

SAINT MONICA CATHOLIC CHURCH

Jackson, New Jersey

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Just as weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. Whoever has ears ought to hear.

Matthew 13:40, 43

Masses

MON. TO THURS. 9 am
SATURDAY 4 pm
SUNDAY 9 am & 11 am
11 am also live-streamed @
www.saintmonica.com
and on Facebook at
[www.facebook.com/
ParishofStMonica/](http://www.facebook.com/ParishofStMonica/)

Our Parish is Served by:

Reverend Alexander Enriquez
Deacon Christian Knoebel

We invite you to celebrate with us



Confessions

Saturdays
3:15 pm to 3:45 pm
or by appointment

The Church of St. Monica is a warm, accepting, and caring parish that worships God, teaches and lives the message of Christ, seeks to support and strengthen family life, and serves those in need through parish ministries and organizations.

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – JULY 19, 2020

MASS INTENTIONS

*Indicates Live-Streamed Mass

Saturday, July 18

9:00 am Gladys Calsetta
(Jon & Mary Ann Tvaroha)

Sunday, July 19

9:00 am Sam Colucci (Denielle Balint-Avila)
*11:00 am Cory Yglesias (Joan Toth)

Monday, July 20

9:00 am The Minieri Family
(Rich Piacentino)

Tuesday, July 21

9:00 am Michele White (Mary Boyd)

Wednesday, July 22

9:00 am F Joseph Carragher
(Marie & David Gould)

Thursday, July 23

9:00 am William M Carragher, Jr
(Marie & David Gould)

Saturday, July 25

4:00 pm Gladys Calsetta (Borrello Family)

Sunday, July 26

9:00 am Ludwik Pitera (Religious Ed)
11:00 am Catherine Magauran
(Marie & David Gould)

To secure your intentions, please contact the Parish Office.

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Jackie Wilson, William Cole, Jr, Diane Black, Micki Smith, Annette Petercsak, Joyce Picon, Peter Laudati, Joanne Baldachino, Vera Dzumyk, Carol Atherton, Beth Kujawski, Paul Gallo, Anna and Sal Morrello, Rosemarie McNab, Chuck Smith, Toni Hetteroth, Brian Scott, Dan Sweeney, Frank Trimboli, Sr. Theresa Colbert, Dianne Smith, Douglas Merwin, Gail Reale, Kathleen Gillespie, Cheryl Bottega, James Picon, Stephen Trimboli, Tony Catapano, Bert Bumbera, Maria Covino, Paul Wilson, Jr., Joann DiCapua, Evelyn Manvell, Joan Myhal, Carol Spezzano, Carol Sabine, Baryt Schone, Victor Mota, Fran DeLuca, Nick DeLuca, Dorothy Palumbo, Christopher and Frank Diolosa, Theodore Duniak, Theresa Debiak, Sabine, Elaine Giblock, Frank Diolosa, Sr, Barbara Holst

Call the Parish Office to let us know of anyone to be remembered in prayer, so we way include them or, if they can be removed.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK – JULY 19, 2020

Monday: Mi 6:1-4, 6-8; Ps 50:5-6, 8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23; Mt 12:38-42

Tuesday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Ps 85:2-4, 5-6, 7-8; Mt 12:46-50

Wednesday: Sgs 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17; Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

Thursday: Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13; Ps 36:6-7ab, 8-9, 10-11; Mt 13:10-17

Friday: Jer 3:14-17; Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13; Mt 13:18-23

Saturday: 2 Cor 4:7-15; Ps 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6; Mt 20:20-28

Sunday: 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12; Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130; Rom 8:28-30; Mt 13:44-52

PLEASE NOTE: THE ASSUMPTION

SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Rev. Michael Hall, Director of the Diocesan Office of Worship, reminds us that St. Mary of the Assumption is the principal patroness of our diocese and the Assumption is always a Solemnity. However, when the Solemnity falls on a Saturday, as it does this year, we follow the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops guidelines and the **Assumption (August 15) is not a Holy Day of Obligation this year.**

PLEASE NOTE: CLOTHING DONATIONS

Social Concerns Committee very much appreciates donations of clothing and shoes, but unfortunately we do not have the facilities to accommodate these items.

Donations of clothing and shoes may be placed in the metal clothing bin located at the entrance to St. Monica's parking lot.

Catholic Charities in Manchester also provides a metal bin for clothing. They are located at 88 Schoolhouse Rd, Manchester Township, NJ 08759.



First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for burning; but gather the wheat into my barn.
Matthew 13:30

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP COLLECTIONS JUNE 29 - JULY 5, 2020

Weekly Collection	\$1,316.00
Building Maintenance	\$ 97.00
Main In Contributions	\$1,085.00
Online Giving	<u>\$2,265.00</u>
Total	\$4,763.00

Thank you for your contributions as we support the ministries, programs and facilities of our parish.

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING AWARENESS

In celebration of 2020 National Natural Family Planning Awareness Week (July 19-25), the Diocese of Trenton encourages all married couples in their fertile years to learn more about *Fertility Awareness Based Methods* of Family Planning that cooperate with God's wonderful plan for co-creation and responsible parenthood. Natural methods of family planning are consistent with the healthy, holistic lifestyle so many couples are seeking today. To learn more about Natural Family Planning or to take an online class, go to www.dioceseoftrenton.org/natural-family-planning, or call 609-403-7156.



Diocese of Trenton
701 Lawrenceville Road
Trenton, NJ 08649
609-406-7400



Office of
COMMUNICATIONS
&
MEDIA

DIOCESAN ADVISORY ON A SAFE RETURN TO IN-CHURCH MASSES

Limited in-church public Masses resumed June 8 for daily Mass and June 13-14 for weekend Mass. However, media reports have indicated significant spikes in coronavirus cases in 21 states that have re-opened or relaxed restrictions. As the Diocese approached the first public in-church Masses, Bishop David M. O’Connell, C.M., reminded the faithful of several key points from the established directives:

1. COVID-19 is still extremely contagious, especially indoors or in closed settings;
2. The dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday/Holy Day Masses remains in effect so that all Catholic faithful, in good conscience, are not required to be physically present in church; live-streamed Masses will continue in most parishes;
3. Anyone who is sick or at risk should not come to church; that is not punitive but, rather, common sense and an act of charity toward your neighbors;
4. All parishes are expected to abide strictly by occupancy limits/restrictions and other regulations of the Diocese with care;
5. Masks must be worn (no exceptions), physical contact of any kind must be avoided, social distancing must be practiced, proper sanitation must be observed at all public in-church Masses;
6. Before attending public, in-church Masses, the Catholic faithful are asked to consider any possible health and safety risks involved.

To view the full set of directives, please visit:

[DioceseofTrenton.org/coronavirus](https://www.dioceseoftrenton.org/coronavirus) A report by The Monitor on how parishioners responded to the first in-church Masses is available here:

<https://bit.ly/2zU6LiR>

The Diocese’s Department of Multimedia Production has produced an instructional video on key precautionary measures to know before you attend in-church Masses. To view the video:

Click here for English https://youtu.be/v8PRxVJ3Z_Y

Click here for Spanish <https://youtu.be/KjINPnpEvCI>

CALENDAR

Sunday, July 19

9:00 am Mass (limit 100 people)
 11:00 am Mass (limit 100 people)
 and Live-streamed Mass @
 saintmonica.com & Audio only
 on Radio 87.9 FM in
 Church parking lot

Monday, July 20

9:00 am Mass (limit 25 people)

Tuesday, July 21

9:00 am Mass (limit 25 people)

Wednesday, July 22

9:00 am Mass (limit 25 people)

Thursday, July 23

9:00 am Mass (limit 25 people)
 9:30 am Rosary in the Sanctuary

Saturday, July 25

3:15 pm Confessions
 4:00 pm Mass (limit 100 people)

Sunday, July 26

9:00 am Mass (limit 100 people)
 11:00 am Mass (limit 100 people)
 and Live-streamed Mass @
 saintmonica.com & Audio only
 on Radio 87.9 FM in
 Church parking lot

Monday, July 27

9:00 am Mass (limit 25 people)

Tuesday, July 28

9:00 am Mass (limit 25 people)

Wednesday, July 29

9:00 am Mass (limit 25 people)

Thursday, July 30

9:00 am Mass (limit 25 people)
 9:30 am Rosary in the Sanctuary

Saturday, August 1

11:00 am Memorial Mass (Cusson)
 3:15 pm Confessions
 4:00 pm Mass (limit 100 people)

Sunday, August 2

9:00 am Mass (limit 100 people)
 11:00 am Mass (limit 100 people)
 and Live-streamed Mass @
 saintmonica.com & Audio only
 on Radio 87.9 FM in
 Church parking lot

COUNSELING AVAILABLE

Parishioner Monica Principato, a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, is offering counseling services Free of Charge to anyone experiencing overwhelming stress during this very difficult time. Feel free to contact Monica at 732-244-7580 for an appointment. The session is free and confidential, by phone or Webex.

HELP WANTED

Calling all Gardeners! Volunteers are needed to care for the flower beds around our parish property. If you like working outside and know the difference between a weed and a perennial, please call the parish office at 732-928-0279.



First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for burning; but gather the wheat into my barn.

Matthew 13:30

Live the truth and beauty of God's plan for married love!

Creation overflows with God's life and love! Make no mistake about it—God made you and our world out of His great love! Let's consider how this truth includes marriage. And let's take a look at how the methods of Natural Family Planning (NFP) honor the truth and beauty of God's plan for married love.

It's about love.

From the beginning, God created Adam and then a suitable partner for him, Eve. The first human relationship ever created was that of marriage! "This one, at last, is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh" (Gen. 2: 23). The two give themselves to each other to become one. Giving of one's self to the other is a hallmark of marriage—there is no "I" in marriage, but "We." It is part of God's plan for the good of humanity. That is because marriage reflects the love of God—permanent, faithful, and fruitful. And, with the coming of our salvation in Jesus, marriage reflects the love of Christ for His Church.

The methods of NFP honor and even have the potential to protect and strengthen a married couple's ability to reflect God's love. That is because NFP requires communication and cooperation between husband and wife. NFP methods, which are rooted in science, make use of education and behavioral change for achieving and avoiding pregnancy. When learned and used correctly, they are an effective means of responsible parenthood.

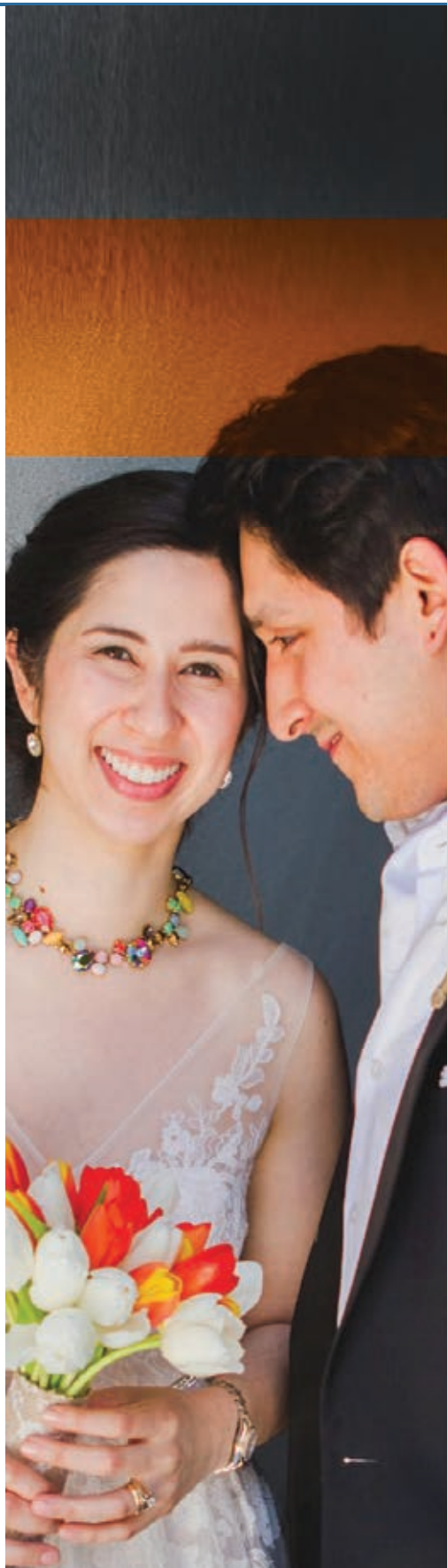
As a couple learns about their combined gift of fertility and understands the best time to either conceive or postpone conceiving a baby, they are better able to discern God's plan for their marriage. If delaying a pregnancy, they will abstain from the marital act. They then will do nothing to harm God's gift of fertility. The use of NFP often requires self-sacrifice as the spouses explore other ways to show affection for each other when periodically abstaining to postpone pregnancy. As they work together, a husband and wife will find that this may deepen their emotional and spiritual intimacy as spouses.

It's about life.

God created men and women in His image—male and female. Human sexuality is part of God's plan. It is woven into the fabric of each man and woman. Human sexuality carries within it the two-fold powers of love and life. The essential nature of this two-fold truth should be appreciated and respected.

In marriage, husband and wife deepen their love for one another through celebrating the truth of their sexual union. The marital embrace is a spousal gift with a two-fold purpose; to draw the spouses closer together, to be unitive and to be procreative, to be life-giving.

Procreation is the Lord God's awesome invitation and a sacred duty for husband and wife to share in His creative power! Sometimes a couple is unable to have children through no fault of their own. Their challenge is



to offer their marital love as a blessing in the community in service to others.

Marriage is the foundation to build families—children are “the supreme gift of marriage” (*Gaudium et spes*, no. 50), and marriage creates a secure home for children. God’s procreative invitation to husband and wife extends past pregnancy and calls parents to steward their children: to nurture them, to teach them to love God and neighbor.

The Church has always understood that God wants parents to be open to life and to care for their children. To be a parent is a life-long vocation! It is why the Church can say that married couples receive “a kind of consecration” in their marital duties (*Gaudium et spes*, no. 48).

NFP methods support God’s gift of procreation because they value new life. Unlike contraception, which exists to deny human fertility, NFP respects natural fertility. NFP education enables husband and wife to understand their window of fertility—when they are most likely to become pregnant—and therefore, can also be used to help them achieve a pregnancy besides postpone one. NFP respects God’s power of life. Contraception cannot do that!

It’s about freedom.

Free will is one of God’s gifts to men and women. When God created humanity, He made the human person as a “rational” being—who can initiate, control, and decide how to act (see the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, no. 1730). Freedom of conscience is a gift from God that allows each person to grow in maturity and to be able to love Him and neighbor freely. At the same time, the Catholic faith tells us that true freedom can only be found when we choose to love God. Freedom, therefore, is not the arbitrary ability to do whatever we’d like at any time.

True freedom is the ability to *recognize the good and do what is right*. If a person chooses to live a life in which he or she makes choices only thinking of his/her own happiness and fails to do the good to which God calls him or her, the person creates a type of prison for themselves (see *Catechism*, no. 1740). Doing what is right in life often requires personal sacrifice for a greater good than one’s own desire or pleasure. And, this good is liberating!

As applied to marriage, the decisions of spouses can either build up or tear down the heart of a marriage. How the spouses exercise their individual freedom within the marriage cannot be made in isolation but must be made in recognition of each other’s needs, that of their children, extended family, and other obligations and responsibilities outside the home.

Healthy marital communication is especially important regarding conjugal relations. Sin affects us all. It is deceptive. Sin can twist the good of the marital embrace.

Spouses can be selfish in how they treat each other. Wholesome inter-mutuality that is rooted in the love of God and each other strengthens a couple’s marriage. Spouses need to support each other in striving to honor God’s design by rejecting anything that can injure their marital love. It is the reason why the Church opposes contraception. It strikes at the heart of marital love.

The methods of NFP provide useful information on the woman’s fertility cycle. NFP helps a husband and wife determine whether their lovemaking may result in bringing a new life into the world. The practice of daily charting the wife’s signs of fertility can spark deep conversation about God’s plan for their marriage. The practice of NFP can promote mutual growth in self-mastery, foster emotional, and spiritual maturity, and lead to a more authentic life lived in the freedom of God’s design.

It’s about gift.

God is love. In His great love, God created men and women in His image to share His divine life. When our first parents turned away from Him, God sought them. “For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son so that everyone who believes in Him might not perish but might have eternal life” (John 3:16).

Every human life is a gift from God, and, in turn, like our Heavenly Father, together we are gift to each other. We cannot fully discover who we are as persons “except through a sincere gift” of ourselves to each other (see *Gaudium et spes*, no. 24). Human beings are able to be fully human only when we reach out to our neighbor to form a network of loving relationships of life and love. We are all sons and daughters of the one family of God!

Marriage is a particularly unique gift from God. Marriage is not “the effect of chance or the product of evolution of unconscious natural forces; it is the wise institution of the Creator to realize in mankind His design of love (*Humanæ vitæ*, no. 8). God designed marriage to bring a man and a woman together in the one-flesh union that Scripture so eloquently teaches (Gen. 2:24). It is because of marriage that families come to be.

Today, we are fortunate to live in a time where human reproduction is well understood. The reliable methods of NFP stand upon solid research about male and female physiology. NFP science has confirmed the fertile signs of the woman’s menstrual cycle and marked the parameters of a man and a woman’s combined fertility, which creates the fertile window. NFP can be a moral means to either achieve or postpone a pregnancy. And, for women, NFP charting can provide insight into the health of her reproductive system. With so good a gift in our world, why not learn more about these healthy and ethical methods that support God’s plan for married love? Visit uscbb.org/nfp. And remember “live the truth and beauty of God’s plan for married love!”





Offerings at Francis House of Prayer

Trenton Diocesan Spiritual Center
84 Walnford Road • Allentown, NJ 08501
609-877-0509 or FHOP@verizon.net

The staff of the Franciscan House of Prayer invite you to consider attending some of their marvelous offerings this fall. Their Fall schedule from September to November 2020 includes:

Monthly Spiritual Exercises, Teilhard Reading Group, Spiritual Reading Group, and Living Contemplatively and more!

Please check www.FHOP.org for directions and for our other offerings!



REDISCOVER THE LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vy). If you know anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program begins the weekend of August 14-16 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register, visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

REMINDER



The Eucharist - St Monica**Masses & Reconciliation**

Monday - Thursday 9:00 am
 Saturday 4:00 pm
 Sunday 9:00 & 11:00 am
 Holy Days As Noted
 Reconciliation Saturday 3:15 - 3:45 pm
 or by appt.

Exposition of the Holy Sacrament & Benediction

1st Wednesday of each month 9:30 am

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 3:30 pm

Baptisms

Celebrated during Mass. Parents and godparents are required to attend our Baptism preparation program. Please call the parish office to register.

Visits to the Sick and Homebound

May be arranged by calling our parish office.

Youth Group

Meets the First Friday of each month at 6:15 pm in the Parish Hall. Open to children between Communion and Confirmation age.

Knights of Columbus Council #11529

Meets the 2nd & 4th Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm in the Parish Hall. Visit our website: www.kofc11529.org

St Vincent de Paul Society

Emergency Assistance Helpline: 732-370-0098

Bereavement Ministry

Please contact the parish office for more information.

Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings

Wednesdays 7:00 - 8:00 pm in the Parish Hall

New Parishioners

Welcome to our parish family! Registration forms are available at the entrances to the Church or may be downloaded at www.saintmonica.com. Please contact the parish office for further information.

Adult Faith Formation Core Team

Our mission is to encourage and support parishioners in their lifelong learning in the faith in order to grow closer to God, Jesus & the Holy Spirit through discipleship and evangelization

Marriages

The Catholic Dioceses of New Jersey requests a one year period of preparation for marriage in the church. Contact the parish office to make arrangements.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)

For those seeking full membership in the Catholic Faith, please contact the parish office.

Religious Education

Children are expected to receive a Catholic-Christian upbringing in their family life, to worship regularly at Sunday Mass, and to participate in ongoing Religious Education classes. Our program includes grades 1-8. Registration is held annually at the end of March. Classes are held Monday and Tuesday, September thru May at St Monica.

Karen Badach, Coordinator of Religious Education 732-928-4038 or stmonicccd@yahoo.com

Legion of Mary

Members participate in the life of the parish through visitation of families, the sick and assisting with pastoral needs.

Women of St Monica

Ministry of Catholic women of the parish striving to fulfill their spiritual needs, sharing their faith, promoting community and conduct fundraisers throughout the year and enhance parish life in a variety of ways.



Reflection for 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time — July 19, 2020

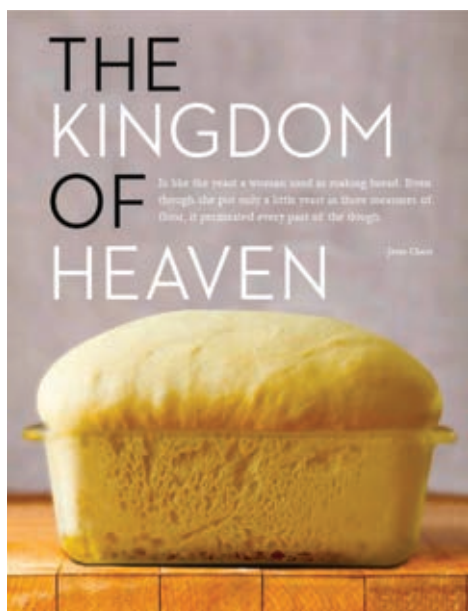
FAITH AND PATIENCE

This week we read three of Jesus’s most famous parables: the sower and the seed, the mustard seed, and the yeast in the three measures of flour. What do all of these have in common? You might say they are stories about faith and how it grows and develops. This is correct, but they also have something else in common: the theme of patience.

The farmer who sows the seed has to wait until both the wheat and the weeds mature before he can begin to sort them out. If he uproots the plants too early, he risks destroying his crop along with the weeds. The mustard seed, which is miniscule, eventually becomes a huge bush. But patience is required for the seed to take root and reach maturity. Finally, the woman who kneads the yeast into the flour has to wait for the bread to rise before she can bake it.

In all three cases, it’s necessary to wait until you see the final result. You may know that there will be a crop of wheat, a large bush, and loaves of bread, but it takes time and patient waiting before you can see them. You have to trust in the process.

The same is often true with our desire to share the Faith. We want people to embrace the Gospel right away; we want an immediate, enthusiastic response to the Good News of salvation. It didn’t work like that in the time of Jesus, and it doesn’t today. Most of the time (there are always exceptions), we have to sow the seed or mix in the yeast first and then sit back and wait. No matter how much we might want to rush things, we need patience as we wait for faith to develop ... from tiny seeds and grains of yeast.



PRAYER:

Picture yourself in a kitchen. There is a large bowl of flour on the counter and a measure of yeast. Mix the yeast into the flour. Now imagine Jesus says to you, “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast.” What thought comes to mind? Is there a question you would like to ask Jesus about this? What does he say?

RESOLUTION:

Think of at least two ways you might be “yeast” for the Kingdom in your family or your work. How important is it to you to be that yeast?

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