

# *Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - August 1, 2021*

## Gifts for God – July 25, 2021

### Immaculate Conception

General Collections - \$ 1,583.00

Weekly Budget Needs: 1,700.00

### Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton

General Collection - \$ 434.00

Weekly Budget Need: 475.00

### Saint Joseph

General Collection - \$ 317.00

Weekly Budget Needs: 375.00



## Stewardship Reflections

*"Each day the people are to go out and gather their daily portion; thus will I test them, to see whether they follow my instructions or not." Exodus 16:4*

When the Israelites gathered more than their daily portion of manna, the surplus became wormy and rotten. In the same way today, self-reliance, pride and ego leads to hoarding and excessive surplus of goods and money. Living a stewardship lifestyle helps us discern our "wants" from our "needs". Living a grateful and generous lifestyle reminds us that God will provide all that we need and that we have plenty to share.



## Mass Intentions:

### Immaculate Conception

**August 7**

*For the People of God of Saint Joseph, Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton and Immaculate Conception parishes.*

**August 8**

*+ For the repose of the soul of Aristeo Botello, father of Pilar Botello.*

## First Day of School = Free Ice Cream!

To inaugurate the first day of school, Fr. Sean invites all students around Poteau to get ice cream at Braum's the afternoon of August 12 (the first day of classes). Each student will get a single scoop for free. Fr. Sean will be there handing out tickets. Bring friends and friends of friends. He looks forward to meeting a ton of people.

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## A Message on Covid from Father Sean

We thank God for where we are relative to everything in the last 18 months. We attend Mass as normal and we're healthy. Despite recent noise about COVID, the *Poteau Daily News* reports few new cases and no deaths in Le Flore County. I know of a few cases in recent weeks, but no hospitalizations. A few comments:

1) The Gospel obliges us to care more about the health of our soul than the health of our body. In the words of Jesus, "What profit a man to gain the whole world and lose his soul?" Our bodily health is a gift that we are obliged to use for our spiritual good.

2) We will continue ministry as normal. Those who chose to receive the vaccine will be essentially 100% defended against grave effects of COVID, according to the science. Those who chose not to get the vaccine should understand their risks.

3) COVID will be here indefinitely. We need to live life as normal, or we will be enslaved by fear.

4) We are always reasonable and faithful, but never fundamentalists. God will take care of us if we have faith, but it will be in a manner like the biblical Job. Job suffered greatly despite being faithful, but God graced him with fidelity to God through it all. Faith is not a defense against disease. Only miracles are as God sees fit from time to time. If you have COVID or think you might have it, please don't expose others to it unnecessarily.

5) We remain under the command of God to "Keep holy the Sabbath." While it means no unnecessary work and extra prayer on Sundays, it especially means we attend Mass on the Sabbath. Some may feel the pressure to skip due to being on vacation or fear of disease or desire to work. When leisure or fear or work overtake our duty to adore, glorify and thank our Creator through participation in the Sacrifice of the Mass, the soul is in grave risk - if not already in a lifeless state. Again, we are not fundamentalists, and when there is a grave reason (care of the infirm) or impossibility (lack of vehicle), the obligation is dispensed. God does not command the impossible.

Let us continue to pray for each other. We need God to keep us humble and obedient if we ever have hope of rising to a fervent divine charity in Him. May Mary guide us through times of confusion and draw us closer to her Son and our Savior, Jesus Christ.

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## Prayers for Our Sick & Shut-ins

*"And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well." (James 5:15)*

Let us pray for: Ruben Sosa, Mattie Baker, Ana Bedia, Elda Lauryn, Colton Simpson, Shelby Burgos, Fortino Mar, Christine Tuthill, Itzel Gomez, Patty Karpika, Dennis Mazikowski, Agustina Ruiz, Anastacio Solis, Edith & Lazarus Girton, George Mansour, Josefina Estrada, Katie Malone, John Harris, Stan Floyd, Liz Lopez, Roger O'Hara, Johnny & Josephine McMahan, Hermann Bohn, Brandy Beane, John Worton, Paula Gorgas, Bill Burwell, Dorothea Willis, Barbara Morris, Marianne Young, Nanette Johnson, Mary Smith, Susan King, Hilda Culver, Violet Ray, and all our hospitalized and shut-ins.

## Daily Mass Readings

**2** Monday of the Eighteenth Week in Ordinary Time (**G**) / Numbers 11:4b-15 / Psalm 81:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 / Matthew 14:13-21

**3** Tuesday of the Eighteenth Week in Ordinary Time (**G**) / Numbers 12:1-13 / Psalm 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 6cd-7, 12-13 / Matthew 14:22-36

**4 Memorial of Saint John Vianney, Priest (W)** / Numbers 13:1-2, 25 – 14:1, 26a-29a, 34-35 / Psalm 106:6-7ab, 13-14, 21-22, 23 / Matthew 15:21-28

**5** Thursday of the Eighteenth Week in Ordinary Time (**G**) / Numbers 20:1-13 / Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 / Matthew 16:13-23

**6 Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord (W)** / Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 / Psalm 97:1-2, 5-6, 9 / 2 Peter 1:16-19 / Mark 9:2-10

**7** Saturday of the Eighteenth Week in Ordinary Time (**G**) / Deuteronomy 6:4-13 / Psalm 18: 2-3a, 3bc-4, 47 and 51 / Matthew 17:14-20

**8** The 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time (**G**) / 1 Kings 19:4-8 / Psalm 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 / Ephesians 4: 30 – 5:2 / John 6:41-51

## Our Catholic Community Calendar

### Monday, August 2

– No events scheduled.

### Tuesday, August 3

– 8 a.m. **Daily Mass in the IC Chapel.**

### Wednesday, August 4

– 8 a.m. **Daily Mass in the IC Chapel.**

### Thursday – August 5

– 8 a.m. **Daily Mass in the IC Chapel.**

– 7 to 9 p.m. Hispanic Praise & Worship group. IC Church.

### Friday, August 6

– 8 a.m. **Daily Mass in the IC Chapel.**

– 9 a.m. First Friday 24-Hour Adoration begins in the Chapel.

### Saturday, August 7

– 9 a.m. First Friday 24-Hour Adoration ends.

– 3 to 4:30 p.m. Confessions.

– 5 p.m. **Vigil Mass for the 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time.**

### Sunday, August 8 – The Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

– 9 a.m. **Mass in English at Immaculate Conception.**

– 11 a.m. **Mass in Spanish at Immaculate Conception.**

– 1 p.m. **Mass at Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Spiro.**

– 5 p.m. **Sunday Mass at Saint Joseph, Stigler.**

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## Update: Renew the House of the Lord Campaign

Total Pledges & Gifts: \$51,192

Total Received to Date: \$29,645

Balance: \$21,547

Please check to see if you are current with your pledge payments.

Thank you for helping renovate our worship space.

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## Registrations needed for Hospitality on Sundays

The hospitality in the Parish Hall will return after the 9 o'clock Sunday Mass on August 22. We are in process of renewing our "hospitality teams." There is a signup clipboard at the entrance of the church. Please prayerfully consider helping.