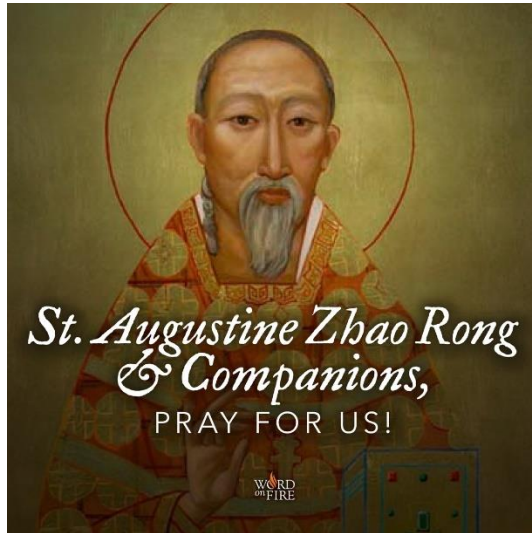


This Week in Saint Celebrations

This week, we celebrate St. Elizabeth of Portugal (Monday), St. Maria Goretti (Tuesday), and St. Augustin Zhao Rong (Friday).

Saint Augustine Zhao Rong's and Companions' Stories



Christianity arrived in China by way of Syria in the 600s. Depending on China's relations with the outside world, Christianity over the centuries was free to grow or was forced to operate secretly.

The 120 martyrs in this group died between 1648 and 1930. Eighty-seven of them were born in China, and were children, parents, catechists, or laborers, ranging in age from nine years to 72. This group includes four Chinese diocesan priests. The 33 foreign-born martyrs were

mostly priests or women religious, especially from the Order of Preachers, the Paris Foreign Mission Society, the Friars Minor, Society of Jesus, Society of St. Francis de Sales (Salesians), and Franciscan Missionaries of Mary.

Augustine Zhao Rong was a Chinese soldier who accompanied Bishop John Gabriel Taurin Dufresse of the Paris Foreign Mission Society to his martyrdom in Beijing. Not long after his baptism, Augustine was ordained as a diocesan priest. He was martyred in 1815. Beatified in groups at various times, these 120 martyrs were canonized together in Rome on October 1, 2000.

Great places to find the stories of Saints

Long and Detailed: www.newadvent.org

Shorter: www.catholiconline.org/saints

www.franciscanmedia.org/saintoftheday



St. Cecilia Catholic Church
1226 College Avenue
PO Box 306
Kennett, MO 63857

July 4, 2021

Fr. David Baunach, Pastor
417-851-7136 davidbaunach@gmail.com

Luis Hernandez, Hispanic Ministry
(417) 496-5622
Lynnette Anderson, Parish Secretary
Vanessa Cowart, PSR Director
(561) 351-1380
Magda Cazares, Youth Group Director

Weekly Schedule

Sunday Masses: 10:30am Mass in English (10am Rosary; Divine Mercy Chaplet the first Sunday of the month)

1pm Mass in Spanish

Monday: Adoration 5:30-6:30

Wednesday: Adoration at 5; mass at 6

Fr. David is available for the **Sacrament of Reconciliation** during Adoration or by appointment.

If you would like to receive the Holy Eucharist and are unable to attend mass, please contact Fr. David at his number above.

Please pray for /Oramos para:

Deanne Cole, Arjona Family, Sandy DeLisle, Greg Bradley, Bob and Sharon Hines, Vera Gleuck, Kathy Larsen, Joe Barnefiher. Especially let us remember the deceased, our clergy and bishop, Covid quarantined parishioners, our chronically ill, and our homebound.

Fr. David's Parish Office Hours:

Kennett Monday and Wednesday 10-4, Tuesday off, Thursday and Friday in Portageville 10-4

Collection Information

*Sorry that last week was missing. I was on vacation and did the bulletin very early, missing the collection information.

June 27: Adult, \$765

Loose: \$227

Totus Tuus Week Coming to Portageville

All are welcome! This July 11 to 16, there are college aged missionaries coming to St. Eustachius in Portageville to hold a week of fun, faith, and food! The program lasts from 9am to 3pm Monday through Friday. Space still available! See pamphlets in the vestibule of church for more information.



Calendar of Events

July 4 Second Collection for Mother's House in Hayti

July 7 Parish Council Meeting after Mass

July 12-16 Totus Tuus in Portageville

July 16 Party for Fr. Mark Binder at St. Teresa in Glennonville

July 19-23 St. Cecilia Catholic Camp!



Fr. Mark Binder is Celebrating his 50th Anniversary!

Come celebrate our beloved former pastor and co-founder of Camp Renewall! Let him know how much his vocation has meant to the people of the Catholic Church.

All are invited to a mass on Friday, July 16th at 6pm at St. Teresa's in Glennonville. A reception will follow the mass. Ask Mary Branch for more details.



Saint Maria Goretti's Story

One of the largest crowds ever assembled for a canonization—250,000—symbolized the reaction of millions touched by the simple story of Maria Goretti. She was the daughter of a poor Italian tenant farmer, had no chance to go to school, never learned to read or write. When Maria made her First Communion not long before her death, she was one of the larger and somewhat backward members of the class.

On a hot afternoon in July, Maria was sitting at the top of the stairs of her house, mending a shirt. She was not quite 12 years old, but physically mature. A cart stopped outside, and a neighbor, 18-year-old Alessandro, ran up the stairs. He seized her and pulled her into a bedroom. She struggled and tried to call for help. “No, God does not wish it,” she cried out. “It is a sin. You would go to hell for it.” Alessandro began striking at her blindly with a long dagger.

Maria was taken to a hospital. Her last hours were marked by the usual simple compassion of the good—concern about where her mother would sleep, forgiveness of her murderer (she had been in fear of him, but did not say anything lest she cause trouble to his family), and her devout welcoming of Viaticum, her last Holy Communion. She died about 24 hours after the attack.

Alessandro was sentenced to 30 years in prison. For a long time he was unrepentant and surly. One night he had a dream or vision of Maria gathering flowers and offering them to him. His life changed. When he was released after 27 years, his first act was to beg the forgiveness of Maria's mother.

Devotion to the young martyr grew, miracles were worked, and in less than half a century she was canonized. At her beatification in 1947, her 82-year-old mother, two sisters, and her brother appeared with Pope Pius XII on the balcony of St. Peter's. Three years later, at Maria's canonization, a 66-year-old Alessandro Serenelli knelt among the quarter-million people and cried tears of joy.

St. Cecilia Catholic Summer Camp is Coming Soon!



July 19-23, Monday through Friday
from 9am-4pm;

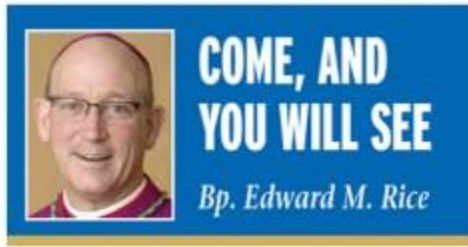
grades 1-8 are welcome!

Come learn more about your faith, go
to mass, and pray!

Our very own Youth Group will be
helping out with sports, games, arts
and crafts, singing, and all-around
fun...with plenty of faith!

(Register today!)

We sow hope with our outreach



In a letter dated May 27, 2021, we received a thank you note from the youth of Children's Haven, Joplin, MO, for the generous donation of \$23,698.69. You may recall that Children's Haven was the recipient of our 2021 Lenten Youth Mission of Mercy where I asked the youth of our diocese to collect their pennies, nickels, and dimes to benefit this temporary home for

children of families in crisis. With the money that was raised by our children, Children's Haven was able to complete their Playground Project.

Recently, I was able to visit and pass out treats to the PSR students at St. William, Buffalo, MO, who raised the most money per capital for PSR programs. In the fall, once school is back in session, I will visit the students of Guardian Angel Catholic School, Oran, that raised the most money per capita for our Catholic school programs. A word of thanks to Lynn Melendez and Sr. Janine Tran, CMR, for their hard work in putting the materials together. This is the fourth Lenten Youth Mission of Mercy, initiated at the end of the Year of Mercy to fulfill the request of Pope Francis, "May our works of mercy never end." Our projects included the Eden Village "Tiny Homes" Project, Springfield, (\$39,227.21); Birthright, Cape Girardeau, (\$28,301.34); Whole Kids Outreach, Ellington (\$12,701.51), and our most recent project in Joplin, Children's Haven. All together our youth have raised \$103,928.75. May our works of mercy never end!!!

The above information leads well into my next thought! While vesting for a recent Mass at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Bolivar, celebrating its 75th anniversary, I found the following words framed on the wall of the rectory:

Listen Christian

I was hungry and you formed a humanities club and discussed my hunger. Thank you.

I was imprisoned and you crept off quietly to your chapel in the cellar and prayed for my release.

I was naked and in your mind you debated the morality of my appearance.

I was sick and you knelt and thanked God for your health.

I was homeless and you preached to me of the spiritual shelter of the love of God.

I was lonely and you left me alone, to pray for me.

You seem so holy; so very close to God.

But I'm still very hungry, and lonely, and cold. Thank You (Bob Rowland)

Why have I asked for every parish and mission of our diocese to have some outreach to the poor? Why have I asked for active St. Vincent de Paul Societies and cooperation with local food pantries? I think the reflection above is the answer. When I first read the poem, it sort of punched me in the gut. I wanted to explain it away and justify myself. We do a lot for the poor—and that's true. But we can never do enough! St. Vincent de Paul, the great saint of the poor, told his priests, "Let us love God, my brothers, let us love God, but let it be with the strength of our arms and the sweat of our brows." He would go on to say never feel bad if the bell rings during prayer. Leave the chapel to serve the person in need at the door. You move from praising God in the chapel to serving God in the person at the door. In my role as the bishop of the diocese, I have to ask if I/we are doing as much as we can to assist those in need? It is a reminder that until the Good Lord returns, we must stay busy being his hands, his heart, his love!

Remain with Jesus

By now everyone is well into the swing of summer. As families plan their vacation, I encourage everyone to make that extra effort to attend Sunday Mass. I've often been told that going to Mass on vacation becomes part of good family memories. Along with whatever your summer destinations may be, be sure to include Sunday Mass! To help you, there is a Website specifically designed to help Catholics get to Mass, masstimes.org. Have a great summer! You can take a break from school but not from growing in your relationship with Jesus!

Independence Day

With the Independence Day holiday right around the corner, we also give thanks for the blessings of our country, "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." "God bless America, land that I love!" Have a safe summer. ©TM