



July 5, 2026

Fourteenth Sunday in ordinary Time

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Zec 9:9-10 | Rom 8:9, 11-13 | Mt 11:25-30

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

In today's first reading, Israel's king comes riding "on a colt, the foal of an ass." This is a far cry from the horses and chariots the kings of other nations rode into battle as they sought to assert their authority and subdue their enemies. But Israel's king is not like other kings; he banishes horses and the warrior's bow, proclaiming peace to all the nations. Despite his meekness, "his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth." What we're given here is an image of peace achieved not by asserting military might, but through justice and humility. Of course, this image of a king riding a colt into Jerusalem will remind us of Jesus, who entered Jerusalem on Palm Sunday and destroyed his enemies (death and sin) not by political revolution but by laying down his life. If being a Christian is about claiming Christ as our king, then we must reject the temptation to seize power by asserting dominance, but instead act in ways that promote justice and peace.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

An essential part of the Church's mission is what we call the "preferential option for the poor." In his Apostolic Exhortation *Dilexi te*, Pope Leo XIV says that "this 'preference' never indicates exclusivity or discrimination toward other groups, which would be impossible for God. It is meant to emphasize God's actions, which are moved by compassion toward the poverty and weakness of all humanity. Wanting to inaugurate a kingdom of justice, fraternity, and solidarity, God has a special place in his heart for those who are discriminated against and oppressed, and he asks us, his Church, to make a decisive and radical choice in favor of the weakest." (16) What this means is that we are called to put the poor, the vulnerable, the marginalized, and the suffering at the center of our concern. In our prayer, ministry, and outreach, we are called to prioritize their needs. When we live this out, we are extending the love of Jesus, whose own heart provides a place of welcome for those who are heavily burdened and in need of rest.

SERVE

Today's readings give us a glimpse of the heart of God: meek, humble, compassionate. This week, find one concrete way you can emulate his heart by serving those in need in your community. Through these actions, you bear witness to "his Spirit that dwells in you."



Accepting the prestigious **Liberty Medal** from the US National Constitution Center for his lifelong commitment to promoting religious liberty and freedom of conscience and expression around the world, Pope Leo XIV addressed those gathered in Philadelphia from Rome on the eve of America's 250th birthday, praying that the Semiquincentennial of the founding of the United States would be an occasion for a solemn recommitment to the fundamental ideals on which the country was founded, especially life and freedom.
- *VaticanNews.va*

America 250 Podcast Series

Marking the 250th anniversary of the U.S., Catholic Current Podcasts presents a series of episodes on the contributions of Catholics to the United States. Follow the Catholic Current on Apple Podcasts or usccb.org/resources/america-250-video-series.

Church of the Ascension

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Masses: (Sat) 5p; (Sun) 7a, 9a, 11a, 5p
(Mon-Fri) 8a; (Sat) 9a

Confessions: (Sat) 4p – 4:45p

Prayer of Consecration of the U.S. to Sacred Heart



O Most Sacred Heart of Jesus:

You know the longings of our hearts, and you desire that we enjoy friendship with you. From your pierced side, you have poured out the wellspring of life, for which we thirst.

Your heart burns with a love for all people to return to a right relationship with you.

We celebrate the abundant gifts you have given this nation, founded on the self-evident truths that our Creator has endowed all people with the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness...

Leo in Rome: A Documentary

On July 1, the Vatican Dicastery for Communication presents "Leone a Roma" (Leo in Rome), featuring interviews, archival footage, and images that retrace the years Robert Francis Prevost—now Pope Leo XIV—spent in the Eternal City.



Scan the QR code to watch the documentary.

Holy Father's Prayer Intention in July

Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.

May She Rest in Peace

The funeral for **Dorothy Thomas** will be celebrated on July 16 at 10:30am. May she rest in peace.

July Offering Envelopes Delayed

The Cathedral Corporation is currently experiencing difficulties with paper production supplies and other issues. As a result, the July offertory envelopes will be delayed. In the meantime, please utilize the unused envelopes from prior mailings while awaiting the August envelopes. Thank you for your patience.

WEEKLY OFFERING - June 28

-Total: **\$5,335** (\$4,623 + online: \$712). Goal: \$6,800.

-YTD Sunday: \$345,808. Budget: \$346,800.

-Peter's Pence: **\$1,502**. Thank you for your generosity.

MASS INTENTIONS

Jul 04	Sat	05 pm	Louise Harpham (L)
Jul 05	Sun	07 am	Ana Karen Sanchez (L)
		09 am	Oie Lin See +
		11 am	Khiem Maria Bui +
Jul 07	Tue	08 am	Frank & Helen Rose +
Jul 08	Wed	08 am	Carol McLafferty (L)
Jul 09	Thu	08 am	Helen Rose +
Jul 10	Fri	08 am	Thomas Dien & Monica Than Tran +
Jul 11	Sat	09 am	Arturo R. Martinez, Jr +

A Martyr of Charity in Vietnam

Fr. Francis Xavier Truong Buu Diep, a parish priest in Vietnam, was beatified on July 2, 2026. He dedicated his life to the poor regardless of their faiths, and to the faithful to the point of offering his life for them.

He was killed in 1946 at the age of 49 in the violent aftermath of World War II by armed militiamen who had captured him along with about 70 parishioners and threatened to burn them alive. Fr. Diep offered himself to the captors in exchange for the release of the others.



Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle from the Holy See presided over the Mass for Fr. Diep's beatification at his parish in Vietnam on July 2 with the participation of 100,000 people, including many non-Catholics.

In his homily, the cardinal said that Fr. Diep's witness invites us to respond to Jesus' calling to proclaim his love in our daily lives through charity and embracing the suffering of others. *- VaticanNews.va*

Church and Hall Repainting Completed

After nearly 60 years of exposure to the elements, the church and hall on our property have been given a fresh coat of paint. We appreciate Charlie Nguyen for effectively overseeing this project.

Updates on Donations to Campaign & Terrace Project

Capital Campaign by June 31

Parish Goal:	\$569,000
Total Pledge:	\$696,070 (122% of goal)
Total Gifts:	103
Total Paid:	\$242,543 (by June 17)
Parish Share:	\$310,382 (by June 17)

Terrace Project by June 31

Estimated Cost	\$375,000
Total Pledge:	\$28,849 (*)
Total Gifts:	40

(*) The greater the contributions to the Terrace Project, the less we will depend on the Capital Campaign's Parish Share, which funds both our Pastoral Goals (Worship, Family, Youth & Young Adults) and the Terrace Project.

Benevity Matching Gift

Your company may match your donations through Benevity. Donate via Benevity and look up "Church of the Ascension" using our Tax ID 94-2734503.