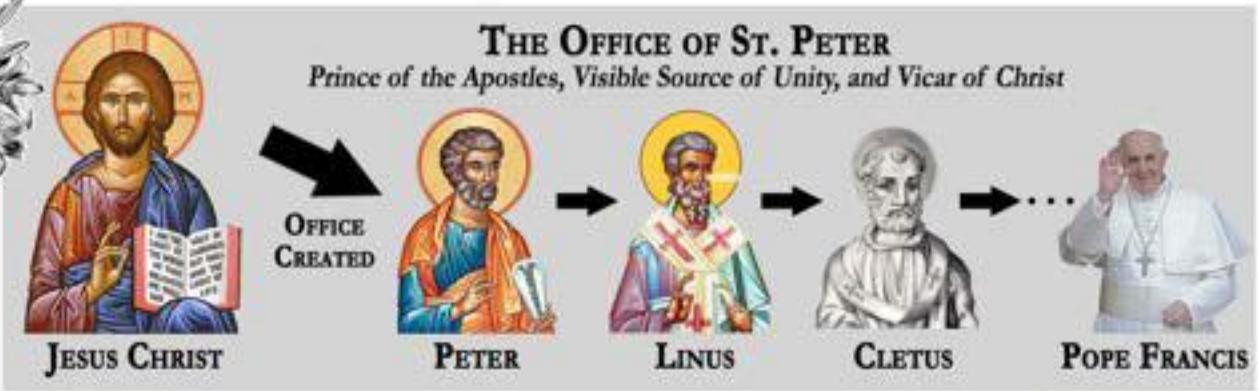


ST JOSEPH PARISH



ISAIAH
Ch. 22

JESUS MAKES PETER A STEWARD
 as the Lord made Eliakim a Steward

MATT
Ch. 16

GIVEN KEYS TO THE KINGDOM

ISAIAH 22:22

“I will place on his shoulder the key to the house of David...”

MATTHEW 16:19

“I will give you the keys to the Kingdom of Heaven...”

GIVEN AUTHORITY OVER THE KINGDOM

ISAIAH 22:22

“...What he opens, no one can shut, and what he shuts, no one can open.”

MATTHEW 16:19

“...Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”

IMPLICATIONS OF STEWARDSHIP

| | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|---|--|
| ISAIAH 22:15 | Custody over the King's assets | ➔ | Custody over the Church on earth |
| ISAIAH 22:19-21 | Holds office with Successors | ➔ | Holds office with Successors (cf. Acts 1:20) |
| ISAIAH 22:21 | Father over the Nation | ➔ | Pope = “Father” in Greek / Latin |
| ISAIAH 22:22 | Serves the Davidic King | ➔ | Serves the Davidic King, Jesus Christ |

WHAT DID THE EARLY CHURCH BELIEVE?

“Pointing out here the successions of the bishops of the greatest and most ancient church known to all, founded and organized at Rome by the two most glorious apostles, Peter and Paul, that church which has the tradition and the faith which comes down to us after having been announced to men by the apostles. With that church, because of its superior origin, all the churches must agree, that is, all the faithful in the whole world, and it is in her that the faithful everywhere have maintained the apostolic tradition.”

ST. IRENAEUS, BISHOP OF LYONS - *Against Heresies* Bk. 3, Ch. 3 [A.D. 189]

Office #: (260) 824-1380 | Emergency #: (260) 296-0511 | www.StJosephChurchBluffton.org
 Pastor: Fr. David Violi | Administrative Assistant/DRE: Michelle Paxton | Director of Sacred Music: Teresa Smith

----- (cut here) -----

Name: _____ Phone: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 e-mail address: _____

New Parishioners, please send a Parish Registration Form
 We've Moved, here is our new information

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - AUGUST 27, 2023

Saturday, August 26

- 8:00 a.m. Special Intention
- 8:30-9:00 a.m. Confession
- 4:00-4:45 p.m. Confession
- 4:35 p.m. Rosary
- 5:00 p.m. Genevieve Lohmuller +

Sunday, August 27 Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 7:10 a.m. Rosary
- 7:30 a.m. Ed Bushee +
- 9:40 a.m. Rosary
- 10:00 a.m. Parish Family

Monday, August 28

- 8:00 a.m. No Public Mass

Tuesday, August 29

- 7:00-8:00 a.m. Adoration
- 8:00 a.m. Maggie Andrews
- 8:30 a.m. Confession

Wednesday, August 30

- 6:00-7:00 p.m. Adoration
- 6:00-6:45 p.m. Confession
- 7:00 p.m. Rex Ehrhart +

Thursday, August 31

- 8:00 a.m. Carol Leitner +

Friday, September 1

- 8:30 a.m. Dean Betts +

Saturday, September 2

- 8:00 a.m. Special Intention
- 8:30-9:00 a.m. Confession
- 4:00-4:45 p.m. Confession
- 4:35 p.m. Rosary
- 5:00 p.m. Sara Houlihan +

Sunday, September 3

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 7:10 a.m. Rosary
- 7:30 a.m. Parish Family
- 9:40 a.m. Rosary
- 10:00 a.m. Marj Sanders +



MASS READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, August 28 - Twenty-First Week in Ordinary Time - St. Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church - 1 Thes 1:1-5,8b-10/ Mt 23:13-22

Tuesday, August 29 - The Passion of St. John the Baptist - 1 Thes 2:1-8/ Mk 6:17-29

Wednesday, August 30 - 1 Thes 2:9-13/ Mt 23:27-32

Thursday, August 31 - 1 Thes 3:7-13/ Mt 24:42-51

Friday, September 1 - World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation - 1 Thes 4:1-8/ Mt 25:1-13

Saturday, September 2 - 1 Thes 4:9-11/ Mt 25:14-30

Sunday, September 3 - Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - Jer 20:7-9/ Rom 12:1-2/ Mt 16:21-27

This weekend (Aug. 26th/27th), the Church celebrates the **Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time**. Continuing amidst the fourth narrative of St. Matthew's Gospel, our Lord is shown preparing for the establishment of His Church with its teaching authority. The Church of Jesus is built on Peter (Matthew 16:18), who is given the "*keys to the kingdom of heaven*" and, with them, the authority to bind and loose on earth.

This use of "*keys*" in the Gospel makes an unmistakable connection with the keys given to the royal steward in our first reading from Isaiah. Interestingly, the word "*key*" is itself only used twice in the Old Testament, once in Judges and the other, full of our symbolism today, in Isaiah. The key of David spoken of in Isaiah is, on a literal level, the key to the royal chamber. The steward in question, Shebna, is a corrupt steward who abuses the key for his own interests.

Shebna, the chief steward, is the number-two authority in the kingdom. Yet, he becomes corrupted as he forgets what the authority he has been entrusted is truly for. He controls access to the king, effectively mediating the king's justice, mercy, and favor. When Jesus invokes this same language and gives the keys to Peter, the implications are quite clear: This is the man who has His full authority.

Just as with the ancient royal steward, this power given rests in the office, not the man. As such, this power is passed down from person to person. It is possible for someone to abuse the authority and be replaced, but it is not possible for the authority to just go away. For the authority wielded by the steward is not his own, it is the authority of the king himself. Therefore, this authority remains with the office of the steward until the king himself returns.

Peter and the Petrine Office, held in unbroken succession even unto Pope Francis today, remains as the steward of the visible Church. The papacy serves as a gift given by the Lord to us: The gift of visible unity. Our union with the Pope serves as a visible and personal guarantee that the Faith we hold and profess is the same Faith first given by the Lord to the Apostles. In this gift of the papacy, then, we see its true purpose and meaning, which is union with Jesus.

CATHOLICISM EXPLAINED SERIES

Our **Catholic Explained** series will start on **Thursday, September 7th, at 6:30 PM in the Parish Social Hall**. If you know of anyone in our community that is interested in learning more about or even joining the Catholic Church, please invite them to attend this series. A personal invitation from a friend or family member goes much further than we might ever realize.

For those you invite, I would also encourage you to join them in attending the sessions and walking alongside them in their journey. How beautiful is this opportunity to share the fullness of our Catholic Faith with others and to invite them to encounter the Lord in and through His Church. If you know of someone who is interested, but the date and time does not work for them, please contact me directly (frdavidvioli@gmail.com) to see what is possible.

GENERAL PARISH UPDATES

The quick storm this past Thursday knocked out power to our campus for a few hours and, as we soon discovered, fried the router for our internet. Thanks to quick work from local **Stylus Technologies**, we were able to replace the router, itself several years old, with an updated model and have everything back up and running. As always, thank you to your generosity to our monthly **Rainy Day Fund** so that we are prepared to address these unexpected issues as they arise.

We are currently waiting on the concrete work necessary for the return of our parish bell. Once the base is poured, hopefully in the next two weeks, we will be ready to have the bell returned to our parish campus. The Verdin Company has completed their work in repairing and restoring the bell and are holding it for pick-up until we are ready for it.

A special "**Thank You!**" to Rick Singer for managing the contract work for the concrete and flag poles and to Andy Vachon for handling the electrical work for this parish project.

Faithfully in Christ, Fr. David



Becky Biberstein, Michael Green, Frances Carr, Tom Richhart, Pat Pfeifer, Troy Cook, Bobbie Jackson, Bonnie Burns, John Houlihan, Kimberly Abney, Sydnee Bradburn, Leanne Lee, Dr. Doug Phillips, Jeff Tillman, Margaret Pogue, and Richard Payne.

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION, September 1, 2023

(Following 8:30 a.m. Mass) 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Confession 5:00-5:45 p.m. / 6:00 p.m. Mass

"Spend an Hour with me." - Jesus

Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Monthly Meeting - Tuesday, September 5, 2023

Recitation of the Holy Rosary at 6:40 p.m. in the Church, and meeting in the Parish Social Hall at 7:00 p.m.



Join us for a **Praise & Worship Holy Hour**

Wed., September 6th from 6-7:00 p.m.

followed by Mass at 7:00 p.m.

(Confessions offered from 6-6:45 p.m.)



Do you have a passion for singing?

Call Teresa Smith, Director of Sacred Music, at 260-824-1380 to learn more about our Choir.

Choir Practice begins September 6 following 7:00 Mass.

PARISH CALENDAR

- **Sat., Aug. 26** - Confession 4-4:45 p.m. / Mass 5:00 p.m.
- **Sat., Aug. 26** - Religious Education Registration Pizza/Sundae Bar - following 5:00 Mass in the Parish Social Hall.
- **Sun., Aug. 27** - Mass 7:30 a.m. / Mass 10:00 a.m.
- **Tues., Aug. 29** - Adoration 7-8:00 a.m. / Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confessions 8:30 a.m.
- **Wed., Aug. 30** - Adoration 6-7:00 p.m. / Confession 6-6:45 p.m. / Mass 7:00 p.m.
- **Wed., Aug. 30** - Finance Meeting - 7:45 p.m.
- **Thurs., Aug 31** - Mass 8:00 a.m.
- **Fri., Sept. 1** - Mass 8:30 a.m. / First Friday Adoration - 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. / Mass 6:00 p.m.
- **Sat., Sept. 2** - Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confession 8:30 a.m.
- **Sat., Sept. 2** - Confession 4-4:45 p.m. / Mass 5:00 p.m.
- **Sun., Sept. 3** - Mass 7:30 a.m. / Mass 10:00 a.m.
- **Mon., Sept. 4** - Labor Day, Office Closed
- **Mon., Sept. 4 - Labor Day/ Mass 9:00 a.m.**
- **Tues., Sept. 5** - Adoration 7-8:00 a.m. / Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confessions 8:30 a.m.
- **Wed., Sept. 6** - Praise & Worship Holy Hour 6-7:00 p.m. / Confession 6-6:45 p.m. / Mass 7:00 p.m.
- **Wed., Sept. 6** - Choir Practice - 7:30 p.m.
- **Wed., Sept. 6** - Parish Council Meeting - 7:45 p.m.
- **Thurs., Sept. 7** - Mass 8:00 a.m.
- **Thurs., Sept. 7** - *Catholicism Explained* - 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Social Hall
- **Fri., Sept. 8** - Mass 8:30 a.m.
- **Sat., Sept. 9** - Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confession 8:30 a.m.
- **Sat., Sept. 9** - Confession 4-4:45 p.m. / Mass 5:00 p.m.
- **Sun., Sept. 10** - Mass 7:30 a.m. / Mass 10:00 a.m.
- **Sun., Sept. 10** - *Religious Education Classes Resumes* - 8:30-9:45 a.m. - Join us as we gather together in Church to Pray the Rosary led by Fr. David and our Youth Group. Fr. David will offer a Blessing to all Catechists, Students and Parents. All are welcome!

Weekend of September 2/3 Weekend



5:00 Dan Lautzenheiser

7:30 Teresa Smith

10:00 Marita Crawfis



5:00 Bruce Holland- Knights of Columbus

7:30 Sarah McCorkle

10:00 Monica Harris



10:00 Tammi Helm, Diana Cole



5:00 Knights of Columbus

7:30 Spencer McCorkle, Volunteer, Volunteer

10:00 Sam Smith, Charlie Andrews, Ellie Coyne

St. Joseph Parish Finance Report

for the Weekend of Aug. 19/20

Adult Envelopes- \$3,416.00

Loose- \$234.00

Repair/Rainy Day Fund-\$993.97

Assumption- \$778.00

Total- \$5,421.97

Our weekly budget is \$5,116.40

We are \$1,294.09 behind our budget for the month of August.

St. Vincent de Paul Fund-

\$1,043.00

Your gifts to St. Joseph Parish are greatly appreciated.

Thank you!

To set up Online Giving through Our Sunday Visitor, please visit:

<https://www.osvhub.com/stjosephchurchbluffton/giving/funds>

CATHOLICISM EXPLAINED

Interested in learning more about or joining the Catholic Church? Join Fr. David Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Social Hall for *Catholicism Explained* starting September 7th.



JUBILEE ANNIVERSARY MASS



All couples celebrating their 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th, 65th, or 70th wedding anniversary this year, along with their families, are invited to attend the Jubilee Anniversary

Mass with Bishop Rhoades on Sunday, September 10, at 11:30 a.m. at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. A ticketed reception will follow in the hall at St. Mary Mother of God Parish. Anniversary couples will receive a commemorative certificate and two free tickets to the reception. Additional reception tickets for family and friends may be purchased for \$10 each. Children ages 10 and younger may attend the reception at no charge. To register, go to diocesefwsb.org/anniversary-masses. Registration closes August 28th!

BECOME A FOSTER PARENT!

Have you ever thought about fostering... but have questions?

Join us for an Informational Session hosted by our foster care specialists because every child deserves a safe, healthy and supportive home.

What: Foster Parent Informational Session Open House

When: Thursday, September 7th, 2023 from 3:30 - 5:30 pm

Where: Wells County Department of Child Services, 221 W. Market St., Bluffton, IN 46714. Contact Laurie Hoffacker at 260-233-3381.



MAGNIFY CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE 2023



October 7 from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum (400 Parnell Ave, Fort Wayne, IN 46805). Praise & Worship, Adoration, Confession and more. Register for the conference at www.BuildingThroughHim.com.