



HE IS NOT HERE,
FOR HE HAS BEEN

raised

JUST AS HE SAID.
COME AND SEE THE
PLACE WHERE HE LAY.

MATTHEW 28:6 | EASTER 2024

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CHURCH

201 N. PIERCE STREET, DELPHOS, OH 45833
419-695-4050 · DELPHOSSTJOHNPARISH.ORG

LITURGICAL UPDATES

DELPHOS ST. JOHN PARISH

Business Manager

Dave Dyer
ddyer@delphosstjohns.org

Bookkeeper

Jo Duncan
duncan@delphosstjohns.org

Liturgical Coordinator

Mary Beth Will
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Music Director

Lynn Bockey
lbockey@delphosstjohns.org

DELPHOS ST. JOHN SCHOOL

Elementary Principal

Nathan Stant
stant@delphosstjohns.org
Elementary School 419-692-8561

Preschool Director

Katrina Schwinnen
kschwinnen@delphosstjohns.org
Preschool 419-692-9806

Jr. High/High School Principal

Adam Lee | lee@delphosstjohns.org
Office 419-692-5371

LITURGY READINGS

April 14, 2024

Acts 3:13-15, 17-19
1 John 2:1-5a
Luke 24:35-48

OUR GIFTS TO GOD

March 31, 2024

Adult Offering	\$ 23,165.00
Anonymous Offering	\$ 4,102.00
Student Offering	\$ 273.72
Total	\$ 27,540.72

Thank you for your support!

WEDDING BANNES

I - Clayton Stemen and Breece Rohr
III - Grant Goecke and Jessica Odenweller

**ST. JOHN'S
PARISH FOUNDATION**
Helping Families
Create Legacies
Since 1977

None of us Can
Live Forever...
But ALL of us Can
Give Forever.
Create your "Eternal Envelope"
Ask How.

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, April 9, 2024

8:00 a.m. † Hilda Cross

Wednesday, April 10, 2024

12:15 p.m. † Alfred Seffernick

Thursday, April 11, 2024

8:00 a.m. Women of Welcome Retreat

Saturday, April 13, 2024

8:00 a.m. † Florence Serraino

4:30 p.m. † John Martin

Sunday, April 14, 2024

7:30 a.m. For the People of the Parish

9:15 p.m. 45th Wedding Anniversary
for John and
Pat Holdgreve

9:15 p.m. 45th Wedding Anniversary
Diesel and
Julie Schwinnen

11:30 a.m. † Gary Maas

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

The Sick: Sophia Becker, Lisa Davis Bemis, Ken Blankemeyer, Tracey Boberg, James Bodnar, Gordon Brendle, Marcey Brickner, Madalyn Donaldson, Dolly Elzey, Janice Etkorn, Carolyn Fisher, Rosie Fortener, Mary Ann Franklin, Mary Freund, Barry Friemoth, Jim Friemoth, John E. Friemoth, June Gable, Herb Gerdeman, David Gonyea, Carol Graham, Dan "Beeze" Grothouse, Mary Grothouse, Don Heitz, Joann and Tom Hempfling, Tom Hickey, Sharon Hines, Angela Hoehn, Madelyn Jones, Shawn Kimmet, Shelly Klausing, Donna Klinger, Braden Knebel, Laura Krietemeyer, Sharon Lawrence, Dave Merschman, Linda Miller, Millie Minnig, Minnie Moenter, Mary Mullen, Amy Musser, John Phillips, Barb Recker, Sue Reddy-Bemis, Martha Reddy-Lehman, Alissa Rice, Becky Richardson, Tracy Rowland, Amy Schulte, Winifred Siefker, Tina Vance, Donna Vogt, Mark and Sue Wannemacher, Chad Weber, Darrell Wiegung, Mel Williams

The Recently Deceased:

Those in the Armed Forces: Christine Bemis, Frances Bemis-Sigler, Jordan Boone, Mahlon Haunhorst, Brian Huysman, Troy Trombly, Samantha Wehri

OUR SCHOOL/PARISH

THIS WEEK IN PARISH HISTORY *By Jack Bockey*

75 years ago, Delphos St. John's basketball team consecrated themselves before their opening game to Our Lady of Fatima. This was encouraged by athletic director, principal, and associate pastor Fr. Edward C. Herr. Coached by Dick Bechtel, the team made it to state. Before the state game, they prayed a Rosary to Our Lady. They won with a score of 47-43. Since 1949, Our Lady of Fatima has been the patron of DSJ basketball and athletes. OUR LADY OF FATIMA, PRAY FOR US. Look for a video documenting more details of this event including an original film of the state game coming in late April.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH

Congratulations to Carlee Coil, Erin Grubenhoff, Leo Grubenhoff and Madeline Grubenhoff on joining our Parish Family.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations go out to John and Pat Holdgreve and Diesel and Julie Schwinnen who both will be celebrating their 45th Wedding Anniversary at the 9:15 a.m. Mass next weekend. May they be blessed with many happy years of marriage.

PARISH CALENDAR: APRIL 7-14

Sunday, April 7, 2024*Second Sunday of Easter – Divine Mercy*

7:30 a.m. – Mass – Delphos Church
 8:45 a.m. – Divine Mercy Chaplet will be sung – Delphos Church
 8:45 a.m. – Rosary – Delphos Church – CANCELLED
 9:15 a.m. – Mass – Delphos Church
 10:20 a.m. – PSR – Delphos Elementary School
 11:30 a.m. – Mass – Delphos Church
 5:30 p.m. – Mass – Landeck Church

Monday, April 8, 2024*The Annunciation of the Lord*

Eclipse – School Not in Session
 8:00 a.m. – Mass – Delphos Church
 8:30 a.m. – Rosary for the Respect for All Life – Delphos Church
 7:00 p.m. – Eucharistic Adoration (Holy Hour) – Delphos Church

Tuesday, April 9, 2024*Easter Weekday*

8:00 a.m. – Mass – Delphos Church
 7:00 p.m. – Cantors – Delphos Church
 7:45 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal – Delphos Church

Wednesday, April 10, 2024*Easter Weekday*

8:00 a.m. – Mass – Delphos Church
 12:15 p.m. – Mass – Delphos Church
 5:00 p.m. – Shepherds of Christ Prayer Group – Delphos Church
 7:00 p.m. – School Council Meeting – Ministry Center

Thursday, April 11, 2024*Saint Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr*

8:00 a.m. – Mass (K-6th Grade) – Church

Friday, April 12, 2024*Easter Weekday*

6:30 a.m. – Men's Prayer Group – Ministry Center
 7:30 a.m. – Reconciliation – Delphos Church
 8:00 a.m. – Mass (7th-12th Grade) – Delphos Church

Saturday, April 13, 2024*Easter Weekday*

8:00 a.m. – Mass – Church
 8:30 a.m. – Rosary for the Respect for All Life – Delphos Church
 2:00 p.m. – Wedding – Grant Goecke and Jessica Odenweller
 3:30 p.m. – Reconciliation – Delphos Church
 4:30 p.m. – Mass – Delphos Church

Sunday, April 14, 2024*Third Sunday of Easter*

7:30 a.m. – Mass – Delphos Church
 8:45 a.m. – Rosary – Delphos Church
 9:15 a.m. – Mass – Delphos Church
 10:20 a.m. – PSR – Delphos Elementary School
 11:30 a.m. – Mass – Delphos Church
 5:30 p.m. – Mass – Landeck Church

COMMUNITY

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

The St. Vincent de Paul Society is accepting used furniture; however, we have had to establish some new rules for items that we can accept:

1. ONLY FURNITURE IN GOOD CONDITION.
2. We can no longer accept any donations with stains, tears, or excessively worn items. No sofa beds, baby beds, lamps, appliances, or pictures. We cannot accept any items left outside when we are not open. Please do not leave them in front of our door or anywhere around the building.
3. THE ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ACCEPT OR DENY ANY ITEM TO BE DONATED.

We appreciate your help and understanding,

DIOCESE

HOMESCHOOL MASS

Come together with Bishop Daniel Thomas for the 2024 Homeschool Mass scheduled for Tuesday, June 4, at 7:00 p.m. at Rosary Cathedral. This special event is open to all 8th grade and graduating high school senior homeschoolers. If you wish to take part in this Mass, kindly reach out to us at homeschoolmasstoledo@gmail.com.

DELPHOS CATHOLIC LADIES OF COLUMBIA (CL OF C)

The CL of C is selling raffle tickets at the Ministry Center or from any CL of C member. You have a chance of winning one of ten – \$100.00 gas cards. Thanks for supporting the CL of C.

MAXIMILIAN: SAINT OF AUSCHWITZ

Maximilian: Saint of Auschwitz, the moving, live production performed by Leonardo Defilippis of Saint Luke Productions, will be presented at Lima Central Catholic High School in Lima on Monday, April 22 at 7:00 p.m. Experience firsthand the story of this heroic priest, Fr. Maximilian Kolbe, who courageously fought the forces of evil, and offered his life for a family man in the concentration camp of Auschwitz during World War II. The program is filled with all the elements of professional theater, runs 90 minutes, and is suitable for ages 10 and up. Admission will be a freewill offering. For additional information, contact St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church at xxx-xxxx or info@stcharleslima.org. Watch the gripping trailer and learn more at www.StMaxDrama.com.

Divine Mercy Sunday

Today the Church celebrates the feast of Divine Mercy. On this day we thank God for His forgiveness and love. It is the mercy of God that lets all of us come back to Him after we have sinned.

We know how much Jesus loves us because He suffered and died for us. When we have sinned, He wants us to be sorry and come back to Him. No matter how big of a sin you do, if you are sorry for it then God will forgive you. He wants to forgive you because He loves you!

Today we should thank God for His mercy and forgiveness and ask Him to look on us and our friends and the whole world with love and forgiveness! Here is a prayer we can say:

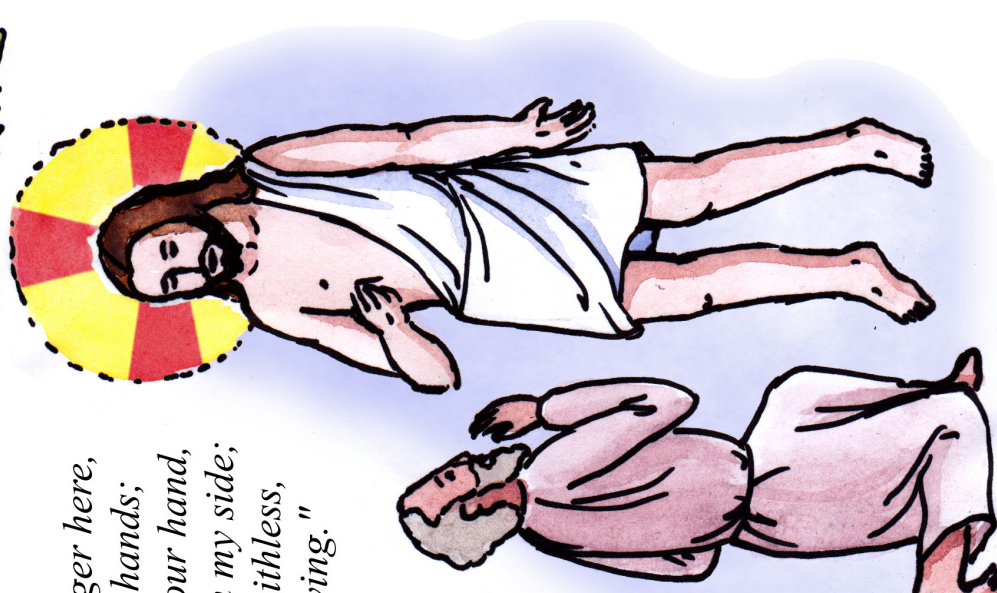
*Eternal Father,
I offer You
the Body and Blood,
Soul and Divinity
of Your
dearly beloved Son,
Our Lord Jesus Christ,
in atonement for our sins
and those of the
whole world.*



Answers to Annunciation Puzzle:
'sent, Joseph, name, Lord, confused, angel,
not, God, Son of God

The Kids' Bulletin

Second Sunday of Easter
Divine Mercy Sunday
April 7th, 2024

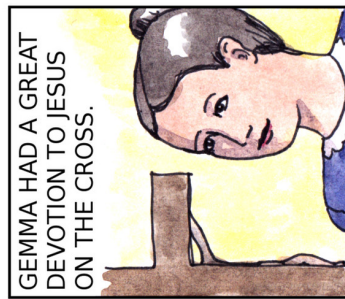


"Put your finger here,
and see my hands;
and put out your hand,
and place it in my side;
do not be faithless,
but believing."

" M _ _ _ _ _
_ _ _ _ _
_ _ _ _ _
_ _ _ _ _ !"
A M B Y C
L D O E R
F D G A H
N I D J
M K Y L G
M O N D O

What did St. Thomas
reply to Jesus? Use every second
letter to fill in the blanks!

Saint Gemma Galgani April 11



WE CAN LEARN FROM SAINT GEMMA TO HAVE A GREAT DEVOTION TO OUR LORD'S SUFFERINGS FOR US SINNERS. SHE OFFERED EVERY PAIN AND EVERYTHING THAT BOTHERED HER TO JESUS SO THAT SINNERS WOULD TURN BACK TO GOD. WE CAN ALSO OFFER ALL OUR TROUBLES TO JESUS TO SAVE SOULS.

The Annunciation

This year we celebrate the feast of the Annunciation on Monday April 8th. The Annunciation is the day that Jesus became a tiny baby inside Mary.

Finish this story by filling in the blanks with words from the lists and using the letters in boxes to fill in the blanks at the end.

God _____ an angel to a virgin who was engaged to _____.

Her _____ was Mary.

He told her that the _____ was with her. But Mary was _____ about what the angel said.

So the _____ said to her, "Do _____ be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with _____"

Then the angel told her that she would have a Baby and that He would be the _____.



CONFUSED
ANGEL
NAME
GOD

JOSEPH
LORD
SENT
NOT

Leading the FLOCK

BY BISHOP DANIEL E. THOMAS



Repent, and believe in the Gospel

On Ash Wednesday, many Catholics heard the words “Repent and believe in the Gospel,” as blessed ashes were imposed on their foreheads. These first words spoken by Jesus at the beginning of his public ministry (Mark 1:15), were addressed to each sinner who came forward (that is, to everyone!). At once these words are an exhortation to turn away from sin and turn back to our merciful Father, an encouragement to follow Jesus and his teachings more faithfully, and an invitation to true sorrow for our sins. Lent is the sacred time when, through our prayer, fasting and almsgiving, we strive to make right our relationships with the Lord and with one another.



Since the 18 December 2023 publication of the Declaration *Fiducia supplicans* (FS), on the pastoral meaning of blessings, by the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith, I have received numerous questions and expressions of serious reservation, concern and confusion. While the text of *Fiducia supplicans* stated that no further guidance or response would be given (FS 41), on 4 January 2024, the same Dicastery published a [press release](#) (PR) listing several previously unmentioned conditions for blessings of couples in

irregular situations and same sex couples, seeking to clarify the reception of *Fiducia supplicans*, and recommending “a full and calm reading of the Declaration so as to better understand its meaning and purpose” (PR Intro).

Now, after taking time for a full and calm reading; and after listening to, consultation with and being encouraged by several lay faithful, consecrated religious and clergy, including members of our diocesan consultative bodies, I offer the following observations in exercise of my apostolic mission of teaching, governing, and sanctifying the flock entrusted to my care (PR 2).

To be clear, there is no change to the Catholic Church’s perennial teaching on marriage. The divinely revealed truth is that marriage is the “exclusive, stable, and indissoluble union between a man and a woman, naturally open to the generation of children” (FS 4). Jesus himself taught this definition of marriage willed by the Creator “in the beginning” (cf. Matthew 19:3-9; Genesis 1-2). His Church has faithfully shared his teaching even when differing forms of unions have been promoted by popular cultures in various eras of history.

The Declaration highlights the common practice of Catholics seeking God’s help and guidance in their lives by approaching an ordained minister outside a liturgical context, for a brief prayer of blessing. The Declaration proposes that couples in irregular unions or same-sex unions can receive such informal blessings which are pastoral, not liturgical, in which there is “no intention to legitimize anything” (FS 40) of the immoral lifestyle of those blessed.

But herein lies the confusion. How can the blessing of a couple not be seen as the blessing of their union? Many, having read the documents, have commented to me that they would realistically see only two scenarios of requests for such blessings: a) those couples in irregular unions or same sex unions who are genuinely struggling and earnestly desiring the help of the Church's minister to repent, to follow the Gospel, and to make right their relationship with the Lord and with each other; and b) those couples who desire the Church's minister to condone their situation and affirm that the Lord blesses their union. In the first situation, a request for a blessing is a petition for grace to repent. In the second, a request for a blessing expresses a misguided attempt for approval of an immoral lifestyle which is incongruent with Jesus' teaching.

As shepherd of this local flock, having listened to many of my people, I worry that while *Fiducia supplicans* and the subsequent press release go to great lengths to insist that the possibility of blessing couples in irregular situations and same sex couples does not officially validate their status or change in any way the Church's perennial teaching on marriage; nevertheless, the reality of performing such proposed blessings lends itself to causing grave scandal.

As we all know, for so many, perception is reality. If a cleric is blessing a couple, it is hard to imagine how that is not seen as a blessing of their union. Such a blessing, it seems to me, could well be misunderstood by the couples themselves and by the faithful, thus being perceived as a blessing of the union, not just the couple. Such blessings would somehow compromise or weaken the Church's perennial teaching either by intention or neglect, because they lack the clarity necessary to assuage misinterpretation, misunderstanding and erroneous conclusions.

Deeply grateful for the hardworking and dedicated clergy serving in the Diocese of Toledo, I encourage them to continue to pray spontaneous non-liturgical prayers with any persons who seek physical, mental, or spiritual health, wisdom in times of crisis and decision-making, grace to fight against temptation, and courage to leave sinful lifestyles and follow Jesus in freedom. This of course includes individuals who may find themselves in irregular or same sex unions, addressing them with love, offering them hope and calling them to conversion of mind and heart. As *Fiducia supplicans* #5

and the press release articulate, same-sex unions and irregular unions cannot and should not be blessed (PR 2). Thus, it would be morally inappropriate, misleading, and scandalous for clergy in our diocese to pray with a couple in any manner that would feign to approve, condone, endorse, or validate an irregular or same-sex union (PR 5). Ultimately, this could cause scandal for the couples themselves, for the faithful, and for society at large.

Catholic parents of children in irregular or same-sex unions know the complexity of accompanying their children with patient, prudent, and prayerful acts of charity and hospitality which do not obscure, but in fact, allow for the truth of Jesus' teaching about marriage and family to be more clearly revealed and embraced. I trust that the clergy of our diocese will continue to dedicate themselves to exercising their spiritual fatherhood with patience, prudence, and prayer, teaching the unchanging truths of our faith with clarity and accompanying all the people of God, particularly those who struggle.

It is essential for me to express gratitude and encouragement for all in our diocese who faithfully make serious sacrifices in striving to live Jesus' teaching on marriage and family life. Your dedication provides a much-needed witness amid chaos and confusion about the sacred realities of marriage and family. There are those in irregular unions who, out of respect for Jesus' teaching, still come to Mass but refrain from receiving the Holy Eucharist. There are those who experience same-sex attraction but strive to live chastely. We support, accompany, and reassure them as they strive to remain faithful to the Lord's Will.

While discordant voices will continue to engage in debate about the proper path forward for the Church, I invite everyone to join me in remaining faithful, not losing heart, and in focusing more intensely on Jesus and his call to conversion, whatever our vocation. Pray that together we might recognize that we are all sinners, urged anew this Lent to hear and heed the exhortation of Jesus himself: "Repent, and believe in the Gospel."

+ Daniel E. Thomas

Most Rev. Daniel E. Thomas
Bishop of Toledo
February 29, 2024

DOUBTS

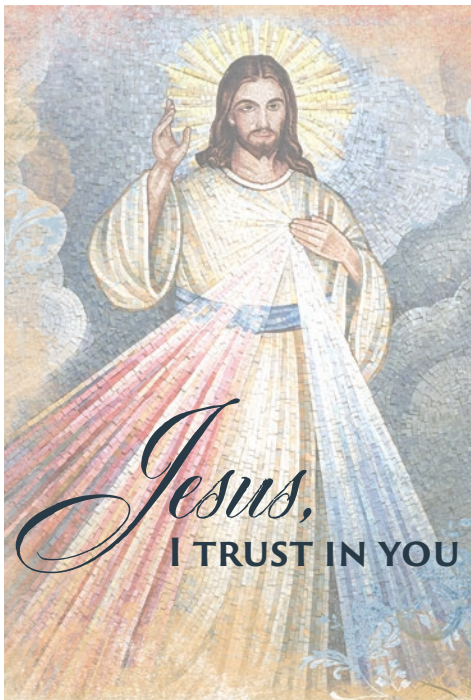
Reflection on John 20:19-31

With the Apostle Thomas, there is both vulnerability and capability, both suspicion and consent, both doubt and faith. He is at first suspicious of the report of the Risen Jesus, wishing to not get "caught up" in what might be fake news. But when confronted in person with the presence of the Risen Lord, he does not push that suspicion to the edge of the ridiculous, but affirms the truth of what he has now arrived at.

It is not a sign of weakness to question one's faith. On the contrary, accepting doubt as a natural part of what it means to be human, one's questioning is a sign of an engaging and curious mind and heart. Through this journey of doubting and questioning, we move ever deeper into our relationship with God. Doubts and questions are an opportunity for spiritual growth.

This is spiritual integration. Rather than judge one side as unworthy of being a disciple (the experiences of doubt we all have), and accept faith as the absence of all questioning (which it clearly is not), Thomas represents the real and authentic journey we all make as we move ever more deeply into the recognition that God, in the Risen Christ, is present in every human experience, and that, as Richard Rohr says, "Everything belongs!"

~ Fr. Jay



WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

Sunday, April 7, 2024

Divine Mercy Sunday
Acts 4:32-35
Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24
1 Jn 5:1-6
Jn 20:19-31

Monday, April 8, 2024

The Annunciation of the Lord
Is 7:10-14; 8:10
Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11
Heb 10:4-10
Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday, April 9, 2024

Easter Weekday
Acts 4:32-37
Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5
Jn 3:7b-15

Wednesday, April 10, 2024

Easter Weekday
Acts 5:17-26
Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9
Jn 3:16-21

Thursday, April 11, 2024

Saint Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr
Acts 5:27-33
Ps 34:2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20
Jn 3:31-36

Friday, April 12, 2024

Easter Weekday
Acts 5:34-42
Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14
Jn 6:1-15

Saturday, April 13, 2024

Easter Weekday
Acts 6:1-7
Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19
Jn 6:16-21

Access Daily Readings from
the New American Bible,
Revised Edition (NABRE) online at
<https://bible.usccb.org>

SAINT STANISLAUS

Saint of the Day: April 11

Patron Saint of: Poland

Anyone who reads the history of Eastern Europe cannot help but chance on the name of Stanislaus, the saintly but tragic bishop of Kraków, patron of Poland. He is remembered with Saints Thomas More and Thomas Becket for vigorous opposition to the evils of an unjust government.

Born in Szczepanow near Kraków on July 26, 1030, he was ordained a priest after being educated in the cathedral schools of Gniezno, then capital of Poland, and at Paris. He was appointed preacher and archdeacon to the bishop of Kraków, where his eloquence and example brought about real conversion in many of his penitents, both clergy and laity. He became bishop of Kraków in 1072.

During an expedition against the Grand Duchy of Kiev, Stanislaus became involved in the political situation of Poland. Known for his outspokenness, he aimed his attacks at the evils of the peasantry and the king, especially the unjust wars and immoral acts of King Boleslaus II.

The king first excused himself, then made a show of penance, then relapsed into his old ways. Stanislaus continued his open opposition in spite of charges of treason and threats of death, finally excommunicating the king. Enraged, the latter ordered soldiers to kill the bishop. When they refused, the king killed Stanislaus with his own hands. Forced to flee to Hungary, Boleslaus supposedly spent the rest of his life as a penitent in the Benedictine abbey in Osiak.

Saints John the Baptist, Thomas Becket, Thomas More, and Stanislaus are a few of the prophets who dared to denounce corruption in high places. They followed in the footsteps of Jesus Himself, who pointed out the moral corruption in the religious leadership of His day. It is a risky business.

Read the full article: "Saint Stanislaus" Franciscan Media, Franciscan Friars, franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/saint-stanislaus/. (Accessed March 25, 2024).

MINISTRY SCHEDULE: APRIL 13 & 14

	SATURDAY, APRIL 13 – 4:30 p.m.	SUNDAY, APRIL 14 – 7:30 a.m.
EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Jackie Deitering, Annita Flanagan (sub req.), Denise Gerdeman, Lonna Miller, Elaine Schimmoeller, Ann Wrasman, Greg Miller – Back Paten, Pat Holden – Dishes	Paula Hellman, Anita Lindeman, Linda Martin, Carol Odenweller, Jean Weber, Mary Lou Wittler, Dani Duncan – Dishes
SERVERS	Drew Deitering, Grayson Elwer, Amber Gerdeman	Addi Bockey, Maddox Kroeger, Austin Shafer
LECTOR	Jim Wiechart	Wes Liebrecht
GREETERS	Barb Armstrong (sub req.), Ted Hanf, Karen Martin, Austin Moenter, Logan Tolliver, Tim Werts	Elise Clark, Nick Clark, Todd Gable, Zach Gable, Paul Pohlman, Steve Warnecke
CANTOR	John Pohlman	Archie Metcalfe
	SUNDAY, APRIL 14 – 9:15 a.m.	SUNDAY, APRIL 14 – 11:30 a.m.
EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Cindy Birkmeier, Tori Bockey, Denise Cook, Kelly Krites, Ann Nagel, Karen Youngpeter, Cindy Grothouse – Dishes	Annette Brown, Marjorie Jacobs, Karen Kahny, Jim Knebel, Dawn Ledyard, Lorelei McKeddie, Laila Sites – Dishes
SERVERS	Hank Kopack, Grant Schwinnen, Leah Schwinnen	Trayce Brickner, Mya Kill, Christian Young
LECTOR	Doris Neumeier	Carl Wehri
GREETERS	Dennis Bockey, Maddy Conley, Jim Friedrich, Aubrey Friedrich (sub req.), Allan Kerns, MC Kopack, Tami Neumeier	Brooke Altenburger, Patty Gerberick, Tom Jettinghoff (sub req.), Kaylie Sunderhaus, Andy Walpole, Callie Wiegung
CANTOR	Gene Siefker	Nicole Pohlman



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