

Saint Maria Goretti Parish
500 Northgate Drive
Dyer, Indiana 46311
219.865.8956



Celebrating Our Parish



July 13, 2024 - July 14, 2024

This Week In Our Parish

Monday, July 15, 2024

9:00 am - 12:00 pm - Vacation Bible School
6:30 pm - New Family Parent Workshop

Tuesday, July 16, 2024

9:00 am - 12:00 pm - Vacation Bible School
9:30 am - 50/50 Club Drawing
1:00 pm - Parish Book Club
6:00 pm - Music Ministry Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, July 17, 2024

9:00 am - 12:00 pm - Vacation Bible School
12:00 pm - Parish Offices Closed
6:30 pm - Music Ministry Instrumental Rehearsal

Thursday, July 18, 2024

9:00 am - 12:00 pm - Vacation Bible School

Friday, July 19, 2024

9:00 am - 1:00 pm - Vacation Bible School
12:00 pm - Parish Offices Closed

Saturday, July 20, 2024

10:00 am - New Family Parent Workshop
12:30 - 1:30 pm - Reconciliation

Sunday, July 21, 2024

6:30 - 8:30 pm - Munster Pool Party

***The Altar Flowers This Weekend
Are In Memory Of
Umile Belmonte
By The Family***

Ministry Schedule

July 20 - 21, 2024

Lectors

4:00 pm Gerard Dupczak
8:30 am Christine Kolavo
10:30 am Joe Skvarek

Eucharist Ministers

4:00 pm Pamela Miller, Bob Rajewski,
Deacon Ratliff, Father Leo Gajardo
8:30 am Julie Smevoll, Jared Smevoll,
Deacon Wilk, Father Leo Gajardo
10:30 am Judy Ketelaar, Joe Panfil, Deacon Wilk,
Father Leo Gajardo

Altar Servers

8:30 am Chris Kinard
10:30 am Jack Szafasz, Ben Szafasz

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Saturday, July 13, 2024

4:00 pm Frances Wozniakowski by the Family

Sunday, July 14, 2024

8:30 am Mr. and Mrs. Drozd by Joan Calligan
10:30 am The People of St. Maria Goretti Parish

Tuesday, July 16, 2024

8:30 am Luciano Parente by the Ronciak Family

Wednesday, July 17, 2024

8:30 am The People of St. Maria Goretti Parish

Thursday, July 18, 2024

8:30 am The People of St. Maria Goretti Parish

Friday, July 19, 2024

8:30 am The People of St. Maria Goretti Parish

Saturday, July 20, 2024

4:00 pm Joanne Rosko by the Serrano Family

Sunday, July 21, 2024

8:30 am The People of St. Maria Goretti Parish
10:30 am Joe Verta by a Friend

Our Weekly Collection

*July 06 - 07, 2024
Online Giving - July 2 — July 8, 2024*

Regular Collection	440 envelopes	\$	15,075.10
Community Outreach	5 envelopes	\$	635.00
HVAC Project	33 envelopes	\$	1,965.00
Music	97 envelopes	\$	1,398.00
50/50	339 envelopes	\$	1,695.00
Online Giving	20 envelopes	\$	758.75

Parish Office Information

Phone: 219.865.8956 - Email: info@smgdyer.org

	Extension	Email
Father Gajardo	313	FatherLeo@smgdyer.org
Father Niblick	304	FatherNiblick@smgdyer.org
Deacon Muvich	315	DeaconPhil@smgdyer.org
Deacon Ratliff	310	DeaconDan@smgdyer.org
Music Ministry	302	KarinJ@smgdyer.org

Christian Formation Program 219.322.6124

Community Outreach 219.865.5481

Church Website: www.smgdyer.org

Church Address: 500 Northgate Drive, Dyer, IN 46311

Office Hours:

Monday - Tuesday - Thursday:

9 AM – 12 PM and 1 PM – 4 PM

Wednesday and Friday: 9 AM – 12 PM

Saturday and Sunday: Closed

Evening Hours by Appointment

Dear Friends,

In the past, I have mentioned that I am a big fan of the show *The Chosen*. In case you don't know, *The Chosen* is a multi-season series that dramatizes the life and ministry of Jesus through the perspective of his disciples. The finale for the fourth season, ending with the start of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem five days before his death (spoiler alert!), was released two weeks ago. Filming of season five is happening now and the plan is for two more seasons after that.

Like many fans of the show, I was a bit skeptical of it at first. But I was quickly won-over by the imaginative and moving way in which the show "fills-in" the many gaps in the Gospel accounts. One of the things I have found intriguing about *The Chosen* is its title. Who is/are the "chosen" to whom the title refers? A *New York Times* article from 2022 about the show argues, "The title *The Chosen* can be interpreted as referring to Jesus himself, his disciples or even any of his followers – including those watching a television show about him in 2022."

Recognizing the various ways that the title *The Chosen* can be interpreted can help us ponder and engage with the Scripture readings that we hear proclaimed at Mass this Sunday. That's because all three readings invite us to recognize that the God whom we worship is a God who chooses people to collaborate with him.

In the first reading, we hear the Prophet Amos defend himself against the attacks of Amaziah by asserting that it was the Lord who had chosen him to prophesy to the people of the ancient kingdom of Israel. In the Gospel, we hear how Jesus summoned the Twelve he had chosen to be his closest disciples and "began to send them out two by two" to preach and heal.

But that is not all. In the great benediction with which St. Paul began his letter to the first Christians in the city of Ephesus, which we hear in today's second reading, the Apostle wrote, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavens, as he chose us

in him, before the foundation of the world, to be holy and without blemish before him." Did you notice what Paul said in the middle of that long sentence? God chose *us* in Christ! While Paul was writing about himself and his contemporary fellow believers, this truth also includes us.

Paul doubles-down on this bold claim by proclaiming, "In love [God] destined us for adoption to himself through Jesus Christ, in accord with the favor of his will, for the praise of the glory of his grace that he granted us in the beloved." He goes further, writing, "In [Jesus Christ] we were also chosen, destined in accord with the purpose of the One who accomplishes all things according to the intention of his will, so that we might exist for the praise of his glory."

For Paul, at the very heart of the gospel message is the truth that God chose Jesus to be the one through whom all of us would be chosen to receive freely the very life and love of God. According to Paul, the great sign of the fact that we have been chosen in Christ is that we "were sealed with the promised holy Spirit, which is the first installment of our inheritance toward redemption as God's possession, to the praise of his glory."

Notice that at the center of God's incredible act of choosing us is his desire that we live for "the praise of his glory." This is not a self-centered desire on God's part for us to "fawn over" him for all eternity. No! Instead, God chose Jesus to be the one through whom all of us would be chosen to receive and reflect the very life and love of God, which is to share in his very glory.

When God the Father gathers us on Sundays to praise and thank him through Christ and in the power of the Holy Spirit, you and I are invited to discover more deeply and embody more fully, in a way that even a show as beautiful and moving as *The Chosen* can't do for us, what it means for us to be chosen by God to receive and reflect his glory—his life and love—in our world today.

Peace,
Father Leo

Lectio Divina for the Sixteenth Week in Ordinary Time July 21, 2024

We begin our prayer:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Show favor, O Lord, to your servants and mercifully increase the gifts of your grace, that, made fervent in hope, faith and charity, they may be ever watchful in keeping your commands.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

(Collect, Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Reading (Lectio)

Read the following Scripture two or three times.

Mark 6:30-34

The apostles gathered together with Jesus and reported all they had done and taught. He said to them, "Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while." People were coming and going in great numbers, and they had no opportunity even to eat. So they went off in the boat by themselves to a deserted place. People saw them leaving and many came to know about it. They hastened there on foot from all the towns and arrived at the place before them.

When he disembarked and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them, for they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

Meditation (Meditatio)

After the reading, take some time to reflect in silence on one or more of the following questions:

- Did this scripture passage remind you of a personal experience, story, or another scripture passage?
- What word or words in this passage caught your attention?
- What in this passage comforted you?
- What in this passage challenged you?

If practicing lectio divina as a family or in a group, after the reflection time, invite the participants to share their responses.

Prayer (Oratio)

Read the Scripture passage one more time. Bring to the Lord the praise, petition, or thanksgiving that the Word inspires in you.

Contemplation (Contemplatio)

Read the Scripture again, followed by this reflection:

What conversion of mind, heart, and life is the Lord asking of me?

The apostles gathered together with Jesus and reported all they had done and taught. With whom can I gather to learn about and share my faith? Where do I meet Jesus in my everyday life?

They hastened there on foot from all the towns and arrived at the place before them. Do I hasten to the Lord or rush past him? What keeps me from seeking the Lord and spending more time with him?

When he disembarked and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them. Who is in need of my compassion? How can I express that compassion more effectively?

After a period of silent reflection and/or discussion, all recite the Lord's Prayer and the following:

Closing Prayer:

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
In verdant pastures he gives me repose;
beside restful waters he leads me;
he refreshes my soul.

He guides me in right paths
for his name's sake.
Even though I walk in the dark valley
I fear no evil; for you are at my side
with your rod and your staff
that give me courage.

You spread the table before me
in the sight of my foes;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

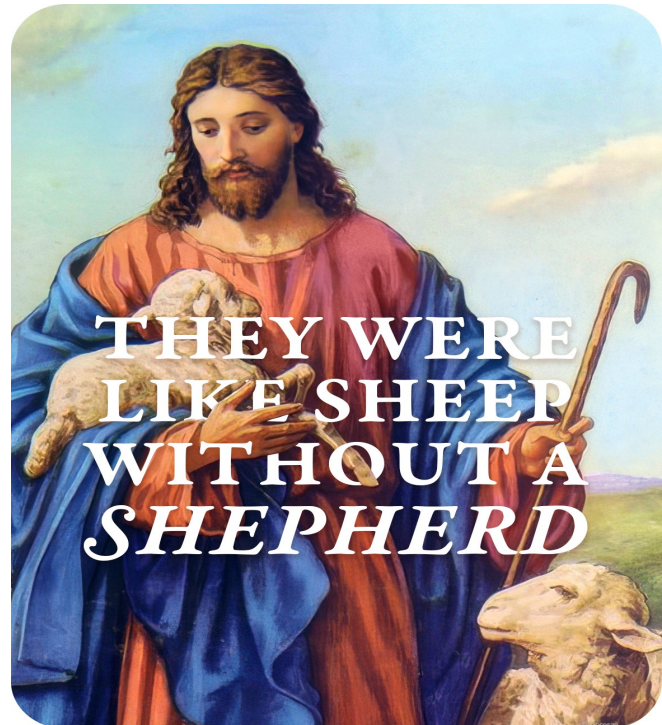
Only goodness and kindness follow me
all the days of my life;
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
for years to come.

(From Psalm 23)

Living the Word This Week

How can I make my life a gift for others in charity?

If possible, take time this week to pray and share faith with a group of family or friends.



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Erika Carrillo and Jesus Juan Martinez
Wedding Date
June 8, 2024

Parish Book Club

Date: Tuesday, July 16, 2024
 Time: 1:00 - 2:30 pm
 Place: Casa Maria Lounge
 Book Title: Hang The Moon
 Author: Jeanette Walls
 Please Contact Stephanie White
 at 219.924.2417 with any questions.



The Number Drawn On
 Tuesday, July 2, 2024

Was #2750.

It Is A Rollover.

The Winner Would Have
 Won \$847.50

The Winning Number Drawn
 On
 Tuesday, July 9, 2024

Was #1181.

Congratulations to
 Margaret Ratkay

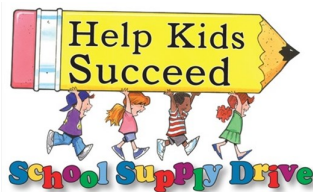
Who Won
 \$1,695.00 !!!

The Next 50/50
 Club Drawing
 is Scheduled for
 Tuesday, July 16, 2024.

Please visit the parish website for the
 50/50 Club rules and information.



Saint Maria Goretti Parish offers online giving through Our Sunday Visitor. Visit our website at www.smgdyer.org or scan the code above to start contributing electronically. Sunday donations received through online giving are not eligible to participate in the weekly 50/50 Club. Please call the parish business office at 219-865-8956 if you have any questions. Thank you for your continued support.



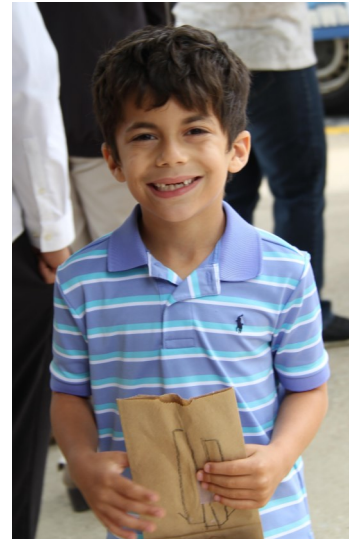
Do you have fond memories of starting school with brand new school supplies? St. Maria Goretti Community Outreach Ministry is sponsoring a School Supply Drive. Please join us in this effort by donating new school supplies. If you would prefer a monetary donation, place an envelope marked "School Supplies" in the collection basket. All donated supplies will be distributed on August 6th 11am – 2pm. Please direct any questions to 219-865-5481.

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|---|--|
| <p>Backpacks
 Kleenex (rectangle box)
 Disinfecting wipes
 Pens (blue, black and red)
 Scissors - small
 Erasers – Pink Pearl
 Glue – Sticks or bottles
 Washable Markers
 Dry erase markers
 USB Flash Drives
 Colored pencils
 Pencil pouch
 Ziploc bags – all sizes</p> | <p>Composition Books
 Spiral Notebooks
 (wide rule)
 1" 3-ring binder
 Index cards
 Pocket Folders
 Yellow highlighters
 Sticky notes – 3"x3"
 #2 Pencils
 Headphones/earbuds
 Loose leaf paper
 (wide rule)
 Small art box</p> |
|---|--|

VESTIBULE, BEFORE OR AFTER MASS. DURING
 THE WEEKENDS OF

July 20/21 - July 27/28

Ice Cream Truck Fun !





**Mayslake Peabody Estate
Cooper's Hawk & Lynfred
Winery
Bus Trip
Wednesday, August 21, 2024
\$121.00 per person**



Visit a beautiful mansion, enjoy a great lunch & sample great wine!

We begin in Oak Brook, IL at the Mayslake Peabody Estate & tour the Tudor Revival style Mayslake Hall, its retreat wing, and see the Portiuncula Chapel, a replica of the Chapel of St. Francis in Assisi, Italy. On the National Register of Historic Places the mansion was constructed from 1919-1921 for wealthy coal baron Francis Stuyvesant Peabody. At the time he was owner of one of the largest coal companies in the USA.

Enjoy an upscale luncheon at Cooper's Hawk Restaurant in Downers Grove!
The restaurant is known for its great food and exceptional wines!

Pre-Select choice of Atlantic Salmon or Parmesan Crusted Chicken

Top off the day at Lynfred Winery in Roselle. Miles from the vineyards & orchards. Lynfred brings in grapes & fruits to create its award-winning wines. Fred & Lynn Koehler lovingly turned their hobby into Illinois' first winery since Prohibition in 1979.

Here you'll sample different fruits of the vine and branch.

Stained glass windows and oak wood floors adorn the tasting room of this century old house that is Lynfred Winery!

**Bus leaves at 9:00 am from the SMG parking lot.
Bus arrives back at SMG by 4:30 pm.**

**Please call 865.5482 to reserve your seat.
Payment will secure your reservation.
Seating is limited.**



Casa Maria Banquet Hall

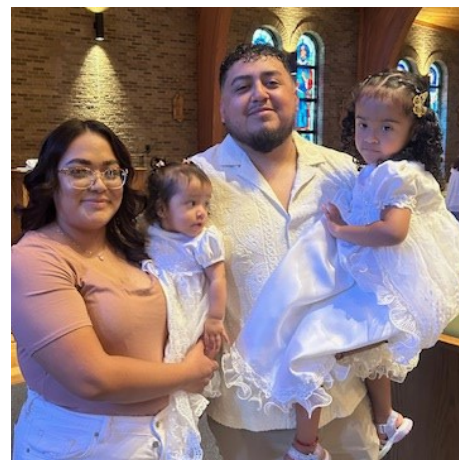
***500 Northgate Drive
Dyer, Indiana***

Wedding Receptions • Bridal & Baby Showers • Funeral Luncheons
Class Reunions • Anniversary Parties • Corporate Functions/Retreats
Quinceaneras • Family Reunions

Let us help you make your next event unforgettable.

Catering provided by:
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Lencioni Catering
708.421.2433

June Baptisms



Sacred Permission To Be In Agony - Ron Rolheiser

We live this life “*mourning and weeping in a valley of tears.*” This was part of a prayer my parents prayed every day of their adult lives, as did many others in their generation. In the light of contemporary sensitivities (and one-sided spiritualities) this might sound morbid. Are we to understand our lives as time of grieving in a world that cannot deliver happiness? Is this really what God wants of us?

Taken without nuance, this can indeed be morbid. God didn't put us into this world to suffer in order to go to heaven. No. God is a good parent. Good parents bring children into this world with the intent that they should flourish and find happiness. So why might our Christian faith ask us to understand ourselves as mourning and weeping in a valley of tears?

For my parents, that phrase brought a certain consolation, namely, that their lives didn't have to deliver the full symphony, heaven right now. It gave them sacred permission to accept that in life there will be disappointments, suffering, poverty, sickness, loss, frustrated dreams, heartbreak, misunderstanding, and death. They never over-expected and understood that it is normal to experience pain and disappointment. Paradoxically, by accepting this limitation, they were able to give themselves permission to thoroughly enjoy life's good moments without guilt.

My fear is that we are not equipping ourselves nor the next generation with the tools needed to undergo frustration, disappointment, and heartbreak without breaking down in faith (and sometimes too in psyche and body). Today, for the most part, our normal expectation is that we shouldn't be finding ourselves mourning and weeping, but rather that life should be delivering a full symphony. We no longer feel that we have sacred permission to be weeping.

The spirituality we breathe in today from our churches, theologians, and spiritual writers has many strong points (just as the one my parents breathed in had its weaknesses). However, to my mind, for the most part spiritualities today do not leave sufficient space for grieving, a lacuna shared by most of the secular world.

We are not making enough space for grief, either in our churches or in our lives. We are not giving people the tools they need to handle frustration, loss, and heartbreak, nor how to grieve when they are beset by them. Outside of our funeral rituals, we make very little room for grief. Worse still, we tend to give the impression that there is something wrong in our lives if there are tears. What's the place and value of grieving?

First, as Karl Rahner poetically explains, it is a way of accepting *that in the torment of the insufficiency of everything attainable we ultimately learn that here in this life there is no finished symphony.* Grieving is also, as Rachel Naomi Remen writes, a critical way of self-care. Not to grieve, she submits, is a denial of our own wholeness. *People burn out because they don't grieve.* British novelist Anita Brookner repeats a particular refrain in several of her books. Commenting on marriage, she suggests that *the first task in a marriage is for the couple to console each other for the fact that they cannot not disappoint each other.*”

My parents had not read Karl Rahner, Rachel Naomi Remen, or Anita Brookner, but in their daily prayer they reminded themselves that in this life there is no finished symphony, that grieving is healthy self-care, and that it's consoling to accept that neither of them could ever be quite enough for the other since only God can provide that.

What do we need to grieve? Our human condition and all that comes with it, namely, impermanence, the loss of our youth, the loss of a youthful body, wounds, betrayals, frustrated dreams, heartbreaks, the loss of loved ones, the death of our honeymoons, the perennial flow through our lives of people, places, and institutions and then disappearing, our incapacity to not be disappointing to others, the loss of our health, and our eventual deaths, that's what we need to grieve.

And how do we grieve? Jesus left us a template for this when he grieved in the garden of Gethsemane. What did he do when, as the Gospels say, he was reduced to “sweating blood” as he faced his own imminent death? He prayed, prayed a prayer that openly and honestly expressed his agony, that recognized his distance from others inside this suffering, which acknowledged his own helplessness to do anything to change the situation, that repeatedly begged God to alter things, but that expressed a trust in God despite the present darkness. That's the way Jesus wept.

If Jesus wept, so must we. The disciple is never superior to the master. Moreover, we can learn from Jesus that mourning and weeping in our lives do not necessarily mean that there is something wrong. It might well mean that this is where we are meant to be.

Oblate Father Ron Rolheiser is a theologian, teacher, and award-winning author.

He can be contacted through his website
www.ronrolheiser.com.

Now on Facebook www.facebook.com/ronrolheiser

Sponsor of the Week

White Rhino
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Dyer, Indiana

219.864.9200

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