15th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Bulletin for the Catholic Parishes of Oklee, Grygla, and Goodridge

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Office Hours

 Tuesday & Wednesday
 8:30 a.m. —
 3:30 p.m.

 Thursday
 8:30 a.m. —
 11:30a.m.

Bulletin Deadline

Wednesday: Noon

CLERGY COLUMN

July is the month of the Precious Blood of Jesus. We give special significance to months throughout the year. October is the Month of the Rosary; March is St. Joseph; May is the Blessed Mother's. In June we have Corpus Christi. These are not hard and fast rules, but they are important to observe. July 1st was once the Feast Day of the Precious Blood, from whence the whole month took it's theme. The feast was removed from the calendar in 1969, because the Most Precious Blood of Christ the Redeemer is already venerated in the solemnities of the Passion, of Corpus Christi, of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and in the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. However, the Mass of the Most Precious Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ can still be celebrated as a votive Mass on any unencumbered weekday of the year.

Saint Gertrude wrote a prayer which invokes the Precious Blood of Jesus, and it is beautiful when said before Mass.

Prayer of Saint Gertrude

Eternal Father, I offer Thee the Most Precious Blood of Thy Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the masses said throughout the world today, for all the Holy Souls in Purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal church, those in my own home and within my family. Amen.

St. Francis Xavier Parish in Oklee			St. Clement Parish in Grygla				<u>St. Ann Parish in Goodridge</u>		
Mass Times Confessions			Mass Times Confessions			Mass Times Confessions			
Sun: Tues: Wed: Thurs:	8:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m.	7:30 a.m. 7:45 a.m. 7:45 a.m. 7:45 a.m.	Sun:	10:15 a.m.	10:00 a.m.	Sun:	12:00 p.m.	11:45 a.m.	

Kateri Tekakwitha (pronounced ['gaderi dega'gwita] in Mohawk), given the name Tekakwitha, baptizedas Catherine and informally known as Lily of the Mohawks (1656 – April 17, 1680), is a Catholic saint who was an Algonquin–Mohawk laywoman. Born in the Mohawk village of Ossernenon, on the south side of the Mohawk River in present-day New York

St. Kateri Tekakwitha is the first Native American to be recognized as a saint by the Catholic Church. She was born in 1656, in the Mohawk village of Ossernenon. Her mother was an Algonquin, who was captured by the Mohawks and who took a Mohawk chief for her husband.

She contracted smallpox as a four-yearold child which scarred her skin. The scars were a source of humiliation in her youth. She was commonly seen wearing a blanket to hide her face. Worse, her entire family died during the outbreak. Kateri Tekakwitha was subsequently raised by her uncle, who was the chief of a Mohawk clan.

Kateri was known as a skilled worker, who was diligent and patient. However, she refused to marry. When her adoptive parents proposed a suitor to her, she re-

St. Kateri Tekakwitha

fused to entertain the proposal. They punished her by giving her more work to do, but she did not give in. Instead, she remained quiet and diligent. Eventually they were forced to relent and accept that she had no interest in marriage.

At age 19, Kateri Tekakwitha converted to Catholicism, taking a vow of chastity and pledging to marry only Jesus Christ. Her decision was very unpopular with her adoptive parents and their neighbors. Some of her neighbors started rumors of sorcery. To avoid persecution, she traveled to a Christian native community south of Montreal.

According to legend, Kateri was very devout and would put thorns on her sleeping mat. She often prayed for the conversion of her fellow Mohawks. According to the Jesuit missionaries that served the community where Kateri lived, she often fasted and when she would eat, she would taint her food to diminish its flavor. On at least one occasion, she burned herself. Such self-mortification was common among the Mohawk.

Kateri was very devout and was known for her steadfast devotion. She was also very sickly. Her practices of selfmortification and denial may not have helped her health. Sadly, just five years after her conversion to Catholicism, she became ill and passed away at age 24, on April 17, 1680.

Her name, Kateri, is the Mohawk form of Catherine, which she took from St. Catherine of Siena.

St. Kateri Tekakwitha was canonized by Pope Benedict XVI on Oct. 21, 2012. She is the patroness of ecology and the environment, people in exile and Native Americans.

Miracles

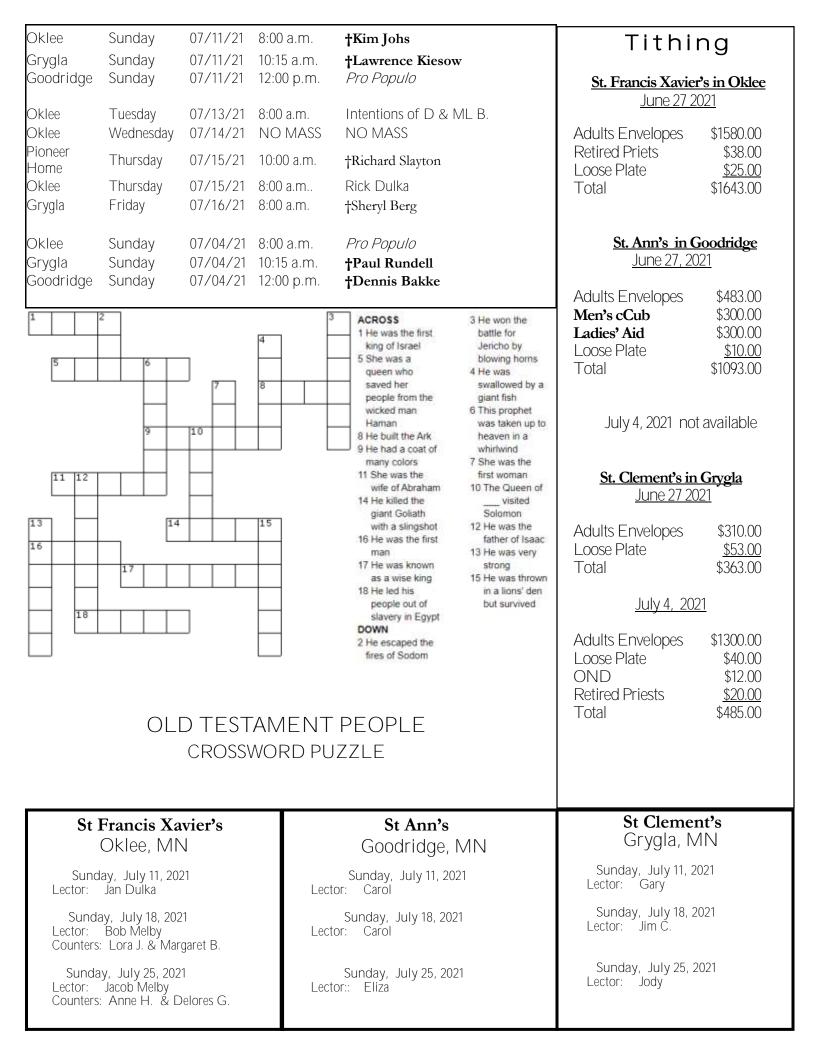
Joseph Kellogg was a Protestant child captured by Natives in the eighteenth century and eventually returned to his home. Twelve months later, he caught smallpox. The Jesuits helped treat him, but he was not recovering. They had relics from **Tekakwitha's grave but did not want to** use them on a non-Catholic. One Jesuit told Kellogg that if he would become a Catholic, help would come to him. Joseph did so. The Jesuit gave him a piece of decayed wood from Kateri's coffin, which is said to have made him heal. The historian Allan Greer takes this account to mean that Tekakwitha was known in 18thcentury New France, and she was already perceived to have healing abilities.

Other miracles were attributed to Kateri: Father Rémy recovered his hearing, and a nun in Montreal was cured by using items formerly belonging to Kateri. Such incidents were evidence that Kateri was possibly a saint. Following the death of a person, sainthood is symbolized by events that show the rejection of death. It is also represented by a duality of pain and neutralization of the other's pain (all shown by her reputed miracles in New France). Chauchetière told settlers in La Prairie to pray to Kateri for intercession with illnesses. Due to the Jesuits' superior system of publicizing material, his words and Kateri's fame were said to reach Jesuits in China and their converts.

As people believed in her healing powers, some collected earth from her gravesite and wore it in bags as a relic. One woman said she was saved from pneumonia; she gave the pendant to her husband, who was healed from his disease.

On December 19, 2011, Pope Benedict XVI approved the second miracle needed for Kateri's canonization.^[50] The authorized miracle dates from 2006, when a young boy in Washington state survived a severe flesh-eating bacterium. Doctors had been unable to stop the disease's progress by surgery and advised his parents he was likely to die. The boy received the sacrament of Anointing of the Sick from a Catholic priest. As the boy is half Lummi Indian, the parents said they prayed to Tekakwitha for divine intercession, as did their family and friends, and an extended network contacted through their son's classmates.^[51] Sister Kateri Mitchell visited the boy's bedside and placed a relic of Tekakwitha, a bone fragment, against his body and prayed together with his parents.^[52] The next day, the infection stopped its progression.

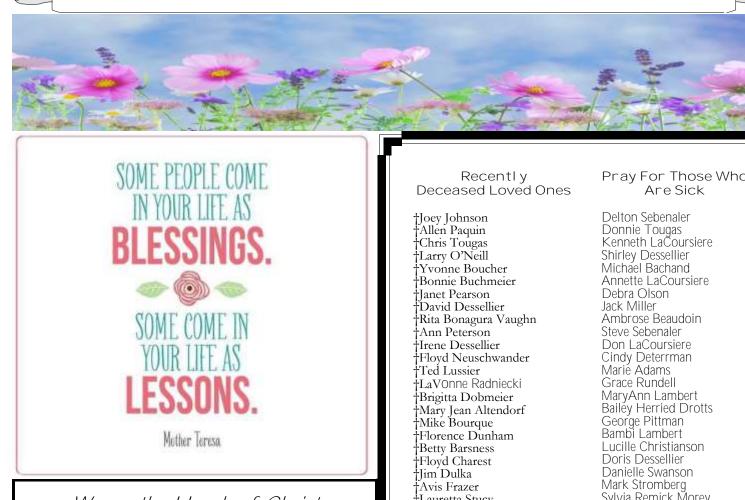




Weekly Reflections

"He said to them, "Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while." MARK 6:31

Do you spend time, every day, alone and in silence listening to how God is calling you? If not, you are missing out on a wonderful opportunity to develop a more personal relationship with Him. Unless we talk and more importantly, listen to God every day, how else will we know how He is calling us? Consider making a retreat this year, spend some "alone" time with God.



We are the Hands of Christ

Are you good at making people feel welcome? When you meet someone new, a new neighbor, a new work colleague, a new parishioner, do you make them feel at home?

Many of us probably do a much better job at this. When we make people feel welcome, we make them feel like they are included instead of being excluded.

A simple "hello" goes a long way.





†Avis Frazer †Lauretta Stucy Tom Toulouse [†]Marlyn Dessellier †Gerald Cote †Phyllis Martell Theresa "Bergeron" Lucken Herome Hruby [†]Irene Kiesow †Donnie Knutson Ron Rustan Hoan Carpenter Leroy Irlbeck Lowell Smeby Dorothy Plante †Jim Lussier †Tim Whalen +Iona Berry †Kim Johs +Elias Abboud

Pray For Those Who

Sylvia Remick Morey Penny Kalar Jo Lambert **Richard Perreault** Tony Radniecki Darren Tougas Elaine Radniecki Bob Radniecki Rick Dulka Greg Whalen Richard Bourque Tony Weber Jason Moe

