

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASS
REGISTRATION IS NOW CLOSED**
if you missed it, contact
Elizabeth Bates (info page 2)

Classes Begin September 13

Sundays through May of 2027
with Religious Ed from 10-11 am
OCIA from 11 to noon

These are preliminary times.
Religious Education and OCIA class times
may change with changes in Mass times.



Use this for online giving

It is quick, Easy, and Secure

ONE- TIME GIFTS are simple by using
a Credit/debit card or
RECURRING GIFTS.

RECURRING GIFTS
can be set up on your
schedule
Track, Change or Manage
your giving.



**DIOCESE OF
NASHVILLE**

The Bishop's Annual Appeal for Ministries is the
lifeline of our Catholic church in the Diocese of
Nashville. Your support goes a long way in
providing resources for our many thriving ministries
in Middle Tennessee. Your 'yes' helps to bring
college students closer to Christ through University
Catholic, provides excellent formation to our
seminarians, creates opportunities for young
people to encounter Jesus in transformative ways,
helps meet the daily needs of our brothers and
sisters, and so much more. Through your generosity,
we are able to inspire faith and build a vibrant,
Christ-centered community for future generations.
Please help us to meet our goal!

**Wednesday Night Men's
Bible Study with
DEACON STEVE**

Each session starts at 5:30 pm (or after
Mass) and ends at 7:00 pm. All men of
any age are welcome.

UPCOMING ADULT
BIBLE STUDY
with Judy Elliott
DETAILS PAGE 6

PANTRY HOURS

Now Open from 9 am to noon
Monday, Tuesday,
Wednesday and Friday
(no Thursday due
to the delivery)



www.standrewsparta.com

ST. ANDREW CATHOLIC CHURCH



829 Valley View Dr. Sparta TN. 38583

Sunday August 30, 2026



Total Submission And Conformity To Christ

The Twenty- Second Sunday of Ordinary Time

Reflections

by Fr. Njoku Canice
Chukwuemeka, C.S.Sp

Today, the twenty-second Sunday of ordinary times, the church encourages us to overcome all reluctance and obstacles and to surrender ourselves to Christ completely. Hence, all the readings of this Sunday lean towards total submission and conformity to Christ.

In the first reading, Jeremiah lamented: "Lord, you have seduced me; you have overpowered me." He complained about the toughness of his mission. Lord God, you did not tell me it was this difficult! Of course, at the beginning of his call, he resisted God, making excuses: "Lord God, truly I do not know how to speak. I am only a boy." However, God insisted that He had chosen him even from his mother's womb. (Jer 1:4-10).

Jeremiah's resistance, submission, and ordeal tell us that nothing can prevent the mission of God, not even our resistance. This is especially when his hands are upon one. Though Jeremiah resisted, he eventually submitted to God: "And I have let myself be seduced." He conformed to God's will and was no longer in charge of himself. Instead, the word of God burned like fire in him, and he could no longer resist preaching it.

After submitting to God, Jeremiah, who was very timid and did not know how to speak, became transformed. There is much mystery in God! We over assume that our mission must be easy at all times. Unfortunately, it is not always so. Faithfulness to God sometimes brings us trials, disappointments, and even sufferings. At times, he allows us to experience horrific pains. However, despite all these, He shields and blesses us.

In the second reading, Paul employed the language of grace rather than law to implore us: "Offer yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God." Here, Paul calls us to submit to God without resistance and reservation. To present our bodies is to submit our faculties and the totality of our being. It is total surrender to God. This total surrender is essential to a life of righteousness, joy, peace, and victory in Christ.

Of course, to offer oneself entirely means accepting all that comes with it. In his second call today, Paul insists that we must conform to Christ rather than to this world. When we offer ourselves entirely to God, we can conform to Christ. Conformity to Christ means living like Christ.

(continued page 3)

This week's Major Sponsor 971 Smithville Hwy, Sparta, TN 38583 Tel: (931) 738-3838

PARISH INFORMATION

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday
9: a.m. - 12 p.m.

Telephone:
(931) 738-2140

Visit Our Website

www.standrewsparta.com

Please send bulletin changes,
ads or announcements
2 weeks ahead to:
bulletinsacc@gmail.com
or the Parish Co-ordinator



Pastor:
Rev. Father Emmanuel Dirichukwu
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Our Home Our Family-
Ministry Coordinator
jroseelliott@gmail.com

PARISH RETIRED DEACONS

Robert "Bob" Graham
Stephen "Steve" AuBuchon



Baptisms

Please contact
The Parish office about the
birth of your child.

Marriages

Please contact The Parish
office at least 4 months in
advance for information
and scheduling

Anointing of the Sick and Homebound

Please contact The Parish
Office for information on
our Ministry of Care.

Reconciliation

Father Emmanuel
is available to
hear confessions on
Saturdays from
3:30 to 4 pm
and on
Wednesday from
4:30 pm to 5 pm.

Other confession times
may be arranged
directly with
Father.



If you are a new parishioner, you are
invited to stop by or telephone
the parish office to register and let us
know how we may be of service to you.
Please call the church office
(931) 738-2140

If you have new information, such as a
change of address or
phone numbers, or if you are moving
from the parish,
please call the Parish office at
931-738-2140

Please visit the parish website:

and sign up to receive the
weekly email newsletter and
parish-wide emails.

www.standrewsparta.com

FIND IT EASY AT THE
BOTTOM OF THE WEBSITE!

Please like and Follow our
church Facebook page:
St AndrewCatholicChurch-Sparta,TN

There is a basket
in the Narthex for
donations
of hygiene
products for
distribution
in the
Outreach program.
Please add items
as you see fit!

THE KNIGHT'S CORNER

DO YOU WANT TO BE A KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS
MEMBER?
JUST ASK ONE!



THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
LEAD THE ROSARY THE FIRST
SATURDAY AND THE SECOND
SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH!

Please come to Mass 30 minutes
Early to join the Knights in the Holy Rosary.



THEY ALSO HOST BREAKFAST THE FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH
& DINNER THE SATURDAY BEFORE.
THE MEETING WILL FOLLOW
THE SUNDAY BREAKFAST



THAT IS SEPTEMBER 12 & 13



On days that the Rosary is not led by the
Knights of Columbus, Saturday's Rosary
will be led by others in attendance, so
arrive early with a rosary!



JOIN US FOR WEEKEND MEALS, FOLLOWING BOTH MASSES

AUGUST 29
ENJOY:
Lasagna,
meatballs
Caesar salad
garlic bread,
desserts

AUGUST 30 ENJOY:
Eggs bacon, roasted
potatoes, sliced ham
with pineapple, gratin
potatoes, pork roast
and gravy, vegetable,
jambalaya rolls, and
dessert.

"And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased." Hebrews 13:16
Farmers' Storehouse is a major sponsor of our bulletin.



TAKE NOTE.

ALL VOLUNTEERS- Everyone who volunteers here at St. Andrew- is required by the diocese to complete an annual Safe Environment training.

All catechists, those involved with altar servers, food pantry volunteers, any one especially directly involved with youth or vulnerable adults, even our handyman!

VIRTUS® Online
virtusonline.org



It is a simple online series of videos that takes maybe an hour or two of your time, once a year. The module you're looking for is "Protecting God's Children."

Also you may be prompted to do a simple background check once every FIVE years. Follow the prompts in Virtus.

NEW ADULT BIBLE STUDY SERIES TO BEGIN

We begin our journey through Scripture with one of the best known prophets of the Old Testament – Isaiah. We learn from him through 'Ignatius Catholic Study Bible' – Isaiah – with commentary, notes and study questions. No written homework. No cost to you. We will begin this journey on:

Saturday, September 12th following mass and supper, from about 5:30 to 6:30, and continue each Saturday.

Please sign up for another amazing bible study with Judy Elliott on the sheet out in the narthex so she knows how many books to order.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH SEPTEMBER 2026

Sept 2 Men's Bible Study- 6:00 (or after Mass)
Sept 5- Knights of Columbus Rosary 3:30
Sept 9 Men's Bible Study- 6:00 (or after Mass)
Sept 12 Adult Bible Study begins 5:30
Sept 13 Religious Education Classes Begin
Knights of Columbus Meeting 10:00
Sept 16 Men's Bible Study- 6:00 (or after Mass)
Sept 19, Adult Bible Study
Sept 23 Men's Bible Study
Sept 26 Adult Bible Study
Sept 30 Men's Bible Study

continued from the front page

It means participating in his life and death with our eyes fixed on his glory. It means that Christ now lives and works in us through the Holy Spirit (Gal 2, 20). This was what the glorious saints did. They submitted and conformed to Christ by participating in his life, death, and resurrection. Now, they participate in His glory.

In today's gospel, we see the irony of life. The same Peter who proclaimed that Christ was the messiah last week is today rebuked as "Satan." Christ rebuked him for being an obstacle to his mission. This shows that though Peter professed that Christ is the Messiah (as God revealed it to him), he has not fully understood the nature of Christ's mission. He still sees it only from the perspective of royalty and glory. Of course, he was eager to participate in these. This also teaches us that we are all vulnerable to making mistakes and failing, no matter how spiritual we are. So, we must take the admonition of Paul seriously: "Let him who thinks he stands, take heed lest he falls" (1Cor 10:12). Peter could not understand why Christ should be talking this way. However, God's call is not only about participating in his glory but also participating first in his suffering. This is what Christ did. That He offered himself as a living sacrifice means that he submitted everything without reluctance for our salvation. However, Peter has not realized the necessity of Christ's death: "it is better for one man to die for the people than to have the whole nation destroyed." (Un 11:50).

Peace be with you all!

Maranatha!



Remembering St. Mary Rita and Mother Angelica

Continued from last week: August 30, 2026 Bulletin

The mystic advised the young woman to pray a nine-day novena for a healing. As I recounted in my biography, Mother Angelica The Remarkable Story of a Nun, Her Nerve and a Network of Miracles, exactly nine days later the pain dissolved and Rita could suddenly eat anything she desired. She earnestly believed the healing to be miraculous. "When the Lord came in and healed me...I had a whole different attitude."

Mother Angelica told me, "I knew that God knew me and loved me and was interested in me. I didn't know that before. All I wanted to do after my healing was give myself to Jesus." Rita soon began spending time near the mystic that had reignited her faith, a woman who reportedly conversed with Jesus during painful ecstasies.

In short order Rita felt the call to religious life and surreptitiously began visiting convents. Eventually, she would enter a cloistered, Poor Clare community in Cleveland, Ohio, on August 15, 1944. Fearful of a showdown with her paranoid and emotionally fragile mother, Rita quietly boarded a bus bound for Cleveland, informing her mother to her whereabouts by letter.

"I thought, 'Well, Lord, this is where you want me, this is where I'm going,'" Mother later confided. That trusting acceptance of her calling and the decisive action that followed would become hallmarks of Mother's long religious life. She didn't know exactly where God was leading her that summer of 1944.

But she went just the same. In the years that followed whether it was the call to start a monastery to bring racial healing to the deep south; the call to establish the first Catholic cable network in a Birmingham suburb; or the prompting to build a shortwave radio network, she zealously dove into each inspiration with everything she had.

A few years after arriving in Birmingham, Mother Angelica welcomed a young vocation to the cloister. Jo Ann Magro, a local girl of Italian stock, would become Angelica's "first daughter." Curiously, she was born the same year Mother entered religious life. Known today as Sr. Mary Regina, she too celebrates a milestone this year: fifty years of religious life beside Mother Angelica. For those five decades she has obediently pursued her Mother's example:

tending the gardens of Our Lady of the Angels Monastery, offering daily prayer to Christ in the Blessed Sacrament, and more recently caring for the woman she has long called "Mother." Surrounded by her sisters, at 92 years of age, Mother Angelica continues to live out her religious vocation in a silence more pronounced than she might have imagined all those decades ago.

Back in 1945, after one of her visions, Rhoda Wise, the mystic of Canton, Ohio sent a message to the newly veiled Sr. Angelica. "Tell Rita," she wrote, "every little worry will be erased from her heart. For each insult, each heartache, more stars."

Considering the heartache Mother Angelica has endured throughout these pain-inflected seventy years of religious life, it must be comforting for her to see the copious "stars" on all sides. Mother's oversized projects, her nuns, the lives of the many laity she has touched over the years still burn brightly. And in a hushed solitude, so does she.

ST. ANDREW MASS SCHEDULE INTENTIONS AND EVENTS

Saturday August 29, 2026

Adoration 3:00- 4:00
Confession 3:30- 4:00

4:00 Mass

Sunday August 30, 2026

Adoration 8:30-9:00

8:30- Mass **INTENTION: FOR THE PARISH**

Wednesday September 2, 2026

ADORATION: 4:00- 5:00
CONFESSION: 4:30-5:00

MASS 5:00 **KENT SORENSON R.I.P.**

➔ **MEN'S BIBLE STUDY- AFTER MASS OR ABOUT 5:30**

Thursday September 3, 2026

MASS- 9:30 a.m.

Saturday September 5, 2026

Adoration 3:00- 4:00
Confession 3:30- 4:00

4:00 Mass

Ministry Schedule

September 5/6

Jim Spagnolo

Justin Acharya

Sondra Tersigni
Ronnie Cupec

Branton Ferris
Sondra Tersigni
Barbara Leblanc



Victor Vale
Vols, Knights

June Acharya
Taj Acharya
Lynne Leigh Masters
Parker Masters



Ray Jicha Kevin Faust
Knights of Columbus

Month of the Immaculate Heart of Mary SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

Sep 5- Knights of Columbus Rosary 3:30
Sept 6 Knights of Columbus Rosary 8:00
Sept 12 Adult Bible Study Begins 5:30-6:30
Sept 13 Religious Education Classes Begin
Sept 13 Knights of Columbus Breakfast
Knight of Columbus Meeting 10:00

Bible Study Classes

Men's Class - every Wednesday 5:30 or after Mass
Beginning Sept 12- Adult Every Saturday 5:30 - 6:30

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Paul & Judy Petrick August 8
Robert & Frances Manthey - August 12
Tony & Michelle Cerrillos August 13
Michael & Annette Popa- August 31

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

John Costanza - 2
Jennie Huntzinger & Rosa Lida Landsford -3
Taylor Vinatko - 4
Diana Hayes - 6
Mike Villeret - 11
Samantha Faust -22
Ritina Jones - 23
Raquel Marinucci -25
Mitchie Baird &
Mary AuBuchon & Hunter Dowdy - 27
Tony Tersigni & Kendra Vittioe -29
Nancy Helmer - 30

AUGUST MASS INTENSIONS

James & AnnMarie Fregelette R.I.P. Aug 8
Diane Ashby R.I.P. Aug 12
Antonio Tersigni R.I.P. Aug 13
Albert Buccilli R.I.P. Aug 15
Jaime Ann Loff R.I.P. Aug 22
Dolf Tersigni R.I.P. Aug 26
Bob Hary R.I.P. Aug 27

Daily Readings with Saints & Occasions

Prayer Requests

August 24-30

Monday August 31, 2026

Ordinary Weekday

1st Reading: 1Corinthians 2: 1-5
Psalm: Psalms 119: 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102
Alleluia: Luke 4: 18
Gospel: Luke 4: 16-30

Tuesday September 1, 2026

Ordinary Weekday

1st Reading: 1Corinthians 2: 10b-16
Psalm: Psalms 145: 8-9, 10-11, 12-13ab, 13cd-14
Alleluia: Luke 7: 16
Gospel: Luke 4: 31-37

Wednesday September 2, 2026

Ordinary Weekday

1st Reading: 1Corinthians 3: 1-9
Psalm: Psalms 33: 12-13, 14-15, 20-21
Alleluia: Luke 4: 18
Gospel: Luke 4: 38-44

Thursday September 3, 2026

Gregory the Great, Pope, Religious, Doctor
Obligatory Memorial

1st Reading: 1Corinthians 3: 18-23
Psalm: Psalms 24: 1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6
Alleluia: Matthew 4: 19
Gospel: Luke 5: 1-11

Friday September 4, 2026

Ordinary Weekday

1st Reading: 1Corinthians 4: 1-5
Psalm: Psalms 37: 3-4, 5-6, 27-28, 39-40
Alleluia: John 8: 12
Gospel: Luke 5: 33-39

Saturday August 29, 2026

Optional Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary

1st Reading: 1Corinthians 4: 6b-15
Psalm: Psalms 145: 17-18, 19-20, 21
Alleluia: John 14: 6
Gospel: Luke 6: 1-5

Sunday August 30, 2026

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Ezekiel 33: 7-9
Psalm: Psalms 95: 1-2, 6-7, 8-9
2nd Reading: Romans 13: 8-10
Alleluia: 1Corinthians 5: 19
Gospel: Matthew 18: 15-20

* Mike Blackburn

*Mike Popa

*Catherine Young

*Katie Charfauros

*Payton Newman

*Heidi Holland

* Joan Kupiec

Melissa Cupec

Jim Winton

Danny Gutierrez

Art Gutierrez

Linda McGraw

Elaine Garrett

Diane & Tom Barry

John Barry

Verne & Bernice Clapp

Clara Magushak

Harry Dennis

Karen Norris

Anna Barry

Andrzej Konwinski

Maryann Kopke

Cathy Clayton

Margaret Massa

Christopher j. Scott

* SPECIAL CONSIDERATION

May the Souls of all the
Faithful Departed,
Through the Mercy of God
Rest in Peace! AMEN