

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



Celebrating Our Parish



July 20, 2024 - July 21, 2024

This Week In Our Parish

Monday, July 22, 2024

No Events Scheduled

Tuesday, July 23, 2024

9:30 am - 50/50 Club Drawing
 1:30 pm - Summer Movies With Father Niblick
 3:45 - 4:45 pm and
 5:15 - 6:15 pm - French Class

Wednesday, July 24, 2024

10:00 - 11:00 am - Chair Yoga
 12:00 pm - Parish Offices Closed

Thursday, July 25, 2024

No Events Scheduled

Friday, July 26, 2024

12:00 pm - Parish Offices Closed

Saturday, July 27, 2024

12:30 - 1:30 pm - Reconciliation

Sunday, July 28, 2024

No Events Scheduled



Please help our money counters.

Write the amount enclosed on
your envelope.

Please do not staple or tape
your envelopes.

Thank you!

Ministry Schedule

July 27 - 28, 2024

Lectors

4:00 pm Pat Kahl
8:30 am Mary Jo Ziemkowski
10:30 am Sandra Kurowski

Eucharist Ministers

4:00 pm Anne Copp, Karen Walski,
Deacon Wilk, Father Niblick
8:30 am Mary Kay Hensley, Karen Marsh,
Deacon Ratliff, Father Niblick
10:30 am Karen Galvin, Peggy Szumski,
Deacon Ratliff, Father Niblick

Altar Servers

4:00 pm Chris Kinard
8:30 am Chris Kinard
10:30 am Andrew Szumski, Anthony Nickless

Mass Schedule & Intentions

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

Tuesday, July 23, 2024

8:30 am No Mass Scheduled

Wednesday, July 24, 2024

8:30 am John Kulesa by Pat Zygowicz

Thursday, July 25, 2024

8:30 am No Mass Scheduled

Friday, July 26, 2024

8:30 am No Mass Scheduled

Saturday, July 27, 2024

4:00 pm Mary Kozdras by the Ulman Family

Sunday, July 28, 2024

8:30 am Lois Ziemkowski by her Daughter, Mary Jo
10:30 am The People of St. Maria Goretti Parish

Our Weekly Collection

July 13 - 14, 2024
Online Giving - July 9 — July 15, 2024

Regular Collection	410 envelopes	\$	13,494.81
Community Outreach	144 envelopes	\$	5,539.00
HVAC Project	28 envelopes	\$	3,595.00
Music	23 envelopes	\$	535.00
50/50	329 envelopes	\$	1,645.00
Online Giving	21 envelopes	\$	928.75

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
Sr. Deacon Muvich	315	DeaconPhil@smgdyer.org
Deacon Ratliff	310	DeaconDan@smgdyer.org
Deacon Wilk	TBD	DeaconPaul@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,

It seems hard to believe it, but kids will be going back to school in less than a month. Where has the summer gone! Memorial Day seems like a distant memory, the Fourth of July is in the rear-view mirror, and stores are already promoting back-to-school sales. Here at St. Maria Goretti, we are well into our school supplies drive. Some of our young people will soon be leaving home for the first time and heading off to college. It's an exciting time, although most of us wish that summer vacation was just a bit longer.

The start of a new school year means a return to classroom instruction for students and teachers alike. I thought about that reality as I reflected on a curious detail that the Evangelist Mark includes in the gospel passage that we hear proclaimed this Sunday. Mark tells us that, after the disciples had been out on mission, Jesus invited them to go with him for some needed rest. Yet, despite their efforts to get away, crowds of people eagerly sought out Jesus and the disciples. We are also told that when Jesus "disembarked and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them, for they were like sheep without a shepherd."

Now, that description of Jesus' compassion for the many people who wanted contact with him is not the curious detail to which I was referring. It fits our image of Jesus as one who cares deeply about others and their needs and provides for them. Rather, it's the next line that Mark wrote which I think is curious. After telling us of Jesus' pity for the shepherd-less crowd, Mark adds that Jesus "began to teach them many things."

Stop and think about that for a moment. Doesn't that strike you as curious, if not strange? Jesus isn't moved to perform a miracle or to feed the crowd. No! Instead, he is moved to begin teaching them many things. It's as if he were saying that vacation is over and it's time to get back to school. What's that all about?

In his commentary on the readings for this week, the renowned liturgical theologian Adrian Nocent, OSB (1913-1996) wrote, "When Jesus is moved at the sight of a crowd that resembles sheep without a shepherd, his first reaction is to teach them. In his eyes, the primary function of a shepherd is to communicate the Father's teaching."

(*The Liturgical Year*, vol. 3, p. 230) Nocent goes on to explain, "St. Mark sees teaching as the first and foremost task of Jesus the Shepherd. What Jesus teaches has, moreover, been entrusted to him by his Father. In fact, what Jesus teaches is precisely that God is a Father and that he loves people and wants to save them." (Ibid., p. 231)

For us who are used to our contemporary approach to education and learning, including certified instructors, classrooms, homework, and tests, it may seem odd that Jesus would go into teacher-mode at a time when people were so lost and in need. But Nocent points out:

It is by teaching the sheep that Jesus gathers them together. This is an aspect of his teaching that must be emphasized. He does not give an abstract religious instruction that stimulates the hearers to discussion. Rather, he teaches them with authority and confirms the teaching he received from the Father by miracles. His teaching is filled with power and creates a new people. The crowds gather around him and share his teaching with one another by telling one another of their impressions; slowly they form a united flock on which Jesus bestows his love and for which he prepares future shepherds. (Ibid.)

What strikes me about Nocent's comments is that they describe what you and I experience every time that Jesus the Shepherd gathers us to celebrate the Holy Eucharist with him and each other. In bringing us together to hear and receive the Word of God proclaimed, the Risen Jesus doesn't give us "an abstract religious instruction," but the truth that "God is a Father and that he loves people and wants to save them." Jesus confirms his teaching by making the Father's love concrete and accessible to us through the Eucharist that he shares with us.

In that way, through the power of God's Holy Spirit, Jesus forms us into a new people, a united flock, bestowing on us God's love and preparing us to be shepherds who teach share God's teaching and love with others.

Peace,

Father Leo

Lectio Divina for the Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time July 28, 2024

We begin our prayer:

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

O God, protector of those who hope in you,
without whom nothing has firm foundation,
nothing is holy,
bestow in abundance your mercy upon us
and grant that, with you as our ruler and guide,
we may use the good things that pass
in such a way as to hold fast even now
to those that ever endure.
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, Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Reading (Lectio)

Read the following Scripture two or three times.

John 6:1-15

Jesus went across the Sea of Galilee. A large crowd followed him, because they saw the signs he was performing on the sick. Jesus went up on the mountain, and there he sat down with his disciples. The Jewish feast of Passover was near. When Jesus raised his eyes and saw that a large crowd was coming to him, he said to Philip, "Where can we buy enough food for them to eat?" He said this to test him, because he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, "Two hundred days' wages worth of food would not be enough for each of them to have a little." One of his disciples, Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, said to him, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish; but what good are these for so many?" Jesus said, "Have the people recline."

Now there was a great deal of grass in that place. So the men reclined, about five thousand in number. Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed them to those who were reclining, and also as much of the fish as they wanted. When they had had their fill, he said to his disciples, "Gather the fragments left over, so that nothing will be wasted." So they collected them, and filled twelve wicker baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves that had been more than they could eat. When the people saw the sign he had done, they said, "This is truly the Prophet, the one who is to come into the world." Since Jesus knew that they were going to come and carry him off to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain alone.

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?

He said this to test him, because he himself knew what he was going to do. When have I felt that my faith is being tested?

There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. When have I been asked to share my time, treasure, or talent? How can I be more generous in responding to these requests?

Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed them to those who were reclining. For what do I need to give thanks? How do my feelings of gratitude affect my practice of charity?

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

Closing Prayer:

Let all your works give you thanks, O LORD,
and let your faithful ones bless you.
Let them discourse of the glory of your kingdom
and speak of your might.

The eyes of all look hopefully to you,
and you give them their food in due season;
you open your hand
and satisfy the desire of every living thing.

The LORD is just in all his ways
and holy in all his works.
The LORD is near to all who call upon him,
to all who call upon him in truth.

(From Psalm 145)

Living the Word This Week

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

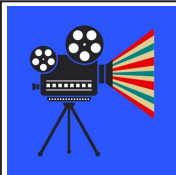
Keep a gratitude journal for a week and say a prayer of thanksgiving every night.



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Summer Movies

JULY 23, 2024 at 1:30 pm

Life is Beautiful is a 1997 film, again, produced and directed in Italy with the renowned Italian director/comedian, Roberto Benigni who even made Pope John Paul II laugh. The story told is not true but a story that many, many of us would have wanted to be true. The movie is set during the Nazi occupation of Italy, and it tells of the possibility of dignity, imagination, and love in the face of unbelievable hubris.



Community Building and Outreach Meeting

We will have a Community Building and Outreach Meeting at Casa Maria Hall on Tuesday, August 6, 2024, at 10:00 am.

We will review our first half 2024 accomplishments and begin planning for what is ahead in the upcoming months.

Current members are encouraged to attend and others interested in joining this Ministry are welcome. Hope to see you there!



The Winning Number Drawn On Tuesday, July 16, 2024 Was #2736.

Congratulations To Our Parishioner

Who Won \$822.50 !!!

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.

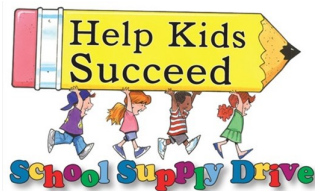


ONLINE GIVING



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 11:00 am – 2:00 pm. Please direct any questions to 219.865.5481.

- 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

- 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

PLEASE DROP OFF ITEMS IN THE CHURCH VESTIBULE, BEFORE OR AFTER MASS. DURING THE WEEKEND OF July 27/28

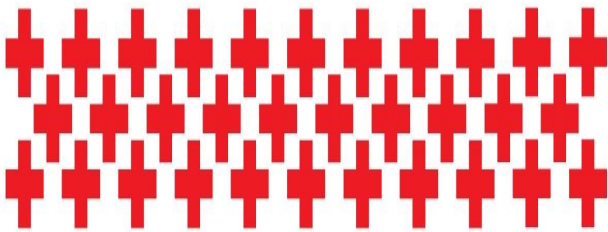


Saint Maria Goretti Church is participating in Dyer's National Night Out Against Crime on Tuesday, August 6, 2024, from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm at Central Park.

Stop by and visit our booth!

American Red Cross

Give blood. Help save lives.



BLOOD DRIVE

Saint Maria Goretti Church

At Casa Maria Hall

500 Northgate Church

Dyer, IN 46311

Friday, September 13, 2024

12:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Sign up at redcrossblood.org, call

1.800.REDCROSS,

or

scan the QR Code



Rest in Peace

**Richard Heim
Fred Hidalgo
Umile Belmonte
Thomas Vadas
Valente Robles**

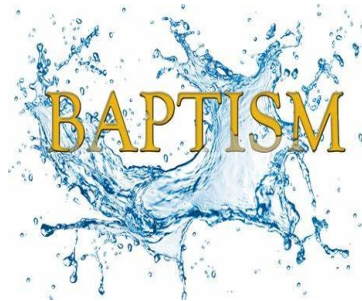


Mr. and Mrs. Fred and Juanita Hidalgo

Ms. Joan Anderson

**Mr. and Mrs. Michael and Janette Bell and
children Sofia, Eliana and Gabriella**

Mr. and Mrs. Kevin and Diane Safin



Leia Van Deursen

Maeve Ivy Majchrzak

Harley Lynn Hyde

Kendall Eileen Johnston

Noah Anthony Paramo

Parker Matthew Boone

Eleanor Grace Drewenski

Alani Rose Estrada

Alaia Sophia Estrada

Evelyn Mae Marsee

Brooke Ashlyn Strohl

Edward Donald Herakovich



**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

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Dyer, Indiana***

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SAINT MARIA GORETTI



POOL PARTY

**SUNDAY, JULY
21ST**

**6:30-
8:30PM**

**MUNSTER COMMUNITY POOL
8837 CALUMET AVE, MUNSTER**

**COME AND ENJOY SOME SUMMER FUN WITH US!
DON'T FORGET YOUR BATHING SUIT AND TOWELS!
CONCESSIONS AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE**

Keeping The Sabbath

The Sufi mystic Rumi once lamented: *I have lived too long where I can be reached!* That was twelve hundred years ago, long before cell phones, the internet, computers, and social media. Today, most of us live where we can be reached all the time. While this has some huge upsides, it also has a nasty underside we have been slow to recognize. Never being able to step away from our preoccupations and involvements is weighing on our mental health. Many of us now find it difficult to step away, to stop activities, to rest, to refresh, to re-energize. To put this in biblical language, we are finding it more and more difficult to have “Sabbath” in our lives.

We have a commandment from God: *Remember to keep the Sabbath day holy.* I think we can all agree that this commandment has fallen on hard times today. It is not just that fewer and fewer people are going to their churches on Sunday, or that more and more shops and businesses are open on Sunday, or that sporting events now take up much of the Sabbath space once reserved for religion. The deeper issue is that more and more of us can no longer slow down our lives, shut down the communication machines, get away from the stress and preoccupations in our lives, and simply stop and rest.

We are living where we can always be reached and have for the most part lost the notion of Sabbath in our lives. We are now treating a commandment to keep the Sabbath day holy as an idealized lifestyle suggestion: *Helpful, if you can find the time to do it.*

With this in mind, I offer *Ten Councils* for practicing Sabbath today.

- *Practice Sabbath with the discipline demanded of a commandment, even as you practice the discipline of life and duty.*
- *Have at least one “Sabbath” moment every day.* Give yourself something to look forward to every day. Sabbath doesn’t have to be a day; it can be special hour, a special moment, where you step off the treadmill and treat yourself to something you enjoy.
- *Go somewhere every week where you can’t be reached and have a “cyber-Sabbath”.* Once a week turn off all your electronic communication for six hours or, better yet, for twelve hours. Go to a place where, save for an emergency, you are unavailable. You might find this the hardest discipline of all – and perhaps the most important one.
- *Honor the “wisdom of dormancy”.* *Do something regularly that is non-pragmatic.* Farmers know that you can’t seed a field continuously and still get a good yield. Fields require regular seasons where

they lie fallow so that they can (in that seeming condition of dormancy) soak in the nutrients and other elements they need to produce. The human body and psyche are the same. We need, regularly, periods of dormancy where our energies lie fallow to the pragmatic world.

- *Pray and meditate regularly in some way.* There is only one rule and counsel for this: Do it! Show up regularly, and whatever happens, happens. This is a major way that we step off the treadmill and have some Sabbath in our lives.
- *Be attentive to little children, old people, and the weather.* Sabbath is meant to restore wonder to our lives, and today wonder has left the building. So, as the poet John Shea says, *borrow wonder from the children.* It is one of the few places we can still find it. As well, time spent with elderly people can help give us a healthier perspective on life. Also, when have we last noticed the weather as a source of wonder?
- *Live by axiom: “If not now, when? If not here, where? If not with these people, with whom? If not for God, why?”* We spend ninety-eight percent of our lives waiting for something else to happen to us. Have some moments where you realize that what you are waiting for is already here.
- *Let your body also know that it is Sabbath.* Sabbath is meant not just for the soul but also for the body. Give your body a Sabbath treat, at least once a week.
- *Make family and relationships the priority.* At the end of the day, life is about family, friendships, and relationships, a truth easily eclipsed and lost in the pressures of our fast-paced lives. Sabbath is meant to reground us in that truth at least once a week.

Don’t nurse grudges and obsessions. Our deepest tiredness isn’t the result of overwork, but of the wounds, grudges, and obsessions we nurse. The invitation to rest for a day includes, especially, the invitation to let go of our hurts. Indeed, the notion of the statute of limitations is based on Judeo-Christian concept of the Sabbath. For every grudge we are nursing there is a statute of limitations.

God gave us Sabbath, for our health and our enjoyment.

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

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