

# Dear Padre,

**At my church, some people take the votive candles out of the holders and place them next to the statues and icons. Does this make God or the saint pay more attention to the petition? And isn't doing that a fire hazard?**

**V**igil lights, commonly known as votive candles, are usually lit when a person seeks some favor from the Lord or a saint's intercession. Lighting a candle is a way of extending one's prayer and showing solidarity with the person on whose behalf the prayer is offered.

In the lighting of candles we remember and truly live the words of our Lord,

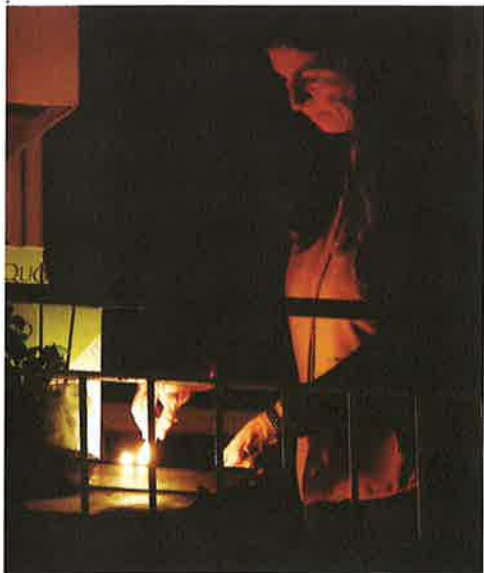
"I am the light of the world" (John 8:12). We burn candles to symbolize the rising of our prayers to heaven day and night. Prayers for the saints' intercession are also common because of their friendship with God in heaven. Saints are powerful intercessors.

God hears all prayers uttered in sincerity. Burning a candle as we pray doesn't make that prayer more important than prayers offered without a candle; neither does moving the candle to the front of the line.

If your church has made sure that the placing of the votive candles complies

with local fire regulations, you have no worries about setting a fire with vigil lights.

*Fr. Paul Borowski, CSSR*  
*Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org*



CNS PHOTO/YARA NARDI, REUTERS

## A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*



***Our lives are woven together and sustained by ordinary people—often forgotten people—who do not appear in newspaper and magazine headlines...doctors, nurses, supermarket employees, cleaners, caregivers, providers of transport, law and order forces, volunteers, priests, religious men and women and so very many others who have understood that no one reaches salvation by themselves.***

EXTRAORDINARY MOMENT OF PRAYER, MARCH 27, 2020

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## Calendar

**Monday**  
JULY 12  
Weekday  
Ex 1:8–14, 22  
Mt 10:34–11:1

**Tuesday**  
JULY 13  
Weekday  
Ex 2:1–15a  
Mt 11:20–24

**Wednesday**  
JULY 14  
St. Kateri Tekakwitha,  
Virgin  
Ex 3:1–6, 9–12  
Mt 11:25–27

**Thursday**  
JULY 15  
St. Bonaventure,  
Bishop and Doctor of  
the Church  
Ex 3:13–20  
Mt 11:28–30

**Friday**  
JULY 16  
Weekday  
Ex 11:10–12:14  
Mt 12:1–8

**Saturday**  
JULY 17  
Weekday  
Ex 12:37–42  
Mt 12:14–21

**Sunday**  
JULY 18  
Sixteenth Sunday in  
Ordinary Time  
Jer 23:1–6  
Eph 2:13–18  
Mk 6:30–34

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# Our Parish COMMUNITY

**July 11, 2021**  
Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)  
Am 7:12–15  
Eph 1:3–14 or 1:3–10  
Mk 6:7–13



*So they went off and preached repentance. They drove out many demons, and they anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.*  
MARK 6:12–13

## You Can Do It

**T**oday's readings are about unpretentious people who accomplished remarkable deeds. Amos, a shepherd from the southern kingdom of Judah who also cultivated sycamore figs, challenged the people at a northern shrine in Israel. He did not come from an illustrious family, nor was he particularly important. Yet he is the one called by God to summon the northern Israelites to repentance.

The disciples of Jesus pursued family businesses like fishing or were employed by the Romans like Matthew. They didn't come from socially prominent families, nor were they known as community leaders. But look at what they did: they cast out demons and cured the sick. Where did these people get their training? More importantly, where did they obtain their power? We find the answer to such questions in the second reading: "In him we were also chosen" (Ephesians 1:11).

The Ephesians letter assures us that God "has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavens" (1:3). We don't have to worry about performing miracles; all we have to do is open ourselves to the graciousness of God. God will do the rest. Through us, God will cast out the demons of prejudice and bias that plague our world, of selfishness and spitefulness so prominent in our political rivalries, of greed and dishonesty in many of our social interactions. Through us, God will heal our country, our world, and our Church of hatred, violence, and oppression. With Amos and the Twelve we too hear: "You can do it."

*Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA*

### FOR *Reflection*

- ★ *In what ways do you make the world better?*
- ★ *Do you realize that you have the power of God to transform the world?*





St. Mary's Church  
Dalton, NE 69131



All Souls' Church  
Bridgeport, NE 69336



Sacred Heart Church  
Bayard, NE 69334

Pastor:  
Address: 701 P Street, Bridgeport, NE 69336

Parish Office & Fax: (308)262-0709. Rectory: (308)262-1332 Email: [allsoulsbridgeport@gmail.com](mailto:allsoulsbridgeport@gmail.com) Website: [www.smassh Catholics.org](http://www.smassh Catholics.org)

He instructed them to take nothing for the journey but a walking stick—no food, no sack, no money in their belts. [Mark 6:8](#)

Does God care about the smallest details in your life? Does He care about you receiving proper food and housing? Does He care about your proper emotional, material and spiritual support? He certainly does!

Sometimes it can happen that we fail to realize how completely God cares for us. We can fall into the trap of getting consumed by the fear and anxiety of daily concerns. We can worry that we will not have enough for tomorrow or even today. This worry can concern us regarding all parts of our lives—relationships, emotions, material needs, spiritual strength, etc.

What we need to know, with complete certainty, is that God is attentive to every detail of our lives. He knows all and loves us in such a complete way that He will not abandon us ever. He will never allow us to be without those things we need to live a full and fruitful life.

Do you believe that? At times it can be hard to believe. At times we can feel overwhelmed and believe that we must take care of everything ourselves. It is true that we are called to offer all our energy and talent to God so that He can use us and work through us. But we should never forget that God is ultimately the one taking care of us and is the one most attentive to our every need.

Reflect, today, on the level of abandonment that you have to divine providence. Pray this prayer below and reflect upon how completely you can make it yours. Jesus, I trust in You!

**SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK**

Date	Day	Time	Place	Intention
7/12	Monday	No Mass Today		
7/13	Tuesday	No Mass Today		
7/14	Wednesday	No Mass Today		
7/15	Thursday	No Mass Today		
7/16	Friday	No Mass Today		
7/17	Saturday	5.30 PM	Bayard	John Mercer
7/18	Sunday	8.00 AM	Dalton	Health of Joni Pelster
7/18	Sunday	10.30 AM	Bridgeport	Don Loxterkamp

**ALL SOULS  
617 P STREET  
BRIDGEPORT NE 69336**

**SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER : MASS  
TIME**

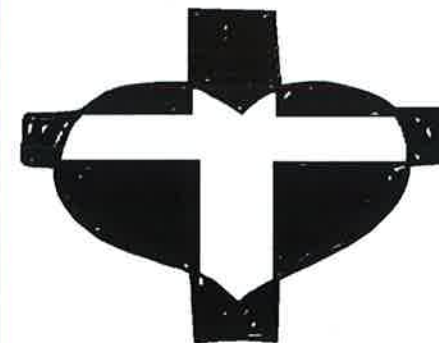
Tuesday —6:00 PM  
Sunday —10.30 AM



**OUR GIFTS TO GOD & CHURCH**

ADULTS	\$1,205.00
CHILDREN	
PLATE	\$193.00
SUBTOTAL	\$1,398.00
MASS STIPEND	
PETER'S PENCE	\$128.00
TOTAL	\$1,526.00
BUILDING FUND	\$125.00
APPEAL GOAL	\$6,046.00
DONATIONS	\$3,615.00
BALANCE	\$2,431.00

- Prayer line requests may be made to Carolyn-262-0453 or Teresa-262-0439.
- The rosary is prayed ½ hr before Mass, please come and pray.



**SACRED HEART  
1003 AVE B  
BAYARD NE 69334**

**SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER :  
MASS TIME**

Friday —12:00 PM  
Sunday — 8:00 AM



**OUR GIFTS TO GOD & CHURCH**

ADULTS	\$495.00
CHILDREN	
PLATE	\$275.00
SUBTOTAL	\$ 770.00
MASS STIPEND	
PETER'S PENCE	\$25.00
TOTAL	\$ 795.00
BUILDING FUND	
APPEAL GOAL	\$4,907.00
DONATIONS	\$3,165.00
BALANCE	\$1,742.00

- Prayer line requests may be made to Paula-586-2992.
- The rosary is prayed ½ hr before Mass, please come and pray.



**SAINT MARY'S  
718 FRANCIS ST  
DALTON NE 69131**

**SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER :  
MASS TIME**

Thursday — 6:00 PM  
Saturday — 5:30 PM



**OUR GIFTS TO GOD & CHURCH**

ADULTS	\$725.00
CHILDREN	
PLATE	\$30.00
SUBTOTAL	\$ 755.00
MASS STIPEND	
PETER'S PENCE	\$20.00
TOTAL	\$ 775.00
BUILDING FUND	
APPEAL GOAL	\$6,136.00
DONATIONS	\$6,439.00
BALANCE	(\$303.00)

- Prayer line requests may be made to DeAnn-249-1735.
- The rosary is prayed ½ hr before Mass, please come and pray.

