



In his Message for the 10th World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, Pope Leo XIV quotes extensively from Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato si'*, denouncing environmental and social injustice and noting that God's creation is not intended to be a battleground for vital resources.

As the Church prepares to mark the Tenth World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation on 1 September 2025, Pope Leo XIV's message for the occasion urges Christians and all people of goodwill to recognize the urgent need

for environmental and social justice in a world increasingly scarred by climate change, conflict, and inequality. Entitled **Seeds of Peace and Hope** and released on July 2, the Pope's message resonates with the spirit of the ongoing Jubilee Year, calling the faithful to embrace their role as "pilgrims of hope" and stewards of God's creation.

**Justice in a wounded world**

Echoing the prophetic words of Isaiah, Pope Leo invites the global community to envision a transformation of today's "arid and parched desert" into "a fruitful field." This biblical vision, he explains, is not a poetic metaphor but an urgent call to action in the face of alarming ecological and human crises.

Quoting extensively from Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato si'* in the year of its 10th anniversary, he writes, "Injustice, violations of international law and the rights of peoples, grave inequalities, and the greed that fuels them are spawning deforestation, pollution, and the loss of biodiversity."

Linking environmental destruction to the exploitation of the poor and marginalized, he highlights the disproportionate suffering of indigenous communities and the widening gap between rich and poor as hallmarks of a system that treats nature as a commodity rather than a common home.

**Nature as a battleground**

He laments the fact that nature itself has become "a bargaining chip," subjected to policies and practices that prioritize profit over people and the planet. From agricultural lands riddled with landmines to conflicts over water and raw materials, Pope Leo paints a sobering picture of a creation "turned into a battleground" for control and domination.

These wounds, he says, are "the effect of sin," a betrayal of the biblical command not to dominate creation, but to "till and keep" it, a call to cultivate and preserve the Earth through a relationship of care and responsibility.

**Environmental justice as a moral imperative**

The Pope's message reaffirms the Church's commitment to an "integral ecology," a concept at the heart of *Laudato si'*. Environmental justice, the Holy Father affirms, is not an abstract or secondary concern but a "duty born of faith." "For believers," he writes, "the universe reflects the face of Jesus Christ, in whom all things were created and redeemed." In this light, caring for the planet becomes not only an ecological necessity but also a profoundly spiritual and moral vocation.

**Seeds that bear fruit**

Encouraging concrete action, Pope Leo calls for perseverance and love in sowing "seeds of justice" that will, in time, bear the fruits of peace. He cites the *Borgo Laudato Si'* project at Castel Gandolfo as a tangible example of how education and community life rooted in ecological values can shape a just and hopeful future.

"This may take years," the Pope acknowledges, "but years that involve an entire ecosystem made up of continuity, fidelity, cooperation and love."

**A blessing for the future**

Concluding his message with a prayer for the outpouring of God's Spirit, Pope Leo XVI invokes the hope of the risen Christ as the guiding light for a world longing for healing.

"May [*Laudato si'*] continue to inspire us," he writes, "and may integral ecology be increasingly accepted as the right path to follow." (Linda Bordonni for Vatican News...)



# St. Ann Catholic Church

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July 06 (14<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time)

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St. Ann Catholic Church is to glorify God through vibrant worship, compassionate service, and unwavering commitment to teachings of Jesus Christ. Rooted in Catholic tradition and guided by the Holy Spirit, we strive to foster a welcoming community that nurtures faith, fosters spiritual growth, and promotes unity among all God's children. With love as our cornerstone, we seek to embody Christ's message of hope, forgiveness, and redemption, spreading His light to all corners of the world. Together, as disciples of Christ, we are called to share God's love, serve those in need, and build a Kingdom of mercy, justice, and peace.

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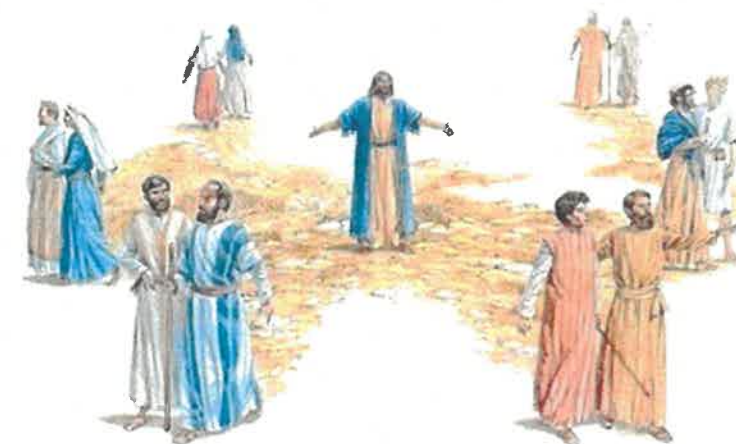
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## The Seventy-Two x Two

Jesus appointed seventy-two of his disciples and sent them out in pairs to proclaim the Gospel he himself had been proclaiming to them. A short time earlier (cf. Lk 9:1-6), Jesus had sent out the twelve apostles, those who would become his first priests. But to share the Gospel was not meant to be the task of priests alone. So he appointed 72 — probably the twelve apostles and 60 of whom we would call today lay people — and sent them out to the neighboring towns and villages. "The harvest is abundant," he said, "but the laborers are few." Jesus not only instructed them to pray to God the Father to send more laborers, but was showing them one way the Father responds to that prayer, by sending *them* out as laborers for his harvest of souls. I've always thought that the 72 was more than a symbolic number but probably implies that the Lord basically sent out *everyone* who was a willing, consistent follower. He wanted all hands on deck.



Just as the Lord Jesus in this Gospel scene sent out basically everyone he had, so today he wants each of us to grasp that he intends to send us out as well. In this Year of Faith, it's crucially important for us to grasp that our willingness to pass on the faith is a sign of whether we really have faith, whether we know, love and are living it.

(Roger J. Landry)

**THE CHURCH OFFICE IS OPEN  
TUESDAY- FRIDAY FROM  
9:00AM-2:00PM**

**Adoration Chapel:**  
The Adoration Chapel is open each week: Sundays, Wednesdays, & Fridays from 6am to midnight. For information call John DeMarco at (304)-669-2057 or Cindy Bee at (304) 592- 5106



**Baptism:**  
Please contact the office to schedule a baptism. Instruction sessions are required with your first child.



**Marriages:**  
Please contact the office at least 6 months prior to the proposed date of marriage.



**Confessions:**  
Confessions will be heard ½ hour before each weekday mass, at 4:00pm on Saturdays, or any other time by appointment (For appointments please call the office). **The first Friday of each month, confessions will not be heard before mass due to it being held in the chapel.**

**For the Sick and Homebound:**  
Please call the church office if you would like to receive communion or have home visits.




**June 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup>**  
Regular Collection-\$2,881.00  
Faith in Our Future-\$637.00  
Diocesan-\$286.00  
**Attendance for weekend-129**  
Thank you for your continued generosity and for your

**MASS SCHEDULES & INTENTIONS**

Monday:	July 7 <sup>th</sup>	No Mass	
Tuesday:	July 8 <sup>th</sup>	6:00pm	+ TJ & Mary Frances Fluharty by Mary Ann Spadafore
Wednesday:	July 9 <sup>th</sup>	6:00pm	+ Joe Rose by Jim & Peggy Matish
Thursday:	July 10 <sup>th</sup>	6:00pm	+ Joyce Secreto Belcastro by Pat Post & family
Friday:	July 11 <sup>th</sup>	6:00pm	+ Pete & Evelyn Mazza by John & Tammy Greco
Saturday:	July 12 <sup>th</sup>	5:00pm	+ Kathryn DeMary by Donnie & Pam Sabatelli
Sunday:	July 13 <sup>th</sup>	10:00am	+ Ola & Charles Mooney by John & Mary Ellen Knotts

7/12/2025		7/13/2025	
5:00pm Mass		10:00am Mass	
<b>Readers</b>	Gina Tate	<b>Reader</b>	Wesley Benson
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Dominick Spadafore	<b>Altar Servers</b>	Frankie Bowen
	Sophia Spadafore		Ella Bowen
<b>Cup Ministers</b>	Cindy Hamrick	<b>Cup Ministers</b>	Steven Bee
	Mary Ann Ferris		
<b>Host Minister</b>	Mickey Arco	<b>Host Minister</b>	Mary Ann Spadafore
<b>Ushers</b>	Cindy Hamrick, Mickey Arco	<b>Ushers</b>	Vinnie DeMarco, John DeMarco
			Mary Fleece

 The Men's Group will be having a Fritti sale on July 19<sup>th</sup>. The price will be 6 for \$7.00. The sale will begin at 7:00am until sold out. Hurry out for a delicious Saturday morning treat, they go FAST!! Thank you all for your unwavering support!

**Adoration Chapel-** Since Covid, Our Adoration Chapel had to make major changes in its 24/7 operation. As of now, we are only able to have it open for 3 out of 7 days (from 6:00am to 12:00am). We are sincerely hoping to open it another day during the week! With that said, we began last spring asking for people to consider becoming an adorer on Tuesdays. We were able to fill many hours, but not all. **The hours that still need an adorer for Tuesdays are 6:00am, 8:00am, 9:00am, 10:00am, 12:00pm, 1:00pm, 3:00pm, 6:00pm & 10:00pm.** If you are interested and able to take any of these hours, please contact the church office. Please consider spending one hour a week in adoration with our Lord, the chapel is such a peaceful and beautiful place!



*Bible Passage: Mark 1:21-35*  
Work is hard sometimes, one may even say it is unbearable. We have a savior that can identify with us in so many ways. He was hungry. He was thirsty. He was angry. He was tempted. He had a pretty demanding job at times. His occupation of being "Savior of the World" led to his healing of many.

In our passage today, Jesus began teaching in the synagogue. He healed a man afterward. He then later healed Simon Peter's mother-in-law at her house. That evening, he wasn't able to rest at the five o'clock whistle. He continued to work. For the whole town gathered at Peter's house. He healed many more and drove out demons. We think sometimes that Jesus might not know how we feel after a hard day of work. Our bosses ask us to do the miraculous sometimes, but at least we don't have to drive out demons. Okay, you can now insert your joke about your boss who acts like a demon on occasion.

I want all of us to see a parallel between the work of Jesus and our job duties. Early the next morning (Mark 1:35), Jesus got up and went to a solitary place to pray. Jesus prayed after his exhausting day of work. There are many other times when Jesus went off to pray. Jesus needed time alone with his heavenly Father. We do too. We cannot tackle our jobs alone, whether that job is a peanut butter sandwich inspector, traveling salesman, or 11th grade student. Many of us think we can handle our jobs all by ourselves. Many of us think we don't need God's help. Many of us refuse to take time out of our day to plead to God for help...or to praise him for helping us through a tough day. I've been guilty of this. I vow to do better... will you make that same vow?

**If anyone would like to advertise in the church bulletin, please contact the office.**



**Please remember our shut-ins in your prayers:**  
Genny Griffin, Ursula Koreski, Sandra Knight, Gertrude Senchina, Mary Sims, Eddie Koreski, Connie Koreski, Joe Koreski – VA Nursing Home, Lena Medina, Stonerise Health Center. If you know of anyone that needs to be added to this prayer group, please call the office at 304-592-2733.

*To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact WV Child Protective Services at 800.352.6513. In addition to civil authorities, to report suspected cases of sexual abuse of children by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, contact one of the following designees at 1.888.434.6237 or 304.233.0880: Mr. Bryan Minor, ext.263; Mr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; Sr. Martha Gomez, ext. 264. Or you may call Rev. Don Higgs, 304.685.2367, the Office of Safe Environment at 304.230.1504, or Victims Assistance Coordinator Erin McFarland at 304.559.6742. Please visit [www.dwc.org](http://www.dwc.org) under "Accountability" for additional information and reporting methods.*