

# SAINT MONICA CATHOLIC CHURCH



## *Our Parish is Served by:*

Reverend Alex Enriquez, Pastor  
Deacon Christian Knoebel  
Deacon John White

*We invite you to celebrate with us*

**Parish Office: 732-928-0279**

**Religious Education: 732-928-4038**

**Fax: (732) 928-1853**

**Email: [stmmonicanj@yahoo.com](mailto:stmmonicanj@yahoo.com)**

**website: [www.saintmonica.com](http://www.saintmonica.com)**

*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.*

## Confessions

Saturdays  
3:15 pm  
to 3:45 pm

or  
by appointment

Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/  
ParishofStMonica/](http://www.facebook.com/ParishofStMonica/)

Masses  
Mon. to Thurs. 9 am  
Saturday 4 pm  
Sunday 9 am & 11 am

679 W. Veterans Highway  
Jackson, NJ 08527



## THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - JULY 2, 2023

### MASS INTENTIONS

#### Saturday, July 1

4:00 pm Carmine Panico  
(Rosalie & Joe Bracco)

#### Sunday, July 2

9:00 am Susan Handerhan  
(Bereavement Ministry)  
11:00 am Joseph & Josephine Zappulla  
(Arlene Toth)

#### Monday, July 3

9:00 am No Mass

#### Tuesday, July 4

9:00 am No Mass

#### Wednesday, July 5

9:00 am Pasquale Fallone  
(Gerarda Fallone)

#### Thursday, July 6

9:00 am Patrick Tobin  
(Nina & Al Pileggi)

#### Saturday, July 8

4:00 pm Loretta Zriebec  
(Husband, Tom)

#### Sunday, July 9

9:00 am Donald Cusson  
(Kathy & Rich Miick)  
11:00 am Nina Parisi  
(Kate Scott)

*To secure your intentions, please contact the Parish Office.*

### IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Micki Smith, Joyce Picon, Carol Atherton, Beth Kujawski, Chuck Smith, Toni Hetteroth, Brian Scott, Dianne Smith, Frank Diolosa, Theodore Dunyak, Andy Sabine, Elaine Giblock, Baby Tripp Ravenfeld, Marie Gould, Christopher Diolosa, Steve Andolora, Doris Garbarino, Melissa Staiger, Bonnie Holton, John Jennings, Arlene Toth, Deborah MacInnes, Judy Bocchicchio, Leo Diaz, Glory D'Acunto, Josephine Brennan, Frank Trimboli, Gabrielle D'Acunto, Anthony Pelle, Jr, Joey Brune, Phillip Wenz, Tina Sherry, Patrick Abeel, Robin Trombino, Mary Miniscalchi, Lane Morell, Frank Falesto, Jean Stein, Ann Rosetto, Eileen Morello, Elaine Stemmler, Rose Thompson, Tom Martin, Sarah Thomas, Christos Lambrou, Dorothy Palumbo, Jacob Rivera, Jaxson Rivera, Cathy Sedano, Jennie D'Angelo, Jake Higgins, Paul Hetteroth, John C Purfield, Cheryl Vega, Domenick DiCicco, Irene Kislán, Renee Brady, Carol Spezzano, Maria Lambros, John Lanteri, Michael Seiler, Kevin Fitzpatrick, Shannon Hubert

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

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK – JULY 2, 2023

**Monday:** Eph 2:19-22; Ps 117:1bc-2; Jn 20:24-29

**Tuesday:** Gn 19:15-29; Ps 26:2-3, 9-10, 11-12; Mt 8:23-27

**Wednesday:** Gn 21:5, 8-20a; Ps 34:7-8, 10-11, 12-13; Mt 8:28-34

**Thursday:** Gn 22:1b-19; Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; Mt 9:1-8

**Friday:** Gn 23:1-4, 19; 24:1-8, 62-67; Ps 106:1b-2, 3-4a, 4b-5; Mt 9:9-13

**Saturday:** Gn 27:1-5, 15-29; Ps 135:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6; Mt 9:14-17;

**Sunday:** Zec 9:9-10; Ps 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14; Rom 8:9, 11-13; Mt 11:25-30

**PLEASE TAKE NOTE**

There will be no 9:00 a.m. Mass on Monday, July 3 or Tuesday, July 4. Parish Offices will also be closed.



On Wednesday, July 5 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will follow the 9:00 a.m. Mass.

**FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP COLLECTIONS  
JUNE 12 - 18, 2023**

Total \$4,020.26

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

**PARISH REGISTRATION**

**Welcome to the Parish of St. Monica!**

Whether you are here for the 1st time or the 1000th time, know that we are very glad you have come to worship with us! If you have not yet registered in the parish, please do so.

Registration, while perhaps somewhat boring, is important if:

- ◆ you want to be a sponsor/godparent for a sacrament
- you want your children to attend Religious Education classes and celebrate sacraments
- ◆ you want to celebrate sacraments that you need to complete
- ◆ you want to become Catholic

Your registration also helps our parish and our Diocese plan for the future.

Registration forms are located on the tables at each entrance to the church. You can drop your completed form in the offertory basket or in person at the Parish Office. Registration forms are also available on our website at:

[www.saintmonica.com](http://www.saintmonica.com)

Feel free to contact the Parish Office with any questions or for assistance at 732-928-0279 or [stmonicanj@yahoo.com](mailto:stmonicanj@yahoo.com)

**BISHOP'S ANNIVERSARY BLESSING OCT. 8**

All couples celebrating their 1st, 25th or 50+ wedding anniversary during the 2023 calendar year are invited to share the Eucharist, reaffirm your sacred wedding vows, and receive Bishop O'Connell's Episcopal Blessing. Anniversary Couples from Ocean and Monmouth Counties may attend the Mass and reception at the Co-Cathedral of St. Robert Bellarmine in Freehold on Sunday, October 8, 2023, at 3 pm. For more information and to register for this event online visit us at:

[www.dioceseoftrenton.org/bishops-anniversary-blessing](http://www.dioceseoftrenton.org/bishops-anniversary-blessing)

or call the parish office (732-928-0279). The **registration deadline** is **September 30**.



### EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLES

This traveling exhibit was created to assist those who will experience it to affirm belief in the Real Presence of the Jesus in the Eucharist. It is based upon the website created by Blessed Carlo Acutis to catalogue all of the eucharistic miracles that have taken place worldwide. Acutis was a young man who lived in Italy. In his short life he was especially interested in web design and computer technology. He died at age 15 in 2006, and was beatified in 2020.

Acutis's exhibit is circular and is divided into seven sections or rooms. In the first six rooms, information about the Eucharistic miracles is displayed. Each panel names a miracle, recounts the story of its occurrence and the country where it took place. The panels are arranged in chronological order from the early Third Century to 2013. Be sure to notice the date on the timeline and some of the world events that will help you to place the miracle within an historical era.

All of the rooms point to the center of the exhibit. This is to intentionally remind us that the historical miracles we are learning about on the walls of the exhibit are all pointing to the miracle in front of us—Jesus, present in the Most Holy Eucharist! In the seventh room, the Eucharist is clearly visible in the monstrance and a place has been prepared for you to rest a while in His presence.

As the exhibit travels through our diocese you are encouraged to make a visit:

July 7 - July 22, 2023  
Visitation Church, Brick

July 22 - August 7, 2023  
Our Lady of Good Counsel, West Trenton

More Information:  
<https://dioceseoftrenton.org/eucharistic-miracles-exhibit>



## NATIONAL Eucharistic Revival

*“What great sweetness there is,  
O Jesus,  
in Communion!  
I want to live  
in your embrace and die  
in your embrace.”*

ST. GEMMA GALGANI

### Intercessions for Life

July 2, 2023

**The Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

For our nation:  
May our laws  
protect every person's right to life,  
from conception  
to natural death.  
Lord hear our prayer.



## CALENDAR

### Saturday, July 1

3:15 pm Confessions

4:00 pm Mass

### Sunday, July 2

9:00 am Mass

11:00 am Mass

12:00 pm Women of St. Monica Mtg. (LC)

### Monday, July 3

No 9:00 am Mass

Parish Offices Closed

7:30 pm K of C Officer Installation (Church)

### Tuesday, July 4 - Independence Day

No 9:00 am Mass

7:00 pm Adult Choir (Church)

### Wednesday, July 5

9:00 am Mass

9:30 am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

10:00 am Rel Ed Prep (LC)

### Thursday, July 6

9:00 am Mass

### Friday, July 7

6:00 pm Youth Group Mtg. (Little Church)

Parish Office Closed

### Saturday, July 8

2:30 pm Baptism

3:15 pm Confessions

4:00 pm Mass

### Sunday, July 9

9:00 am Mass

11:00 am Mass

### Monday, July 10

9:00 am Mass

10:00 am Rel Ed Prep (Kitchen)

1:00 pm Legion of Mary (LC)

### Tuesday, July 11

9:00 am Liturgy with Communion

7:00 pm Adult Choir (Church)

### Wednesday, July 12

9:00 am Liturgy with Communion

10:00 am Rel Ed Prep (Kitchen)

7:00 pm Girl Scout (LC)

### Thursday, July 13

9:00 am Liturgy with Communion

### Friday, July 14

Parish Office Closed

## WHAT YOU CANNOT WEAR AT THE VATICAN

- Sleeveless or low-cut tops: As a religious state, the Vatican is quite strict about the dress code that visitors should follow. Both men and women need to cover their knees and upper arms. Visitors are prohibited from wearing sleeveless tops, and low-cut shirts.
  - Shorts or bottoms that end above the knee: Women, If you are wearing a skirt, dress, or pair of shorts then make sure they end below the knee at least. Men can wear shorts, as long as they level at the knee.
  - Offensive tattoos: Tattoos are allowed. However, the Vatican dress code does not allow entry to those who have tattoos that may be considered offensive to Catholic morality, the Catholic religion, or to common decency. This applies to jewelry, symbols, and slogans on your clothing, as well.
- Hats: You will be expected to remove your hat before entering the Vatican Museums. Wearing a hat indoors is deemed to be bad manners.

If you're wearing short shorts and a tank top to the Vatican, don't worry! You don't have to give up and go home. You can buy a poncho or robe to wear around that covers your shoulders and knees. These ponchos and robes are easily available in different parts of the city.

### What to Wear to Mass at St. Monica?

Our expectations are not nearly as bold as the Vatican's. But we do hope you will be dressed respectfully in front of Jesus, the priests and deacons, and other parishioners.



## Real Presence

The Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Sacrament of the Eucharist



Stock by Getty Images

*“While they were eating, Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and giving it to his disciples said, ‘Take and eat; this is my body.’”*

(Mt 26:26)

### *Excerpt from the US Catholic Bishops’ Statement*

**T**he Lord Jesus, on the night before he suffered on the cross, shared one last meal with his disciples. During this meal our Savior instituted the sacrament of his Body and Blood. He did this in order to perpetuate the sacrifice of the Cross throughout the ages and to entrust to the Church his Spouse a memorial of his death and resurrection. As the Gospel of Matthew tells us:

*While they were eating, Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and giving it to his disciples said, “Take and eat; this is my body.” Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed on behalf of many for the forgiveness of sins.” (Mt 26:26-28; cf. Mk 14:22-24, Lk 22:17-20, 1 Cor 11:23-25)*

Recalling these words of Jesus, the Catholic Church professes that, in the celebration of the Eucharist, bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit and the instrumentality of

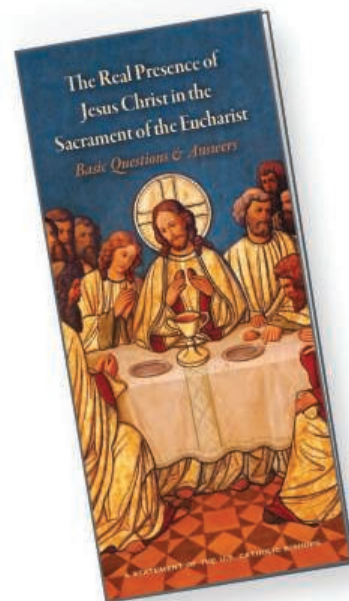
the priest. Jesus said: “I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world. . . . For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink” (Jn 6:51-55). The whole Christ is truly present, body, blood, soul, and divinity, under the appearances of bread and wine—the glorified Christ who rose from the dead after dying for our sins. This is what the Church means when she speaks of the “Real Presence” of Christ in the Eucharist. This presence of Christ in the Eucharist is called “real” not to exclude other types of his presence as if they could not be understood as real (cf. *Catechism*, no. 1374). The risen Christ is present to his Church in many ways, but most especially through the sacrament of his Body and Blood.

What does it mean that Jesus Christ is present in the Eucharist under the appearances of bread and wine? How does this happen? The



*“The triune God is the creator of all that exists.”*

presence of the risen Christ in the Eucharist is an inexhaustible mystery that the Church can never fully explain in words. We must remember that the triune God is the creator of all that exists and has the power to do more than we can possibly imagine. As St. Ambrose said: “If the word of the Lord Jesus is so powerful as to bring into existence things which were not, then *a fortiori* those things which already exist can be changed into something else” (*De Sacramentis*, IV, 5-16). God created the world in order to share his life with persons who are not God. This great plan of salvation reveals a wisdom that surpasses our understanding. But we are not left in ignorance: for out of his love for us, God reveals his truth to us in ways that we can understand through the gift of faith and the grace of the Holy Spirit dwelling in us. We are thus enabled to understand at least in some measure what would otherwise remain unknown to us, though we can never completely comprehend the mystery of God.



—This article is an excerpt from the US Catholic bishops’ statement, *The Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Sacrament of the Eucharist: Basic Questions and Answers* (2001), Introduction. Read the full statement on the USCCB website at: <https://bit.ly/167sHTc>.

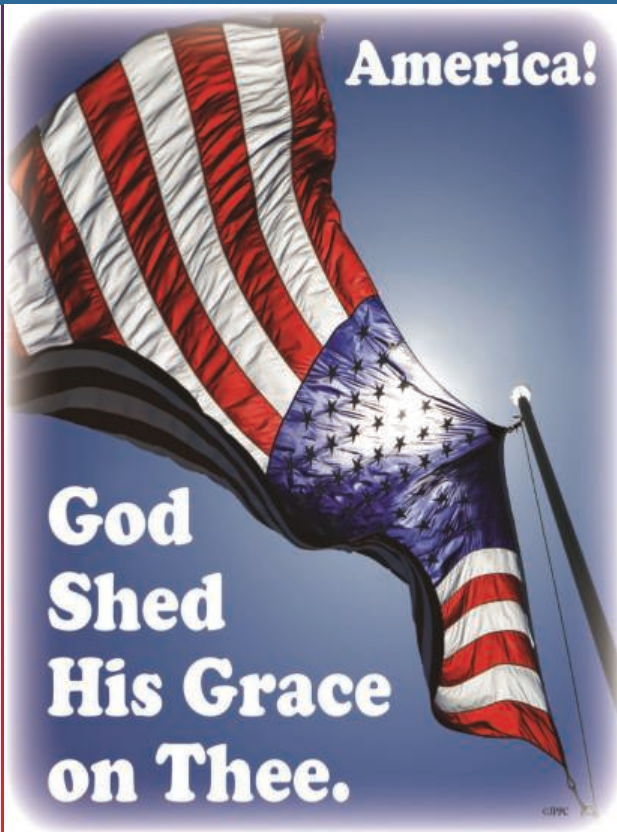
To order the full text of *The Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Sacrament of the Eucharist: Basic Questions and Answers* in booklet format, please visit <https://store.usccb.org> (publication no. 5-434).



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THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - JULY 2, 2023



**SAVE THE DATE**

This year St. Monica's annual festival will be held on Sunday, August 27 beginning with the 11 a.m. Mass, with Festival to follow.  
Hope to see you all there!



**August 27, 2023**

Community Services Ocean County  
**Fix It Program**  
Catholic Charities, Diocese of Trenton  
200 Monmouth Avenue, Lakewood, NJ 08101

Fix It Volunteer Coordinator  
732-363-5322 x3234

Access, Help and Information Center  
800.360.7711

CatholicCharitiesTrenton.org

HELPING SENIORS IN OCEAN COUNTY MAINTAIN INDEPENDENCE IN THEIR HOMES.  
**FIX IT PROGRAM**

The **Fix It Program** assists residents of Ocean County who are 60 years of age or older by performing minor home repairs, which if neglected, would adversely affect their health and/or safety. The program's dedicated volunteers provide all services **FREE** of charge. However, residents, must pay for materials. The **Fix It Program** is made possible through grants from the Ocean County Office of Senior Services and is registered with the Volunteer Center of Ocean County.

**TYPES OF PROJECTS FIX IT VOLUNTEERS TAKE ON**

- Install grab bars and safety hand rails
- Repair minor electrical problems (such as faulty light switches)
- Do minor carpentry repairs
- Do minor plumbing (such as leaky faucets and running toilets)
- Change storm windows and doors
- Weather stripping and caulking
- Replace batteries in smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors
- Change light bulbs
- Change furnace filters and air conditioner filters
- Install curtain and drapery hardware
- Fix small appliances
- Perform seasonal outside jobs (based upon volunteer availability)

**Stress in your Marriage?**

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**AUGUST 18-20, 2023**

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Does the distance between you seem wide? Are you already separated? Looking for a better way? Retrouvaille can help and offers hope for a better relationship. Retrouvaille is a peer ministry of volunteer couples that can help you learn the tools of healthy communication, build intimacy and heal, just as they have done in their own marriages. Retrouvaille is Christian-based, and Catholic in origin, but welcomes couples of all faiths as well as non-religious couples. Retrouvaille can help get your relationship back on track.

**RETROUVAILLE**  
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FOR MORE INFO OR REGISTRATION:  
RICH COLASUONNO @ 732-236-0671,  
ANNETTE COLASUONNO @ 732-672-0748  
OR 3024@HELPOURMARRIAGE.ORG



**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 - Thursday 9:00 am - 3:30 pm

**Baptisms**

Celebrated outside of 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.

**Knights of Columbus Council #11529**

Catholic Men coming together selflessly for others through Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism. Visit our Website at [www.kofc11529.org](http://www.kofc11529.org).

**St Vincent de Paul Society**

Emergency Assistance Helpline: 732-370-0098

**Bereavement Ministry**

Please contact the parish office for more information.

**Grief Support**

For those grieving the loss of a loved one or close friend. This is a Catholic centered Support Group offering a caring, compassionate, and confidential environment to support your journey from grieving to healing. For registration and details contact Deacon John White 848-992-1652 or [jlwhite2271@gmail.com](mailto:jlwhite2271@gmail.com)

**RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)**

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

**Youth Group**

Open to all children of St Monica registered families and we would love to have you join us. For more information, contact Theresa Calsetta 732-299-0261.

**New Parishioners**

Welcome to our parish family! Registration forms may be downloaded at [www.saintmonica.com](http://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 and 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.

**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. Please contact Karen Badach, Coordinator of Religious Education 732-928-4038 or [stmonicacd@yahoo.com](mailto:stmonicacd@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.

**Ancient Order of Hibernians**

The Ancient Order of Hibernians is an Irish Catholic fraternity looking for members to bond in Brotherhood, Unity & Christian Charity. Contact Patrick Jockel (609) 489-9221 or at [patrickaoh@hotmail.com](mailto:patrickaoh@hotmail.com)

## Reflections on the 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time - July 2, 2023

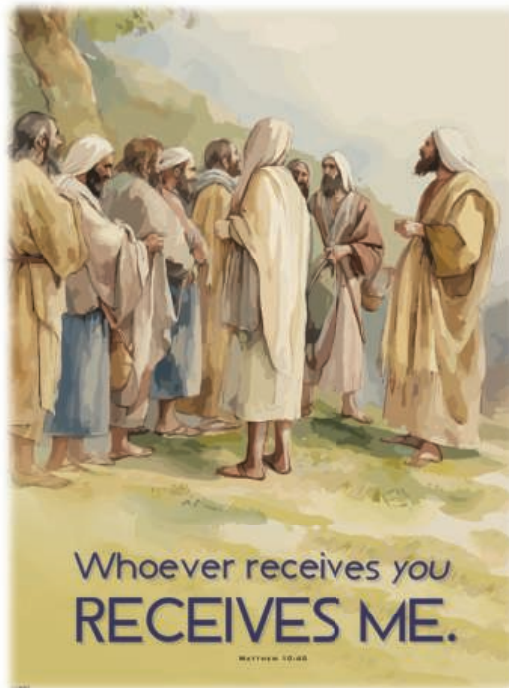
### FINDING OUR LIVES

If you ask people what they want, they'll often say they want a new car, a better job, a bigger house, or some other possession. But if you probe a little deeper you'll find that they don't really want possessions. Rather, they desire a sense of fulfillment, a feeling of being loved and cherished.

In today's Gospel, tells us that, "Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." In other words, the only way we can become truly happy and fulfilled is by giving ourselves in love to God and the people he has placed in our lives. We have to go beyond ourselves and our own selfish interests if we are to live the truly abundant life Jesus has promised. As Pope St. John Paul II often emphasized, "Man finds himself only by making a sincere gift to others." It isn't always an easy choice, but it is the only way to a truly rewarding life.

This week in addition to the great lesson on the importance of self-giving love, Jesus also tells us, "Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives the one who sent me." This has profound implications in today's world, where so many claim to "be spiritual but not religious." By this statement, Jesus explains that he has invested his authority into the Apostles. That same authority has been handed on over the centuries to the bishops and priests with the result that if we want to accept

Jesus in our lives, we must accept the teachings of Jesus's successors and the Church they serve. In other words, to be "spiritual," we must also be "religious."



### PRAYERS

Imagine you are with Jesus and he is teaching. Perhaps you are in a courtyard together after having eaten a meal. Jesus has been talking about the price of becoming his disciple, and he suddenly says, "Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." You aren't sure you understand, so you take a deep breath and ask, "What do you mean?" Now see Jesus coming to you, looking directly at you, and answering you personally. What does he tell you? Listen carefully to his response and then write down whatever comes first to your heart and mind.

### RESOLUTION

Reread what you wrote down after the prayer and choose one concrete action that you can perform with regard to your insight. If you are still struggling with this, resolve to spend a few minutes each day this week praying about it until you receive some clarity from the Lord. | [formed.org](https://www.formed.org)

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