

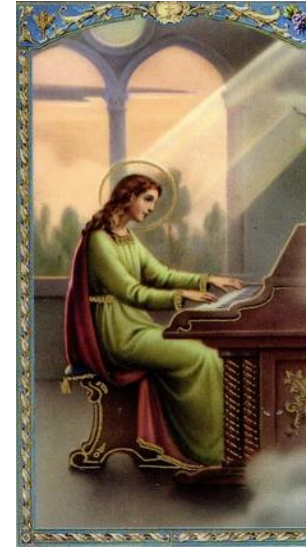
The writing of St. James' letter for us today calls us to live out our answer to Jesus' second question. We are called to live our response in the combination of both faith and works. We are people who believe in all that Jesus said and taught. We are to act in the same way that he did in his faithfulness to the Father and in his care, kindness, and compassion with all.

The Gospel also calls us to a deeper level of living. Jesus shares with his apostles that he must suffer, be rejected, be killed and rise on the third day. He is revealing the Father's "Divine Plan of Salvation." This begins with Jesus' salvific act. However, Jesus asks all of us, both his apostles and us, to take up our cross daily and to offer our lives as he has offered his life.

At this point, Simon Peter objects to Jesus' revelation of suffering. Jesus stops Peter and says, "Peter, you need to 'retool your thinking'. The way of Divine Love is to be manifested by total love surrendered in the face of evil, both by your Lord and by each of you who follow me and call yourself 'Christian'." We fulfill in our lives today what St. James' letter says: we live out our Christian lives with both faith and works that complement each other.

Does anyone remember those billboards with total black background and simple white letter messages? One billboard said, "LET GO; LET GOD." When Jesus said to Peter, "You are thinking not as God does, but as humans do," Jesus could well have said, "LET GO; LET GOD!"

***Father Binder is a retired priest of the diocese and lives in Chaffee, MO.***



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**September 12, 2021**

**Fr. David Baunach, Pastor**

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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  
(10:05am Rosary; Divine Mercy Chaplet the first Sunday of the month)  
1pm Mass in Spanish  
Monday: Adoration 5:30-6:30

**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:**

+Mary Gurley, Deanne Cole, Sandy DeLisle, Greg Bradley, Bob and Sharon Hines, Vera Gleuck, Kathy Larsen. 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  
Wednesday: Adoration at 5; mass at 6

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

### Collection Information for September 5

Adult Collection: \$1016.00  
Loose: \$220  
Mother's House: \$112.00  
Youth Group Car Wash: \$184

### Monthly Calendar of Events

**Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>** PSR Meeting for First Communion and Confirmation parents  
**Wednesday, September 15** Youth Bible Study and Pizza after mass  
(Grades 2 and 5-8, as well as anyone older who desires Confirmation)  
**September 28-October 2** St. Cecilia Delta Fair Booth  
**October 3** Mother's House Collection  
**October 6** Parish Council Meeting

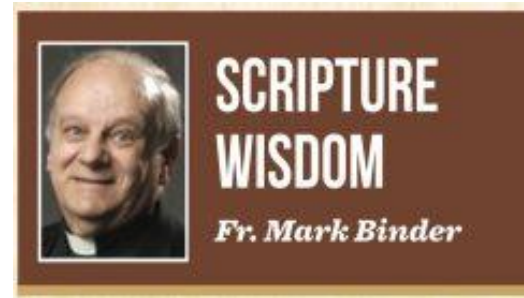
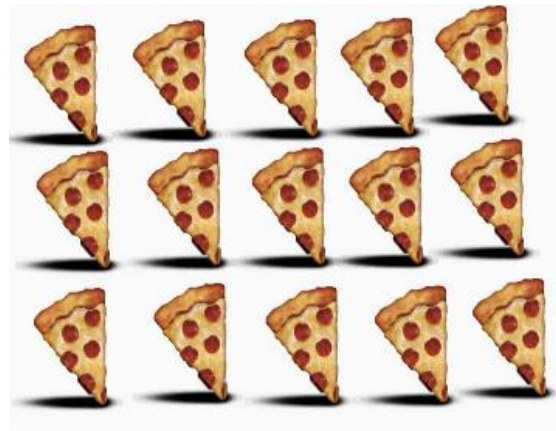
### Spiritual Campaign

We are starting a Spiritual Campaign at St. Cecilia! This is the first initiative of our new Parish Council working with the norms promulgated by Bishop Rice this summer. It will be a campaign of prayer, and we will begin with workshops for learning different ways to pray, then begin a time of putting these forms of prayer into practice with our families, and then forming prayer groups to carry on this most important ministry of prayer in our parish.

More information to follow! Mark your calendar: In Spanish on September 12 at 11:45am, and in English on October 10 at 11:45am.

### **Youth Bible Study: Food from God in Scripture**

Wednesday after mass!  
Grades 6-12 are Welcome!  
Bible provided, pizza and drinks will be served.  
This Week: Abraham, Melchizedek, and the Offering of Bread and Wine



If you are a “score keeper” with the Scripture readings for our Sunday and Holy Week Masses, you will note that this Sunday is the third time we hear Isaiah 50:5-9a in this Church Year. The Church is continuing to ask us not to forget the Paschal Mystery, “The Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus,” which is the Divine Intention of God to bring salvation to the whole world. This Lord’s Day we find ourselves

between “The Suffering Servant” writing of the prophet Isaiah and the two specific questions of Jesus to his disciples. These two questions of Jesus are also directed to each of us in this 21<sup>st</sup> century.

We are first presented with someone who is voluntarily willing to suffer abuse, revilement, beatings, and even death itself for the sake of righteousness. Who is this person, you ask? If you lived in the day of the Prophet Isaiah, it could well be any one of the prophets calling God’s people and their kings to be faithful to God. Each prophet, “through thick and through thin,” faced the political upheavals of an irresponsible government and the onslaught of enemy armies invading their land. All of this led the people to be disobedient to God.

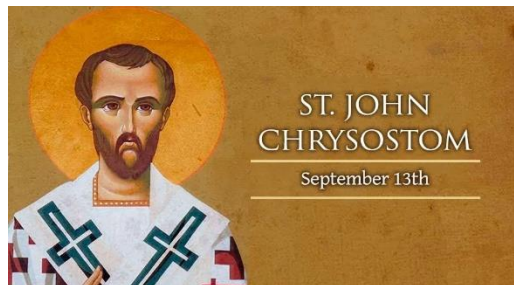
As we hear in the Gospel of Mark, Jesus’ apostles (disciples) are asked two very important questions: 1) Who do people say that I am?; and, 2) Who do you say that I am? A rephrasing could be, “What are people saying about me? What do I mean to you?”

These two questions are keys to what discipleship entails. Being a good listener, Jesus encounters what is vital to good relationships. This good relationship is what he would have had with his apostles. **Many experienced Jesus in his day but did not necessarily have a good relationship with him.** People saw and heard him, believers, and non-believers alike. Others, like the religious and political leaders, observed Jesus with skepticism and anxiety. What were these observers saying and thinking about Jesus? Is Jesus a prophet? He is John the Baptizer raised from the dead? Is he Elijah or one of the other prophets? But Jesus only has concerns with what his apostles believe. He zeros in on them: “Where are you with me? What do I mean to you?”

Continued on the next page...



## Saints This Week



*“When you are before the altar where Christ reposes, you ought no longer to think that you are amongst men; but believe that there are troops of angels and archangels standing by you, and trembling with respect before the sovereign Master of Heaven and earth. Therefore, when you are in church, be there in silence, fear, and veneration.”*  
- St. John Chrysostom

Born in Antioch, c. 347, Saint John Chrysostom (Golden-mouthed) was perhaps the greatest preacher in the history of the Church, thus the name given him, and the most prominent Greek father of the Church. He grew up in Antioch, received an excellent classical Greek education, and upon meeting the holy bishop Meletus, he decided to devote his time to the study of religious works and the Sacred Scriptures. He received Baptism after three years of study and set out for the desert to live the ascetic life of a hermit.

His extreme mortifications left him in fragile health, and he thus returned to Antioch after two years of recovery, and devoted himself to studying for the priesthood. He was ordained in 386 and served in the Cathedral of Antioch for 12 years, winning widespread fame for his sublime preaching. In 398 he was forcefully appointed Patriarch of Constantinople, and fast became very popular with his flock through his example of preaching and courage in front of the imperial power, whose corruption and decadence he never shirked from criticizing in public.

This attitude naturally made an enemy of the empress, Eudoxia as well as Theophilus, bishop of Alexandria, who had him condemned on false charges in 403. He was exiled to Armenia where he continued to be a great presence in the Church of the East through his many letters. He was exiled from Armenia to an isolated place along the Black Sea. He died during the journey in 407 in Pontus, his ill health unable to endure its rigors.

In 438 the Emperor Theodosius II of Constantinople had John's body returned to Constantinople, and did penance for the sins of his mother Eudoxia. Chrysostom's many writings, especially homilies and commentaries on the Gospels, are still extant and have exerted great influence over the centuries.

**St. Cornelius, Pope, and St. Cyprian, Bishop: Thursday September 16**

## Delta Fair



We need **water**  
**and soda**  
donations!

Please bring these items before or after masses or adoration from now until September 27<sup>th</sup>. The Delta Fair is scheduled for **September 28 to October 2**. Thank you all and God bless you.

The fair brings in thousands of dollars for our parish! Please help St. Cecilia continue her sacramental and evangelical mission.

## Bilingual Weekday Masses

Since I arrived here with Fr Dominic Ibok in 2019, there has been a small but vocal group of parishioners complaining about the Bilingual mass on Wednesday evenings. They wanted it to be only in English, even though that did not match the community who attended that mass. After consultation with the previous pastor, Fr Daniel, and the bishop, it was determined the best course was to continue to do what Fr Daniel had done prior to our arrival, and continue with the Bilingual mass as it had been for years.

These complaints have continued ever since that decision. Respecting the decision of Fr Dominic, who sought to continue things as they have been, I've decided to more fully explore the issue and make sure we are following what our Church teaches on this subject.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has *Guidelines for a Multilingual Celebration of Mass*, most recently updated in 2013. These guidelines in some ways are helpful, in other ways not. They presuppose a common language, understood by all, and this is not the case in our community. Just as there is a small group of parishioners who cannot understand Spanish, we also have a slightly larger group of parishioners, who cannot understand English.

Faced with this difficulty, and seeking to make our parish a place that is open to all, no matter their grasp of the English or Spanish languages, we will make a compromise. This compromise will both follow the guidelines by the USCCB, as well as the previous direction of Bishop Rice.

Starting the week of September 12<sup>th</sup>, we will have two weekday masses. Monday and Wednesday evening we will have adoration from 5-5:45, and mass at 6. Mass on Monday will be bilingual, English and Spanish. Wednesday mass will be in English, but the reading, psalm, Gospel, and homily will also be delivered in Spanish.

This schedule will have a trial period until Christmas, at which time we will reevaluate and see if it should continue.

In this way, anyone, no matter their grasp of either language, will be able to attend both weekday masses.

And as an exhortation to those tempted to avoid a mass because of their lack of understanding of either language: the mass is the most important thing that can possibly happen. If you do not attend because of discomfort over not knowing the language that part of the mass is in (or even all of the mass), you are doing irreparable damage to your soul. God offers you His very self in the mass, an action which transcends language. Suffering a little discomfort at not knowing the language is a small price to pay for the infinite good the mass offers to you! -Fr. David

## Liturgical Note

Thank you for bring the gift of your beautiful voices to mass every Sunday! We are going to try to get back into singing the Gloria, the Holy Holy Holy, and the Mystery of Faith next week. We will practice a few minutes before mass next week.

Gloria:

<https://youtu.be/TKHRMlEt30s>

Holy Holy Holy:

<https://youtu.be/TKHRMlEt30s>

Mystery of Faith:

<https://youtu.be/KCJrBfGQU4>

## St. Eustachius Parish Picnic, September 18<sup>th</sup>



All are invited to celebrate St. Eustachius' feast day! Bounce houses, cornhole, beer, barbecue, music, dancing and skits! The picnic will happen rain or shine. All proceeds go to St. Eustachius Parish and the St. Eustachius School!



This Saturday from 2-8pm in Portageville, Missouri!  
Come have fun and learn about this Roman soldier martyr!