



August 27, 2023
21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Collection August 20, 2023

Regular Collection	\$2203.00
Attendance	39

September 3, 2023
Lector: Rebecca Harriman
Commentator: Caleb Harriman
Ushers: Klima/Stanley
Eucharistic Ministers:
Marty White/Marsha DuBose
Lawn Care-Dan Grubb

Readings for September 3, 2023

Reading 1	Jeremiah 20:7-9
Reading 2	Romans 12:1-2
Gospel	Matthew 16:21-27

Prayer List -Tim Kimbleton, Carol Luttrell, John Balconi, Brenda Lessard, Jody Riffey, Megan Talbert, Rosanna Vallo, Stephen Petrowski, Anna LoMascolo, Jerry Stanley, Bill Vest, Raegan Ray, Marianne McGriffin, Georgia Snell English, Margaret McLawhorn, Carol Canty, Father Bernie, Clyde Bennett, Shannon Yates, Doug Waldrop, Lynn Canty, Ron Morgan, Chuck Yates, Sue Dasse, Tod Young, and Larry Riffey.
Let the Stanleys know if you have additions or deletions

Information about St. Edwards- Daily readings, the bulletin, homilies, and other information can be found on our webpage at: <https://stedwardpulaski.org>

Prayers- Please keep Father Boat in your prayers. He will be leaving for Ghana this week for his annual vacation. Pray that he will have safe travels and stay healthy. While he's away Father Benoit will be filling in for him.

Stepping up- Not only will Father Boat be gone in September, but the Grubbs and Stanleys will be gone the last 3 weeks of September. Things are in place for having Mass with Father Benoit; however, if you are asked to do something, please step up and lend a helping hand. The St. Edward family is known for filling in whenever needed.

Aug/Sept. Birthdays

Mickey Balconi	Aug. 29
Jean Jennings	Sept. 4
Caleb Harriman	Sept. 8
Rick Grube	Sept. 8
Mike Vallo	Sept. 10
Materina Carper	Sept. 12
Debbie Grubb	Sept. 21
Patty Williams	Sept. 24
Audrey Kertes	Sept. 24
Marsha DuBose	Sept. 27

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

August Anniversaries

Marty & Marsha	Aug. 11
Stan & Gaby	Aug. 29

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Special announcement – The last three Sundays in September there will be a limited addition of the Church bulletin which will be only available on the Church website: <https://stedwardpulaski.org>

"Taken from the Weekly Guide for Daily Prayer of Creighton University's Online Ministries website: www.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online.html. Used with Permission."

Daily Prayer This Week

The old Baltimore Catechism defined Prayer as “raising the mind and heart to God.” It reminds us that prayer is not simply saying words to God, or even thinking over religious things in our heads. Real prayer becomes a matter of the heart. We understand prayer best when we think of it as a relationship. Growing in prayer is to grow in love, in intimacy, in a type of communication that is “heart to heart.” So, on the human level, if we have a difficult time receiving love or in surrendering our self-absorption and giving love or if we just haven't had much experience of being intimate and vulnerable with another human being, then it will be difficult for us to do that with God. Conversely, anything we can do to develop our relationship skills, to de-selfish ourselves and practice accepting love and loving generously will help us grow in our relationship with God. Praying can often become easier, more personal and intimate.

This week, we can go from hearing these wonderful readings to listening to Jesus with our hearts. It is great to begin this week asking for the grace to reflect throughout the day on how we will enter “the narrow gate”, by how we go about our day, interact with people, or return home from work. Then we can reflect on how we can humble ourselves and what that means for our day to day choices.

We could ask for the grace to go deeper than the externals and rules and get to the heart of our faith - loving others with the same compassion and love that Jesus shows us. For some of us, it might be extremely helpful this week to take the word “awake” and to carry it all day long. “Help me stay awake, Lord: to be alert and attentive, focused and reflective today. It will be busy, but I ask that you help me be consciously aware that you will be with me all day.” We may want to ask, “Lord, let me be conscious of the many gifts and blessings you have given me. Let me reflect upon how I use each gift gratefully and for others. Let me really see today if there are gifts that I am neglecting, squandering, or simply are afraid to use. Then, give me the courage to give you thanks and to be a good steward of your gifts.”

As we prepare for Sunday, we can begin to reflect upon giving up the honors in our lives. We can begin each day praying, “Lord, help me humble myself today, put myself last in caring for my family, in doing

my job with a more selfless sense of service. Help me forgive people who aren't performing well or behaving well. Help me see the way you give me life in this surrender, in this freedom to spend brief moments today in talking with you, friend-to-friend, in heart-felt connection with you, for others.”

Beginning Again: Talking With God

We have good intentions and resolves and one thing so many of us want is a deeper relationship with God. It is a longing that comes from our hearts but we don't always know what to do with it. Below are a few hints and resources to get us started – or re-started – talking to God. It sounds simple, so why does it get complicated?

Here are a few suggestions. Which ones might work for me today?

- Brushing teeth is something we do every day for a few minutes. If we transform that time into a simple dialog with God, it can begin and end our day in prayer.
- A drive in the car can become a brief retreat if we turn off the radio and use that time to have a conversation with God.
- A regular shower or bath time can be the perfect, undistracted spot to connect with the One who loves us.
- We can pray walking to a meeting, crossing a street or heading into a store.
- As we reach to answer a phone, a 2 second prayer for the person calling can change my interaction with the caller.
- If we find our mind wanders, gently transform it into a prayer by saying to God, “I am distracted by the meeting I have today. Let me tell you what I am worried about.” Or, “I can tell I am preoccupied by my relationship problems with my brother. Please give me the grace to forgive him.” We can take our distractions to God and ask for help.