernes: 2 Re 25, 1-12/ Sal 136, 1-2. 3. 4-5. 6/Mt 8, 1-4

Sábado: Lam 2, 2. 10-14. 18-19/ Sal 73, 1-2. 3-5. 6-7. 20-21/Mt 8, 5-17

Domingo: 2 Re 4, 8-11. 14-16/Sal 88, 2-3. 16-17. 18-19/ Rom 6, 3-4. 8-11/Mt 10, 37-42

Las conmemoraciones de la semana del 21 de junio

Domingo: 12º Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario;
Día del Trabajo (EEUU)

Lunes: San Paulino de Nola, obispo; San Juan Fisher, obispo, y San Tomás Moro, mártires

Miércoles: La Natividad de San Juan Bautista

Sábado: San Cirilo de Alejandría, obispo y doctor de la Iglesia

Domingo: 13º Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

(PRACTICANDO) CATÓLICA: RECONOCE A DIOS EN TUS MOMENTOS ORDINARIOS

Por Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Mini reflexión: me gano la vida escribiendo para publicaciones católicas. Mis lectores seguro que estarán de acuerdo conmigo — normalmente están leyendo mis palabras en una iglesia. Pero en mi vida personal, soy mucho menos atrevida. No temo a quienes pueden matar mi cuerpo, pero sí temo a quienes pueden destruir mi reputación.

No Temas a Nadie

En la pintura de 1883 "Misa en una cabaña de Connemara", una pequeña congregación de fieles vestidos de forma descuidada se agrupa en una sala con poca decoración. Un sacerdote extiende la mano sobre ellos en señal de bendición. Una mujer apoya la frente en el suelo en señal de oración.

Esta pintura, creada en 1883 por Aloysius O'Kelley, representa una "misa de estación", ofrecida para la comunidad en una casa particular. Aunque esta práctica se originó en la época de las Leyes Penales, cuando el culto católico era ilegal en Irlanda, persistió incluso después de la "emancipación" de los católicos en el siglo XIX.

He puesto comillas alrededor de la palabra "emancipación" porque nunca debemos olvidar que el hecho de que algo se legalice no significa que se haga popular. Y desde luego no se hace seguro.

En los momentos que transcurren inmediatamente después de que termine esta escena, las velas del altar se apagan y

los fieles se dispersan, llevando el Cuerpo y la Sangre de Cristo a un mundo que desconfía de él, que desconfía de ellos.

Y, sin embargo, aquí están, arrodillados. Con las frentes pegadas al suelo.

Esta pintura está sobre la mesa de oración de mi familia como un llamado a la reflexión. Me gano la vida escribiendo cosas católicas para publicaciones católicas. Las personas que leen lo que escribo seguramente están de acuerdo conmigo: normalmente están leyendo mis palabras en una iglesia. Debo confesar que en mi vida personal soy mucho menos atrevida. Temo la controversia. Me da miedo ofender. Me derrumbo bajo el peso del disciplinado.

No importa que la mayoría de los estadounidenses se identifiquen como "cristianos" — el mundo al que nos enfrentamos al salir de misa está tan resentido con la verdadera enseñanza católica como el mundo que hay más allá de la casa de O'Kelley en Connemara. Y aunque no temo a quienes pueden matar mi cuerpo, sí temo a quienes pueden destruir mi reputación.

"Misa en una cabaña de Connemara" ilustra cómo mis antepasados adoraban: en secreto, en sombra.

Yo Adoro a plena luz del día.

¿Quién de nosotros reconoce a Cristo más plenamente? ¿Con más valentía? ©LPi

MEDITACIÓN DEL EVANGELIO – ALENTAR UN ENTENDIMIENTO MÁS PROFUNDO DE LA ESCRITURA

Actualmente estamos llenos de miedo: miedo a perder el trabajo, a ser deportados, o a que nuestros hijos e hijas se queden solos en este país. Son muchos los miedos que nos aterrorizan y nos paralizan de varias formas. Contra el miedo existe la confianza en que saldremos adelante de las dificultades. Pero, ¿cómo? ¿Qué hacer, cómo actuar? La única forma es prepararnos con un plan, para que no nos tome desprevenidos si llegara a suceder alguna circunstancia difícil en nuestra vida. La Palabra de Dios en la liturgia de hoy nos dice que Jesús sigue preparando a sus discípulos para afrontar las adversidades: *"Pero no les tengan miedo. Nada hay oculto que no llegue a ser descubierto, ni nada secreto que no llegue a saberse"* (Mateo 10:26).

El miedo lo experimentamos todos, viejos y jóvenes. Por eso, Jesús prepara a sus discípulos para que estén listos, y nos prepara a nosotros para lo mismo. Decía el Papa Francisco que el miedo es uno de los peores enemigos de la vida cristiana. Todo lo que genera inseguridad en la vida es lo desconocido: lo que no vemos ni sentimos, lo que no podemos controlar. Pongámonos del lado de Dios y tengamos confianza. En nuestra oración digamos, como sus apóstoles: *"Señor, auméntanos la fe"* (Lucas 17:5). Confiar en Dios es un proceso de toda la vida, pero Él no defrauda y calma toda tempestad, por muy dura que sea. ¡Gracias Señor, por estar siempre conmigo! ©LPi

Mừng Ngày Hiền Phụ Chúa Nhật 21/6/26

Hội đồng mục vụ xin trân trọng kính chúc quý người cha, quý ông, và tất cả những ai đang sống ơn gọi làm cha được tràn đầy ân sủng, sức mạnh và bình an từ Thiên Chúa.

Xin Chúa chúc lành cho những hy sinh thầm lặng, tình yêu quảng đại và sự dẫn dắt đầy kiên nhẫn mà quý ông dành cho gia đình và cộng đoàn.

Nguyện xin Thánh Giuse - gương mẫu của người cha công chính - luôn đồng hành, gìn giữ và nâng đỡ quý ông trong mọi bước đường của đời sống đức tin với nhiều niềm vui, sức khỏe và phúc lành.

Chia Tay
Tri Ân

Trong tinh thần vâng phục và phục vụ của người Mục Tử nhân lành, sau thời gian gần bó và tận tụy với Cộng Đoàn chúng ta, Cha Quản Nhiệm đã nhận bài sai mới.

Thánh lễ cuối cùng của Cha với Cộng Đoàn vào lúc 4h00 chiều Chúa Nhật, ngày 28/6/26.

Sau Thánh Lễ sẽ có ăn nhẹ tại patio bên hông thánh đường, để ông bà anh chị em có dịp gặp gỡ, chia tay và bày tỏ lòng biết ơn đối với sự phục vụ, hy sinh và tình yêu mục tử mà Cha đã dành cho cộng đoàn chúng ta trong suốt thời gian qua.

PHÂN ƯU



Cộng đoàn Giáo xứ Thánh Polycarp xin thành kính phân ưu cùng gia đình Bác sĩ Nguyễn Thanh Tâm.

Trước sự ra đi của Cụ Ông PHAOLÔ NGUYỄN THÀNH ĐẠT, được Chúa gọi về ngày 27/5/2026, hưởng thọ 89 tuổi.

Trong niềm tin vào Đức Kitô Phục Sinh, xin hiệp thông cầu nguyện cho linh hồn Cụ PHAOLÔ sớm được hưởng Nhan Thánh Chúa.

Đối với Chúa, sự chết của những người hiếu trung thật là quý giá. (Tv 116,15)

Xin Chúa là nguồn an ủi và bình an nâng đỡ tang quyến trong lúc đau buồn này, và ban niềm hy vọng vào sự sống đời đời mà Chúa đã hứa ban cho những ai tin tưởng nơi Người.

10

CÁCH ĐỂ CẦU NGUYỆN TỐT NHẤT

- 1.** Hằng ngày bạn hãy để ra vài phút và đừng nói gì cả. Bạn hãy thực tập việc nghỉ về Chúa. Và để việc thực hành này giúp bạn dễ dàng thấm nhuần ơn thiêng liêng.
- 2.** Cất lời cầu nguyện. Bạn chỉ dùng những lời nói đơn giản, kể cho Chúa biết tất cả những gì đang có trong tâm tư. Bạn đừng dùng những kinh nguyện đã được soạn sẵn trong sách vở. Bạn hãy dùng những lời nói của chính bạn. Chúa nghe, và hiểu rõ bạn hơn ai hết.
- 3.** Hãy cầu nguyện khi bạn lên đường đi làm, trên đường đi, hay trên bàn giấy... Cầu nguyện khắp nơi. Hãy dùng cách cầu nguyện trong chốc lát, gạt bỏ những sự vật xung quanh, tập trung tinh thần vào việc Chúa đang hiện diện trước mặt. Thực hành như vậy nhiều lần trong ngày, bạn sẽ cảm thấy Chúa luôn hiện diện thực sự trong cuộc đời bạn.
- 4.** Khi cầu nguyện không cần lúc nào cũng phải xin ơn, nhưng luôn ca ngợi hồng ân Thiên Chúa đã và đang ban cho bạn. Nhớ dâng lời tạ ơn nhiều hơn là xin ơn.
- 5.** Cầu nguyện và tin rằng những lời cầu nguyện chân thành ấy sẽ lan rộng và bao trùm trên những người bạn yêu thương, bằng sự yêu thương, che chở của Thiên Chúa.
- 6.** Bạn đừng bao giờ dùng những tư tưởng tiêu cực trong lời cầu nguyện. Chỉ có tư tưởng tích cực mới đạt hiệu quả, dẫn bạn tới thành công.
- 7.** Bạn hãy luôn tỏ ra thuận theo Thánh Ý Chúa. Hãy xin Chúa ban điều bạn muốn xin, nhưng hoàn toàn theo Ý Chúa, vì những gì Chúa muốn bao giờ cũng tốt đẹp hơn những điều bạn muốn.
- 8.** Hãy phó thác mọi sự trong tay Chúa. Xin Chúa ban cho bạn sự thông minh, khéo léo để thi hành công việc, song kết quả để cho Chúa định liệu.
- 9.** Hãy cố gắng cầu nguyện cho cả những người bạn không ưa, hoặc những người đã làm hại bạn. Sự thù hận chính là trở ngại lớn lao cho việc tiến bộ về tâm linh và sự an bình cho tâm hồn.
- 10.** Bạn hãy lên một danh sách những người bạn cầu nguyện cho. Bạn càng cầu nguyện cho tha nhân, nhất là cầu nguyện cho những người không có liên hệ gì với bạn, thì kết quả của lời cầu nguyện ấy càng mau chóng đổ dồn về bạn.

| Lm. Mi Trầm |

CELEBRATING FATHERS EVERYWHERE!

Pray for the Sick

Jason Minton
Ngoc Tran
Richard Saragosa
Rosa Garcia
Anaid Serrato
Brenda Barrios
Natalia Aguilar
Judy Andrade
Tran Tan Ngan
Neha
Salomon Jr. Villa
Huong Tran

Funerals

Benjamin Dai Duong Vo (6/25 @ 10 AM)
Camille Bixler (6/26 @ 10:30 AM)

Wedding Banns

Jose Romero & Vanessa Linan
Natalie & Juan

Everyone is invited to join us on the patio on the west side of the church for a

SPECIAL FAREWELL RECEPTION

Join us as we honor

**FR. LUIS
FR. NICOLAUS
S. JESSICA**

**SUNDAY
JUNE 28** | **10 AM, 12PM,
5 PM**

SAINT POLYCARP CATHOLIC CHURCH

SAVE THE DATE

SEPTEMBER 11, 12 & 13 2026

St. Polycarp Fiesta

ST. POLYCARP CATHOLIC CHURCH
8100 CHAPMAN AVE. STANTON, CA 90680

FIESTA.POLYCARP@GMAIL.COM

St. Polycarp Church presents:

BLAST FROM THE PAST

TALENT SHOW 2026

FREE FOOD, RAFFLE PRIZES, AND SPECIAL GUESTS!

FRIDAY, AUGUST 21st

6:00PM

Saint Polycarp School Courtyard

Auditions: July 12th & 19th

To RSVP, scan the QR code or contact karaford@stpolarpc.org

SCAN ME

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE HOURS

English/Spanish Religious Education
(714) 892-3158

Monday/Thursday	2PM - 6PM
Saturday	9AM - 1PM

Confirmation Programs
(714) 890-5200

Tuesday/Wednesday	1PM - 5:30PM
Friday	1PM - 5PM
Sunday	8AM - 3PM

Vietnamese Religious Education
(714) 620-7895

Monday/Wednesday/Friday	2PM - 5:30PM
Saturday	10AM - 1PM

OUR LADY, MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP *Feast Day Celebration*



**WEDNESDAY
JUNE 24, 2026**

Mass at 6:30PM

Bilingual (English & Spanish)

**HOLY FAMILY CHURCH
ORANGE, CA**

- FLOWER OFFERING
- PROCESSION
- MASS followed by FELLOWSHIP
- MUSIC and LIGHT RECEPTION in the PARISH HALL

**Please mark your calendars
and plan to join in the celebration!**

FAHF invites you to share this
celebration in devotion to Our Lady

www.hforange.org/fahf



DIÓCESIS DE ORANGE

InstitutoOCP

¡Cantemos al Señor!

Noches de Formación y Entrenamiento para Mariachis



Pedro Rubalcava



Anna Betancourt



Koren Ruiz

10-13 de agosto

Lunes - Miércoles: 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Jueves: 7:00 PM - 9:00 pm

Catedral de Cristo

15280 Chapman Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92646



Costo

Participantes de mariachi:

\$100 por mariachi

Inscríbese hoy!

Con música cantada de **Flor y Canto**

Para más información, comuníquese con:

Office of Worship 714-282-3041 | worship@rcbo.org



THE DIOCESE
of ORANGE
JORDAN UNIVERSITY



formandoc.org
Instituto OCP Centro
de Mariachis



The Serra Clubs invite you to the
Diocese of Orange Ordinati Luncheon
honoring the newly ordained



Rev. Francis Raymond Macapagal Ang

on

Tuesday, July 14, 2026

Christ Cathedral • 13280 Chapman Avenue
Garden Grove, CA 92840

Mass at 10:30 a.m.

Chapel in the Sky
Tower of Hope • 13th Floor

**Reception & Lunch
immediately to follow**

Richard H. Pickup
Cultural Center • 4th Floor

**\$60 per person
RSVP by July 6**

Contact: Lourdes Papac
(714) 287-9023
papac@sbcglobal.net

Zelle: (949) 244-9670 or
Mail Check to Serra Club of O.C.
P.O. Box 5781,
Newport Beach,
CA 92662

LEO XIV

GENERAL AUDIENCE

Wednesday, 27 May 2026

Catechesis. The Documents of the Second Vatican Council. III. Constitution *Sacrosanctum Concilium*. 2. The reform of the liturgy: tradition and development

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning and welcome!

In the Encyclical *Mediator Dei*, the Venerable Pius XII writes that “the Church is without question a living organism, and as an organism, in respect of the sacred liturgy also, she grows, matures, develops, adapts and accommodates herself to temporal needs and circumstances, provided only that the integrity of her doctrine be safeguarded” (no. 59).

In full accordance with this principle, the Second Vatican Council, in the Introduction to the Constitution *Sacrosanctum Concilium* (*SC*), recognizes “particularly cogent reasons for undertaking the reform and promotion of the liturgy” (no. 1). The Council assembly was gathered, in fact, with the desire to “impart an ever increasing vigour to the Christian life of the faithful; to adapt more suitably to the needs of our own times those institutions which are subject to change; to foster whatever can promote union among all who believe in Christ; to strengthen whatever can help to call the whole of mankind into the household of the Church” (*ibid.*).

At that moment in history, there was a strong sense of the need for a renewal of the ritual forms through which, for centuries, the Church had glorified God and sanctified the Christian people. Thanks to the Liturgical Movement, the conviction had matured—later expressed by Saint John Paul II—that “a very close and organic bond exists between the renewal of the liturgy and the renewal of the whole life of the Church. The Church not only acts but also expresses herself in the liturgy, lives by the liturgy and draws from the liturgy the strength for her life” (Letter *Dominicae Cenerae*, 13).

To encourage the access of the faithful to the richness of the gifts of grace dispensed by the sacred liturgy, the Constitution *Sacrosanctum Concilium* thus indicates, with a very effective phrase, the direction to take: “That sound tradition may be retained, and yet the way remain open to legitimate progress” (*SC*, 23).

Pope Benedict XVI grasped in this declaration of intent the “reform programme” of the Council Fathers, “a balance between the great liturgical tradition of the past and that of the future”, noting that “tradition and progress are often clumsily opposed”, whereas “actually, the two concepts merge: tradition is a living reality, which therefore includes in itself the principle of development, of progress. It is as if to say that the river of tradition also carries its source in itself and flows towards the outlet” (*Address to participants in the Congress promoted by the Pontifical Athenaeum of Saint Anselm on the 50th anniversary of foundation*, 6 May 2011).

The Council affirms the legitimacy of this progress, rooted in authentic Tradition, distinguishing within the liturgy “immutable elements, divinely instituted” from “elements subject to change [which] not only may but ought to be changed with the passage of time if they have suffered from the intrusion of anything out of harmony with the inner nature of the liturgy or have become unsuited to it” (*SC*, 21). Changes of this type have taken place constantly over the centuries in order to enable the faithful to participate fruitfully, through ritual actions, in the Paschal Mystery of Christ, the foundation of the Christian faith. The Church’s worship has thus been “embodied” in the cultural forms of each age and has been able to influence them and even transform them. The liturgy has thus been, for centuries, a driving force for evangelization. Today, this energy must be renewed in continuity with the authentic and living Catholic tradition, that is, in accordance with a dynamic aimed at introducing believers to the fullness of the truth.

It is therefore understandable why the Council Fathers recommended that the revision of the rites, when “the good of the Church genuinely and certainly requires them”, must be carried out taking care that “any new forms adopted should in some way grow organically from forms already existing” (*SC*, 23). For the good of the entire Church, every reform must always be preceded by careful “theological, historical and pastoral” investigation (*ibid.*). The Council Magisterium, in this way, thus calls for the avoidance of confusion amongst the faithful, discouraging anyone from adding, removing or altering anything in liturgical matters on their own initiative (cf. *SC*, 22). The progress evoked in the *Conciliar Constitution* in no way compromises ecclesial communion: rather, it seeks to confirm and foster it.

I therefore urge all those called to prepare the celebration of the divine mysteries, in particular priests who exercise the ministry of liturgical presidency, to always uphold that respect for the texts and regulations of the liturgy which springs from an inner attitude of openness and trust in God, manifesting humility before His greatness and sincere fidelity to ecclesial communion.

APPEAL – I am following with concern the war in Ukraine, which has intensified significantly in recent days. I wish to express my solidarity with all those suffering as a result of the recent attacks, which have also targeted civilians.

War does not solve problems; it exacerbates them. It does not build security; it multiplies suffering and hatred. Where missiles and drones fall, hopes are crushed, homes and places of worship are destroyed, and innocent lives are cut short.

I entrust all peoples stricken by war to the protection of the Virgin Mary, Queen of Peace.

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

"Sing to the LORD,
praise the LORD,
for he has rescued the life of the poor
from the power of the wicked!" (Jer 20:13)

Psalm:

Lord, in your great love, answer me. (Ps 69)

Second Reading:

But the gift is not like the transgression.
For if by the transgression of the one the many died,
how much more did the grace of God
and the gracious gift of the one man Jesus Christ
overflow for the many. (Rom 5:15)

Gospel:

"What I say to you in the darkness, speak in the light;
what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops."
(Mt 10:27)

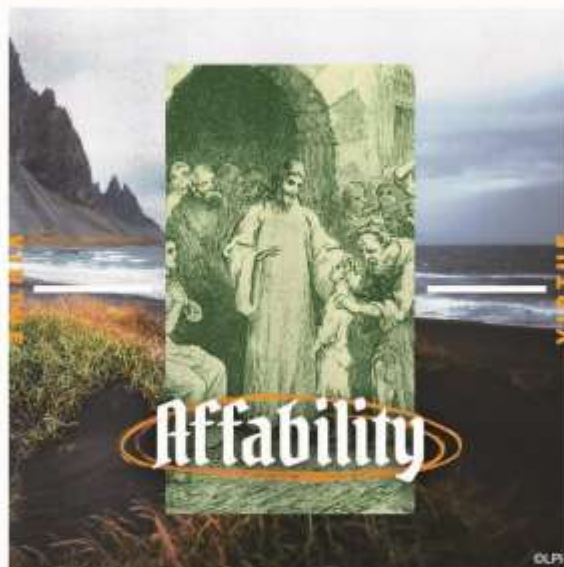
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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

"What I say to you in the darkness, speak in the light." We all hear God's voice whispering in our hearts. Discipleship means speaking those words out loud. We all feel the Spirit sing into our souls. Discipleship means that we dance to the tune.

Observances for the week of June 21, 2026

- Sunday:** 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time; *Father's Day*
Monday: St. Paulinus of Nola, Bishop; Sts. John Fisher, Bishop, and Thomas More, Martyrs
Wednesday: The Nativity of St. John the Baptist
Saturday: St. Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Next Sunday: 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Virtues, Explained!

In being affable, we make ourselves friendly, approachable, and agreeable to those around us, regardless of how they make us feel. "How good and how pleasant it is when brothers dwell together as one," writes King David in Psalm 133.

Blessing for Juneteenth

Dear Lord,
Pour Your goodness and grace
upon our brothers and sisters.
Even as we celebrate our
triumphs, be with us in today's
work that strives to bring justice
to the oppressed and liberty to
captives. Write Your message of
freedom in our hearts, so that we
might live more deeply healed.
Amen.

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: I make my living writing for Catholic publications. My readers are bound to agree with me — they're usually reading my words in a church. But in my personal life, I am far less bold. I do not fear those who can kill my body, but I do fear those who can kill my reputation.

Fear No One

In the 1883 painting "Mass in a Connemara Cabin," a small congregation of shabbily dressed faithful is huddled together in a sparsely appointed room. A priest extends his hand over them in blessing. One woman presses her forehead to the ground in prayer.

This painting, created in 1883 by Aloysius O'Kelley, depicts a "station Mass," offered for the community in a private home. Though this practice originated in the period of the Penal Laws, when Catholic worship was illegal in Ireland, it persisted even after the "emancipation" of Catholics in the 19th century.

I have used quotation marks around the word "emancipation" because we must never forget that just because something is made legal does not mean it is made popular. And it certainly is not made safe.

In the moments that pass immediately after this scene concludes, the altar candles will be extinguished and the faithful will disperse, carrying the Body and Blood of Christ into a world suspicious of him, suspicious of them.

And yet here they are, kneeling. Foreheads pressed to the floor.

This painting sits on my family's prayer table as a call to reflection. I make my living writing Catholic things for Catholic publications. The people who read what I write are bound to agree with me — they're usually reading my words in a church. I must confess that in my personal life, I am far less bold. I fear controversy. I dread giving offense. I buckle beneath the weight of discipleship.

It doesn't matter that most Americans identify as "Christians" — the world we face when we leave Mass is every bit as resentful of true Catholic teaching as the world that lies beyond O'Kelley's Connemara cottage. And while I do not fear those who can kill my body, I do fear those who can kill my reputation.

"Mass in a Connemara Cabin" illustrates how my ancestors worshiped: in secret, in shadow.

I worship in the daylight.

Which of us acknowledges Christ more fully? More courageously?

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that?

Catholic Life Explained

Question:

Why are only men allowed to be priests or deacons in the Church?

Answer:

One of the most debated and — in some circles — contentious teachings of the Church is that only men can be ordained as priests and deacons. Critics see it as a way of strengthening a patriarchal system in which women have little or no voice. Those who support this teaching look to New Testament teaching (where we read of Jesus choosing only men to be apostles) and the long-standing practice of the Church. This was certainly the perspective of St. John Paul II who, in his 1994 apostolic letter, *Ordinatio Sacerdotalis*, closed the discussion on the possibility of ordaining women as priests.

In the letter, he reflected on the dignity of women and their call to share in the life and mission of the Church, but he concluded by solemnly declaring that "the Church has no authority whatsoever to confer priestly ordination on women and that this judgement is to be definitely held by all the Church's faithful" (no. 4).

This position has been upheld by Pope Francis in interviews, most notably as he returned from his 2016 visit to Sweden.

The ordination of women to the diaconate is another question and one which is being studied. In 2016, Pope Francis created a 12-member commission to study the question from several perspectives (theological, liturgical, historical, etc.). The commission issued an initial report for Pope Francis who later said that the commission had not yet produced a "definite response" to the question because of a lack of agreement on the role of female deacons in the Early Church.

For now, however, regardless of what changes might come from ongoing study and debate, the Church continues to reserve ordination to the diaconate to men only, recognizing a vital link between the diaconate and the priesthood and the lack of certainty about the presence and function of female deacons throughout history.



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